

ANNUAL REPORT

MAY 2019 - MAY 2020



Councillor Julian Simmonds

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ELECTORAL WARD: Crosskeys

PARTY: Labour

PROFILE: Ward Member for Crosskeys
Mayor

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Council
Planning Committee
Education Scrutiny Committee
Audit Committee
Investigating and Disciplinary Committee
Licensing and Gambling Committee (Vice-Chair)
Taxi and General Committee (Vice-Chair)

SUBCOMMITTEES/WORKING PARTIES/PANELS

Advisory Panel for the Appointment and Removal of Local Authority Governors
Licensing and Gambling Sub Committee

Taxi and General Sub Committee
Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal – Crumlin Arm Working Group
Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education
Pensions Compensation Committee (substitute)

OUTSIDE BODIES AND ASSOCIATIONS

Greater Gwent Crematorium Joint Committee
Aneurin Bevan Community Health Council
Welsh Books Council and Wales Book Council Executive Committee

SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY

Newbridge School

ATTENDANCE

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

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

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

Local Government Bill (Seminar)
Strategic Development Plan Workshop (Recommended Training)
Questioning & Listening Skills (Recommended Training)
Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (Seminar)
Ethics and Standards (Mandatory Training)
South Wales Fire & Rescue Authority (Seminar)
Monmouthshire & Brecon Canal – Crumlin Arm Working Group (Annual Refresher)
Civil Parking & Traffic Regulation Orders (Seminar)
Audit Committee Training (Annual Refresher)
Wellbeing of Future Generations Workshop (Recommended Training)
Education Performance Indicators (Seminar)
Licensing Committee Training (Annual Refresher)

CIVIC DUTIES

During 2019/20 I was very proud to be elected as the Mayor of Caerphilly County Borough Council.

During the year I represented the Council and the people of Caerphilly at 149 events including Caerphilly 10k, Live Vacancy Events, Armed Forces Day, Merchant Navy Flag Raising, Senghenydd Mining Memorial Service, a number of Remembrance Services, the Four Counties Christmas concert, Holocaust Memorial Day event and the Commonwealth Flag Raising. Citizenship Ceremonies were held regularly during the year and I welcomed a number of new citizens to the borough. I personally thanked a number of local businesses who continue to support our Santa Appeal, and welcomed members of the Royal Family to our borough. I was privileged to attend a number of concerts throughout the year and heard the many talented residents of this borough. Along with these visits I made presentations of 14 bouquets to Caerphilly residents who celebrated their Golden, Diamond and Sapphire wedding anniversaries and 100th Birthdays, with one resident celebrating her 104th birthday.

I was delighted to have the opportunity to visit many schools during the year and was humbled by the commitment and dedication of the staff. While attending the numerous concerts, assemblies and other school-based activities I was always met by enthusiastic pupils who demonstrated the range of academic and non-academic talent among the young people of this borough.

WARD ACTIVITY

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

Along with my day to day work of visiting constituents and working in my communities of Crosskeys and Pontywaun I have dealt with a wide range of issues on behalf of residents eg housing, parking, noise, refuse, pest control etc.

Over the past twelve months, I have continued to undertake the many courses and seminars Caerphilly CBC has provided to develop my knowledge of council and give me a better understanding of local government. This is helping me gain the knowledge I need to fulfil my role as a councillor and I continue to attend committees and groups at council and local levels.