

Annual Report: Cllr. Andrew Charles Pinnock 2010/11

Introduction

As usual the Cleckheaton ward team has been very active this year. This year we welcomed Cllr John Lawson as our new colleague in place of Cllr Ann Raistrick.

Participation at Council Meeting Committees

- Full Council Meetings
- Spen Valley Area Committee - Chair
- Heavy Woollen Planning Sub Committee - Member
- Planning & Highways Committee - Member
- regular meetings of the Liberal Democrat Group to develop policy and discuss issues of concern to residents

Participation on Outside Bodies

- (LEA appointee) Governing Body of Moorend C of E (C) First School - Member
- Kirklees Historic Buildings Trust - Chair
- Yorkshire Libraries & Information - Chair
- Board of Intruplas Ltd (a company set up by Kirklees MC) - Member

Ward Work

This includes:

- keeping residents informed of local issues through our regular FOCUS;
- keeping residents informed on an issue affecting them using a variety of means - letters, meetings, emails;
- holding surgeries every week at two venues - we hold more than any other ward in Kirklees;
- asking residents for their views on a number of local issues particularly on planning applications;
- helped over a thousand local people with individual queries;
- supported / helped the Cleckheaton Folk Festival; Wobbly Tots; tenants organisations including helping to establish a new TRA in Scholes;
- close working with the local Police team to deal with local issues and to reduce crime;
- continued action to get the Park Fisheries building, owned by Tesco, refurbished and brought back into use;
- action to get the cleared site on Westgate developed;
- supporting parents and residents to try and get the best possible school facilities for young people in Cleckheaton;
- continuing campaign to get the Young People's Service to start the work on the new centre in Cleckheaton;
- successfully campaigned to keep the Cleckheaton bus station open;
- on-going 'Save our Cheque' campaign;
- worked with residents to get traffic speed reduced in Oakenshaw;
- continuing to campaign for a 6th form college for young people in our area;
- agreement for funding to improve the paths in the Memorial Park;
- Spen Beck Countryside Park - first successful actions in clearing overgrown areas and opening discussions with the Heritage Lottery Fund about potential funding for the restoration of our unique viaduct.

Achievements During the Year

These include:

- supporting town centre businesses with shop front grants;
- working with the Scouts to get replacement of the Scout huts next to St John's Church hall within the Young People's Centre. This has been delayed due to the financial situation but we will continue to work hard to get this much needed facility;
- Warm Zone - this Liberal Democrat policy has had a 75% take up in Cleckheaton ward. It cuts fuel bills on average by £200 per year - every year. It also cuts carbon emissions. Successfully got Council and KNH to extend Warm Zone to KNH properties;
- new street lighting Greenroyd Avenue Hunsworth and Clare Road Cleckheaton;
- Vine Street resurfaced;
- spring clean of overgrown sites: viaduct access, Old Robin, Thom's Bridge, Wickham St. Scholes;
- together with my fellow ward councillors getting a free bus service while the M62 Whitechapel Road Bridge was replaced;

and much much more besides

Members Surgeries

Weekly surgeries held every Saturday as follows (attended by one of the team each week):

Cleckheaton Town Hall (10.00 - 10.30am)

Scholes Church Hall (10.45 - 11.15am)

Training and Development

The Liberal Democrat Group organises many sessions of training for the all Lib Dem councillors and for individuals. These include Council finance; investing in education; working in localities; communicating with local residents; and many more. I have also attended training for members of Planning Committees, organised by the Council.