

Annual Report 2012

Councillor Gerry White – Lake North

During the last year, I have worked closely with residents, local businesses and Lake Parish Council to boost the economy and quality of life for all the people of Lake.

My main effort has been to facilitate the upgrading and refurbishing of businesses on Lake High Street. I have acted as a link between businesses and the IW Council. I am very pleased to say that these collaborative efforts have brought about a visible improvement. I am also pursuing an extension of the free car parking time. I recently organised a 15,000 signature petition asking to increase the time from 30mins to 90mins

I am currently in talks with Southern Vectis and the IW Council's Highways department to see if a bus lay-by can be installed in the High Street. To date Southern Vectis has been reluctant consider a lay-by, but with the change in their senior management, there has been a change in attitude towards this proposal. I already have the support of the local businesses who have indicated that they are willing to contribute towards a lay-by.

I was concerned about the lack of bus services to Lake North and the isolation of the elderly and vulnerable people living there. I discussed the matter with the Community Bus Partnership and persuaded them to re-route the No 24 community bus through parts of Lake on a trial basis to see if there is a demand. I hope that the service will prove successful.

The other project I am working on with Lake Parish Council is the acquisition of the public toilets in New Street. I believe we can refurbish the toilets and convert part of it into a community centre for the use of the parish council and the people of Lake.

Gerry White
May 2012