

ANNUAL REPORT

MAY 2012 - MAY 2013



Councillor Carl Cuss

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ELECTORAL WARD: Twyn Carno

PARTY: Labour

PROFILE: I am Secretary of the Pen y Dre Tenants & Residents Association, Secretary Rhymney Communities First Partnership, Member of Ael y Bryn Community Centre Management Committee

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Council
Regeneration and Environment Scrutiny Committee
Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee
Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee

SUBCOMMITTEES/WORKING PARTIES/PANELS

Community Council Liaison Sub-Committee
Grants to the Voluntary Sector Panel

OUTSIDE BODIES AND ASSOCIATIONS

St Johns Cymru Wales
Young Persons Forum

SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY

Upper Rhymney Primary School
Rhymney Comprehensive School

ATTENDANCE

From May 2012 to May 2013 my attendance at Council meetings was as follows:

<u>Meeting</u>	<u>No. Attended</u>	<u>No. Held</u>
Council	8	9
Crime and Disorder	2	2
Policy and Resources	6	8
Regeneration and Environment	8	8

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

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

Code of Conduct	Aneurin Bevan Health Board
Welfare Reforms	Medium Term Financial Plan
Prosiect Gwyrdd	Appointments
Statement of Accounts	South Wales Fire and Rescue Service
Community Infrastructure Levy	Local Bus Service
Winter Maintenance	Secondary Rationalisation
Nant Llesg	

CONSTITUENCY ACTIVITY

I held 9 Street Surgeries throughout the Ward, which included representatives from Gwent Police.

I am a member of the Ael y Bryn Community Centre Management Committee and was also re-elected Secretary of the Pen y Dre Tenants & Residents Association.

On a Quarterly basis I met with the Tenants & Residents Association, the police, community safety, dog warden, housing team to discuss issues in the ward. Recently we met the Police & Crime Commissioner for Gwent to discuss Police Issues and the effects of shutting Rhymney Police Station.

I worked with the Pen y Dre Tenants & Residents Association to apply for funding for a new play area at Ty Coch – and hoped to resubmit our funding application but are awaiting further information from the Council and the Funder before we re-submit.

Met with Butetown Residents, Council Officers and Huw Lewis AM to discuss the possibility of applying to the newly launched townscape heritage grants programme with the Heritage Lottery Fund to address the Butetown roofs and associated works issues. We were hoping to incorporate works on the Union Iron Works Site near the Rhymney House Hotel to further enhance and strengthen the funding application. The Union Ironworks has a significant importance in our community and we hope we can source funding to ensure it is recognised in the local community. I met with CADW, who agreed to draw up a management plan for the site. The Regeneration & Environment Committee recently agreed to apply for this funding.

I made representations with the owners of Susannah Houses behind Pen y Dre about the condition of the cottages – and have been advised that a planning application is due to go to Caerphilly Council to renovate the buildings.

I met with Residents of Princetown/Llechryd/ Rhymney Bridge to make representations to the Police, Caerphilly & Blaenau Gwent Council to look into the speed of traffic in these areas.

I held street surgeries in the community with the Police and deal with issues in the ward relating to Housing, Environmental, Community Safety, Highways, Education and Social Services.

I worked to find funding options to enhance the open space green land on Albion Square and to possibly undertake an environmental project and car park on the site to address the parking issues in this particular area.

I met with the Head teacher of Upper Rhymney Primary School and Deputy Director for Education to discuss the possibility of a new school and incorporate this within the Upper Rhymney Valley Regeneration Strategy. Cabinet recently agreed to purchase the Former Aldi Site and permission from Welsh Government has been submitted to incorporate this new school into the strategy.

I attended PACT Meetings in order to highlight local concerns.

I attended the Upper Rhymney Valley Cluster Meetings and am actively involved with the new Communities First Programme.