

## COUNCILLOR'S ANNUAL REPORT APRIL 2018- MARCH 2019

<b>Councillor:</b>	Kevin Warnes
<b>Ward:</b>	ShIPLEY
<b>Party:</b>	Green Party
<b>Date Elected:</b>	June 2004
<b>Basic:</b>	£13,463.16
<b>Special Responsibility:</b>	N/A
<b>Other Allowances:</b>	N/A

### **Positions held in 2018 – 2019:**

ShIPLEY Area Committee.  
Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee. (Alt)

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

- Community group meeting across ShIPLEY.

### **My priorities for the past year (May 2018 to April 2019) were:**

I will continue to work and to respond to constituent's concerns as top priority and along with my ward Green Party colleague Cllr Martin Love maintain our intensive programme of street surgeries throughout the year. As I have said in previous years it is vital the local people feel that a democratic voice on council and local representatives who will stick up for their interests.

- I will continue my representative role on local bodies such as Hirst Wood Regeneration Group and support the work of the Saltaire Village Society, The Friends of Northcliffe and the Norwood Neighbourhood Association. All of these groups are achieving wonderful advances of their communities and deserve full support from their ward councillors.
- I am looking forward to playing an active role on the ShIPLEY Area Committee in the year ahead to ensure that the residents of ShIPLEY ward have a Green voice to air their concerns when
- This area committee makes decisions about planning and traffic and the other local matters that fall under its remit. I particularly want to ensure that the committee maximises help for residents concerned with rat-running and speeding traffic, along with inconsiderate parking.

- I have stepped down from my role as Chair and Deputy Chair of the Environment and Waste Management Overview and Scrutiny Committee (now merged into a committee that also encompasses Regeneration policy). I will continue, though to seek to ensure that Bradford Council makes further progress in managing its energy use and its carbon emissions. Specifically I will seek to ensure that the council follows through on the carbon reduction commitments made by the Executive Committee in March 2010 in line with the longer term targets that we now have for a 40% cut in the council's carbon emissions by 2020. Given the imminence of the fast approaching date I will press officers and senior councillors to finalise their follow-on carbon reduction planning for post 2020 to ensure that Bradford plays its part in driving down our carbon pollution in line with national targets.
- Like many residents I was appalled by the Council decision in mid 2018 to approve the demolition of the Branch Hotel despite the fact that the future design of a new Otley Road/Bradford Road Junction was far from finalised. The future of this junction will be a key issue locally in the months ahead. I will work hard with residents and others to ensure that planning for the new expanded junction closely involves local residents and fully take on board their any concerns and priorities. It is vital that this project delivers reduced air pollution and maximises safe and sustainable options (walking, cycling and bus travel) for local families.
- Finally I will do my best to ensure that the budget negotiations that will lead up to next February's budget Council take full account of the needs of ordinary people across the district and delivers real investment in low carbon future of Bradford. These were our group priorities last year and are vital given the enormous continuing cuts that are being imposed on Bradford Council by central government. Along with Cllr Martin Love I will do my best to ensure that the impact of the next round of spending cuts on ordinary people is mitigated to the maximum extent possible. We will do our best to ensure that a needs based budget is agreed within the tight fiscal and legal constraints that we will once again be forced to accept by the Westminster Parliament.

**My priorities for the coming year (May 2019 to April 2020) are:**

**(Please list or describe your priorities or targets as a Councillor for the coming year)**

- My main priority is always to ensure that the concerns and wishes of local residents are properly considered and acted on by the Council wherever and whenever this is possible.
- Another priority will be to secure measures to deal with air pollution in Shipley (and across Bradford).
- I am also determined to ensure that Bradford Council plays a much stronger leadership role across the district and the wider Leeds City Region as we try to make the transition to a low carbon society and economy. I will therefore continue to speak about the need for a much greater environmental sustainability in everything that we do through my membership of full Council and alternate member of the Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

## **What I have achieved in the past year (May 2018 to May 2019)**

**(Please list or describe some of your activities as a Councillor and what you see as your key achievements)**

- I have spoken out on a number of issues in Council over the past year. One highlight was persuading Council to declare a 'climate emergency' in January. Another was helping to ensure that Northcliffe Park was protected from the threat of a possible new crematorium being built there.
- I have campaigned actively for improved air quality in Shipley especially in the vicinity of our local schools and pressed officers and senior councillors to do more with traffic issues in central Shipley and Bradford.
- Along with Cllr Martin Love and Green Party colleagues I have conducted 'street surgeries' throughout the year across the Shipley Ward. As a result I have helped with a very wide range of problems and concerns. This casework has taken hundreds of hours of my time and as always has been my main responsibility ever. The green Group of Councillors is fundamentally committed to providing the best possible representation for local people that we possibly can.
- By way of illustration here is a 'snapshot' of the sort of 'bread and butter' issues that have flowed across my desk in the past year:
- I have continued to support the Norwood Neighbourhood Association as they develop projects in their area and regularly liaise with officers to sort out issues there (overgrown weeds, bins being left on the pavement, fly-tipping, overgrown hedges, illegal dropped kerbs etc.).
- I have liaised with Higher Coach Road residents and officers on a range of issues including nuisance parking, poor lighting and the completion of a fantastic new nature trail running from Roberts Park alongside the river.
- I have continued to liaise with the West Yorkshire Combined Authority, First Bus and Yorkshire Tiger to secure improved bus services to secure improved bus services for residents living on the Higher Coach Road estate.
- I have dealt with a range of anti-social behaviour issues in central Shipley, including graffiti, fly tipping and bin being left on the pavements by residents.
- I have continued to liaise with officers to sort out a wide range of parking and traffic issues across the ward and the police in terms of enforcement and speed checks.
- I have to liaise with shell representatives about a range of concerns raised by Park Grove residents living adjacent to the petrol station on Bingley Road.
- I successfully opposed a completely inappropriate planning for housing from the owner of the derelict garden centre by Hirst Lock and continued to the press the Council to force the landowner to sort this out the benefit of the local community.
- I have helped residents to oppose a number of other inappropriate planning applications across Shipley, in most cases successfully.

- I have liaised with Northern and Network Rail to make repairs and improvements to Station Road (still an on going issue due primarily to lack of response from Network Rail.)
- I have liaised with the police on a range of local issues including quad bike nuisance, burglaries, pavement parking and antisocial behaviour.
- I have worked with resident's top deal with a range of issues caused by local housing developer on land near Springhurst Road.
- As previously I have arranged for the infestation of Japanese knotweed to be cut back on Dockfield Terrace.

**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).**

Regular briefings and updates from officers mainly via email in relation to Council issues.