COUNCILLORS' ANNUAL REPORTS 2015-16

Councillor: Jackie Whiteley

Ward: Wharfedale

Party: Conservative

Date Elected: 15 November 2012

Basic: £13463.16

Special Responsibility: £4632.00

Other Allowances: N/A

Positions held in 2015 – 2016:

Employee Appeals
Regeneration and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Shipley Area Committee (Alternate)
Housing and Non Domestic Rates Appeals Panel
Education Appeals Panel
Hackney Carriages and Private Hire Panel

How many neighbourhood forums have you attended? (Please state a number and not all)

4

Other meetings/bodies which you regularly attend: (e.g School governing bodies, outside bodies etc)

I attend our surgeries held throughout the year alternating each month between the two villages.

I attended the Parish Council meetings in both villages and met separately with Parish Councillors from Burley in Wharfedale.

I attended the meetings of WASP (Wharfedale Action for School Places).

I attended the meetings of BRAG (Burley Residents Action Group).

My priorities for the past year were (May 2015 to May 2016)

To work with my ward colleagues and our local MP to secure the best possible services for Wharfedale Ward.

To work on behalf of residents to answer questions and articulate issues to Council officers on their behalf.

To campaign for adequate infrastructure in the light of the proposed increase in housing development in the ward. In particular:

Adequate school places at primary and secondary level.

A solution to the parking problems at the railway stations and surrounding areas.

Campaigned to keep Ellar Ghyll Waste Recycling Centre open to local residents.

Campaigned to keep a meaningful presence in our Children's Centre.

I spoke at Her Majesty's Inspector's enquiry into Bradford Council's Core Strategy. Highlighting the concerns over the planned increase in housing allocation in my ward because of the chronic lack of local infrastructure - parking, school places and congestion on the A65.

Campaigned for improvements to the A65 where it links Burley in Wharfedale and Menston following a session to monitor speeds with the local PCSO.

As Shadow Spokesperson for Adult Services I have familiarised myself with local provision and identified the concerns that providers and clients have in relation to local provision so that I can articulate these concerns to officers.

My priorities for the coming year (May 2016 to May 2017) are: (Please list or describe your priorities or targets as a Councillor for the coming year)

To continue to support the residents of Wharfedale Ward on issues that they raise with me.

To continue to work with officers to look for solutions to the parking issues at our stations and in the villages.

To continue to seek a positive resolution to the issue surrounding the Ellar Ghyll Waste Recycling Centre.

To support parents in their quest in obtaining more school places to meet the growing demand caused by increased housing development.

To work with both Parish Councils on the issues raised by them.

What I have achieved in the past year (May 2015 to May 2016) (Please list or describe some of your activities as a Councillor and what you see as your key achievements)

I have engaged with residents and listened to their concerns and where appropriate taken these up with officers of the Council to find a resolution.

I have spoken in Council on issues related to Adult Social Care in line with my responsibility as Shadow Spokesperson for Adult Services.

I have asked questions in Council relating to issues affecting my ward.

I have kept residents aware of issues affecting the ward by writing a monthly newsletter which is mailed out to residents on a rolling programme throughout the year.

I have written letters to the local newspapers on issues which concern the public to provide detail on important issues such as planning law and implications.

I have worked with Council Officers on the parking review of Burley in Wharfedale and secured the best possible result in challenging conditions in the village.

Following my campaigns for safety on the A65 new VAS warning signs will be erected to show motorists' speed to encourage responsible driving speeds and there will be white lines to prevent overtaking on part of the road.

What training sessions, seminars, briefings and conferences have you attended to develop your skills and gain knowledge that has helped you to serve the people of the district? (Please list them).

A number of district wide and local training sessions relating to planning. Including changes to regulations relating to The Community Infrastructure Levy, The Role of Planning in Shaping our Local Community and Policy Changes.

Employee appeals training in order to sit on the appropriate panel.

School transport appeals training in order to sit on the appropriate panel.

Attendance at Her Majesty's Inspector's Enquiry into Bradford Council's Core Strategy.

Attendance at a seminar to advise of the changes to Council responsibilities regarding schools in the district.

Attendance at a seminar advising of proposed provisions to the new Community Infrastructure Levy for large developments in the district.

Attendance at a seminar aimed at updating Councillors regarding planning law.