

Victoria Wilson
County Councillor for Kinver

Annual Report 9 May 2017 – 31 March 2018

Introduction

I was first elected as County Councillor for the Kinver electoral division in May 2017.

My division lies in the south of South Staffordshire and includes the wards of Trysull and Seisdon, Kinver and Himley and Swindon and part of the ward of Wombourne North and Lower Penn (the parish of Lower Penn) and covers approximately 11108 hectares with a population of 12,840.



Special Responsibilities

I am the Community Cabinet Support Member for South Staffordshire.

Committee Membership and Attendance Record

My committee membership and attendance record can be seen below:-

Meeting title	Possible attendances	Actual attendances	Apols	Absent
Audit & Standards Committee	5	3	2	0
County Council	8	6	2	0
Joint Informal Session – PCC Business Case Consultation	1	0	0	1
Local Member Priority Meeting – South Staffordshire	6	4	2	0
Medium Term Financial Strategy*	1	1	0	0
Safe & Strong Communities Select Committee	8	8	0	0
Total	29	22	6	1
% Attendance		76%	21%	3%

* Invitee

Member comments on committees/attendance record

In the last 12 months I have attended all committee meetings possible. On occasion, due to sickness, family responsibility or even simply having had 2 meetings booked for the same time, it has not always been possible to attend every meeting, but it is essential to participate in committee meetings, in line with the conduct expected of a member elected to my position as County Councillor.

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

- South Staffordshire Rural Transport Partnership – Sub
- Enville Educational Charity
- Wolverhampton Business Airport
- Kinver Exhibition Foundation
- South Staffordshire District Safer Neighbourhood Forums

Member comments on outside bodies

It has been a pleasure to serve with these organisations, which work behind the scenes to assist the local community.

Divisional activities

The main focus of my work in the past 12 months has been to establish robust, transparent two-way communication between local citizens and the County Council. Reassuring the electorate that a question can be asked and an honest reply will be received in a timely, courteous and helpful way.

Schemes supported under the Staffordshire Local Community Fund

Applicant	Project	Amount
Stourton Village Hall	CCTV to benefit the village hall building and all its users	£2,154.00
Trysull Tigers FC	Funding towards improvements to pitch at Woodford Lane, Trysull and Fox Lane Seisdon used by 20 junior football teams and mini soccer school for ages 4-7years	£1,000.00
Holy Cross Church Bobbington	Funding towards the printing of a regular newsletter for village and church events to include Christmas cards for each family in the village designed by the Corbett School competition winner.	£200.00

Applicant	Project	Amount
Kinver Community Library	Funding to build an environmentally friendly garden in front of the library.	£500.00
Kinver Edge Committee of the National Trust	Funding of 10 oak bench tops and 10 sets of legs and fittings for resting places along the centenary path	£500.00
Victory Hall Management Committee	Funding towards material costs and labour to prevent damage from HGV lorries turning on to car park with a vehicle high barrier and chain link fencing	£696.00
St John's Church Swindon	Funding of room hire, re-useable resources and expendable resources to equip and run the Messy Church for food, crafts and games	£590.00
Cycling CIC	Funding of research for local cycling routes and risk assessments, posters, 8 rides by leaders, reporting, material preparation and attendance to assist cycle badge work and cycle safety awareness	£880.00
Swindon Crown Green Bowling Club	Funding towards lighting for the bowling green to enable matches to be played at the start and end of the season	£980.00
Total Spend		£7,500.00

Member comments on SLCF spend

It has been an immense pleasure to be able to help local groups with their plans, and to see the fruits of their labour having a direct and beneficial impact on residents in my division.

Councillor Development

- 29/03/2018 - Excel for Members
- 27/03/2018 - Members Spring Event
- 26/03/2018 - How to deal with aggressive people
- 19/03/2018 - Powerpoint Training
- 13/03/2018 - Public Speaking
- 29/01/2018 - Time Management for Members
- 24/01/2018 - Charing Skills
- 22/01/2018 - Cyber Security

- 19/01/2018 - Dementia Awareness for Members
- 16/01/2018 - Questioning Skills for Members offered by
- 30/11/2017 - How ICT works in Staffordshire
- 13/11/2017 - Connecting with your Communities - Social media training for members
- 10/11/2017 - LGA - Political Leadership Masterclass - New Conversations
- 05/10/2017 - Staffordshire Observatory Training
- 14/09/2017 - Code of Conduct
- 11/09/2017 - Finance Training for Members
- 07/09/2017 - Members Claims Training
- 27/07/2017 - Planning for Personal Safety
- 24/07/2017 - Level 1 Child Protection
- 10/07/2017 - Infrastructure+ Operational Control Room Visit
- 30/06/2017 - Infrastructure+
- 29/06/2017 - Managing Files
- 14/06/2017 - People Helping People
- 01/06/2017 - Overview and Scrutiny Training
- 18/05/2017 - Getting to Know your Computer
- 18/05/2017 - Best Practice in ICT
- 11/05/2017 - Welcome Day

Member comments on development

In the past year, the training I have received from the County Council has been first rate – emphasizing the faith that the County Council has had in helping me perform my day to day duties in its name, and maximizing the help I've been able to give to the people in my division

Remuneration

My Allowances and Expenses

Basic allowance	£8361.85
Special Responsibility Allowance	£2,539.89
Mileage	£768.15
Total allowances cost	£11,669.89

My return mileage from home to County Buildings, where many meetings take place, is 50 miles.

Member comments on remuneration

I believe that all County Councillors should be paid their weight in gold, but I understand that my allowance is a gesture from the council, to recognise the hard work and long hours we all do as members in our respective divisions.