

Bryan Jones
County Councillor for Hednesford and Rawsley

Annual Report 7 September 2017 – 31 March 2018

Introduction

I was first elected as County Councillor for the Hednesford and Rawsley electoral division in September 2017.

This is a dual member division and is shared with County Councillor Phil Hewitt.

My division lies in the centre of Cannock Chase and includes the wards of Hednesford North, Hednesford Green Heath, Hednesford South, Hawks Green and Rawsley covering an area of 2634 hectares with a population of 29,100.



Committee Membership and Attendance Record

My committee membership and attendance record can be seen below:

Meeting title	Possible attendances	Actual attendances	Apols	Absent
All Party Member Group – External Relationships	5	5	0	0
All Party Member Group – Innovation	6	6	0	0
Corporate Parenting Panel (Vice-Chairman)	6	6	0	0
County Council	4	4	0	0
Local Member Priority Meeting – Cannock	5	5	0	0
Prosperous Staffordshire Select Committee	3	3	0	0
Elective Home Education Working Group (Joint Safe & Strong and Prosperous Select Committees)	3	3	0	0

Total	32	32	0	0
Percentage		100%	0%	0%

Member comments on committees/attendance record

As can be seen I have 100% attendance at all the committees I sit on. I volunteered for extra membership to a second APMG and the Elective Home Education Review. Having been elected in September following a by-election with no previous political background I felt it was important to immerse myself in a number of committees to get a greater understanding of how the Council operates. I have recently been appointed as Vice Chair of the Corporate Parenting Panel and also sit on the Highways Customer Outcome Group.

Divisional activities

The majority of my work on behalf of my constituents I would summarise in two ways:

- 1) Attending Town and Parish Council meetings and numerous Community Groups. This has proved invaluable in picking up on local issues and community concerns.
- 2) I have dealt with a myriad of individual concerns but inevitably the majority revolve around highways issues. Due to my proactive approach I was invited to become a member of the Customer Outcome Group.

I have of course also been engaged in numerous community events and have recently become a school governor (member of the Local Academy Council) at Staffordshire University Academy.

Special activities

One of my main focuses for my constituents was resolving the dire parking conditions outside the 5's Pavilion and Sportsground in Bradbury Lane, Hednesford. This was due to poor planning resulting in insufficient parking spaces. Working with local residents I led a campaign to get the District Council to provide additional parking spaces at the venue which was successful. Using my Roads Fund Budget I have supported local residents by arranging double yellow lineage at the problematic junctions. I have also used the same budget to address other parking concerns within my division.

Schemes supported under the Staffordshire Local Community Fund

Applicant	Project	Amount
Beaudesert Trust	A pedal cart for use by youth groups, scouts, guides schools	£392.00

Applicant	Project	Amount
	DoE groups and a variety of sport groups	
St John Ambulance Hednesford	5 radios, high visibility cases and ear pieces for volunteer emergency responders	£1,000.00
Girls Venture Corps Air Cadets	New uniform for the Hednesford Unit to bring in line with new RAF uniform regulations to promote equal opportunities	£424.90
Help a Squaddie	3 Laptop bundles and ink jet printer 3 months room rental twice a month for the support group helping veterans and serving armed forces personnel	£826.99
Circle of Residents Association	Pantomime tickets, coach and mini bus transport and fish and chip meal for elderly residents	£1,151.00
MASE Group (Hednesford branch)	Room hire at the Aquarius Ballroom supporting both carers and their cared for with Alzheimer's Dementia	£500.00
Heart of Hednesford Restoration Fund	Cordless vacuum blowers to assist with litter picks in the town for collection of cigarette butts	£387.00
Hazel Slade & Rawnsley Community Association	A community noticeboard located by the village hall and post office for local information for residents	£335.00
Salvation Army – Hednesford	Range master Kitchener 110 duel fuel range cooker for the lunch club	£971.11
Royal British Legion Hednesford Branch	Coach hire to National Memorial at Alrewas, Birmingham International Tattoo and Anzac parade for the welfare support of the elderly veterans attending	£250.00
Hednesford Army Cadets	Bergen's, waterproof jackets and trousers, roll mats, cookers and gas for cookers, purchased for the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme for cadets from disadvantaged backgrounds	£400.00
Friends of Hednesford Park After School Forest	20 weeks craft activities and materials after school sessions	£250.00

Applicant	Project	Amount
School	for families with children	
The Friends of Hednesford Park	Braille training workshops and RNIB fingerprint braille course books for the weekly support group provided in Hednesford Park Pavilion community room	£250.00
Huntington Kick Boxing	Storage container for additional equipment	£250.00
Museum of Cannock Chase	Creative interactive art for Gen-I youth Festival	£112.00
Total		£7,500.00

Member comments on SLCF spend

As the newest member to the Council I had a very short window of opportunity to use my Community Fund. I immediately set out to meet as many local community groups and charities as possible. I feel very proud to have met and supported 13 groups within such a tight timescale.

Councillor Development

- 29/03/2018 - Excel for Members
- 28/02/2018 - Cyber Security
- 16/01/2018 - Questioning Skills for Members
- 11/01/2018 - Dementia Awareness
- 13/12/2017 - Level 1 Child Protection Training
- 30/11/2017 - How ICT works in Staffordshire
- 13/11/2017 - Connecting with your Communities - Social media training for members
- 07/11/2017 - Members' Autumn Event
- 12/10/2017 - My Staffs App Training for Members
- 05/10/2017 - Members Expenses Training
- 05/10/2017 - Staffordshire Observatory Training
- 20/09/2017 - New Member Induction Session

Member comments on development

I have found the majority of the training I've undertaken to be very beneficial in helping me in my new role. Dementia Awareness and Level 1 Child Protection Training have greatly assisted me with both Community Groups and Statutory Responsibilities.

Remuneration

My Allowances and Expenses

Basic allowance	£5,174.00
Mileage	£510.30
Total allowances cost	£5,684.30

My return mileage from home to County Buildings, where many meetings take place, is 18 miles.

Member comments on expenses

All mileage claimed has been necessary and recorded accordingly in my daily planner.