

PRIDE IN BARRY

*An association of voluntary organisations, local authorities and others
who have combined together to strive to improve the local environment*



Annual General Meeting 29 March 2005

Chairman's Report

It has been a busy year, although somewhat different from planned.

In January 2004, we set out and published our Strategy Document. This sets out our core values and beliefs, our aims and goals. The Document has been widely commended, held up as an exemplar by the WDA, has also featured in Assembly Minister Jane Hutt's Business Breakfast Meetings, and has proved a very useful briefing document for Ministers, politicians, businesses, and others. It's very existence has set an agenda that others have followed, which was always an intent. In fact, the Document led to the invigoration of the "Building A Brighter Barry" campaign.

During the year, much of Pride In Barry's attention though was diverted away from direct projects within the Strategy, and focussed on lobbying for Continued Funding for the Barry Regeneration Strategy. I think that this was a right and proper thing to do, as funding lies at the root of all the projects within the Strategy. We have raised this issue directly with the Economic Development Minister Andrew Davies, with First Minister Rhodri Morgan, and with WDA Chairman Sir Roger Jones, and Chief Executive Gareth Hall.

We have made extensive representations to endorse the proposed UWIC Wales Centre for Hospitality Leisure & Tourism at Barry Island. Again, we have spoken directly to many of those already mentioned, as well as Chief Executive of Wales Tourist Board Jonathan Jones

I would record our grateful thanks for the continued support of Jane Hutt who enabled many of the meetings with those I have mentioned.

Throughout the year, Pride In Barry has again had a series of excellent speakers on topical issues. As far as possible, we have ensured that this has fitted into the themes within our Strategy.

- ❖ We had an interesting presentation on Public Art and in particular the Scott Memorial at Cardiff Bay, by local sculptor Jonathan Williams.
- ❖ This was very timely and was followed by presentations from CBAT, an organisation working with the Vale Council on a Public Art Strategy, and from Vale Arts Development Officer Tracy Harding.
- ❖ Inspector Geraint Evans spoke about the success of reducing crime in Barry and the Vale. He then arranged for his colleague DC Richard Collins to talk to us about "Designing out Crime".

- ❖ Andrew Dakin of the WDA briefed us on the latest position with regard Regeneration
- ❖ Jane Hutt AM paid a regular visit to Pride In Barry and gave further updates on regeneration and answered members questions.

A deserved thank you to all our speakers and all those who have arranged speakers.

Pride In Barry has been represented at a number of committees, events and functions throughout the year, such as the Barry Development Group, and the Vale of Glamorgan Conservation Advisory Group.

This has, I believe, raised our profile significantly. We are being actively approached by those with ideas and initiatives within Barry. This is therefore the opportune time to move forward with the Ambassador Scheme to establish Awards which recognise and encourage those who promote Barry. This will take a lot of effort and will need plenty of assistance from willing volunteers.

In order to continue with this new initiative, along with other items within our Strategy Document, we need to review and build on our current membership. We need to ensure we remain representative of our community – and for example actively encourage involvement of young people. With this in mind, I believe we need to establish a new Committee position focussing on **Membership**, to review the current position, identify areas for improvement, and then enhance our membership.

I would also propose that we reduce the **frequency of meetings**. I think we should have 4 or 5 regular meetings with a good speaker. If these meeting became bi-monthly, the Committee would then meet on the other 5 available meeting dates, thereby providing a better management capacity to ensure good speakers and continued focus on delivering the Strategy Document.

I would like to thank my Committee Members and also to you the members of Pride In Barry for your help and support throughout the year. It has been a busy year, and an enjoyable year, as I'm sure this next year will prove.