

County Councillor Annual Report 2022/23

This report summarises the activities of the following member of the County Council during 2022/23

Name of Councillor **Mark Peter Frisby**

Division Represented **Melton Mowbray (West Division)**

Electoral Division activities

Main Activities and the impact during the past year:

Youth Council for Melton and the Borough

I have formed and developed AMY (Action Melton Youth) essentially the youth council for Melton and the Borough. Over twenty-five young people representing all of the schools and colleges in the area. A none political group discussing safer communities, health and wellbeing, employment and skills and things for young people to do. AMY provides a youth voice for young people to ensure their views are heard, recorded, and responded to in the decision-making process. AMY is now an open door for young people to discuss community issues, engage with decision makers and contribute to improving the lives of young people in Melton Mowbray. The forum can also suggest events, activities and identify service needs for young people in Melton. The group is now constituted and has been successful in securing funds through the UKSPF. I am working with the group to secure the "Here by Right" standard. We are also organising a host of activities for young people in the borough, including a seaside trip and skate festival in the park.

Guests from the Ukraine

I have been instrumental in supporting guests from the Ukraine in securing employment, training and absorbing them into the community (Melton Mowbray) social scene. I have also been making links to local employers and providing career and welfare guidance.

The MOWS

Work continues with the Melton and Oakham Waterways Society. I have been supporting the group with locating funding to reopen the Melton rivers and canals as a tourist attraction.

Environment and Climate Change

I have elevated my position in the environment and climate change committee to chairman status. To support this role, I have attended meetings with the Melton Green Transition project – more especially promoting “The Great Big Green Week”. I have plans to tour all of the district councils, schools, projects and stake holders to explore best practice in climate change and environment awareness and social action projects. Lots of community interaction in relation to hedges and green area management. I continue to work with the Melton Space project, Sunny Skies and Wellies; all of whom are based at the Melton Country Park Café and are invested in community, environmental and recycling initiatives. I have also engaged with other environmental stake holders including Melton in Bloom, Melton Lions Club (with the friendship bench project) and the Mowbray Education trust, visiting schools and discussing community climate projects with the children.

Schools and Placements

Schools and child placements have been high on my agenda in Melton. I have tried to keep abreast of developments in activity and how families will be affected by limited classroom placements. I have offered my support and guidance in brokering discussions with schools and offering support in making school place applications – including SEN provision.

Roads and Transport

Roads and transport management remains a topical debate in the borough. Work has now begun on the MMDR. I have held briefings on traffic management. Topics have included speeding, tarmac condition, vehicle weight restrictions, road safety, access, road adoption, gritting and flooding.

Employment and Skills for Melton

Melton continues to witness business closure in the area. There are still huge challenges in retaining skilled young people in the locality. Retail in the town is still adversely affected after the pandemic and there are limited employment options for under skilled workers. We continue to support local traders concerned about the night-time economy. I hold surgeries and explore ways of increasing footfall through local events and targeted marketing campaigns. Melton has witnessed a dramatic decline in competitive employment opportunities in the local area. Improving the profile of the town remains high on my councillor agenda.

Community Leadership Role

The work within my electoral division that I would like to draw attention to continues to be my schools and community consultation role. I continue to work with local schools to discuss opportunities for children and school leavers.

Antisocial behaviour is also high on my priority agenda. I have joined the safer community's partnership; a joint action group working with the district council, schools and the police.

I continue my links to local service organisations including Rotary, Melton Lions Club and our own community radio station (103FM The Eye) I have dedicated time to Melton in Bloom, The Friendship Bench Project, The Melton Country Park community Café, and the development of a mental health drop-in centre and wellbeing project, Turning Point drug and alcohol recovery support, the DFE Multiply and lifelong learning projects and NAWRA (The National Association of Welfare Rights)

Engagement with the Council, other statutory bodies and public utility companies (Water, Gas etc) about services in the area

As a director of a local and specialised career, welfare and employment service, I have an existing relationship with Melton Borough Council, the local schools, and public utility companies (Water, Gas etc). I have on occasion, been asked to contact statutory bodies and public utility companies on behalf of Melton residents. My interfacing with public utility companies has increased exponentially in respect of escalating service charges and domestic hardship. I work closely with money and hardship management schemes including Clockwise and Melton Money Advice Centre.

Priorities for the immediate future are:

My priorities for the immediate future in Melton are to continue to develop the youth voice in the borough. Create improved opportunities for young people in Melton, this includes attracting competitive business to the area to harness local talent and potential. Support and develop environment and climate change initiatives. Work closely with children, young people and families to reduce crime and antisocial behaviour. Support families that are experiencing hardship. Be there for our residents, with meaningful support, advice and guidance.

Help make Melton Mowbray a desirable tourist destination. Continue to promote Melton as a centre for cultural, recreation and heritage excellence in the East Midlands

Council Activities

County Council Committees You Served On

Climate Change and the Environment
Children and Families Scrutiny committee

Local Committee/Outside Bodies

Melton Lions Club – Friendship Bench Committee
British Actors Equity
Leicestershire & Rutland Wildlife Trust
RSPB
DFE development
AMY (Action Melton Youth)

Other Bodies

None specified

Learning and Development

Leadership and management level 4

Other Matters

I continue to work with Cllr Pam Posnett in community projects relating to our highways fund. We have already supported 103FM the Eye (local radio) with traffic update signs, Melton in Bloom (for the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations), Melton Lions Club (The Friendship Bench Project).

I am also assisting the local college with their re-purposing issues – more specifically in relation to the town library.

Communications

I communicate within my electoral division through social media, email, directly by telephone, residential visits and member surgeries. In the last twelve months. I have attended 14 residential property visits and have been invited to local (and developing) businesses. I also hold two open door surgeries a month, in the last year I have had over 30 personal appointments with residents from my electoral division.

Signed by Councillor:-

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized initial 'P' followed by a long horizontal line that ends in a five-pointed star shape.

Date:- 19/06/2023