

# County Councillors Report to Whitland Town Council

## **July and August 2019**

### Boundary Commission Report

The recommendation for Whitland remains the same in that there will be one County Councillor for the Ward serving until 2022. There will be a resident increase of about 100 persons over that time and the proposed name for the Ward will be Whitland and Hendy-gwyn ar Daf both for electoral and language purposes. The Ward boundaries are reviewed about every decade to ensure electoral representation is as equal as possible. NB. CCC staff are now being sought for possible elections.

### Foster Panel

I have formerly resigned from the Foster Panel following the CSSIW recommendations that County Councillors should no longer serve on these panels. The composition of Independent persons and Foster carers from another authority will still continue but less persons will be essential for a quorum.

### Train Station

A leak reported to Dwr Cymru a number of times by myself and a number of other people and work now seems to be ongoing. Also reported are weeds and again the loose and dilapidated wooden rail.

There was a complaint about removal of buddleia from the old sidings. The Cardi Bach group have written to Network Rail to ask the sidings area be retained and looked after.

### Rural Affairs Committee (SMA part of this committee)

Cllrs may be aware of the press reports of the Rural Affairs Committee Report with its 55 recommendations. The formal launch will be at the Emlyn Arms on the 8<sup>th</sup> October between 9.30 and 12.30 where a way forward will be discussed. As a follow up to the publication I was approached by a journalist who wanted to do a feature on the Rural Towns that were highlighted during the County Council recess when there was less news. I persuaded him that Whitland was the Town to do first and gave him a brief tour of the Town showing the crossroads configuration and parallel railway and river for him to get his bearings. He then went on to visit and interview various parties and the feature has appeared at Wales online. It is a positive article and I think it is important to convey those aspects to encourage future investments and policy changes to support regeneration.

### Recycle Bags and Rubbish collections

As a resident I have requested more blue bags. They were to be delivered on 25<sup>th</sup> July and did not arrive. A second request suggested 26<sup>th</sup> August and again they did not arrive. A third request on the 27<sup>th</sup> August was to resolve if the first two had actually been delivered and perhaps taken by a passer-by but to date I have not had a telephone response to clarify. This means that I will have to drive to St Clears Leisure Centre to collect some although all households are to have a new batch delivered in October. Black bag collections are to be reduced from four to three. There will be exceptions for those with a special requirement.

### Glimpse into Whitland Past

This was an outstanding community event and drew together many hidden collections from the past century. Attendees discovered links to their past and relatives were rediscovered. The organisation of the event was excellent and great thanks to all concerned especially Gabriela.