

Mike Sutherland
County Councillor for Etchinghill and Heath

Annual Report 8 May 2017 – 31 March 2018

Introduction

I was first elected as County Councillor for the Etchinghill and Heath electoral division in May 2017. My division lies in the west of Cannock Chase district and is 1 of 2 Divisions of Rugeley and includes the wards of Etchinghill and Heath and part of the ward of Western Springs and covers approximately 1812 hectares with a population of 11,613.



Special Responsibilities

I served as Cabinet Support Member for Adult Safeguarding until 17 August 2017 when I was appointed as Cabinet Member for Finance.

Committee Membership and Attendance Record

Meeting title	Possible attendances	Actual attendances	Apols	Absent	In attendance
Annual Business Rates Consultation Meeting	1	1	0	0	-
Cabinet	8	8	0	0	3
County Council	8	7	1	0	-
Economy, Infrastructure and Skills MTFs Challenge Session	2	2	0	0	-
Health and Wellbeing Board (Substitute)	1	1	0	0	-
Local Member Priority Meeting - Cannock	7	6	1	0	-
Pensions Committee	6	6	0	0	-
Pensions Panel	4	4	0	0	-
Political Cabinet	10	9	1	0	-
Property Informal Briefing	1	1	0	0	1
Property Sub-Committee	-	-	-	-	2
Total	48	45	3	0	6
Percentages		94%	6%	0%	

Member comments on committees/attendance record

All absences shown are due to annual holidays.

The attendance record above does not include all meetings that I have attended during last year as I also attend a high number of briefing meetings as part of my role in cabinet.

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

- The Chase Community Partnership
- Rugeley Quarry Liaison Committee
- Rugeley Community Church

Member comments on outside bodies

An example would be my input with Rugeley Quarry and working with local residents who had concerns on the vehicle movements to this site. The quarry operators applied for increased vehicle movements a planning application to implement a maximum cap of vehicle movements to and from the site seemed a better solution. This cap is now in place.

Divisional activities

Supporting Rugeley Boys Boxing Club committee members with a property lease issue.

Helped Rugeley Cricket Club with a planning application to expand the club

Schemes supported under the Staffordshire Local Community Fund

Applicant	Project	Amount
Friends of Etching Hill	Funding towards insurance, hire of hall, leaflets, speakers, replacement equipment, and office supplies for volunteers	£500.00
Slittingmill Victory Hall Communiity Centre	Funding towards the internal redecoration of the hall at Slitting Mill	£500.00
Rugeley Rifle Club	Funding towards 2 x MPR Air Arms Air Rifles for junior member development and training	£250.00
Rugeley Police Boys	Funding towards punch bags, head	£250.00

Applicant	Project	Amount
Boxing Club	guards, boxing gloves and skipping ropes	
Rugeley Cricket Club	Funding of replacement cricket bats, pads, gloves and helmets for the junior section	£250.00
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	£250.00
Newman Grove Allotment Holders	Funding towards a generator, strip and wall lights, hot water boiler and heater for the workshop and shelter for the school gardening club	£250.00
Rugeley Progressive W.M.C.	Funding towards food, entertainer, activities, games, decorations for a series of festive parties	£200.00
Charity for the provision of a recreational ground for the inhabitants of Ancient Parish of Rugeley	Funding towards weed and bramble cutting and flailing of area to ensure the hill and recreational ground is maintained to a high standard	£300.00
Rugeley Rugby Club	Funding towards pitch improvements	£250.00
Western Springs Community Primary School	Funding of a reading scheme for pupils	£2,500.00
Cannock Friends of Katharine House	Funding towards all day activities, food, presents and decorations on Christmas Day for the people of Rugeley and Cannock with life limiting illness	£800.00
SSOTP	Funding of slippers to be made available for patients most vulnerable as service users	£1,000.00
Total spend		£7,300.00

I am pleased to have been able to support my local community and to help support projects that add value to our local area, not only within my division but also the wider community groups in Rugeley area.

Councillor Development

- 29/03/2018 - Excel for Members
- 27/03/2018 - Members Spring Event
- 09/03/2018 - Managing Yourself and Your Time
- 09/03/2018 - Privacy offered by E-learning
- 09/03/2018 - Corporate Parent, Who Me?

- 09/03/2018 - An Introduction to E-learning
- 09/03/2018 - Cyber Security
- 22/02/2018 - Public Speaking
- 13/02/2018 - Dementia Awareness
- 16/01/2018 - Questioning Skills for Members
- 09/01/2018 - Leadership Academy - Module 3
- 28/11/2017 - Leadership Academy - Module 2
- 13/11/2017 - Connecting with your Communities - Social media training for members
- 07/11/2017 - Members' Autumn Event
- 06/11/2017 - Finance Overview
- 24/10/2017 - Leadership Academy - Module 1
- 12/10/2017 - My Staffs App Training for Members
- 05/10/2017 - Cabinet Member Communication Training
- 05/10/2017 - Staffordshire Observatory Training
- 14/09/2017 - Code of Conduct
- 11/09/2017 - Finance Training for Members
- 30/08/2017 - Members Claims Training
- 12/07/2017 - Level 1 Child Protection
- 11/07/2017 - Planning for Personal Safety
- 04/07/2017 - Medium Term Financial Strategy Member Briefing
- 30/06/2017 - Infrastructure+
- 28/06/2017 - Emergency Planning Briefing for Members
- 27/06/2017 - Managing Files
- 26/06/2017 - LGA West Midlands New Member Induction
- 20/06/2017 - Word Essentials
- 14/06/2017 - People Helping People

Member comments on development

Statutory induction and portfolio development training undertaken for both my role as a County Councillor and Cabinet Portfolio holder.

My Allowances and Expenses

Basic Allowance	£8,361.85
Special Responsibility Allowance	£14,470.46
Mileage	£1198.35
Other	£22.00
Subsistence	£30.00
Total	£24,082.66