

John Francis
County Councillor for Stafford Trent Valley

Annual Report 9 May 2017 – 31 March 2018

Introduction

I was first elected as County Councillor for the Stafford Trent Valley electoral division in May 2017. I previously represented the Stafford South East division from June 2009.

My division lies in the east of Stafford borough and includes the ward of Chartley, Haywood and Hixon and Milford and part of the wards of Weeping Cross and Baswich covering approximately 11376 hectares with a population of 13,053.



Special Responsibilities

I am the Chairman of Safe and Strong Communities Select Committee.

Committee Membership and Attendance Record

My committee membership and attendance record can be seen below:

Meeting title	Possible attendances	Actual attendances	Apols	Absent
Corporate Parenting Panel	10	10	0	0
Corporate Review Committee	8	7	1	0
County Council	8	7	1	0
Joint Informal Session – PCC Business Case Consultation	1	1	0	0
Local Member Priority Meeting – Stafford	5	2	2	1
Medium Term Financial Strategy Working Group	9	6	3	0
Safe and Strong Communities Preview	5	5	0	0
Safe and Strong Communities Select Committee (Chairman)	9	9	0	0

Scrutiny Chairs Forum	1	1	0	0
Total	56	48	7	1
Percentage		86%	12%	2%

I was also appointed to represent the county council on the following outside bodies:

- Kingsilver Refinery Liaison Committee
- Staffordshire BIC
- Stafford Management Advisory Board

Schemes supported under the Staffordshire Local Community Fund

Applicant	Project	Amount
Baswich Community Group	Funding towards hall hire for the Tuesday Open house club, group insurance, 2 community newsletters to benefit older people	£250.00
Baswich Community Group (Baswich Canal Group)	Funding of 2 mowers for the group of volunteers who have adopted a section of the Worcs Canal at Baswich	£350.00
Colwich Parish BKV & Heart of England in Bloom	Funding towards plants for flower beds and containers at various locations throughout the villages during the annual competition	£500.00
Brocton Village Institute	Funding towards the removal of asbestos, the repair of the roof and replacement new ceiling, new wiring and lighting	£1,000.00
Hopton and Coton Parish Council	Funding towards 5 oil filled radiators to improve the heating within the village hall	£930.00
Silkmore Children's Centre	Funding of speech and language sessions, and the production of new promotional leaflets advertising the change of location and the new services which will be on offer	£500.00
395 Stafford Squadron Air Cadets	Funding towards a new minibus to transport teenagers of the organisation	£820.00
Mid Staffordshire Bladder Cancer Support Group	Funding towards room and equipment hire for presentations, guest speaker, promotional literature, leaflets, postage, printing and stationery to establish a local support group designed to raise awareness	£250.00

Applicant	Project	Amount
	and treatments of Bladder cancer in the community	
Stafford Riverway Link	Funding towards materials for stage 1 to rebuild the basin at Baswich to meet with the lock to join the river Sow of the Staffs and Worcester Canal to the town centre	£200.00
Penkside Community Champions	Funding of branded polo shirts, fleeces and waterproof jackets in providing a sense of identity for the volunteers making them more easily recognisable	£500.00
Wildwood Church	Funding towards projector, computer and associated software for the Child bereavement service	£500.00
Upper Moreton Rural Activities CIC	Funding towards training course in mental health first aid by a training provider for staff and volunteers working with vulnerable client groups	£700.00
Rising Brook Community Project	Funding of hi-vis gilets, 2 litter trollies, litter pickers and bags as part of the charity litter pick run through Stafford west division	£500.00
Royal British Legion Poppy Project	Funding towards the manufacture of an initial set of 63 poppy plaques which is about visibly commemorating Staffordians who gave their lives in the Great War of 1914 -1918	£500.00
Total spend		£7,500.00

Councillor Development

- 29/03/2018 - Excel for Members
- 22/03/2018 - Cyber Security
- 16/01/2018 - Questioning Skills for Members
- 13/01/2018 - Leadership Essentials - Effective Scrutiny
- 26/09/2017 - Chairing Skills
- 13/09/2017 - Members Claims Training
- 04/07/2017 - Medium Term Financial Strategy Member Briefing
- 29/06/2017 - Managing Files
- 28/06/2017 - Emergency Planning Briefing for Members
- 15/06/2017 - Level 1 Child Protection
- 16/05/2017 - Getting to Know your Computer

Remuneration

My Allowances and Expenses

Basic allowance	£9,462.24
Special Responsibility Allowance	6,872.04
Mileage	£92.70
Total allowances cost	£16,426.98

Mileage and Subsistence

Mileage from my home to County Buildings, where many meetings take place, is 8 miles return.