

## **Report for April 2012**

**Sports facilities in Radyr and Morganstown:** in the last four years we have integrated the skateboard park into the Mound Field, constructed a floodlit all-weather hockey and football pitch at Radyr Comp and given, recently, substantial grants to Radyr Tennis Club and Radyr Cricket Club, in each case to enhance the range of facilities in our community and to extend community access to these facilities.

**Railway Bridge Project:** this is being delayed by protracted legalities with Sustrans but it is vital that this is progressed urgently after the election. We do not want to see this lovely bridge remain neglected when it can be used to create a network of paths for leisure and practical use.

**Taylor Wimpey:** In the face of strong representations made by planning officers, I was unable to persuade the Committee to refuse this company's application to build a further nine houses on the "community plot". Having canvassed the residents of Radyr Sidings when my wife and I knocked on all doors in Radyr and Morganstown, I am in no doubt as to the views of that community and I regret this decision.

**Local schools and pre-school places:** there is a current surge in numbers for our local primary schools and the provision of pre-school places is inadequate for English medium and Welsh medium education. It is clear that a proper strategy is required and this needs to be pursued strenuously with the LEA and the new executive member.

**Roads and potholes:** the recent winter was not unduly severe but many local roads have emerged from it in poor condition. I have reported all such areas which I have noticed or which have been brought to my attention.

**Dog Fouling:** our canvassing again reveals the strong feeling on this issue which is not susceptible to easy solution. I have put this on the agenda of the Council Environment Committee so that we can research where a good practice has mitigated the problem and push for a budget to implement this.

**Taff Trail:** I am pleased that Cardiff River Volunteers have done further work recently on clearing litter and debris from our stretch of the Taff; they do great work and I would be delighted to introduce to the organiser any local residents who want to join them.

**Library:** this continues to be on schedule for re-opening in June.

**Street Trees:** after a long campaign to have damaged or dead trees replaced it was disconcerting to see how quickly the new tree outside the bank in Station road was vandalised. I have asked for a further replacement.

**Barriers in alleys:** regrettably these barriers cause problems for walkers with prams but they help to prevent irresponsible passage through the alleys on bikes and motor cycles. I have

consulted various local residents about requests to remove barriers and the overwhelming response was that they must remain.

**Off Road Bikes:** to clarify my previous report I emphasise that this is an issue with motor bikes damaging grassed areas and creating a significant noise nuisance. Anyone suffering in either regard should phone 101. Our PCSO would be glad to have descriptions of offenders or the bikes or pictures if they can be taken safely.

**ELECTION:** There is a County Council Election on May 3<sup>rd</sup>; through these monthly reports and articles in Radyr Chain as well as personal contact, I hope that I have made residents aware of the many ways in which Cardiff Council touches our lives. Of course in addition to the very important local and personal issues, Cardiff Council is the biggest employer in Wales and spends about £1 billion pounds annually. Whatever your political inclinations, please use your vote.

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