

COUNTY COUNCILLOR ANNUAL REPORT 2013/14

NAME: Cllr Maureen Powell

WARD: Castle, Abergavenny

ELECTORATE: 1616

1. APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

This year I was appointed to the South Wales Fire Authority as a representative from MCC. The meetings are held in Llantrisant, and there are 20 meetings plus the presentation of awards evening.

2. ROLE AS GOVERNOR

I am an LEA governor on two schools.

King Henry V111 Comprehensive, where as well as attending the general meetings, I also attend the Curriculum meetings and Finance. I am the schools representative on the MCC Education Finance Forum.

I support the pupils in their performances both in school and at outside venues. I attended their Sports Day.

Deri View Primary School, I sit on the Disciplinary Panel, as well as the usual governors meetings. It is pleasing that the school has made great strides in reducing last year's deficit. The standard of education has also improved considerably.

3. SELECT COMMITTEES

I sit on the Children & Young People's Committee, which covers both education and the provision for the looked after children.

This year I have been on the Strong Communities Committee, which covers a wide range of areas.

I attended 14/15 Children & Young People's meetings, and 9/12 of the Strong Communities meetings. Some of these I missed because the times and dates clashed with my visits to the Fire Authority.

MEMBER of OTHER COMMITTEES

I am a member on the Planning Committee and a member on the LEA Appointments Committee. I attended 11/13 of the Planning meetings, but missed a few Site Visits for the same reason as above. I don't think I missed any of the LEA Governors Meeting. As all Councillors, I am on my Area Committee, which is Bryn y Cwm Area Committee.

4. CONSTITUENCY MATTERS

I continue to deliver an "In Touch" leaflet to my constituents each summer and December. This helps me to keep them informed about local issues and what I have achieved on their behalf.

After a long wait for technicalities and various consultations with the Environment people, the bridge over the river Yfenni was replaced. This is a great help to the public, who walk from Ysbytty Fields down into town. It was due to the perseverance of not only myself, but also of MCC officers.

Following a visit from Edwina Hart with regards to the speed limit on the A40, I was pleased to receive a communication from her, granting a reduction from 40mph to 30mph on the stretch between Hardwick roundabout and Plas Derwen. Again this was due to a petition and my continuous lobbying of the WG to achieve this. It will take a bit of time before it is in actual force, but it is a result

Whilst delivering my leaflets I get the chance to speak to many people on the way round, and I always answer constituent's queries and requests as well as I can. When needed I pass these on to the necessary officer or department.

5. TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

During the year I have attended the following seminars and briefings.

June 2013	IT Seminar
July 4 th	Planning training
July 30 th	Head of Children's Services Briefing
July 31 st	Members Seminar
Sept 9 th	Police Seminar
Oct 22 nd	21 st Century Schools update
Nov 7 th	Fire Provision
Nov 26 th	Code of Conduct update
Dec 9 th	All members briefing
Dec 18 th	M4 Seminar
Feb 24 th	Armed Forces Community Presentation.

6. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

I continue, with the help of my husband, to collect up litter, early every Sunday morning, around the town and down the Monmouth road, recycling all cans and bottles.

This year I am Deputy Mayor of Abergavenny, but this does not interfere with my County Council work, in fact it helps me to meet more people and to follow the progress of the town.