

ANNUAL REPORT

MAY 2013 - MAY 2014



Councillor Gary Johnston

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ELECTORAL WARD: Newbridge

PARTY: Labour

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Council
Education for Life Scrutiny Committee

SUBCOMMITTEES/WORKING PARTIES/PANELS

Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal - Crumlin Arm Working Group
Newbridge Town Centre Management Group

OUTSIDE BODIES AND ASSOCIATIONS

SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY

Tynewydd Primary
Pentwynmawr Primary

ATTENDANCE

From May 2013 to May 2014 my attendance at Council meetings was as follows:

<u>Meeting</u>	<u>No. Attended</u>	<u>No. Held</u>
Council	7	9
Education for Life	7	8

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

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

Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation	South Wales Programme Presentation
E Voting	Social Services Rota Visits
Private Sector Housing	Medium Term Financial Plan
Community Leadership	Chairing Skills
Freedom of Information and Data Protection	Managing Conflict
Assertiveness	Equalities and Diversity
Planning (The Planning Bill)	Holding Effective Pre-Meetings
Questioning and Listening Skills	

CONSTITUENCY ACTIVITY

I held surgeries throughout the year at the following places Newbridge – Labour Club, Pentwynmawr – Community Hall and at St. Peter’s Close Communal Hall, Panside.

I worked closely with our local Police and the Community Safety Wardens and attended as many PACT meetings as possible.

I worked with the Newbridge Partnership and attended meetings when possible.

I attend Planning Committee and spoke on behalf of local residents on the McDonalds planning application. I have written to the Planning Inspectorate on behalf of local residents with regard to other planning application within the ward in order to highlight their objections and make their concerns known.

I have worked and continue to work on the Eco-Park in the Panside with the residents, including negotiations with regard to the lease to the bottom tier of the sports ground, working with the Regeneration Team we have been able to secure a plant grant this year and so far 6000 trees have been planted and money is in place to do some infrastructure works.

I have worked with colleagues in Planning, Highways and Environment services on behalf of residents, highlighting issues with road conditions, parking, drainage and planning applications in my ward.

I have worked with Housing colleagues with regard to repairs, issues and housing requests of local residents, and have worked closely with Sheltered Housing tenants highlighting issues of concern with the relevant departments. Last year I worked to support the Maesteg Complex.