

ANNUAL REPORT

MAY 2017 - MAY 2018



Councillor Ross Whiting

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ELECTORAL WARD: Risca West

PARTY: Labour

PROFILE: Ward Member for Risca West

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Council
Democratic Services
Education for Life Scrutiny Committee
Licensing and Gambling Committee
Taxi and General Committee
Planning Committee

SUBCOMMITTEES/WORKING PARTIES/PANELS

Community Council Liaison Sub Committee
Licensing and Gambling Sub Committee
Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal – Crumlin Arm Working Group
Risca Town Centre Management Group
Taxi and General Sub Committee
Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee

OUTSIDE BODIES AND ASSOCIATIONS

ATTENDANCE

From May 2017 to May 2018 my attendance at Council meetings was as follows:

<u>Meeting</u>	<u>No. Attended</u>	<u>No. Held</u>
Council	13	13
Democratic Services	4	4
Education for Life Scrutiny Committee	9	9
Licensing and Gambling Committee	1	1
Licensing and Gambling Sub Committee	1	1
Taxi and General Committee	3	4
Taxi and General Sub Committee	4	4
Planning Committee	11	11
Community Council Liaison Sub Committee	3	3
Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal – Crumlin Arm Working Group	3	3
Risca Town Centre Management Group	2	2
Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee	4	4

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

I have undertaken the following training and development: -

Induction 2017

Medium Term Financial Plan (Seminar) (20.09.2017)

Medium Term Financial Plan (Seminar) (31.01.2018)

Planning Training (Recommended)

Planning 5 Year Supply

21st Century Schools (Seminar)

Data Protection (Mandatory)

Information Governance

Effective Governance – Call-in

VAWDASV E-Training

CONSTITUENCY ACTIVITY

These are the issues that I have worked on over the past year many of which are ongoing: -

A467 Dual Carriageway

Residents in the Dan Y Graig area have concerns about road noise from the A467. These concerns have been raised on multiple occasions with the Council, including a site visit with the relevant officer and Cabinet Member, and this is an ongoing matter. A number of concerns were also raised about grass overgrowth at the sides of the road and at the roundabout. I raised these concerns with the relevant officers.

Tesco Section 106 Money

I have attended meetings and had discussions with officers to discuss the use of Section 106 money related to the construction of Tesco. These discussions were reflected in a report which was presented to Cabinet.

Church Road

There is an ongoing issue on Church Road with drivers using horns at the bottom of the road and large vehicles getting stuck using it. I raised these matters with the relevant officers and options are being considered in relation to this. Residents will be consulted on these options before any changes are made.

Potholes

A number of potholes were reported after the winter, and I have been reporting these as and when they appear. To date most of these have now been repaired. I raised the particular matter of Mill Street with the relevant officers. This is ongoing.

Fly Tipping / Litter

I received a number of reports of fly tipping around the ward, especially in Ocherwyth. Individual cases were reported and cleared, but this is an ongoing matter which continues to be a problem. I frequently report litter and overflowing bins, including dog waste bins, and these are regularly dealt with. This is an ongoing matter which frequently resurfaces.

Virgin Media Works

Since the Virgin Media works to install new internet cabling has started, I became aware of a number of issues relating to the works. I raised these matters with Virgin Media but this will continue as an on-going matter until the works in the ward are completed.

Illegal / Inconsiderate Parking

There have been regular reports of inconsiderate and illegal parking throughout the ward including on Tredegar Street, Park Road, Isaf Road, and others. I have reported these matters and joined the local Police Community Support Officer on an awareness raising exercise.

Housing Queries

I have received a number of queries relating to housing. I have assisted residents by providing information relating to their individual cases, as well as raising matters with the relevant officers, and this continues to be an ongoing matter.

Anti-Social Behaviour

I have been made aware of reports of anti-social behaviour in specific areas of the ward. These have been raised with the relevant authorities but continue as ongoing matters.

Social Media

I have been using social media to communicate with residents about important ongoing matters. These include school closures as a result of snow earlier in the year, and other matters of local interest. My Facebook page 'Cllr Ross Whiting – Risca West' is currently 'liked' by 473 people, and I regularly receive queries and message via the page..

Risca Town Council

Although I am not a member of Risca Town Council, I have attended most meetings this year to provide them with county members' updates. I have reported issues raised by Town Councillors, and attended most of their community events.