

County Councillor Report for February 2014

Radyr and District Good Neighbours: At a meeting of Committee and trustees the decision to dissolve the charity and donate residual (small) funds to another charity was confirmed. There have been several expressions of interest in reviving the scheme in a more limited form and these may lead to a viable project

Radyr Guide Centre: The Friends of Radyr Guiding are to be congratulated on a successful bid to the Aggregate Levy Fund which awarded a substantial grant enabling the necessary structural repairs to proceed. This is a wonderful outcome to a lengthy fundraising process and it is very good news for all users of the centre and for our communities.

Radyr Weir: as reported last month this scheme is now out to tender; a resident expressed concern about possible consequential flooding and I have supplied the technical evaluation papers

Welsh Language Medium Schools: there is a consultation about changes to the catchment area of Gwaelod Y Garth and Coed-Y-Gof; I have copies of the amended version if any resident wants to see it.

Sidings Issues: none has been brought to a satisfactory conclusion and discussions continue with a fairly recalcitrant developer.

Home Fire Safety Checks: these will be carried out free for vulnerable people and this includes free installation of smoke alarms; at a time of strikes by firemen, this is a very sensible offer to accept. If you have concerns or if you know of any person wanting to use this service, contact me or phone 0800 169 1234.

Radyr Primary Building Programme: the next phase will be underway shortly and we are pressing hard to achieve total completion in time for the new academic year in September 2014.

Traffic Noise from M4: since the construction of this motorway, traffic and consequent noise has steadily increased and some areas of the ward are now in zones of very high ambient noise. Past attempts to obtain noise mitigation measures have been unsuccessful but we are trying again

Play area at Parc Radur: concern has been raised about young children being deterred from using the play area by bigger children playing football inside the fenced area. When the heavy rain comes to an end I hope that the football and rugby players will revert to using the tarmac area in the dip; if this is an ongoing issue I will ask for signage to advise the intended usage of the play area.

Radyr Station: work is due to start in late March 2014 to permit disabled access to all platforms. I have suggested some simple enhancement of the car park to be done at the same time.

Dog Fouling: this is a regular concern of local people and this concern extends to many areas of Cardiff. New dog wardens will be active and intent on catching offenders (human not canine) and fines are severe.

Refuse collection and street cleansing: consultation is seeking views from concerned persons and I urge participation.; issues which may concern you are greatly reduced sweeping of autumn fallen leaves, 4-weekly collection of black wheelie bins, closure of Waungron Road recycling centre, reduced salting and gritting in adverse winter weather. The full range is set out in the consultation document available on Cardiff Council web site.

Local Development Plan: This is now in the statutory phase of consultation on alternative sites and there will be a public meeting at Radyr Comp starting at 6.30 on Monday 10th March. Details of the consultation may be found on the Cardiff Council web site and the local response may be found on the R+M website.

Cardiff Council Budget: Given the level of financial shortfall the cuts are substantial and do bear upon our local communities; I have received several representations with the greatest volume being about the closure of youth centres, reduction of subsidy to St David's Hall and drastic cuts to provision of bowling greens. I shall be proposing an alternative budget reflecting these and other concerns unless prior modifications are made to the draft budget. It is probable that youth centres will be reprieved, at least in part. Furthermore we have been in discussion with leaders and users of the Radyr Youth Centre to explore various options to assist its survival. I have the full budget paper which comprises 298 pages and will forward it to any other enthusiast of such matters.

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