

County Councillor Annual Report 2014/15 *This report summarises the activities of County Councillor Betty Newton*



Council Activities:

Committees I am serving on at County Hall

Adults & Communities Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Member Conduct Panel

Attended Scrutiny Commission when necessary

Transformation Board up until December 2014

Employment Panels

Local Committees:

Charnwood Highways Forum

Loughborough North West and North Area Forums ended in 2014

Loughborough Campus and Community Liaison Group

Other relevant bodies

Combined Fire Authority

Charnwood Borough Council

County Council Network of Councillors

John Storer Charnwood

Assist where required the following resident's groups

Storer and Ashby Residents Group (SARG)

Three Closes Resident's Association

Warwick Way Action Group

Work closely with Hathern Parish Council on a range of activities that affect Hathern Village

Main activities during the past year

- ✓ Attendance: I've attended all County Council meetings, regular attendance at Combined Fire Authority Meetings and Fire Policy Meetings. Was on the interview panel that appointed the Director of Adult and Community Services. Spoke at all Full Council meetings on a range of issues that were relevant to my ward of Loughborough North
- ✓ Attend Hathern Parish Council meetings and work with them on a range of issues affecting Hathern, such as blocked gulleys, potholes, and flooding. On-going work on the St James Estate Hathern regarding the bridge over the culvert, now resolved.
- ✓ Case work in Dishley area included: cutting of County Council hedges, footpaths, pot holes, green spaces, speeding on Maxwell Drive and parking on traffic calming measures. Also advised on welfare and care support packages and answered queries on care homes
- ✓ As the County and Borough Councillor presented at the Planning Inspectors Examination in Public of the Garendon Planning Application in January 2015
- ✓ Working with the residents of top end of Maxwell Drive and Stonebow to ensure that those connected to Cabinet 3 have their poor broadband connectivity issues dealt with
- ✓ Supported and assisted the campaign against two way bus traffic on Market Place and supported the pedestrianized area proposal
- ✓ Worked with Stonebow School regarding parent parking issues. County Council have now repainted the faded zig zag lines
- ✓ Worked with Residents Haydon Road, Loughborough regarding traffic waiting restrictions
- ✓ Spoke to local bus companies regarding the delays in public transport
- ✓ Supported successful funding applications for voluntary organisations in the division, these include Three Closes Residents Association
- ✓ Attended Public meetings in Hathern and Dishley on Core Strategy

- ✓ Attended Public meetings in Hathern regarding Library Services
- ✓ Attended workshops/consultation on Care Act, the NHS etc.
- ✓ Meeting with Officers re Inner Relief Road. Also met with officers to discuss parking issues in the Storer Ward
- ✓ Presented concerns re markings on Warwick Way Roundabout
- ✓ Attended meetings with voluntary sector organisations regarding cuts to services, especially those representing vulnerable people
- ✓ Met with police officers re low level crime and anti social behaviour in division
- ✓ Took part in police and council clean up of Warwick Way Estate
- ✓ Supported campaign to keep the ECMO Heart operations for Children at Glenfield Hospital
- ✓ Had meeting with colleagues and officers at Snibston Quarry and opposed the closure of Snibson Museum
- ✓ I produce regular newsletters to residents, hold monthly street surgeries, police ward walk and have visit residents when requested.

Matters Raised in Full Council

Spoke on a range of issues in Full Council such as cuts/reduction in funding to voluntary organisations and the impact on communities and vulnerable people. The withdrawal of Housing Related Support Services at a time when there is increased demand for such services. Supported the motion to provide better support for the Friends of Snibson and opposed closure of Snibson Museum. Also opposed the reduction in Library Services to rural communities. Asked once again for the Council to consider introducing a living wage

Some Briefings, Workshops, Training and Conferences attended:

- 4 July 2014: Briefing on Adult Social Care
- 8 July 2014: Cost Effective Care Consultation
- 21 July 2014: Briefing on the Care Act
- 7 August 2014: Community Strategy Briefing
- 12 September 2014: Feedback from Consultation on Social Care
- 23 September 2014: Information Security Briefing
- 9 October 2014: Scrutiny Meeting on Preventative Services

- 10 October 2014: Briefing on Health and Social Care integration
- 29 October 2014: All member briefing on Health and Social Care
- 16-18 November 2014: County Councils Network Conference
- 12 January 2015: Health and Social Care Briefing
- 23 April 2015: Briefing on Health

Priorities for the future:

- Will monitor development of Garendon Park and impacts on Hathern and Dishley
- Ensure that there is an adequate home to school transport system in place for all pupils
- Continue to support voluntary organisations and community group, try to ensure that that grants and participative budgeting is directed towards social priorities
- Monitor NHS services, with particular attention paid to Urgent Care Centre at Loughborough Community Hospital and Emergency Care at UHL
- Monitor the delivery of Social Care to ensure that it is person centred care that meets the aspirations of service users
- Campaign for improvements in Road Safety across Loughborough North, especially in the Maxwell Drive area
- Campaign to have speed humps at the bottom of Narrow Lane Hathern to prevent cars speeding into the village. Monitor NHS Services to ensure that the right Health Care Services are being delivered to our area. Robustly challenge any financial cuts that will impact on service delivery
- My main priority for 2015 is to be a proactive councillor committed to working hard on all issues affecting residents of Loughborough North.

Betty Newton CC

June 2015