ANNUAL REPORT

MAY 2020 - MAY 2021



Councillor Lisa Phipps

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Bedwas

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ELECTORAL WARD: Bedwas, Trethomas and Machen

PARTY: Labour

PROFILE: Cabinet Member for Homes, Places and Tourism until 3rd September 2020

Cabinet Member for Housing and Property since 3rd September 2020

I was first elected to represent the residents of Bedwas, Trethomas and Machen in September 2015. I have lived and worked in the ward for 15 years.

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Council

Cabinet

Cabinet as Trustees for Blackwood Miners Institute Rights of Way Cabinet Committee Appointments Committee

SUBCOMMITTEES/WORKING PARTIES/PANELS

Caerphilly Homes Task Group Corporate Joint Consultative Committee Education Achievement Service Board Member Pensions/Compensation Committee View Point Panel

OUTSIDE BODIES AND ASSOCIATIONS

Association of Public Services Excellence (formerly ADLO) – Welsh Regional Committee Care and Repair – Caerphilly

Consortium of Local Authorities Wales (CLAW)

Anti Poverty Champion

Homeless Person Champion

Community Councillor on Bedwas, Trethomas and Machen Community Council

Bedwas Workmen's Hall Committee Member

Bridgend Allotments Committee Member

Graig y Rhacca Community Centre Committee (Vice-Chair)

SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY

I am a School Governor on Graig y Rhacca Primary & Nursery School I am a School Governor on Bedwas High School

ATTENDANCE

To view my attendance record, please follow the link below: https://democracy.caerphilly.gov.uk/mgUserAttendanceSummary.aspx?LLL=0

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

Homelessness (seminar)
Team Caerphilly (seminar)

CABINET MEMBER ACTIVITY

Lockdown brought many new challenges to my Cabinet role, with daily updates and situations never before experienced.

As Cabinet Member for Homes, Places & Tourism until 3rd September and Housing & Property since 3rd September, I acted as the Cabinet expert in these areas, to ensure that the views and needs of the service are built into the Council's policy framework and the decision-making process. I attended Scrutiny meetings where I regularly updated other Members about my key portfolio activities.

Along with my regularly scheduled committee, cabinet and council meetings during 2020/21, I also attended the following events and Teams meetings:

Caerphilly Homes Project Board Meetings, Photoshoot at Penllwyn Skatepark, Housing New Build Programme, CARE Project at Trethomas Church, Ministerial Meetings re Covid, Caerphilly Placemaking Plan, WG Homelessness Transformation, WLGA Housing Cabinet Network meetings, Woodland Planting/Carbon Offsetting, WSMP Executive Board Meetings, Local Housing Strategy, Site visit to Woodland Park, Newbridge, Walking Tour of Caerphilly Town Centre, EAS Board Meetings, CLAW, Ground Breaking Photoshoot at Bedwellty Fields, Women's Forum meetings, Local Development Plan, Carbon Literacy Climate Ready Gwent.

I also met regularly with Heads of Service, Directors, and the Chief Executive with regard to my portfolio priorities.

WARD ACTIVITY

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

I co-ordinated the collection of donated items for the local hospital and I was proud to be part of the Buddy Scheme organised by Caerphilly CBC, shopping and collecting prescriptions for residents who were self-isolating. I also volunteered for the Parish Trust, collecting items for the food bank.

I am an active member of Bedwas Workmen's Hall Committee, attending their monthly Committee meetings and AGM and when events return to normal, I will be volunteering along with the other hard-working volunteers at the Hall.

I regularly attend Bedwas, Trethomas and Machen Community Council Meetings. I am a Member of the Council's Community Infrastructure Levy Committee and the Council's Employment Committee. Through the use of CIL monies, I have worked with Council Officers to introduce many additions to the BTM ward, such as new benches, picnic benches and litter bins.

I have attended various community related events and meetings within and outside the ward. I took part in regular litter picks and volunteered on a regular basis at the Riverside Walk in Bedwas at events organised by the Countryside Warden.

I have helped organise the Remembrance Day Service in Bedwas, honouring those who served in the two world wars.

I will continue to support local community groups and residents regarding issues affecting our area, to ensure our community is a better place to live.

I look forward to continuing to carry out my duties as a Councillor and will do my best to assist and represent any residents of the Bedwas, Trethomas and Machen ward.

For any residents wishing to contact me, I hold monthly advice surgeries (when restrictions allow) or I can be contacted via the telephone, text, e-mail or via my Facebook page, which I set-up to update residents of the work I am doing.