

## **County Councillor Annual Report 2013**

This report summarises the activities of the following member of the County Council during the last year.

Name of Councillor    Ozzy O'Shea

### **Council Activities**

#### **Committees you serve on at County Hall**

Health & Overview Scrutiny Committee  
Development Control and Regulatory Board  
Combined Fire Authority

#### **Local committees – Highway Forums and Community Forums etc**

Hinckley & Bosworth Highway Forum  
Groby, Ratby, Markfield and Bagworth Parish Forum

#### **Other bodies – School governors/community and charity organisations etc**

School Governor – Alderman Richard Hallam Primary School

## **Electoral Division activities**

### **Main Activities during the past year:**

After being contacted by numerous residents from both Groby and Ratby I organised a petition to turn the street lights back on along Sacheverell Way in Groby. I met with the leader of the Council and also the Cabinet member for Highways on this issue. I took the petition to the Highways forum and put my case forward on safety grounds to have the lights put back on as part of the part night lighting scheme. I was successful in my arguments and the lights are now back on from dusk to 0030am and then from 0530am to dawn. This is a victory for the local community and I wish to thank Groby and Ratby Parish Councils and the residents of both villages for their support.

### **Campaigned for Traffic Lights on the A50/A46 Island**

I have campaigned for this island to be traffic light control for several years I have attend two planning appeals where I have highlighted the queues of traffic each morning running along both Leicester Road and Sacheverell Way in Groby all of this down to vehicles trying to enter this island. This year I met with Lesley Pendleton the Cabinet member for Highways and I am please to say that this project has been brought forward by approximately 3 years and work started on the 29<sup>th</sup> July this year and is expected to be completed in early 2014 bringing both traffic light control and extra lanes.

### **Fought to protect the Green Wedge.**

I attended and gave evidence on behalf of residents at a 2<sup>nd</sup> Bloor's planning appeal. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> time in 2 years that Bloor homes have appealed against refusal to build on land within the Green Wedge in Ratby on the boarder of Groby. Working closely with my two Borough Council colleagues Cllr Chris Boothby, Cllr Peter Batty and both Ratby and Groby parish Councils and local residents we successfully defended the appeal and permission was refused again.

### **VOSA Public Enquiry.**

I attended a VOSA public enquiry on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2013 with Borough Cllr Peter Batty, Parish Councillors and members of the public and an officer from County Hall who were all objecting to the application for an operator's licence for 5 HGV'S on the Rookery in Groby the application was withdrawn by the applicant after lunch.

### **ASB Issues.**

I work closely with the police and the Borough Council Officers as a retired police officer I fully understand the communities concerns on issues like this. I was contacted by a resident who was having severe problems with anti social behaviour. The offender was the adjoining neighbour. I contacted both the police and officers from the Borough council who liaised with the tenancy officer from the housing association. I supported the complainant keeping them fully updated. The occupier was eventually evicted after ignoring several warning and written notices.

### **Professional meetings**

I have met Police and Crime Commissioner Sir Clive Loader and Chairman of the Parliamentary Health Select Committee Stephen Dorrell MP for Groby, and with David Tredinnick MP for Ratby. There are so many changes being brought in with how local services will be delivered in the future; from local healthcare to community policing. It's important that councillors try and understand what this will mean for their communities and that they build good relationships with people we can trust who can advise on concerns and issues that our constituents may arise.

### **Grass cutting issues Ratby**

I have taken up the grass cutting issues in Ratby as they were far from acceptable

and I have complained on a number of occasions this is simply not good enough. I am constantly in contact with the clerk of works on this issue. I will continue to monitor this; I am liaising with officers to take the grass cutting away from the County and to have it maintained by Ratby Parish Council in a similar way to Groby.

#### **Footpath Obstruction**

I have had over hanging bushes cut back in Pymm Leys lane Groby they had become so overgrown they took up half of the footpath causing pedestrians passing to walk onto the road this was also a route for children walking to school. The footpath is now safe again.

#### **Groby parking restrictions.**

I have worked with Officers and residents on the New Parking restrictions that have come into force in Groby bedding in and sorting out problems.

#### **Speed Tables Groby Road Ratby**

I have worked with residents and officers after receiving numerous complaints that the tables were too high. I arranged a site meeting with senior Highway officers and members of the Parish Council and it was found that the first table entering Ratby was slightly too high but all the others conformed to the regulations. It was agreed to lower the offending area and at my suggestion a SLOW sign was painted on the road approaching the first speed table to warn drivers.

#### **Sewage Stamford Street, Ratby**

I was made aware just after my election that Sewage had been a problem in Stamford Street for the past 3years with nothing being done. After heaving rain sewage would be pushed out one of the main surface drains in the street. I inspected this after a night of heavy rain to find excrement and other items washed out onto the street. This was clearly a health problem. I immediatly contacted officers and had investigations carried out. I also contacted Seven Trent and spoke to senior officers there I then liaised with both County Council officers and Severn Trent officers and pushed for an emergency road closure which was granted. I liaised with the contractors doing the work and it was found that they had 4 collapses along that section of road which they have now repaired.

#### **Berry's Lane Footpath.**

After complaints I have visited the area at the top of Berry's lane and taken photographs of the footpath surface beyond the bollards and forwarded to the Highways department asking for urgent attention. I have also today spoken with the Highways inspector responsible for Ratby and she has confirm that she has now visited the site and taken photographs herself and they are deciding on the best course of action with regards to the repair as they can either patch or relay. I have stressed its needs doing ASAP.

#### **Traveller Threat August Bank Holiday Weekend**

I have worked closely with my Borough Council colleagues, Chris Boothby and Peter Batty after a tip off from a traveller, that both villages were going to be targeted by travellers over the August Bank Holiday weekend. We made sure both villages and Parish Councils were alert. We also made landowners aware so they could secure their land. I also informed officers at both the Borough and County Council and spoke with Matt Bagley.

**Priorities for the immediate future are:**

I want to enhance the wellbeing of residents and amenities to both villages were ever I can. I want to make sure the roads and foot paths are maintained to a safe standard. I aim to work closely with the police and other agencies for the benefit of residents.

**Learning and development:**

I have received training in the following area's Planning at the Borough council.  
Licensing and Regulatory Training  
Development Control and Regulatory Board training  
Code of Conduct training  
Safe Guarding Training

**Signed by Councillor:**

**Date:**