

County Councillor Annual Report 2010/11

This report summarises the activities of the following member of the County Council during 2010/11.

Name of Councillor **Dr Kevin Feltham**

Council Activities

Committees you serve on at County Hall

- Scrutiny Commission (Vice-chairman & Conservative spokesman)
- Budget & Performance Monitoring Scrutiny Panel (Chairman)
- Scrutiny Review Panel on the Procurement of Waste Treatment Facilities (Chairman)

Local committees – Highway Forums and Community Forums etc

- Harborough Highways Forum
- Rural East Community Forum (Harborough)
- Rural West Community Forum (Harborough)
- Harborough Improvement Team
- County Councils Network
- ESPO Management Committee (Chairman 2011/12)
- Nicholson Memorial Fund Trustee
- Airport Joint Working Group

Other bodies – School governors/community and charity organisations etc

- Robert Smyth Upper School Governors (Vice-chairman & chairman of Curriculum & Staffing Committee) – are in process of converting to Robert Smyth Academy
- Kibworth Harcourt Conservation Society (Chairman)
- Kibworth Parochial Church Council (Secretary)
- Parish Share Committee Member (Diocesan Board of Finance)
- Kibworth Improvement Team (Steering Group, Hon. Treasurer)
- Kibworth & Smeeton Branch of the Harborough Conservative Association (Chairman)
- CASCET - Campaign Against the Stoughton Co-op Expansion Threat (Chairman)

Electoral Division activities

Main Activities during the past year:

- Attend parish council meetings when item about County Council is on the agenda, or by invitation.
- Continued campaigning with other councillors and MP for a Market Harborough Community Hospital facilities at St Luke's Hospital site. Campaigned vigorously about flawed LCR PCT procurement contract procedures with MODCON for Modular Day Case Units.
- Successfully campaigned to improve Warwick Road railway bridge pedestrian safety by working with parish councils, Highways, Network Rail, MP and Secretary of State for Transport.
- Put together successful bid for Heritage Lottery Fund award of £48,200 for Kibworth Improvement Team to continue Heritage Legacy Project following Michael Wood's "Story of England" BBC TV series about Kibworth in autumn 2010. Ongoing commitment to continue support Kibworth Improvement Team in other community activities e.g. Kibworth Royal Wedding Street Party in April 2011 (largest in East Midlands).
- Worked with Great Glen Parish Council & Highways officers to reduce noise and problems associated with initial site clearing on Stretton Road
- Worked with Highways to implement speed reduction & safety measures on B6047 including specific measures for motor cyclists
- Maintaining public interest through public meetings and statements to parish councils about any proposals for a new Kibworth Waste Recycling Facility on A6
- Campaigned for, and succeeded in achieving, 7.5 tonne weight restrictions through Kibworth Beauchamp, following similar campaign for Kibworth Harcourt and villages east of A6 over previous 4 years
- Opened Great Glen Community Wildspace (Sence Meanders) in July 2011
- Collaborated with County Hall and parish councils to implement part night street lighting in several villages thus helping reduce carbon emissions and limit costs to council
- Continuing to campaign against large-scale housing developments for Great Glen, Billesdon or the Kibworths during the Harborough Local Development Framework consultations.
- Pennbury eco-town (chairman of CASSET campaign group) that succeeded in ensuring location was not short listed for development in either July or December 2009. Continue to maintain monitoring role as The Co-operative Group refuse to formally withdrawn their proposal.
- Write regular columns for Kibworth & District Chronicle and Glen Sence community newspapers

Priorities for the immediate future are:

- Oppose any further large-scale housing developments in the Kibworths or Great Glen until present KB/1 and GG/2 developments are completed
- Attend Examination in Public for HDC Core Strategy and press for additional green wedges between Oadby and Great Glen.
- Collaborate with district councillor colleagues and other county councillors in Harborough Constituency to understand how affordable housing tenants are prioritised, and why local people are not automatically provided with new affordable housing in KB/1 and potentially GG/2
- Continue pressing for transparency and answers to contractual problems with the LCR PCT Day Case Unit. Chief Executive, Catherine Griffiths, has promised Unit will be open by January 2012.
- Continue collaboration with all district ward councillors in my division – Billesdon (1), Glen (2) and Kibworth (3).
- Continue collaborative relationships with all 26 parish councils and meetings when asked for help
- Seek ways of improving bus services (night and weekends) not just along A6, but to smaller parishes
- Work with Highways engineers to continue improving road safety of B6047, A47 and A6
- Work with parish councils & police to investigate further speed reduction measures within villages
- Look for ways to encourage alternative modes of transport – bus, cycling, walking

Learning and development:

- Media Communication
- Equality & Diversity
- Scrutiny Commission workshop
- Safeguarding children (at Northampton General Hospital)
- Project Management

Other Matters:

I continue to work part-time (three days a week) as an information manager at Northampton General Hospital and feel this provides a welcome alternative view of public service.

Representing 26 parishes from the very small (Frisby: Pop 2001 of 15) to the very large (Kibworth Beauchamp: Pop 2001 of 3,798) is challenging. The Gartree Division electorate was 10,085 (2009) so the division is not only very large but also has diverse problems from rural deprivation in terms of limited public bus services or village amenities, to large housing developments which threaten community cohesion and village amenities in larger villages. This makes for a very varied set of casework.

Collaborative working with local MPs (Edward Garnier for Harborough, and Alan Duncan for Rutland & Melton), parish and district councillors has potential benefits for all concerned. It reduces duplication, makes for more efficient casework and builds relationships. I am pleased that I continue to have good working relationships with all tiers of government within the Gartree Division.

I do not hold individual surgeries because I collaborate with Edward Garnier with his monthly MP surgeries. I am readily available by mail, email and telephone and am frequently to be found at various events in many of the villages throughout the year. I welcome ideas from residents for how facilities within the division can be further improved. News updates and announcements for the Gartree Division can be found on this website which I maintain: www.gartree.org.uk

Signed by Councillor:



Date: 18th July 2011