

# ANNUAL REPORT

MAY 2015 - MAY 2016



Councillor Hefin David

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**ELECTORAL WARD:** St. Cattwg

**PARTY:** Labour

## **PROFILE:**

### **COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

Council  
Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee (Chair)  
Democratic Services Committee  
Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee (Chair)  
Scrutiny Leadership Group (Chair)  
Standards Committee

### **SUBCOMMITTEES/WORKING PARTIES/PANELS**

Bryn Compost Liaison Group  
Non Domestic Rate Payers Committee

### **OUTSIDE BODIES AND ASSOCIATIONS**

Tiryberth Village Hall Management Committee (Chair)

### **SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY**

Glyngaer Primary School  
Trinity Fields School and Resource Centre (Vice Chair)

## **ATTENDANCE**

From May 2015 to May 2016 my attendance at Council meetings was as follows:

<u>Meeting</u>	<u>No. Attended</u>	<u>No. Held</u>
Bryn Compost Liaison Group	2	2
Council	11	12
Crime and Disorder Scrutiny	2	2
Democratic Services Committee	3	4
Non-Domestic Rate Payers Committee	1	1
Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee	8	8
Scrutiny Leadership Group	2	3

## **TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT**

I undertook the following training and development seminars and courses: -

Democratic Services Committee (Annual)  
Medium Term Financial Plan (Seminar x 2)  
Crime and Disorder (Annual)  
Information Governance (Mandatory)  
Probity in Planning

## **CONSTITUENCY ACTIVITY**

Every week I dealt with casework for individuals and groups from every area of my ward. These involved a range of issues, including housing, planning, social, educational and environmental matters. I am available via telephone seven days a week and I ensure that my number is widely circulated.

In past reports, I stated that, as Chairman of Tiryberth Village Hall Management Committee, I was involved in the successful application for a Big Lottery People and Places grant of nearly £400,000 in order to demolish and rebuild the Hall. The project has now been completed and the hall held a Grand Opening in October 2015. The volunteers on the Management Committee welcomed the Deputy Mayor, Cllr Dianne Price and Mr Roy Noble of BBC Radio Wales to open the hall. It has since seen much use and is a popular venue for all kinds of events in the area.

As Chairman of the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee, I have again worked closely with members and officers to review council policies and find budget savings. In 2015-16, the committee also considered the use of Bed and Breakfast Accommodation as emergency housing, something that residents in Argoed raised with the council following tragic events at a B&B there. Residents attended the meeting to give evidence and it was agreed that the council would work to limit the use of this kind of emergency housing and officers were committed to achieving this. The committee also wrote to the Welsh Government to seek support and this was reported on BBC Wales Today.

In December I took part in a BBC Radio 4 programme called 'Open Country' which examined how Caerphilly's coal tips had become country parks. I was interviewed in my ward in Parc Penallta at the site of the pit pony land sculpture.

In January I met with the Trussell Trust, who run food banks in Wales and I discussed measures that government at all levels could introduce to reduce poverty. I intend to maintain these links and continue discussions in the months ahead.

Over the past year, I have worked closely with Glyngaer Primary and Trinity Fields School as a governor and I was reappointed to these roles this year.