

ANNUAL REPORT

MAY 2016 - MAY 2017



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

Future Generations Advisory Panel

SUBCOMMITTEES/WORKING PARTIES/PANELS

Caerphilly Town Centre Management Group

Caerphilly Car Parks Task and Finish Group

OUTSIDE BODIES AND ASSOCIATIONS

South Wales Fire and Rescue Authority

(Sub committees: HR & Equalities, ICT)

Safer Caerphilly Delivery Group
Sight Cymru

SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY

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

ATTENDANCE

From May 2016 to May 2017 my attendance at Council meetings was as follows:

<u>Meeting</u>	<u>No. Attended</u>	<u>No. Held</u>
Council	9	10
Regeneration and Environment	7	8
Caerphilly Town Centre Management Group	2	2
Caerphilly Car Parks Task and Finish Group	3	4

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

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

City Deal (Seminar)

CONSTITUENCY ACTIVITY

During the last 12 months myself and my other two Ward colleagues (James Fussell and Steve Kent) have held five 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, local development plan, 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 with 3 local residents associations 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. This year we saw the return of a police office the town.

I have also arranged for and attended litter picking sessions on Caerffili Mountain, Castel View and the town centre 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 am also the Honorary President of a local Children's Charity, Shining Stars, 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 hundreds of Residents on numerous occasions in respect of the Local Development Plan in an attempt to stop the building of houses on green field sites. The Plan was successfully withdrawn.