

County Councillor Annual Report

This report summarises the activities of the following member of the County Council during 2020/21

Name of Councillor

Ozzy O'shea.

1) Electoral Division activities

Main Activities and the impact during the past year:

Over the past year, I have overseen new street lighting being installed along Sacheverell way in Groby. Originally the Council was going to remove them and cut them all down to stumps. I lead a successful campaign to reinstall street lights, due to safety concerns and the high use of pedestrians.

I have worked with Highways and Severn Trent to resolve serious flooding at the junction of Markfield road and Groby Road, Ratby. After months of negotiating Severn Trent agreed the work was their liability and removed over 30m of tree roots from their surface water pipes. Highways then cleaned out all the gullies.

I have also been working with residents on Leicester Road Groby on ongoing flooding issues. I have arranged meeting with residents, Highways Officers and severn Trent Officers. In April this year new gullies were installed along Leicester Road in order to take away surface water. We are having ongoing meetings to sort out flooding along Leicester Road and Ratby Road in Groby and ongoing project work and detailed plans are being done by Severn Trent and Leicestershire Highways.

I have liaised with both the Police and Highways over HGV's breaking the weight Limit along Main Street, Ratby accessing Pound Stretcher in Desford. I have also liaised with the police over HGV's breaking the weight limit I had put in along Ratby road in Field Head. I have worked with Highways and the police over speeding Issues along Sacheverell Way in Groby.

I have worked with residents and Highways officers to try and get the city bound carriageway just prior to the traffic lights resurfaced due to severe road noise called by HGV's and cars going over the uneven surface. Work is due to start in August 2021. I have taken on residents' concerns regarding parking on Ratby Road Groby. Over the past 3 years people have been parking on both sides of the road which they never did before. I

have arranged for County Highways to go out to consultation to install double yellow lines down one side of the road.

Community Leadership Role

Over the past year we have been suffering this awful pandemic which has changed lives and the way we work and where we work from. The Rev Ed Bampton myself and a colleague set up the Ratby and Groby response team. We have a large team of volunteers who delivered food and prescriptions to vulnerable people who were isolating at home. The office was manned during the day and all our mobile numbers were available out of hours in case of emergency. We secured over £24000 in grant aid from the County Council and were able to buy food and supplies to add to the fantastic amount of donation's that the team were receiving. The team even gave telephone call backs to people who needed someone to talk to. I worked with Jamie who runs The Bulls Head public house in Ratby he did Christmas dinner take away meals and donated one for every one he sold he supplied meals to people in need who had contacted me.

I managed to get all 4 pubs in my ward a £1000 donation from the County Councils Wet pubs grant scheme which gave a little help to them during the extended lockdown.

As previously mentioned I have worked with the police on HGV'S I have also worked closely with our local police officer on issues such as lewd behaviour at Groby Pool, drug abuse, criminal damage, ASB, and speeding issues both in Groby and Ratby. I took him on a patch walk around both villages.

I fully supported the planning application for a new Doctors Surgery and treatment centre in Ratby both with highways and the planning authority.

We have secured funding for Vehicle speed activation signs for Sacheverell way that can also be used on Leicester Road and Pym Ley Lane. I have also secured one for Markfield road as part of the traffic calming programme for the New development.

I have also secured grants for both community libraries in Ratby and Groby.

I also attended the Planning Appeal by Pound Stretcher against a decision to refuse permission to allow deliveries by HGV's in the evenings and at weekends and on Bank Holidays. I gave evidence on behalf of my residents who experience constant HGV's attending this location breaking the weight limit. Result Appeal dismissed.

Gas etc) about services in the area

I engage regularly with all Council departments including Highways, Education and Adults and Communities. I work closely with all departments, I have helped residents whom I have classed as vulnerable and referred them to the correct department for support. I have held regular meetings with Severn Trent over issues in my ward on behalf of residents.

Priorities for the immediate future are:

I would like to see a cycle track along Sacheverell way as it's a busy Road. I am also looking at putting double yellow lines on Bancroft Way, Ratby to stop parking near to the junction with Groby Road as Bancroft way is narrow and the junction needs protecting to make it safe. I want to see more speed initiatives being introduced to stop speeding.

2) Council Activities

County Council Committees you served on

I was appointed as cabinet support to the Executive member of Highways in May 2019. I attend weekly Lead member meeting with the Director of Highways and staff. I attend scrutiny Environment and Transport meeting and Cabinet meetings and briefings. I represent the County Council on the Trent Regional Flood and Coastal Committee. I represent the County Council on the Anglian Northern Regional Flood and Coastal Committee. I also represent the County Council on their Waste partnership. I also served on the A46 partnership

Local committees/Outside Bodies

Bradgate and Groby Quarry Liaison Committees.
Chaired the River Soar and Grand union Canal Partnership.
Charnwood Forest Committee.

3) Learning and Development

Briefing on Policing
Weekly all member briefing On Covid
HS2 briefing
Freeport briefing
Strategic Growth Plan Briefing

4) Other Matters:

I retired as a School Governor in 2016 after serving 29 years at Alderman Richard Hallam Primary School as Vice Chairman I worked closely with the Chairman taking the school from a Junior and Infant School to an all through

Primary school in the City. I have served on Ratby Parish Council since 1996. I have also served as a Borough Councillor since 2007. Writing monthly Borough Councillors Reports in my local magazine. I work Closely with Trading Standards and write a monthly article highlighting scams that target vulnerable people. I have also visited several residents in my ward who have been targeted by these scams over the past year, It is refreshing to know that many residents read my articles and as such are aware of these scams. I get regular calls for advice after suspicious phone calls. I liaise closely with Trading Standards who will in turn make a follow up call if required and arrange call blockers.

I attend monthly parish council meetings in Groby and Ratby and always provide a written report.

Communications

I write a regular monthly County Councillor's Report in both The Local and Spotlight Magazines that cover Groby, Ratby and Field Head, the whole of my ward. I use both Twitter and Facebook to get out urgent messages such as road closures and police messages.

Signed by Councillor Ozzy O'shea
Date 24/06/2021