

County Councillor Report for June 2013

Local Development Plan: As I have previously advised on several occasions, the preferred strategy for this plan envisaged 7500 homes being constructed on fields to the south of Radyr coming right up to our current boundaries. In conjunction with our Community Council we put in a reasoned list of objections mainly but not exclusively centring on deficiencies in our road systems, infrastructure and public transport. The full document is available on the R+M web site. Now we expect consultation on the deposit plan to begin in October 2013. When we know the timing and content of this plan I will organise a public meeting to allow all views to be expressed. In the meantime, coordinated by the Community Council of which I am Chairman, we are meeting with the other communities in this area to discuss how best to prepare and present our objections; we have already employed a transport consultant to assist with our earlier response and now we are likely to appoint a barrister to prepare and, possibly, present our concerns with the deposit plan

Pre- school provision at Radyr Primary; after several hitches this is now on track to open in September 2013; to achieve this, a class will be moved to a temporary demountable for one term to allow completion of the building work. While this is regrettable the upside is that the new demountable, being used on a temporary basis for one term, will then be shifted to replace permanently the elderly and poor quality demountable currently housing Y6.

Floodlit All-weather Pitch at Radyr Comp; This facility, built with a considerable sum of community money, has been operating on a short term approval of hours of use. I am glad to say that these hours have now been made permanent, ensuring this pitch will continue to benefit both school pupils and the wider community.

Railway Bridge between Radyr Sidings and Hailey Park; this bridge has now been renovated to create a pedestrian and cycle route connecting both sides of the Taff and new paths have been constructed. It will be open any day now and it will merit a walk in that area.

Resurfacing of local roads; Heol Isaf will be resurfaced between Park Road and Maes yr Awel starting on 30th June and taking about 5 days. I have reported lots of other potholes and requested more resurfacing; I have pointed out the poor condition of Llantrisant Road on both sides of the junction with Heol Isaf and this was partially repaired at the cost of the contractor who did such a poor job.

Double Yellow lines at War Memorial; these will be installed all round the memorial and on the southern side of Kings Road near the junction with Heol Isaf; this should improve access from Kings Road to Heol Isaf and vice-versa.

School Admissions; The demand for reception places in the two local schools has rocketed and the schools do not have enough places even though Radyr Primary has been increased to reception admission of 60 pupils. Until September 2012 the typical intake from catchment for these schools was 50-60 for 75 places and the remaining places were available for out of catchment pupils; in September 2013 we have nearly 100 applicants in the catchment area for 90 places. This is creating problems for several families which we convey to Pupil

Admissions Dept. We can ensure that the rules are applied fairly but we are unable to vary them.

Bus Service: this will change as from Sunday 21st July to give a direct service to Cardiff Centre. The changes were made after local consultation but they also reduce the costs of Cardiff Bus which comes at a time when the company is going to receive a greatly reduced subsidy from the Welsh Government. The new timetables are on the web site.

Keep Wales Tidy; This group of volunteers carried out another operation on the banks of the Taff near Radyr Station; they collected 23 bags of rubbish as well as the usual tyres, traffic cones and old bikes. Anyone wanting to join this group should contact me.

Mound Field and Motte: a lease to use former Morganstown Rugby Club has been given to Pugh's Garden Centre and these premises will be incorporated into the new lay-out which will include a visitor centre about the motte and bailey. The proceeds from the lease will be used to make improvements to car park, access lane and main football pitch.

Verges and roundabouts: several people have spoken to me about the cutting down of bluebells and cowslips and we plan that a local resident will ask a public question on this topic at a future meeting of Cardiff Council

Fisher Hill Way: recent work on street lights is a prelude to the road being adopted.

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