

COUNCILLORS' ANNUAL REPORT 2015- 2016

Councillor: Martin Love

Ward: Shipley

Party: Green Party

Date Elected: May 2002

Basic: £13463.16

Special Responsibility: £12969.48

Other Allowances: N/A

Positions held in 2015 – 2016:

Environment and Waste Management Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Ch)
Shipley Area Committee
Leader of Green Group
Area Planning Panel (Keighley and Shipley (Alternate))

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

4/4

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

Monthly briefings with Chief Executive
Monthly briefings with Finance Director
Regular briefings with Strategic Directors
Regular briefings with local Highways officers
Regular briefings with ward officer
Overview and Scrutiny Chairs Meetings
Environment and Waste Management Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Environment and Waste Management Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chair's Briefings
Shipley Area Committee
Education Improvement Strategic Board meetings
Saltaire World Heritage Site Steering Group meetings
Salt Foundation meetings
Sir Titus Salt Charity Trustees meetings
Shipley Town Centre Business Partnership
Shipley Neighbourhood Policing Team briefings
Shipley Area Committee Grants Advisory Group
Shipley Area Committee Youth Sub-Group
Keighley and Shipley Planning Panel (alternate)
Corporate Overview and Scrutiny in-depth scrutiny review of poverty in Bradford
Hirst Wood Regeneration Group
Higher Coach Rd Residents' Group

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

To continue to be an effective link between ward residents and Council officers.

To continue to be accessible to residents at all times.

To continue to communicate with residents through regular quarterly newsletters.

To continue to be available to residents at all times.

To continue to alert residents to proposed developments in their neighbourhoods.

To continue to put individual and community concerns before corporate concerns.

To continue to go out of my way to represent those less able to speak out for themselves, by nature of age, language, disability or any other reason.

To continue to put the needs and safety of pedestrians and cyclists, particularly where these are children, before the convenience of motorists.

To continue to liaise between community groups and Council officers to ensure speedy resolution of issues.

To continue to highlight the need for our community, led by its Council, to change its lifestyle in order to avert the disaster of climate chaos that will ensue if we continue with business as usual.

To attempt to mitigate the ongoing impact of central government funding cuts to the local authority in order to protect the most vulnerable residents of my ward and wider Bradford District.

**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 be an effective link between ward residents and Council officers.

To continue to be accessible to residents at all times.

To continue to communicate with residents through regular quarterly newsletters.

To continue to be available to residents at all times.

To continue to alert residents to proposed developments in their neighbourhoods.

To continue to put individual and community concerns before corporate concerns.

To continue to go out of my way to represent those less able to speak out for themselves, by nature of age, language, disability or any other reason.

To continue to put the needs and safety of pedestrians and cyclists, particularly where these are children, before the convenience of motorists.

To continue to liaise between community groups and Council officers to ensure speedy resolution of issues.

To continue to highlight the need for our community, led by its Council, to change its lifestyle in order to avert the disaster of climate chaos that will ensue if we continue with business as usual.

To attempt to mitigate the ongoing impact of central government funding cuts to the local authority in order to protect the most vulnerable residents of my ward and wider Bradford District.

**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)**

Along with my ward colleagues, Cllrs Hawarun Hussain and Kevin Warnes, I have dealt with many hundreds of individual issues on behalf of residents, including such everyday matters as blocked gullies, street sweeping, gritting, missed bin collections etc, as well as more urgent individual issues such as advising on school appeals, school transport appeals, benefits appeals, housing complaints, untidy land, fly-tipping etc.

I have acted as a link between ward residents and non-Council bodies such as Incommunities, Metro, the police, the rail and bus companies and the utilities such as Yorkshire Water, and I am also in regular contact with my ward's MP. Examples of successes in dealing with such bodies include persuading Metro to subsidise an additional early-morning bus service through Nab Wood and getting Incommunities to prioritise a tenant with underlying health problems suffering from damp in their flat.

On a larger scale I have continued to advise and, where necessary, represent residents on licensing and planning matters throughout the ward, objecting where necessary to inappropriate developments and unwanted in-fill developments, and assisting applicants to compromise where necessary so that their developments do not adversely affect their neighbours.

I have continued to support local community groups in their bids for funding from outside bodies, in particular Hirst Wood Regeneration Group, Hall Royd Area Residents Association, and the new Higher Coach Rd Residents' Group as they bid for funds to improve their local communities.

I have acted as a go-between to assist residents where they are in dispute with Council or other organisations and also assisting in neighbour disputes.

I have attended all the Shipley ward Neighbourhood Forums and World Heritage Site Forums and have had regular get-togethers with the Neighbourhood Policing Team Inspector and their team to discuss problems in the ward, such as anti-social behaviour and drug-dealing. This has allowed me an insight to their work and gives me the chance to raise residents' concerns directly with the police.

As Green Group Leader I have represented the group at a number of Civic functions, including the Remembrance Day Service, Festival of Remembrance, the Holocaust Day Memorial and the Bradford City Fire Memorial Event, City of Sanctuary event and various other district-wide cultural and sporting events and receptions. I have regularly attended meetings and briefings with senior Council officers dealing with Council-wide issues such as the budget.

Along with my ward colleagues I have regularly spent Saturday mornings knocking on doors throughout the ward to ask residents who might not come to forums what needs doing in their neighbourhoods. We attempt to knock on every accessible door at least once during the year and I have individually knocked on about 2000 doors during the year to discuss issues with residents.

As Chair of the Environment and Waste Management Overview and Scrutiny Committee I have chaired meetings dealing with wide-ranging issues such as:

- The Council's long-term waste strategy.
- The Council's Trade Waste operations.
- The Council's response to the threat of climate change and the use of renewable energy on Council buildings and schools.
- The ongoing issues surrounding the operation of the Omega Proteins animal waste rendering plant.
- West Yorkshire Combined Authority.
- Leeds City Region Green Deal contract.
- Fuel poverty.
- Woodlands strategy.
- The proposals of Friends of Bradford's Becks to improve the city's natural watercourses.
- The district cycling strategy.
- Low Moor Railway Station.
- Ilkley Moor.
- Public Health Outcomes Framework.
- Road safety and numbers of people killed and seriously injured on the district's roads.

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).

Association of Green Councillors Annual Conference
Regular briefings with all Strategic Directors and Chief Executive
Various briefings on budget matters
Safeguarding and CSE training
FACS One Year On conference
Planning seminars
Dementia Friends Training
North Bradford Foodbank Training