

# BCBC Councillor's Annual Report

**Councillor John C. Spanswick**

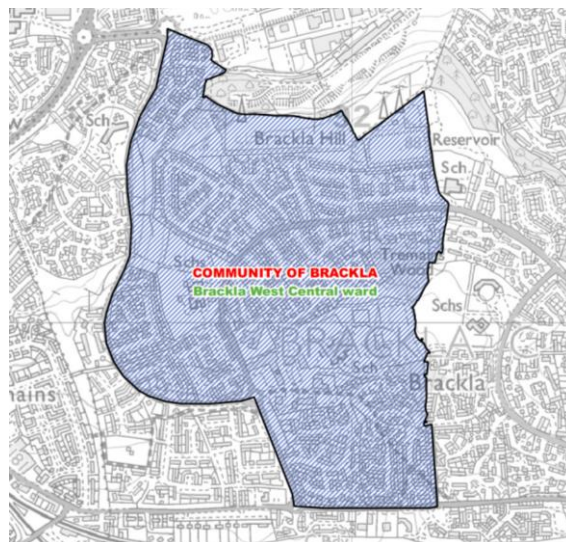
**Ward: Brackla West Central**

**Party: Welsh Labour**

This report identifies my key activities during the year ending March 2023. It is provided for the information of all constituents and for no other purpose. The views expressed in this report are those of the Councillor and do not necessarily reflect the views of Bridgend County Borough Council.

## Role & Responsibilities

I was originally elected to Bridgend County Borough Council to represent the Brackla ward in May 1999. At the last elections in May 2022 following a review of the ward boundaries within BCBC, there was a change in Brackla to create smaller wards within the area and therefore I now represent the Brackla West Central ward (see map below).



I was invited to join the cabinet in May 2022 as the Cabinet Member for Communities with a portfolio covering areas such as waste, street cleansing, parks, cemeteries, planning, countryside, biodiversity, climate change, transportation and highways.

I have supported the residents of my ward on a variety of issues and have formally raised constituent queries with the Council and other organisations. This is in addition to informally addressing a number of other issues which you have asked me to help you resolve and I always endeavour to respond within a reasonable timescale.

Further information of my roles, responsibilities and activities can be found by using this link.

[Councillor details - Councillor John Spanswick - Bridgend County Borough Council](#)

## Constituency Activity

I have not arranged any surgeries over the past year as I tend to find that residents would prefer to make direct contact via the telephone, email and increasingly social media but prepared to consider undertaking surgeries in the future should the demand arise. I was also elected to Brackla Community Council in May 2022 for the Brackla West ward and this being my 30<sup>th</sup>.year as a Brackla Community Councillor. While the area I represent has been reduced to just one ward out of four in Brackla, I have still made myself available throughout Brackla working with my fellow ward Councillors representing the other three wards of Brackla. I have regularly driven around Brackla making note of any issues that need addressing and promptly submitted them as a referral to BCBC for action as appropriate.

### **Initiatives and Special Activities**

The Community Council started to reintroduce activities that had been paused during Covid and I was pleased to help out with Brackla Fun Day in June and the Firework display in November. These events appear to be valued by the community and were fully funded by Brackla Community Council.

I was pleased to be part of the scheme that introduced tree planting and wildflower meadows to the open space at The Chase/Foxfields and while it is appreciated that not all residents welcomed this, I am hopeful that with time this area will mature into a much loved and respected green area for all to enjoy.

Working with my fellow ward Councillors I have continued with the call for action at the Singletons junction and have had initial discussions with BCBC officers for a suitable scheme to be designed making the area safer for all.

### **Other Activities/Issues**

I have made contact with developers who are responsible for some of the private parking areas within Brackla and have managed to get them to accept responsibility for one area and will continue this work to try and get more of these areas maintained.

In January this year the skate park adjacent to Brackla Primary school was considered uneconomical to repair and subsequently removed and I managed to secure funding for this to be replaced later in 2023. Along with this I requested that the basketball court be refurbished along with the play area next to it.

**Councillor : John C. Spanswick**

**Date: 21<sup>st</sup>. June 2023**