

Paul Snape
County Councillor for Cannock Town Centre

Annual Report – 9 May 2017 – 31 March 2018

Introduction

I was first elected as County Councillor for the Cannock Town Centre electoral division in May 2017.

My division lies in the west of Cannock Chase and includes the wards of Cannock West and Cannock South and covers approximately 574 hectares with a population of 13,907.



Special Responsibilities

I served as Vice-Chairman of Planning Committee until 20 October 2017.

Committee Membership and Attendance Record

My committee membership and attendance record can be seen below:

Meeting title	Possible attendances	Actual attendances	Apols	Absent	In attendance
All Party Member Group – External Relationships	5	1	4	0	-
Corporate Parenting Panel	10	9	1	0	-
Countryside and Rights of Way Panel	4	4	0	0	1
County Council	8	8	0	0	-
Joint Informal Session – PCC Business Case Consultation	1	1	0	0	-
Local Member Priority Meeting – Cannock	7	6	1	0	-
Planning Committee	4	4	0	0	-
Safe and Strong Communities Select Committee	12	10	2	0	-
Total	51	43	8	0	1
Percentage		84%	16%	0%	

Member comments on committees/attendance record

For the All Party Members Group Meetings (BREXIT Committee) I missed, I was either on holiday or committed at other meetings. Councillor Bryan Jones, fully briefed me on matters I had missed.

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

- Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire Fire & Rescue Authority
- District Management Advisory Board for Children's Centres in Cannock

My attendance at Fire Authority meetings is listed below:

Meeting title	Possible attendances	Actual attendances	Apols	Absent
Stoke on Trent and Staffordshire Fire Authority	6	5	1	0
Strategy and Resources Committee	5	4	1	0
Human Resources and Ethics Committee	2	2	0	0
Service Improvement and Equality Committee	3	3	0	0
Member Development	3	3	0	0
Total	19	17	2	0
Percentage		89%	11%	0%

Member comments on outside bodies

The Stoke & Staffordshire Fire Committee was a wonderful Committee to have been a member of and one I am proud to have served on. S&SFRC is a well performing service and I now wish it well for the future under its newly formed direction. I wish the best to all concerned.

Divisional activities

My main concerns have been to assist my residents wherever possible. I have run a surgery every six weeks at the Living Springs Church Centre in Girton Road. I have also met with residents, either at their home address or at anywhere else to suit. I have tried to sort problems out at source at the earliest opportunity. I am a Local Authority Governor at Cardinal Griffin Catholic College in Cannock, responsible for the Sixth Form, SEND and Child Protection issues.

I have regular meetings with Senior Police Officers and PCSO's to discuss policing

matters across my Division. All are working hard in relation to Police issues, with high visibility patrols now being completed on a regular basis with Special Constables also patrolling Cannock Town Centre throughout the day and early evening. Van patrols are also regularly seen as a deterrent late at night.

Cannock Town Centre is being regenerated by new local businesses and private investment. Traders are working hard and I have given them all the support possible.

Highways across the Division have been repaired and resurfaced as required. Potholes, after a bad winter, were worse than expected but slowly they have been repaired as they have been reported.

Special activities

I was appointed Chairman of the review into Elective Home Education across Staffordshire.

This review was undertaken following a referral from the Corporate Parenting Panel and an awareness of the significant increase in the number of children becoming home educated.

During our investigations we became conscious of the incredible breadth of styles of home education as well as the differences in the reasons for becoming home educated and for children being taken out of mainstream schooling. We were impressed by the commitment and dedication shown by the home educators we met and by the head teachers, advisors and officers who have contributed to this review.

One of the most significant concerns we identified was around the notable increase in the numbers becoming home educated as a result of poor school attendance and/or to avoid prosecution. This report set out our methods of investigation, findings, conclusions and recommendations to mitigate the concerns identified.

Schemes supported under the Staffordshire Local Community Fund

Applicant	Project	Amount
Living Springs Community Church	Funding of paint, decoration, plaster, carpet, curtains and small sofa for private room to be available for local groups and charities	£750.00
116 Provost Company	Funding of planters, compost, plants, shrubs, cast iron poppy dishes, poppy planters, green ball hangers as part of the refurbishment of the Memorial Garden at the Army reserve unit at Cannock	£310.00
St Luke's Church	Funding towards restoration and installation of a	£1,000.00

Applicant	Project	Amount
Cannock	WW1 stained glass window	
Inspiring Healthy Lifestyles	Funding towards room hire, pilot activity, marketing, design & printing of information packs at events for the health and wellbeing activities - Grow Up Great	£1,500.00
Help A Squaddie	Funding towards 3 Laptop bundles, an ink jet printer, and 3 months room rental for the support group helping veterans and serving armed forces personnel	£350.00
1 st Heath Hayes Scout Group	Funding of replacement fire doors at the Willow Scout Hut	£1,000.00
Cannock Resource Centre	Funding towards room hire, DJ, entertainments, food and presents for the Christmas party for young people with disabilities	£500.00
Cardinal Griffin Catholic College	Funding towards a speaker from the youth emotional support services to provide drop in sessions and for booklets for year 11 pupils	£1,000.00
Cannock Community Safety Partnership	Funding of room hire, promotional materials and multiple sports activities for the 12-17 age groups	£1,090.00
Total		£7,500.00

Member comments on SLCF spend

I am so proud to have been able to support all of these worthy organisations and schemes all based in my great Division. Some have left me smiling whilst others have brought tears to my eyes. The people behind all of these Organisations are some of the greatest people in Staffordshire. I thank you for your help in making the lives of the people you represent and work with all the better.

Councillor Development

- 27/03/2018 - Members Spring Event
- 28/02/2018 - Cyber Security
- 24/01/2018 - Chairing Skills
- 11/01/2018 - Dementia Awareness
- 13/12/2017 - Level 1 Child Protection
- 30/11/2017 - How ICT works in Staffordshire
- 07/11/2017 - Members' Autumn Event
- 05/10/2017 - Staffordshire Observatory Training
- 14/09/2017 - Finance Training
- 30/08/2017 - Members Claims Training
- 04/07/2017 - Medium Term Financial Strategy Member Briefing
- 26/06/2017 - LGA West Midlands New Member Induction

- 01/06/2017 - Overview and Scrutiny Training
- 18/05/2017 - Getting to Know your Computer
- 16/05/2017 - Code of Conduct Training

Member comments on development

The training I have received has made my role as your County Councillor easier to complete. The training is first class and high quality and I have gained greatly from it.

Remuneration

My Allowances and Expenses

Basic allowance	£8,361.85
Special Responsibility Allowance	£368.64
Mileage	£571.95
Other	£2.00
Subsistence	£6.39
Total allowances cost	£9,310.83

Mileage and Subsistence

Mileage from my home to County Buildings – where many meetings take place is 24 miles return.

Member comments on expenses

I have limited all expenses I have claimed to the minimum and I will continue with this approach over the next three years.