

Annual Report: Cllr. Viv Kendrick 2012/13

Introduction

This year has been, as usual, a very busy year but also a difficult year because of serious family illness which necessitated me to take on a carer's role for the last six months of the municipal year. I am very grateful for the support of colleagues - both Councillors and Officers and also the understanding and kindness of Heckmondwike residents. I would like to take this opportunity to say a very sincere 'thank you' to all who have supported me and sent their good wishes. I am very grateful.

Things are looking up now and hopefully I can now fulfil all the requirements of my councillor role. Despite the added pressure during this period, I have tried to ensure that I attended Council meetings, Scrutiny Panel meetings and kept up to date with activities in the ward and legislative changes. However, some work had to be allocated elsewhere and I have had great support from my ward colleagues who have taken on some cases and issues for me and for other councillors who have filled in for me at some meetings.

Participation at Council Meeting Committees

- Full Council Meetings
- Overview & Scrutiny Management Meetings
- Chairing the Wellbeing & Communities Scrutiny Panel Meetings
- School Transport Appeals
- Heavy Woollen District Planning Committee - to represent residents
- Heckmondwike Children's Centre Advisory Board Meetings
- Countryside Forum Meetings
- Fostering Panel Meetings
- Spen Valley Area Committee & the Committee's Planning Meetings
- Neighbourhood Management Group - meeting with the Police, Fire Service, KNH, Streetscene, and Community workers etc to look at issues/problems in the ward.
- Ward Meetings- with Highways/StreetScene, Community workers to decide on how to progress issues in the ward.
- Ward Councillor Meetings - to discuss local issues with colleagues in the ward.
- Batley & Spen Tenants & Resident Committee
- Meetings of the two Tenant & Resident Committees in the ward
- Briefing meetings with Cabinet Members and Directors relating to well being & communities scrutiny issues.
- Kirklees Big Energy Debate

Participation on Outside Bodies

- Kirklees Schools Services Ltd Board meetings as a director.
- Took part in the Kirklees Advice Services Review
- Meetings with the North Kirklees CCG and Huddersfield & Calderdale CCG
- Meetings with Mid Yorkshire NHS Trust
- Meetings with Calderdale & Huddersfield NHS Trust
- NHS Chairs Liaison Meeting

- Meetings with SWYPT on mental health issues.
- KNH cyclical works meetings - re the proposed up grade/ refurbishment of council properties.
- Heckmondwike Labour Party meetings
- Batley & Spen constituency meetings

Ward Work

I am particularly pleased and proud of the improvements to the bungalows on Brighton Street and the refurbishment of the Community Centre. This has taken 3 years to achieve but the bungalows now have a better layout and the boilers have been replaced, the flat roofs are no longer, each now having a pitched roof with insulation and all the bungalows now have proper ramped access to allow residents with mobility problems, wheelchairs or electric scooters to be able to get in and out of their homes in a safe manner. The last part of the works is due to start soon; that is the relaying of the footpaths which are uneven and in a poor state. Hopefully this should be the first winter where residents of the bungalows will not be troubled with leaking roofs!

I have continued to deal with cases for local residents and groups of residents, covering a wide range of issues, including planning issues, public rights of way, benefits, domestic violence, grants and funding, housing repairs, road safety, education, crime and anti-social behaviour, neighbour disputes etc. I receive referrals from people when they see me, out and about in Heckmondwike, from standing at a market stall, by telephone, email, referral from Mike Wood MP, other Councillors, various organisations, Council officers etc.

I have represented the views of residents at 2 Planning Sub-Committees.

I have supported several local groups in getting funding for events and developments.

I was pleased to attend several events to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee in the ward and attended the re-opening of the Brighton Street Community Centre and am really pleased with the increasing number of events, meetings and celebrations now taking place in the centre, which I try to support and attend.

I have held meetings with groups of residents who were concerned about local issues.

For the last part of the year I have done much less casework because of family health issues.

During 2012/13 I have dealt with 147 cases for local residents.

Members Surgeries

The most frequent contact is by telephone - 07747791686. If you use this method please leave a message or send me a text and I will ring you back.

The number of email contacts is growing. My email address is viv.kendrick@kirklees.gov.uk

Training and Development

- New code of conduct for Councillors briefing

- Social Fund arrangements workshop
- Investing in Skills event - Picture of Kirklees
- Frontline workers event on Tackling Poverty
- Domestic Abuse Strategy Event
- Joint Health Strategy Briefing
- Safeguarding Training