

ANNUAL REPORT

MAY 2012 - MAY 2013



Councillor Barbara Jones

ADDRESS: 5 Edward Thomas Close
Rudry
Caerphilly
CF83 3EP

TELEPHONE: 02920 883740

EMAIL ADDRESS: barbarajones@caerphilly.gov.uk

ELECTORAL WARD: St. James

PARTY: Labour

PROFILE:

I was elected to Caerphilly Borough Council in May 2012, and was delighted to be appointed as Vice Chair of Health Social Care and Well Being Scrutiny Committee, as my background was previously in Social Services, I was also asked to join the Planning Committee and later the Investigation and Disciplinary Committee.

I have been a Community Councillor for the Van Community Area for a number of years and am a past Chair and Vice Chair. I have also been a member of the Rudry Community Council and Caerphilly Town Council in previous years.

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Council

Health Social Care and Well Being Scrutiny Committee

Planning Committee

Investigating and Disciplinary Committee

Joint Scrutiny Committee Caerphilly/ Blaenau Gwent.

SUBCOMMITTEES/WORKING PARTIES/PANELS

Caerphilly Town Centre Management Group

Social Services Joint Scrutiny Panel

Chair of Task and Finish Group for HSCWB Scrutiny

OUTSIDE BODIES AND ASSOCIATIONS

Caerphilly Adoption Panel

Member of Rudry W.I.

Member of Rudry Parish Church

A Member of the Home Economics Society of Great Britain.

SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY

St. James Primary School

St. Cenydd 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	7	9
Health, Social Care and Wellbeing	7	8
Planning	8	12

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

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

Code of Conduct

Planning

Licensing

Community Infrastructure Levy

Winter Maintenance

Welfare Reforms

POVA

Social Media Skills

Aneurin Bevan Health Board

Medium Term Financial Plan

Corporate Parenting

South Wales Fire and Rescue Service

Nant Llesg

CONSTITUENCY ACTIVITY

I have not held surgeries, as my constituents prefer to contact me in person, or by telephone and email, I operate an open door policy and constituents regularly call at my home with a variety matters. I often make home visits to those who request it.

As a Governor of St. James Primary School, I am member of the Appointments Panel for Head Teacher, Deputy Head Teacher and Staffing Appointments, Staff Disciplinary and Dismissal Committee, Pupil Discipline and Exclusions Committee, Grievance and Redundancy Committee, Appeals-Pay Reviews, Staff Issues/Job Share/Staff Reviews. I am also the Governor with for Safeguarding and Looked After Children.

As the Governor with responsibility for Safeguarding, I was asked by another school to become an independent member of their Investigating Committee.

As a Governor of St. Cenydd Comprehensive school I am a member of the Staffing Appointments Committee, the Group discussing the future of sixth form Education within the Caerphilly basin and the Governor for PSE.

I was Chair of a "Task and Finish" working group for HSCWB Scrutiny the findings of which were presented to and accepted by Cabinet.

As stated above I operated an open door policy and was regularly contacted by Constituents with a wide variety of issues and concerns and on their behalf I liaised with Officers, Cabinet Members and other Councillors to resolve the issues and concerns raised.

I reported highways issues such as potholes in the highway and was successful in having many of these filled. Working with Officers I arranged site meetings that discussed the erosion at the edges of certain roads. I also worked with Officers on flooding issues and arranged for a new Manhole Cover to be fitted and the offending drains cleaned. I highlighted issues with regard to overhanging trees and branches, which were becoming a hazard to traffic, vehicle speeding concerns in my local ward and I attended a site meeting but have achieved no real outcome yet. I highlighted enabled access issues to Resources and Services, made referrals for aids and adaptations to Social Services.

I have requested and attended a planning site meeting in order to address concerns over a proposed development in my ward.

I attended a meeting of the Rupera Preservation Group.

I was actively involved in raising concerns about the lack of adequate toilet provision within Caerphilly Town Centre, as this is a matter, which impacts on tourism, which is vital for our area.

I attended the launch of "Art for Autism" at a reception in The House of Commons and also arranged visits to The Houses of Parliament and the Welsh Assembly Government for Constituents.

As part of my role as a member of the Van Community Council I actively promoted local projects in my Ward, including the Summer Play Scheme, which is a free program that catered for 50 children. The Christmas Soup and Carol Concert held in St. James Primary School, and other events through the year.

I attended a Communities First Partnership meeting, PACT meetings in which I raised the concerns brought to my attention by Constituents.

I also attended monthly meetings with the Area Housing Office Team at Lansbury Park with other Councillors to find appropriate Housing solutions for Constituents.

I also made Rota Visits to Residential Homes as requested.

I hope to continue to represent the people of St. James Ward for the rest of my term of office, I have thoroughly enjoyed doing so to date, I hope that together with we can make a better future for all.