



This past month has been a super busy one, I have again volunteered as a substitute at County Hall Scrutiny Committee meetings as well as Chairing a Scrutiny review panel. In addition it was also our "Full Council" meeting where I spoke in support of the excellent Children's and Families department.

I also chaired the Bardon Aggregates Liaison Committee where once again it was raised that despite efforts above and beyond from local authorities and Aggregates themselves off road motorcycles were continuing to break onto the site causing damage and generally making a nuisance of themselves. As you can see with the picture, this is no longer the work of "kids". It's only a matter of time before someone gets seriously hurt.



Off the back of this I made a point of reaching out to Insp Wayne Nimblette & the new N45 Beat Sgt Matt Foulger to express my concerns, we also discussed inconsiderate parking on Garfield, Kemp and Clutson Roads. I also had my regular meeting with the Leicestershire Police and Crime Commissioner Rupert Matthews.



As you might know, I like to get out and about in the Division meeting as many local residents, businesses and organisations as I can, it really is the best way to find out what is going on. This month I visited my friend Richard Dax, Head Teacher at Belvoirdale, I love visiting this school. It really is a fantastic school that goes well beyond education, it's a real family. I highly recommend you give their Facebook page a "Like" to see what they get up too. I am very pleased to be able to offer my assistance in helping the school with building improvements, so watch this space!

I also got the opportunity to visit SMB College, Stephenson Campus. As a former student of both it's predecessors (Coalville Tec & Stephenson College) I was really excited to see how the campus had developed. I met with Principal Dawn Whitmore, we discussed the challenges and the opportunities the college has and again I pledged my support in addressing these.



Cllr Keith Merrie MBE and I were invited to attend the service of rededication of Private John Smith a survivor of Rorke's Drift, who in later life fell on hard times and took his own life. He was buried in an unmarked grave and found earlier this year. We gave him the send off he quite rightly deserved, may he rest in eternal peace.

This month was also the Whitwick Branch RBL's annual BBQ.



At County Hall as well as representing the people of Coalville North, I also work with the excellent Children's and Families department.

Leicestershire is one of 12 local authorities to secure a slice of a £12m pot of grant funding to transform the way services are delivered for families.

Family Hubs are a new 'one-stop-shop' where parents and carers can access support and advice for families with children aged 0-19 (or 25 for young people with special educational needs or disabilities).

I am very pleased to say that Leicestershire's first ever 'Family Hub' has officially opened right here in Coalville (next to the Library). As well as creating the physical hubs, there are plans in the county to carry out outreach work and create a new website containing helpful family information and advice.



DON'T FORGET to regularly check my website: www.craig-smith.uk ➔



If you need my help, please get in touch