

## Eastfield Town Council July Report 31 July 2023

I am Continuing to hold my Councillors Surgeries on the first Monday of each month at the Westway Open Arms, who have very kindly afforded me one of the rooms there. I am pleased to say I am continuing to pick up case work from residents and have duly dealt with, or currently dealing with their concerns and complaints.

Meetings attended during the past month have been as follows:

North East Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority at County Hall Beverley where it was a one item agenda regarding a new Patrol Boat which was duly sanctioned by the Authority.

Veterans Social Meeting at 120 Westway, where it is always a pleasure to have a chat with these lovely veterans and pick up on a few of their concerns.

Skate Park Meeting at St Georges School where we debated a possible skate park on the old Overdale School land. The Skate Park Group are going full steam ahead with their plans to attain not only the area of land required for this skate park but all the land for community usage. A big ask with NYC no doubt having other ideas for this land. However, as you are aware my continued view has been that this land should be for community benefit and not for even more housing developments. I am backing them 100%.

Eastfield Residents Association Meeting at 120 Westway. This is always a pleasant meeting to attend, and business is dealt with in a comradely manner. Amongst other items on the agenda were of course the update on the Skate Park and the excellent Eastfield Fun Day that the Residents Association organised, and I was honoured to help open. This was a tremendous success despite the heavens opening in the afternoon where most found other activities inside that had been organised, my grateful thanks to all the willing volunteers.

I attended a Task Group meeting about the local transport plan about how best this new NY Council can improve upon transport within North Yorkshire and especially for my part in and around Scarborough. Not an easy task where so many have tried and failed in the past. Many have called for the A64 to be dual carriageway in the past, however in my view this cannot work alone, all this will do is increase the bottle neck around Musham Bank area unless the Park and Ride is fully utilised. Scarborough, much like Eastfield wasn't built to cope with the amount of traffic it now receives.

I attended a further Task Group Meeting on Foodbanks in North Yorkshire and just how they were coping, needless to say some were struggling with demand outstripping supply but they are manfully carrying on delivering a brilliant service to those most in need.

My first Full Council Meeting since being re-elected took place where I was delighted to have attained committee places on the following:

Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Care Independence and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee along with as right the Scarborough and Whitby Area Constituency Committee.

One item on this council's agenda was of particular concern relating to the non parished wards of Scarborough and Harrogate. A full consultation process had been undertaken with regard to the number of wards and councillors for each ward, which had been determined thus in the case of Scarborough:

5 Wards with 3 Councillors for each ward a total of 15 councillors, however an amendment was tabled to have 15 one member wards which was duly passed for officer to undertake even more work on this to bring back to members at a later date to debate again and a probable further consultation with residents concerned. I voted against this amendment.

I also attended a Mid Cycle Briefing of the Care and Independence Overview and Scrutiny Committee where focus was on the Housing Crisis and just how to best continue to scrutinise this massive area of concern particularly in my case in and around Scarborough, again not an easy task with some 2,000 people in the old Borough still without a permanent roof over their heads. I am still firmly of the belief that more pressure should be placed on Developers to increase the number of social housing homes on every large development in order to attempt to eradicate this housing crisis.

I am delighted to support the new Eastfield Football Club AFC Eastfield who will be playing their home games at Eastway playing fields and had their first 11 a side match on Saturday just gone against West Pier Reserves in a friendly match. I did an interview with That's TV North Yorkshire regarding the financial support afforded them through my Councillors Locality Budget.

I also have supported the Eastfield Scouts for the National Car Racing Championships and Westway Open Arms for extensive work on the driveway and parking area to date.

I am pleased to say that Gouldings Close has been resurfaced this past month.

Long awaited work on the Regeneration of the High Street should commence around September / October with hopefully it being finished in time for the Christmas Festivities. Lighting and seating along with improvements to the brick planters and entrance off Westway are included.

I undertook a Litter Bin survey of the Estate and have made recommendations to our cleansing department where more litter bins are required including one at every bus stop.

The work on The Dell is underway hard standing footpath etc.

Big Clean up Day in Eastfield is scheduled for 20 September.