

County Councillor Report for October 2014

LDP and local planning application: Residents are encouraged to make a response to the planning application(14/02157) to build , among others, 350 houses on the field on the west side of the southern end of Heol Isaf at the junction with Llantrisant Road. A template giving sample concerns will be made available on the web site.

Traffic Lights on Heol Isaf: these will be in place for up to 5 days W/c 27th October; Wales and West Utilities aim to deploy enough personnel to complete the work expeditiously.

Sidings matters: I will meet residents at 8pm on Monday 20th October in OCR.

Public Right of Way 27: the problem has been remedied but police advice for the future is to exercise care in using that path if the field contains cows accompanied by calves. There is no clear legal position and a balance needs to be considered between the public right to roam and the right of the farmer to earn a living

Car Theft: this was discussed at length at Pact with different views expressed about devices used to access locked vehicles. I established that a limited number of mobile CCTV cameras are available for short term deployment and I will request use of one at a location advised by PC Huw Thomas

Aftermath of heavy rain in August: I am assisting enquiries from householders who had their homes flooded and I have asked for clearing of all blocked drains which are brought to my attention

Refuse matters: the collection of green bins will revert to monthly at the end of October and other, more dramatic changes are being considered; the executive member has ruled out re-opening Waungron Road but has not yet opened Wedal Road Recycling Centre where there is local opposition. Much of the confusion stems from the arbitrary manner in which the Welsh Government assigns funds and alters policy but, equally, much is generated within Cardiff Council.

Urban foxes; Please be aware of this report from a resident: There are at least three foxes, all of adult size, that seem to have moved into the area between the Clos Park playing area and the tennis club. I see one or more of them regularly in the evening and their presence is associated with a lot of droppings in the park and tennis club areas.

Library: Caroline Noall will be retiring on Friday 24th November after many years of unstinting service to our community for which we are most grateful.

Business Rates; Cardiff Council is in a financial crisis and this has already caused a number of cuts in services; many more will follow quite soon. Better direction of resources could have mitigated these cuts but the problem would be reduced if Cardiff got a more reasonable share of the business rates generated in the city. The total redistributed to Cardiff Council is

about £107 million of a take of about £182 million and furthermore Cardiff receives no specific grants to enable it to carry out its function as the capital city and the driver of the economic health of the city region; about 80 000 people commute into Cardiff each day to work. Cllr Craig Williams and I are moving a motion at Council next week in which we demand that these issues be addressed with vigour.

County Councillor Rod McKerlich, 14th October 2014

E-mail: rmckerlich@cardiff.gov.uk

Please note my new contact telephone number 20842764