

# ANNUAL REPORT

MAY 2015 - MAY 2016



Councillor Colin Elsbury

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**ELECTORAL WARD:** St. Martins

**PARTY:** Plaid Cymru

## **PROFILE:**

I'm privileged to have been a Caerphilly Town Councillor since 2008 and a County Councillor for St. Martins Ward since 2009. I have lived in the ward for most of my life, having attended both Twyn Junior School and St. Martins Comprehensive School.

## **COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

Council  
Regeneration and Environment Scrutiny Committee  
Sustainable Development Advisory Panel

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

Caerphilly Town Centre Management Group

## **OUTSIDE BODIES AND ASSOCIATIONS**

South Wales Fire and Rescue Authority  
(Sub committees: HR & Equalities, ICT)  
Safer Caerphilly Delivery Group

## **SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY**

Chair of Governors of Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Y Castell  
Vice-Chair of Governors of St. Martins Comprehensive School

## **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>
Council	11	12
Regeneration and Environment	7	8
Sustainable Development Advisory Panel	2	3
Caerphilly Town Centre Management Group	1	3

## **TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT**

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

Constitution (Mandatory)

Regeneration and Environment Scrutiny Committee (Annual & 6 Monthly Update)

Sustainable Development Advisory Panel (Annual)

## **CONSTITUENCY ACTIVITY**

During the last 12 months myself and my other two Ward colleagues (James Fussell and Steve Kent) have held seven Ward Surgeries/Public Meetings, however we tend to concentrate on door to door contact with residents. We have covered most of the ward during the year.

I also received regular contact and enquiries from residents via letter, e-mail or telephone. During the past 12 months I assisted residents on numerous matters ranging from planning, highways matters, parking issues, anti-social behaviour, noise and light pollution, drainage and environmental matters (dog fouling, litter, provision of litter bins, pollution). I attended meetings of a local residents association and liaised with them regarding issues that arise around the many events that occur within the town during the year. My Ward colleagues and I meet regularly with local Police Officers to discuss problems within the Ward, which also includes the town centre. We continually press for the return of a Police Station in the Town.

I have also arranged for and attended litter picking sessions on Caerffili Mountain and liaised with Council Officers to remove rubbish and to clean our Town Centre.

As Chair and Vice Chair of two schools within the ward I attended full Governing body meetings every six weeks as well termly sub committees that dealt with finance, staffing, curriculum, building maintenance and school development.

During the year I also receive hundred's of emails a week from Council Officers and numerous other official bodies and voluntary organisations. I send a few as well!

I am also the Honorary President of a local Children's Charity, Shining Stars, (previously know as the Caerphilly Disadvantaged Children's Group) which organised events for physically and mentally handicapped children and their families.

As a Caerffili Town Councillor I helped organise the annual town fireworks display (This included working on the weekend of the display erecting the sound systems, barriers, dealing the road closures, the stewarding and helping set up the fireworks). For the

Christmas lights switch on I helped in the placing of the lights around the Town in the evenings prior to the switch on and then during the day in preparation for the event.

Both myself and my Ward colleagues have also been engaged with Residents on numerous occasions in respect of the Local Development Plan in an attempt to stop the building of houses on green field sites. We have held public meetings, spoke at Council and voted against the Plan.