

# ANNUAL REPORT

MAY 2015 - MAY 2016



Councillor Dave Rees

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**ELECTORAL WARD:** Risca West

**PARTY:** Independent

## **COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

Council  
Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee  
Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee  
Audit Committee - Chair  
Investigating and Disciplinary Committee  
Planning Committee  
Scrutiny Leadership Group

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

Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal - Crumlin Arm Working Group  
Risca Town Centre Management Group

## **OUTSIDE BODIES AND ASSOCIATIONS**

Risca West and East Community Activity Group - Chair

## **SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY**

Risca Primary  
Trinity Fields Special 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> |
|--|---------------------|-----------------|
| Audit Committee                          | 4                   | 4               |
| Council                                  | 10                  | 12              |
| Crime and Disorder                       | 2                   | 2               |
| Investigating and Disciplinary Committee | 2                   | 3               |
| Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal           | 0                   | 3               |
| Planning Committee                       | 12                  | 14              |
| Policy Resources                         | 4                   | 8               |
| Risca Town Centre Management Group       | 0                   | 3               |
| Scrutiny Leadership Group                | 2                   | 3               |

## **TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT**

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

Planning (RSL's and Section 106 Agreements)  
Probity in Planning  
Understanding the Statement of Accounts  
Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee (Annual)  
Planning – The Five Year Plan  
Scrutiny Leadership Group (Annual)

## **CONSTITUENCY ACTIVITY**

I held weekly Sunday Street Surgeries where two hundred households per week were given the opportunity to meet face to face with their Councillors to have a chat and raise any concerns/issues they might have. Constituents can also communicate with me via telephone, e-mail and twitter. Once again during the past twelve months I received and responded to thousands of e-mails, received and made in excess of 1100 telephone calls and travelled a good 3000 miles undertaking constituency duties.

Once again over the past 12 months due to constituency commitments and priorities I was not always available to attend all Council Committee meetings but I always prioritised my attendance to ensure that where residents' issues were concerned they took precedence and those concerns were always fully represented.

As Chair of the Risca West & East Community Events Group I met weekly with the Community Members at Moriah Church and worked closely with the Council's Destination and Events Team to organise the two annual major events in Risca Park. Although the Risca Christmas Market was unfortunately cancelled in 2015 due to inclement weather, the Risca Summer Festival was again very successful with over 3000 people attending the event.

This year I have continued to successfully work with the Council and National Resources Wales regarding the imminent completion of the Risca Flood Defence Scheme. These works will bring approximately 300 families out of detriment to flood risk resulting in many families and individuals being able to gain flood insurance for their properties for the first time. I worked closely with the Council, National Resources Wales and the National Assembly for Wales to find a solution that would bring Risca West out of danger from floods.

I have also continued to work with the Council and a private sector business over the past year regarding proposals to bring an exciting tourism and leisure venture to the Risca area, to include the creation of a zip wire attraction within Risca Quarry