COUNTY COUNCILLOR ANNUAL REPORT 2017-2018

This Councillor's Annual Report outlines their activities over the year ending May 2018. It is provided for the information of all constituents and for no other purpose. The views expressed in this report are those of the Councillor and do not necessarily reflect the views of Monmouthshire County Council.

Name: County Councillor Jamie Political Group: Conservative

Ward: Overmonnow Electorate: 1623

RESPONSIBILITIES

APPOINTMENTS

I sit on the following committees of the Council:

Public Service Board Select Committee Licensing and Regulatory Committee

Joint Select Committee Democratic Services Committee

County Council Central Mon Area Committee

ATTENDANCE

My attendance at Council meetings is available on the Monmouthshire County Council website at the following link:

https://democracy.monmouthshire.gov.uk/mgMemberIndex.aspx?bcr=1

REMUNERATION

Remuneration levels for Councillors throughout Wales are set by the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales. Details of actual remuneration I have received in relation to my role as Councillor are available on the Monmouthshire County Council website at the following link: https://democracy.monmouthshire.gov.uk/mgMemberIndex.aspx?bcr=1

TRAINING:

I have attended the following training session this Council year:

Planning Induction Introduction to ADM Scrutiny Induction Council Induction

Council Induction Workshop on Universal Credit

Training is ongoing, with workshops, seminars and training sessions often held in Usk. The topics covered are diverse. I have also attended a 'Dementia Friendly' workshop, a workshop of rights of way and public footpaths.

I think further training in Planning matters are important, whether you are on the Planning committee or not. As a Town Councillor as well, planning issues effect town and we have a duty at least, I think, to at least have a basic understanding of planning.

CONSTITUENCY MATTERS

Most of the issues that have been brought to my attention are street lights not working and pot holes. I have reported the non working street lights and they have been fixed. Pot holes are many in Monmouth. There have been some emergency repairs done.

There are a set of steps on Castle Close that residents would like some hand rails put in place and the edge of the steps painted white, due to the nearby street light not illuminating the steps sufficiently. I hope this will be done by the end of summer.

I am also currently working with the residents of Old Wonastow Road, St. Dials Close and Wonastow Close to have the roads repaired/resurfaced and/or adopted.

I have worked with Cllr Kelly Jackson-Graham of MTC and a resident of Troy Gardens to prepare an application for a 'designated rights of way' for the footpath from Troy Gardens to Redbrook Road over the Duke of Beaufort Bridge.

ACHIEVEMENTS / INITIATIVES

I have recently applied to be Governor of Overmonnow Primary School. This is a Town Council appointment and not MCC, but I think it is still relevant. I have only attended one meeting so far, as my DBS check is ongoing and I only applied in March.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

My first year on Council has been a very steep learning curve. As with most people, I thought that to get anything done, you just reported it to the relevant department of MCC and it would get done. If only. Things take time. And this is the hardest part for me to get used to. And when you are told money is tight, you don't realise just how tight until you become a Councillor. I have more respect for the officers and staff of MCC since I became a Councillor.

There is a lot of red tape at Council too. Lots of legislation. And getting my head around it all is heavy going at times.