

WREXHAM COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL MEMBER ANNUAL REPORT

This is the report by the Councillor below regarding their key activities over the year ending 31 May 2014. It is provided for the information of all constituents and for no other purpose.

Councillor: Phil Wynn

Party: Democratic Independent Group

Ward: Brynyffynnon

Section 1: Role & Responsibilities

I sat on the following committees and Task and Finish Groups :

1. Full Council,
2. Democratic Services Committee
3. Employment, Business and Investment Scrutiny Committee (as vice chair),
4. Youth Justice Service Management Board,

I sat on the following external committees :

1. Appointed Local Authority Governor at Ysgol Clywedog, Wrexham.

I have regularly attended as a non-member the following council committees/working groups, which have discussed matters affecting the residents of Brynyffynnon:

2. Corporate Land and Buildings Strategy Group, Executive Board, Education, Safeguarding & Well-Being Scrutiny Committee, Partnerships & Collaboration Scrutiny Committee, Homes, Environment & Communities Scrutiny Committee, Homes, Environment & Communities Scrutiny Committee, Planning Committee and the Local Development Plan Working Group.

Section 2: Constituency Activity

1. I have attended and provided support for the ward's five residents groups – Bradley Road, Bryn Offa, Homestead and Foxwood Drive, Maesgwyn and Pentre Bach.
2. I am a member of the management committees for the Bellevue and Maesgwyn Community Centres.
3. I regularly attend the monthly meetings of the Friends of Bellevue Park.
4. I am a member of the South West Wrexham Housing Regeneration Steering Group.
5. An opening in the stone wall on Watery Road stone was finally created to gain pedestrian access to the Island Green Retail Park. This took protracted discussions with the owners of the retail park but this small success has been well received by local residents.
6. During the year Pentre Bach residents have been kept informed by newsletters, residents meetings and drop in sessions on the construction of the new stretch of Croesnewydd Road and the major planning application for the creation of a new Fire and Ambulance station.
7. I have assisted the officials of Brickfield Rangers in relocating their set-up to Ysgol Clywedog playing fields. This required discussions with the school governors and Head, planning officers and the council's Executive Board who approved the granting of a ten year lease to the youth football club to have use of the school facilities.

Section 3: Initiatives and Special Activities

1. Having worked on behalf of housing tenants who have endured poor sound insulation with neighbouring flats, I have convinced officers to include noise insulation remedial work in the council's Housing Capital Budget for 2014/15.
2. A number of the courtyards on the Bryn Offa housing estate have been resurfaced at my request.

3. I have liaised with the council's highway officers to have Viller St and Peel St resurfaced.
4. I have taken great interest in ensuring the council's aspirations to deliver Affordable Housing, as part of new housing developments, was not jeopardised by planning officers initial willingness to approve a relaxation of the affordable housing contribution on the Brother site, Croesnewydd Rd.
5. My proposals for the legal agreement with the developer has hopefully protect our AH aspirations going forward, whilst acknowledging some housing developments on brown field sites are unviable unless a compromise on AH contributions is agreed with WCBC's planning officers and sanctioned by our planning committee members.

Section 4: Learning & Development Undertaken

1. I have attended various training/information workshops run by the council for the benefit of elected members which are listed on the Council's web-site link:
http://www.wrexham.gov.uk/top_navigation/members_attendance/index.cfm?ID=213&action=MemberDetails

Section 5: Other Activities and Issues

1. As vice chair of the Employment, Business and Investment Scrutiny Committee I have regularly attended monthly preparation meeting with officers and the Chair. I also sat on the committee's Town Centre Review Task and Finish Group and the Economic Development Estate Review Task & Finish Group,
2. As a vice chair I regularly attended monthly Scrutiny Chairs/Vice Chairs Group meetings.
3. I have attended various meetings throughout the year with:
 - North Wales Police representatives,
 - the Community Council Forum,
 - the Town Centre Forum
 - and the North Wales Ambulance Trust.
4. Ysgol Clywedog duties have included:
 - chairperson for the Premises committee,
 - science link-governor
 - and member of the recruitment panel for three Assistant Heads.
5. I took an active part in challenging the council's decision to run a public consultation on re-configuring Ysgol Clywedog as a "through school". This I felt was the wrong decision for the school at the time as it was a distraction to the focus of lifting the school out of special measures. Fortunately this idea has been shelved due to a lack of public support.
6. Offa Community Council - as a community councillor I have regularly attended council meetings which are held twice a month, except for August recess.
7. North Wales Miners Association – As treasurer I have assisted the local heritage group in securing grants to provide a mobile heritage centre, as well as working on refurbishing an ex library bus for this use. I assisted in the staging of a one-off event in November 2013 to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the opening of the town's Mines Rescue Station, which is located in the Brynyffynnon ward on Maesgwyn Rd.

Signature of Councillor: Phil Wynn

Date: 2 September 2014