

ANNUAL REPORT

MAY 2019 - MAY 2020



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
Environment & Sustainability Scrutiny Committee
Housing & Regeneration Scrutiny Committee

SUBCOMMITTEES/WORKING PARTIES/PANELS

Caerphilly Town Centre Management Group
Prosiect Gwyrdd Joint Scrutiny Panel

OUTSIDE BODIES AND ASSOCIATIONS

Cardiff Capital Region Joint Scrutiny Committee (Deputy)
South Wales Fire and Rescue Authority
Sight Cymru

SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY

St. Martins Comprehensive School

ATTENDANCE

To view my attendance record, please follow the link below:

<https://democracy.caerphilly.gov.uk/mgUserAttendanceSummary.aspx?LLL=0>

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

Education Performance Indicators (Seminar)

Civil Parking & Traffic Regulation Orders (Seminar)

Ethics and Standards (Mandatory Training)

WARD ACTIVITY

During lockdown I continued carrying out my role as a Councillor,, representing my community and providing assistance during a difficult time.

During the last 12 months myself, and my other two Ward colleagues (James Fussell and Steve Kent), held four Ward Surgeries/Public Meetings. However, we tend to concentrate on door to door contact with residents, covering 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/permits, anti-social behaviour, noise/light pollution, dog fouling, fly tipping. My Ward colleagues and I meet regularly with local Police Officers to discuss problems within the Ward, which also includes the town centre.

I also arranged and took part in litter picking sessions on Caerffili Mountain, Castle View and the town centre, liaising with Council Officers to remove rubbish and to clean our Town Centre.

As a Governor of a school within the ward I attended full Governing body meetings every six weeks, plus termly sub committees that dealt with finance, staffing, curriculum, building maintenance and school development.

During the year I received hundreds 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 flower festival, 'Caerphilly in Bloom', and 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.

During this Covid-19 pandemic I became a volunteer with CCBC's Community Response Team (Buddy scheme) and support various households in the area. This includes their weekly shop, collecting prescriptions and generally being there to support their emotional needs. I have also volunteered with local Pharmacies to deliver medicines to people self-

isolating or shielding, and also helped local business in getting business grants in relation to Business rates.