

## **2013-2014 Annual Report of Councillor Michael Harvey Coedffranc North.**

### **Rolls and Responsibilities**

During the year 2013-2014 I have been a member of Neath Port Talbot Council's Democratic Services, Audit, Special Appointments, Cabinet Scrutiny and Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committees. I have attended the two meetings held of the Democratic Services Committee meetings, all four meetings of the Audit Committee, both Special Appointment Panel Meetings, the three Cabinet Scrutiny Committee Meetings and all three meetings of the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee. In relation to Full Council I have attended twelve of the thirteen meetings held. Therefore I have attended twenty six of the twenty seven meetings of the committees I was allocated to in the past year - a 96% attendance rate.

During 2013-2014 I missed just one meeting, which was a meeting of the full council. This was because I was representing the council at an event in London. I have in the past year represented Neath Port Talbot Council on the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee and attended the one meeting held of this committee.

I am also a member of Coedffranc Community Council and have regularly attended at Community Council meetings. During the past year I was a member of the Community Council's Finance, Personnel and Cemetery Committees.

I regularly contributed at all meetings I attended.

Since 2004 I have been the Chair of Governor's for Neath Abbey Infants School. I take this responsibility very seriously. I regularly attend all governing body meetings. I rarely miss a full governing body or a subcommittee meeting.

I also regularly attend governor training, meetings with the Local Education Authority and Director of Education and Governor's Association meetings. I have also been a regular attender at PACT Meetings which are held in Skewen Rugby Club.

### **Community Activity**

In the past year I held street surgeries every month apart from December and January (because of horrific weather conditions). I have held 50 street surgeries in the past year and I have had a good response to these.

I have dealt with many issues in the past year e.g. flooding, speeding, yellow lines, parking issues, blocked drains, highway issues, Japanese knotweed, potholes, weeds, rats, street lighting, anti-social behaviour, blue badges etc. I have had boulders placed on the field adjacent to Ellens Road to prevent vehicles gaining access to this area and then committing anti-social behaviour. I have also had lighting columns re-instated in Ellens Road and the top Ormes Road.

In the past year the road surfaces in Park Drive and Lucy Road were re surfaced. Unfortunately the work carried out initially was sub-standard. Through my persistence the contractors concerned have returned on two separate occasions to these streets to carry out remedial work and now the road surfaces have been brought up to an acceptable standard.

In the past year I have continued to build good links and meet with local groups e.g. youth groups, ladies group, old age pensioner groups etc. and give advice and help if needed to these groups.

I have published a newsletter every quarter to update people and to circulate the dates of my street surgeries. These have been delivered to every street and virtually to every dwelling in my ward.

### **Learning and Development**

I have attended at councillor training events and at seminars to broaden my knowledge on council issues.

As Chair of Governor's I have regularly attended at Governor Training.

### **Initiatives and Special Activities.**

During the past year I have been delighted to work in partnership with a number of residents in Coedffranc North to advise and help them with different issues. I have worked in partnership with residents of Ormes Road and Newall Road to try and raise funding to upgrade the road surface. I circulated a letter to all homes in these streets to try and raise funding. This issue is on-going and I am determined to do all I can to improve the condition of unadopted roads in my area.

In the financial year 2014/2015 I have asked for work to be carried out on Drummau in an attempt to stop the water cascading down Ormes Road and Newall Roads when it rains heavily. When this work is complete we will have a chance of improving the road surfaces in the streets concerned.

I held meetings with a number of residents from Dynevor Close, Drummau Close, and Oakhill Park to address the issue of Japanese Knotweed. At one of the meetings an officer of Neath Port Talbot Council gave a presentation on the law in relation to knotweed and how to deal with it.

### **Other Activities and Interests**

I have continued as the Referee Liaison Officer for the Ospreys Regional Rugby Team. My role involves looking after and entertaining all the match officials, including top international referees, who visit the Liberty Stadium. I am also a Skewen Rugby Football Club season ticket holder and have been for a number of years. I attend Skewen matches as and when my other commitments allow. I enjoy all sports and also taking my Schitzu dog Harry for long walks with my wife Debbie and family.