

Sue Woodward
County Councillor for Burntwood North

Annual Report 09 May 2017 – 31 March 2018

Introduction

I was first elected as County Councillor for the Burntwood North electoral division in May 2013.

My division lies in the west of Lichfield district and includes the wards of Chase Terrace, Boney Hay and Burntwood Central and part of the ward of Highfield and covers approximately 354 hectares with a population of 13,056.



Special Responsibilities

I am Leader of the Opposition.

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 – Improvement	4	3	1	0
Corporate Review Committee	8	6	2	0
County Council	8	7	1	0
Joint Informal Session _ PCC Business Case Consultation	1	1	0	0
Local Member Priority Meeting – Lichfield	4	4	0	0
Medium Term Financial Strategy Working Group	9	8	1	0
Special Committee Re Remuneration	1	1	0	0
Special Committee Re: Commissioner for Business and Enterprise	3	3	0	0

Special Committee to exercise functions under the Officer Employment Procedure Rules	2	2	0	0
Total	40	35	5	0
Percentage		87.5%	12.5%	0%

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

- LGA General Assembly
- LGA Councillors Forum
- CCN Council
- County Council Picture Fund Trustees

Member comments on outside bodies

It is good for Staffordshire County Council to be represented at a national level and that our County's perspective is taken into account. It is also very valuable to network with councillors from across the country, to share best practice, challenges and opportunities.

Divisional activities

My council work begins and ends with work in my Division. These are the people who elected me and who I have the honour to represent. I am involved directly with numerous community groups and organisations, supporting and signposting them towards other forms of help. I have also seen this year a significant increase in the levels of my casework as cuts in council services bite even deeper. People get in touch at our Councillors' Advice Surgeries, by email, by letter, by phone and, increasingly, via social media. The greatest satisfaction that I get as a councillor is in being able to help resolve problems for my electors.

Special activities

I'm proud of the achievements of the Town Deal Partnership where representatives of the Town, District and County Council discuss and move forward on agreed priorities. I'm particularly pleased this year that we have moved forward significantly with raising the profile of and increasing access to Chasewater, a jewel in Burntwood's crown. We have also seen the start on site of a new retail development, much-needed in our town.

Schemes supported under the Staffordshire Local Community Fund

Applicant	Project	Amount
Burntwood Live at Home scheme	Printing of 1000 newsletters for three quarters to include equipment, stationery and postage costs for the older members of the community	£750.00
South East Staffs CAB	Training towards training resources for ten volunteers and recruitment, training and accreditation of volunteers to become CAB advisors	£450.00
CASS The Carers Association	Room hire for monthly Living Well with dementia sessions attended by carers	£1000.00
Burntwood Town Council	Scout band, festive food, hot drinks, banner, gas canisters for a free Christmas Festival	£300.00
Burntwood Lions Club	Gazebo with Lions logo for outside charity funding events	£600.00
Midland Soccer Academy	Pitch markings for two pitches and follow up markings for improvements to old football pitches	£300.00
Lichfield Talking News	20 media player and 80 USB sticks to meet the needs of new listeners	£300.00
Burntwood PANDAS	Annual rent, t-shirts with logos, refreshments and welcome packs to set up a second PANDAS peer support group for postnatal depression	£500.00
Fun Club	Mini bus hire, football and circus skills equipment for young people	£500.00
SCC Chase Terrace Primary School	Cycle track, car park and traffic look and listen signs, parking bays and playground markings and dinosaur footprints to teach children road safety skills	£500.00

Applicant	Project	Amount
Chase Terrace Technology College	Marketing and refreshments for the mini business expo event for the business community and local educators to look at impacts and outcomes of them working together	£500.00
Burntwood Friendship Group	Room hire, craft materials and day trip	£300.00
Boney Hay Primary School	Living willow dome, bench, willow tunnels, bark and logs for the children and local nursery to connect with nature	£500.00
St John's Community Church	Three course Christmas Dinner for 60 people including presents and transport for people who would otherwise be on their own	£150.00
Sparks Burntwood CIC	Fridge/freezer, cooking utensils, ingredients and board games for after school club	£350.00
Hollygrove Primary School	Mud kitchen, bug hotel and sand pit for children in nursery and reception	£500.00
Total		£7,500.00

Member comments on SLCF spend

Again, I am pleased to have been able to support all of the schools in my Division and some of the important voluntary activity in my community.
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Councillor Development

27 March 2018	Members Spring Event
13 March 2018	Cyber Security (E-learning)
20 November 2017	Co-operative Council's Innovation Network Conference
07 November 2017	Members' Autumn Event
15 October 2017	Best Practice in ICT (E-learning)
27 July 2017	Planning for Personal Safety
04 July 2017	LGA Annual Conference
28 June 2017	Emergency Planning Briefing
18 May 2017	Getting to know your Computer
11 May 2017	Welcome Day

Member comments on development

The County Council offers training and support for members across the whole range of our activities – from improving IT skills to attending national events: lifelong learning opportunities which are very welcome.

Remuneration

My allowances and expenses

Basic allowance	£9,462.24
Special Responsibility Allowance	£18,063.84
Mileage	£1,063.80
Subsistence	£94.75
Other	£311.47
Total allowances cost	£28,996.10

Mileage from my home to County Buildings, where many meetings take place, is 26 miles return.