

Barry Griffiths – Councillor Biography

I am retired from full time work with priority interest in our community I have the time and ability to represent us. I am a volunteer councillor since 2016, and I welcome contact with residents. With my wife and children, I have lived in Kinmel Bay for over 40yrs and am particularly concerned about deprivation where like it or not our community is ranked to have low income, poor health and poor environment (Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation) so more needs to be done.

As initial co-chair of the Place Plan Partnership we produced a plan approved by the community in the interests of all citizens and accepted by Conwy. I remain committed to and engaged with this process which is taking time to fund and facilitate. As a catalyst the place plan will enable citizens to do things for themselves, having new conversations about what is now possible. I am keen to explore the opportunities arising from improved flood defences for residential and business development in our area.

Sport in our community is very successful and a buffer to austerity; I am one of many who help at Y Morfa the only sports centre in the region to be entirely managed by volunteers with thousands raised in funding for junior, senior and disabled sport.

Our community attracts many visitors and adds a certain burden in access to roads and facilities, also, as our coastal defences illustrate, our future in climate change is at risk of flooding so we see very little residential development. I have been active on the flood agenda since we were flooded in 1990; I believe our county officers are doing an excellent job on coastal defences and that we now need to open discussions on future community development. I also believe that the tourism levy could fund improvements of benefit to the whole community.

There is more to counselling than spending residents' precept on cosmetic projects. To be better represented we need to realise a complexity in counselling including our cases for public services and the relationship between our Town Council, Local Authority and National Government. I regularly communicate with wider authorities on matters like the Local Development Plan; Sandy Cove Regeneration; Flood Risk; Place Plan; Education and Environment.

I have experienced A+E and realise we have a health agenda. I have experienced being a skilled engineer, company director, school governor, owned my business and have a master's degree and feel this experience helps my perspective and communications ability. I served an old-fashioned apprenticeship and would like to see such "added value" careers for our future generations who have little by way of such local opportunities.

Please do contact me with any concerns or questions you may have.

Diolch,

Barry