

Elected Member Annual Report and Review 2012/13



Name of Member: Councillor Bob Backhouse

Ward: Sherwood

Section 1: Attendance at Council/ Committee and Sub-Committee meetings

This section has been completed by Democratic Services and lists all Council and Committee meetings, including how many meetings of each, you attended for the period from Annual Council on 23 May 2012 to the end of April 2013.

Name of Committee	No. of meetings attended	No. of meetings held during the year
Full Council	6	6
Licensing Committee	5	5
Licensing Sub-Committee (only 3 of the 15 members are called at any one time)	9	24
Communities Cabinet Advisory Board	5	6
Planning and Transportation Cabinet Advisory Board	7	8
Western Area Planning Committee	10	11
Joint Eastern and Western Area Planning Committee	2	2
Joint Transportation Board	4	4
Finance and Governance Cabinet Advisory Board (not a member)	3	8
Eastern Area Planning Committee (not a member)	2	15

Please list how many County Council, Parish/Town Council and Town Forum meetings you have attended.

County Council	Parish/Town Council	Town Forum
KCC: I remained Chairman of KCC Supported People until it was disbanded.	Attended Pembury Town Council meeting	I attended 4 Town Forum meetings in the Town Hall.

Section 2: Community Involvement

Please list details of organisations within the community with which you are involved, including any outside bodies that you have been appointed to by the Council in order to promote joint working and improved service delivery to the public.

Organisation	Brief description of your role
Sherwood Events Team: TN2 Community Centre	I helped throughout the year with co-ordinating social events throughout the year notably inviting our Mayor to the main ones. Our Annual Carnival (Olympics 2012 theme), the Diamond Jubilee and the Christmas fete. Also I helped to start the Sherwood Market; a fortnightly event, with our KCC Member for T.Wells East.
Sherwood Plan Sherwood Steering Group for the Lake & Woodlands	Representing Sherwood, as a councillor on the Sherwood /Lakewood project with TCHG. Representing Sherwood as a councillor for the work on the Lake and woodlands.

Section 3: Assisting Constituents

Please give an illustration of the ways in which you have assisted or liaised with your constituents, or other residents of the Borough (i.e resolving problems), including details of any surgeries you have held.

I hold a weekly surgery (with fellow Councillor Mrs. Lynne Weatherly) and this is held in conjunction TCHG's weekly surgery. We help ward constituents with housing issues such as repairs, ASB, rent arrears, GP issues and we can co-ordinate with other stakeholders such as the Police, Little Forrest, St.Philip's Church. We advertise this in our literature and in the TN2 Centre /St.Philip's Church.

I also do voluntary work in the Kitchen at TN2 (until Dec. 2012) and at any social event we hold.

I have met with various groups over new development projects (Dandara) and the work on the North Farm Roads and A21 development. These meetings were held in TN2 the Centre or Hotel Mercure. We have made substantial progress during the year culminating in Leader David Jukes organising a £5 million+ roads improvement programme. This is crucial for Sherwood's long term development.

I attend social events at our Church that impact on our community (e.g Queen's Diamond Jubilee party) and ensure dialogue with our community. Our Church is a crucial member of the Sherwood role; it hosts a SHERWOOD NETWORK group that brings together over a dozen local stakeholders (including the new Temple Grove Academy) to plan and co-ordinate events over the forthcoming months.

Section 4: Special Responsibilities

Please list any other positions of responsibility that you may hold within this Council (for example: Portfolio Holder, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Lead Member, or Mayoral duties).

Responsibility	Nature of your duties
Communities CAB	Disability adaptations
Co-ordinating Mayor Visits to Sherwood events	Diarise events
Attended Mayor's events	Battle of Britain, Remembrance Day (11/11/12 and the Sunday), Holocaust Day, Sissinghurst Castle, Bewl Water Evening of Magic.
Planning Forums in the Town Hall	I have attended 4 forums about major planning events in TWBC.
Planning Summer School	I represented TWBC at Liverpool University for the annual up-date of planning regulations and good practice. This was a 5 day event in September 2012.

Section 5: Learning and Development

This section has been completed by Democratic Services and lists dates and details of attendance at training sessions, conferences, seminars etc during the period 23 May 2012 to the end of April 2013 which have supported you in your duties as a councillor. Please check this with your own records and contact Wendy Newton-May if you have any queries.

Details of event	Date attended
Licensing Committee Training	29 May 2012
Short Bite - Q & A's	20 June 2012
Planning Member Training (NPPF & Conservation)	4 July 2012
Member Briefing – Rate Relief	18 July 2012
Member Briefing – Digital by Choice	25 July 2012
Member Briefing - Benenden Hospital Briefing	28 August 2012
Member Briefing – Local Council Tax Discount Scheme	5 September 2012
Code of Conduct and Register of Interests	11 September 2012
Short Bite - Article 4 Directions	12 September 2012
Community Infrastructure Levy	20 September 2012
Member Briefing – Landscape Designations	3 October 2012
Member Briefing – Gypsy Awareness	16 October 2012
Introduction to Noise	4 December 2012
Affordable Housing	5 December 2012
Strategic Compass and Budget	12 December 2012
Residents Survey 2012 Results	17 January 2013
Licensing Training	22 January 2013
Findings From The Census 2011	24 January 2013
Planning Short Bite – Merger of Planning Committees and Changes to Permitted Development	13 February 2013
Members Questions and Answers and Planning Forums	6 March 2013

NPPF – 1 year on	27 March 2013
Update on the Business Delivery Unit	16 April 2013

Do you have any other learning and development needs that have not been identified or met by the Council? If so, please set out below.

I had a half day in Planning to follow the progress of a planning application. On the same basis I should like to spend a day in Housing.

Section 6: Internal Meetings Attended

Please give details of role and attendance at internal meetings, including Working Parties/Groups and Political Group meetings.

Details of event	Role and purpose
I have attended all Group Meetings of the ruling Conservative Group.	

Section 7: Supplementary Information

Please feel free to add any information you consider may assist in defining your role as an elected Member, any outside obligations that may impact on your role or any additional information you wish to add.

I assist in Mental Health and Social Work recruitment at Christ Church University at Canterbury. I do some part time (voluntary, un-paid) lecturing. I hold meetings with my MP and co-ordinate local residents. Owing to my use of buses and High Brooms station I am able to hear many local problems and solve them.

I help the residents' associations, like the LCG at SKA, to resolve tensions.

Dated: 21 May 2013