

# ANNUAL REPORT

MAY 2015 - MAY 2016



Councillor Leon Gardiner

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**ELECTORAL WARD:** Argoed

**PARTY:** Labour

**PROFILE:** In 2015-16 I was very proud to be Mayor of Caerphilly County Borough Council. I am a Freeman of the City of London, a Freeman of Islwyn Borough, Community Councillor for Argoed and Chairman of Argoed Community Hall.

## COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Council  
Health Social Care and Well Being Scrutiny Committee  
Planning Committee

## SUBCOMMITTEES/WORKING PARTIES/PANELS

Community Council Liaison Sub-Committee

## SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY

Markham Primary 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

Community Council Liaison Sub Committee	0	3
Health, Social Care and Wellbeing	0	8
Planning	4	14
Hospital Discharge Task and Finish Group	1	4

## **TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT**

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

Probity in Planning  
Treasury Management (Seminar)  
Information Governance  
Medium Term Financial Plan (Seminar)  
Planning Committee (Annual)

## **ACTIVITY AS MAYOR OF CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

At the AGM in May 2015 I was very proud to have been elected Mayor for Caerphilly County Borough Council, this was a huge privilege for me but also meant that due to the number of civic functions within the year I was not able to attend as many Committee meetings as I usually would, I attended 316 events over the last twelve months including: -

Royal Garden Party  
Urdd Opening Concert, Crowning Ceremony and Message of Peace and Goodwill  
1901 Senghenydd Memorial Services  
Hafal Summer Campaign Event  
Young Ambassador Celebration Days  
Presentation of Colours to The Royal Welsh by HRH The Queen  
Young Enterprise Finals  
Armed Forces Day  
Launch of New College, MPCT at Raglan Barracks  
Partnership Awards Evening for Community Education  
20th Anniversary Concert for Caerphilly Community Choirs  
The Dragon Challenge Presentation of Awards  
Presentation of Awards to Young Firefighters  
Visit to General Dynamics by HRH The Prince of Wales  
Presentation of the Queen's Award for Volunteering  
Service of Thanksgiving – 70th Anniversary V J Day  
Voluntary Sector and Civic Award Ceremony  
Macmillian Coffee Mornings  
Universal Colliery Disaster Memorial  
Caerphilly Library Summer Reading Challenge  
Remembrance Services  
Contemporary Young Musician of the Year Finals  
Citizenship Ceremony  
Carol Services and Christmas Concerts  
Pride in Your Place Event  
St David's Day Celebration

National Holocaust Memorial Day Service  
Launch of Velvet Coalmine Literature Festival  
Diamond and Golden Anniversary and 100th Birthday presentations of flowers.

My Charities for this year were Ty Hafan and MacMillan Cancer Research and we raised over £17,000. My thanks to all those that contributed or held fund raising events in the last 12 months it was a fantastic effort from everyone involved.

### **CONSTITUENCY ACTIVITY**

I held monthly surgeries at Markham Chapel and did a weekly walk through the villages in my ward. My constituents are welcome to contact me by telephone, email and in person.

I requested Planning Site Visits in relation to Wind Turbine planning applications in the ward.

I worked with Officers to try and resolve ward issues and assisted residents as and when needed on various issues including housing and highways.