

**County Councillor Annual Report 2012/13** *This report summarises the activities of County Councillor Betty Newton*

**Council activities**

**Committees I have served on at County Hall**

Scrutiny Commission

Standards Committee/Member Conduct Panel

Secure Accommodation Panel

Employment Hearing Panel

Guardianship Review Panel



**Local committees:**

Charnwood Highways Forum

Loughborough North West Area Forum

Shepshed and Hathern Area Forum

**Other relevant bodies**

Combined Fire Authority

Community Action Charnwood

Loughborough University - University Court

Loughborough Campus and Community Liaison Group

Assist when required the following residents groups:

Storer and Ashby Resident's Group (SARG)

Three Closes Residents Association Warwick Way Action Group (WAGS)

Work Closely with Hathern Parish Council on activities that affect Hathern



## **Electoral Division activities**

### **Main Activities during the past Year**

- ✓ Attendance at Council meetings, Commission Meetings, Standards and Member Conduct meetings. Also regular attendance at Combined Fire Authority Meetings and Fire Authority Policy meetings.
- ✓ Attend Hathern Parish Council meetings and worked with them on a range of issues affecting Hathern. On-going work on local flooding issues in different parts of Hathern, deterioration of parts of the Derby Road/A6
- ✓ Working closely with Hathern Parish Council and Severn Trent to ensure that measures are put in place to militate against flooding in Nightingale Avenue (ongoing)
- ✓ Actively working with residents to ensure that cyclepath is developed between Peartree Estate and Maxwell Drive (ongoing)
- ✓ Worked with Multi Agency Travellers Unit on illegal traveller encampments near Three Closes estate.
- ✓ Working with local residents organisations, for example, Storer and Ashby Ward Residents Group on a range of issues such as car parking and residents preferential parking schemes.
- ✓ Meetings with officers and Residents regarding potholes in various parts of the division.
- ✓ Approached the police on behalf of residents who were experiencing Anti-Social Behaviour
- ✓ Campaigned against speeding vehicles in the Alan Moss Road, Knightthorpe Road and Maxwell Drive areas and requested Council to monitor speeding in various roads of Loughborough North.
- ✓ Held a public meeting regarding poor broadband connectivity in the Maxwell Drive Area. Meeting attended by the Deputy CX and BT.
- ✓ Assisted residents who were concerned about changes to their care packages
- ✓ Supported a number of voluntary organisations in application for a Grant from the Big Society Fund.
- ✓ Campaigned to have parking restrictions introduced in the Goods Yard Close, Wheeltappers Way area.
- ✓ Contacted LCC Transport Officers on visibility concerns after the installation of Gates on the A6 entrance to Hathern
- ✓ Spoke to the local bus companies to ensure that people with disabilities are able to bring their wheelchairs onto the buses
- ✓ Through my newsletters and ebulletins I have promoted the planting of a Community Orchard in Gorse Covert. Hoping that next year this initiative will extend to Hathern
- ✓ Worked with the police on their campaign against use of illegal mini motorbikes
- ✓ Regular newsletters and ebulletins to residents. Also, run Saturday morning street surgeries in the division.

## **Matters Raised personally in Council, Scrutiny and Questions:**

### **Matters Raised at Full Council:**

Questions: I asked questions on a range of issues from abolition of legal aid; loan sharks and short term payday loans; flooding in Hathern and other areas of Loughborough North; asked council to introduce a living wage, Health and Public Health Issues including concerns over funding of Public Health initiatives; fees paid to Forster Carers; Home to School Transport; supported the retention of Glenfield Children's Heart Unit as well as paper to Cabinet on Little Hill Children's Home.



### **Priorities for the immediate future are:**

- Reduce speeding on major roads in the Division
- Protect Garendon Park and the separation of Hathern from Loughborough and Shepshed
- Ensuring those areas with poor broad band connectivity are given adequate advice and support
- Will continue to support the Voluntary sector to ensure that grants are devolved down to local communities
- Home to School Transport, will campaign to ensure that it is in place where required by pupils.
- Ensure the elderly and vulnerable are able to receive their entitlement to social care
- Continue to campaign against speeding on local roads



**Briefings, Workshops Training and Conferences:**

1 June Forced Marriage Conference  
28 June Transitions Workshop County Hall  
June Local Government Conference (Birmingham)  
9 July Clinical Commissioning NHS Workshop (Ashby)  
16 July All member meeting on Special Educational Needs  
18 July All member briefing on Community Infrastructure  
10 August Anti Social Behaviour Roadshow (Gorse Covert)  
5 October Home to School Transport Workshop County Hall  
5 December Broadband Provision  
11 January Training on Code of Conduct County Hall  
31 January Budget Meeting/workshop County Hall  
Presentation on latest NHS Developments  
Presentation on Acadamies.



**Other matters:**

Significant casework load concerning parking, highways, countryside, planning, footpaths, traffic, poor broadband connectivity, street lighting, schools, changes to individuals care packages including work with residents and students.

Responding to press enquiries and issuing of press releases and letter to Echo and Mercury.

Signed:

*Betty Newton*

Betty Newton CC  
March 2013

