

" County Councillor Annual Report

This report summarises the activities of the following member of the County Council during

Name of Councillor Christine Radford

Electoral Division activities

Main Activities and the impact during the past year:

Being the County Councillor for the past 9 years has been a privilege and I take my responsibilities and duties to help all Shepshed residents seriously. I cannot solve every problem I have been tasked with but will always try.

Since becoming County Councillor for Shepshed I have whenever possible kept both the Town and Borough Councillors for Shepshed informed on matters which affect Shepshed, especially on highways and planning. I usually invite the Clerk to Shepshed Town Council, together with Borough Councillors on site visits when officers from County have been invited to discuss planning and highway issues. In some cases County have taken on board our concerns and have written to Charnwood Planning department with suggestions, but in the majority of cases they go on to say they do not object to these applications as long as these improvements are carried out, but they have listened and we have had an opportunity to discuss it with the officers I have walked many footpaths and jitties with County Officers checking the condition of these paths, in particular with reference to over-hanging branches. In the majority of cases this is down to the owners of the properties next to these footpaths/jitties. Letters will have been sent out from County asking residents to cut back the offending growth/branches.

I am currently working with members from the Town Team who are looking at the regeneration of the Centre of Shepshed and the feasibility of making a one-way system around part of Shepshed. I have arranged a meeting with an officer from County to come along to talk and listen to one of the working groups of the Town Team.

Parking outside of schools has been one of major problems at the moment, with parents parking on yellow lines, on the pavements and on the bends/junctions near to the entrances of the schools. Schools have been trying their best to educate not only the pupils but car drivers of the dangers of parking inconsiderately.

Other issues I am keeping an eye on are the Rights of Way around Shepshed and the reporting of broken Street Lights.

I have worked with a number of local groups to help them with their grant applications, or have forwarded information regarding grants which I have become aware of.

Thomas Harley Charity

Besides giving money to widows and widowers of the Clergy, this Charity also gives out grants to Hind Leys and Shepshed High School (Now known as Iveshead) and to students of low income families to help towards college/university fees or for equipment. I am pleased to report that I have been able to assist residents in obtaining grants from this Charity.

Transport – Buses

Sky Link - I am pleased to say that the Sky Link usage has increased and is being used by both people working at the airport and people going on holiday.

Arriva – I have been trying to get Arriva to divert one of its buses, which runs every 10 minutes around one half of Shepshed to cover the other half of Shepshed which currently does not have an adequate bus service. To date both myself and the Officers at County have got nowhere.

Passenger Transport Policy – County are currently engaging with the public on this policy. 94% of the Public transport is run by Commercial Passenger Transport which leaves 6% in which the commercial market cannot meet some transport needs and County has to consider whether it should intervene organisationally, operationally or through financial support.

Utility Companies

I am in regular contact with Severn Trent regarding the problems with the sewers in Iveshead Road following the completion of the Bloor development at the top, there is also a problem with sewers in this new development.

Flooding in various areas of Shepshed following the increase in housing has also taken up some of my time.

The maintenance of utility covers either in the footpaths or roads has been more of a problem this year, but finding out who they belong to has also taken up quite a bit of my time as nobody wants to take responsibility/ownership of them.

Child protection

I have been contacted by residents who are perturbed about children and have passed these on to the relevant department at County, but due to the confidentiality of these concerns have had to leave it to County to address them under their responsibilities.

Cabinet Support

I have regular meetings with officers in the flooding department at County and represent Leicestershire on Anglian and Severn Trent Regional Flood Committee and attend meetings and have attended meetings in North Lincolnshire and South Gloucestershire.

I have also represented County on the A46 Express Way and HS2 meetings; it has been a learning curve which I have enjoyed.

2) Council Activities

Committees you serve on at County Hall

Cabinet Support Member
County Council
Children in Care Panel, (Chairman)
Member Conduct Panel.

Local committees/Outside Bodies

Appointments to outside bodies

Environmental Agency – Anglian (North) Regional Flood Defence Committee
Environmental Agency – Severn Trent Regional Flood Defence Committee,
Trustee on Bradgate Park & Swithland Woods Management Committee,
Newhurst Integrated Waste Transfer Station Liaison Committee
Thomas Harley Charities – a charity which support widows/widowers of Clergy,
Bernard Thorpe Charity – a charity which gives grants to schools within Shepshed.
River Soar/Grand Union Canal Partnership
Leicestershire Local Access Forum
Bradgate Park & Swithland Woods Committee of Management
Charnwood Forest Regional Park Steering Group
Ingleberry Road Liaison Committee (Burgess)

Shepshed Groups/Committees – as County Councillor I sit on the below

Trustee on the Glenmore Centre,
Shepshed Volunteer Bureau,
Team.

Trustee on the
Shepshed Town

Bernard Thorpe Charity – a charity which gives grants to schools in Shepshed
Shepshed Special Community Bus - Chairman

Learning and development:

I make a point of attending whenever possible all the training being offered by County and attend briefings given to all County Councillors by officers on various aspects of work being carried out by County. It can be as diverse as IT, Finance, Child Care, Equality and Human Rights and Environmental Impacts.

I have an excellent attendance record at County and have spoken up in support of Shepshed at every opportunity. I feel strongly that as the elected representative for Shepshed at the County Council, it is important for me that I attend and represent the people of Shepshed to whom I am accountable.

Signed by Councillor Christine Radford

Date 31st May 2018