

County Councillor Report for December 2012

Potholes: recent heavy rain has caused new potholes and the disintegration of previous repairs; I have reported those observed by me or reported to me. If you see any which are not yellow lined please let me know the exact location.

New Year Honours: two local residents, David Cargill and Keith Griffin, were awarded honours in the recent list and I add my congratulations to those of their friends and families.

Radyr Primary: the headteacher and I continue to work with the LEA to cater for the increase in local demand for pre-school and primary education. The time table is demanding (and much of it is in the hands of the LEA) but we hope that a new facility will be available in September 2013.

Local Development Plan: this is a major issue and one on which the community council has worked hard and to good effect. I am a Community Councillor as well as the County Councillor and we have made a joint submission in response to the published preferred strategy. To give maximum credibility to our submission, the community council commissioned a professional traffic survey. Both the traffic survey and our joint response can be seen on the local web site. We met concerned residents at the open day in Radyr Library and we had a session of the sub-committee to receive views and evidence from local people; in addition, given that a huge issue will be local infrastructure especially roads and public transport, our approach was coordinated with that of other local communities. Many people are now asking how they can assist; aside from making a personal submission (for which the deadline is now passed) they should write to the local MP and AM expressing any concerns they have about the scale of the development. The most effective way of persuading the party ruling Cardiff Council to reduce the scale of new house building to a level which is both sensible and capable of being delivered, is to create pressure from within the same political party.

Grit Bins at entrance to Sidings Development: I have had some telephone contact from the Taylor Wimpey estates manager following a further letter which I wrote to the local Managing Director. He claims that grit bins were provided but have been removed. I have requested that bins should be installed at each end of the concrete bridge. We are to meet soon and I will report progress, if any.

Roads and pavements: some resurfacing has occurred and some further work is imminent. I will continue to push for further resurfacing of the roads in poor state.

Drain clearance: due to my campaign to clear blocked drains recent heavy rain has not caused the level of local flooding which we had in the past. Two drains were blocked by leaves, in particular one near the bend at Pugh's; the Council emergency team responded fairly quickly to deal with consequent problems.

Waste collection: some collections have been missed from blocks of flats in Sidings 2 and I have met officers to seek a more reliable service in future.

Footpath in Morganstown: work is needed to improve the steps and path on footpath 53 (connecting Teamans Row and the Radyr Gardens play area). I met local residents with a Council officer to discuss appropriate remedies.

Council Tax: in December Council, I moved a motion asking that Cardiff Council seek efficiency savings to avoid the need to increase Council Tax for the next financial year. I believe it to be important that the Council should work within the same financial constraint as apply to local families and businesses. This was accepted with some conditions inserted by the ruling party

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