



## **Annual Report by John Coxon**

### **County councillor for Ashby de la Zouch and Blackfordby 2021-2022**

Over a year has gone by since the County council election and my last report where Ashby residents voted me in for a 5<sup>th</sup> term, putting their trust in me to do my best for Ashby and Blackfordby.

#### **COMMITTEES SERVED ON DURING THE YEAR**

County council, Development control and regularity board, corporate governance committee.

I am pleased to present my annual report, part of the last year was blighted by covid, although council meetings are beginning to take place normally with restrictions in mind and some working at home taking place remotely. I have again been selected as chairman on the development control and regularity board, and those meetings are held face to face in committee rooms.

My continued links with Ashby de la zouch Town Council, where I am leader of the Town council, provides the opportunity for closer working with both the Town and County council. I do my best to put forward the views of the residents I represent. I am still a strong supporter of the reintroduction of the Burton to Leicester rail line, which I have recently re lobbied to District council, which I believe would benefit residents and nostalgia for me as remembering it in use as a young boy. HS2 is still under my watchful eye, as to what effect it would be likely to have on our Town, although at the time of writing things are a little quiet on that front.

#### **COMMUNITY**

I continue as leader of the Town council in Ashby, which also includes Blackfordby village. I am pleased to report that after a lot of work the Blackfordby by neighbours plan is now in place to benefit the village in the future years. In many ways the Ashby neighbourhood plan will now be up for updates and review to take up the constant changes in Ashby. Although Covid may have hampered things in the town, the town Council has won awards by way of the Gold Award for which the Town Council is operated and run. This is the highest award which only 2 or 3 councils in Leicestershire have, the Town council have also been awarded the Green flag for the Bath grounds and the Purple flag for the night time economy in the Town. The town council and myself support still press ahead with the purchase of the Bath Grounds, which was strongly supported by referendum by the people of Ashby. I also continue to monitor growth of housing in Ashby and the progress of Money hill, a significant addition to our housing numbers.



## **PRIORITIES**

My priorities are as always is the well being of the Town and being a life long resident of Ashby makes me determined to make Ashby the best it can be.

## **COMMITTEES I SERVE ON**

- County Council

This is where councillors meet at full council. I have attended every meeting in the last 17 years.

- Development Control and Regularity Board

I am proud to be chairman which is generally known as the Planning committee, which deals with a wide variety of applications.

- Corporate governance committee

This committee deal with the scrutiny of the workings and finance of the County Council

## **BODIES SERVED ON**

Ashby Town council, Lount liaison committee and substitute on other committees for other members unable to attend

## **LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT**

Completed training for development control and regularity board, continue to development of skills and embrace new ways of working.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

I hold regular surgeries for residents (Covid permitting) at Legion House, usually before full council at Ashby T own council, dates are on T own council website. I am easily contactable by email, telephone, post or face to face.