

Parliamentary News

from Vernon Coaker, MP for Gedling

Your local Member of Parliament, representing Gedling Constituency – which includes Arnold, Burton Joyce, Carlton, Colwick, Daybrook, Gedling, Mapperley, Oxclose, Redhill, Stoke Bardolph and Woodthorpe.



Katie, Tracey, Louise with children and Vernon at the Gedling Play Day in Arnold.

Vernon Coaker's priorities remain the same – the people of Gedling and getting the best for them. He is a full-time MP with no other job or commercial interests.

Parliamentary recess may sound like the perfect time for a rest but Vernon is still busy. With weekly surgeries, regular roving surgeries, coffee mornings and other events Vernon is working hard for Gedling.

Vernon keeps in touch with local people and knows what is important to them. He will continue to work hard to ensure that services and facilities are improved as well as helping individuals and families with problems large or small. He said "I cannot always promise to resolve an issue but I can promise to try".

Vernon does his best for the people of Gedling and he is proud to represent his constituents. If you need any help or advice you can telephone Vernon on 920 4224 or e-mail at coakerv@parliament.uk. Or come along to the drop-in or roving surgeries around the constituency. You can visit his website at www.vernon-coaker-mp.co.uk.

Vernon's office organise regular trips to the Houses of Parliament for groups and individuals. Coaches depart from Arnold and Carlton and constituents meet Vernon in London for a tour of the House of Commons and the House of Lords. The trips are for residents of the constituency – if you would like to go please contact the office.

Vernon Coaker Working hard for Gedling



Vernon Coaker

A personal message
from Vernon



Dear resident,

It remains a great privilege and indeed a pleasure to be your Member of Parliament. I have continued to work hard on your priorities both nationally and locally including crime, health and education.

I was pleased to be asked to continue as a Minister in the Home Office by Gordon Brown. My responsibilities include tackling gun and knife crime, reducing the harm caused by illegal drugs and alcohol as well as combating people trafficking.

In all of this I recognise the importance of neighbourhood policing and I talk regularly to the Home Secretary Jacqui Smith about ensuring that there is a visible uniformed presence on our streets.

Alongside my Ministerial duties I continue to raise other issues which I know are of importance to all of you such as climate change, aid and development, community cohesion and animal welfare.

Locally, anti-social behaviour remains an issue in some parts of the constituency and I continue to work hard with residents, the police and local council to overcome any problems. Neighbourhood Watch schemes are expanding and proving very successful.

This newsletter outlines some of the local successes we have seen. There is also ongoing progress with the new Netherfield Primary School and Church Drive Primary School in Arnold soon to be rebuilt.

CCTV is also now operational in Arnold, Mapperley, Carlton Hill and Netherfield. Nevertheless challenges remain such as renewing the buildings of many of our secondary schools, resolving the issue of the A612 bus plug, overcoming the last hurdles so Gedling Country Park can be open for public use and investing in flood defences in Burton Joyce. A key effort must also be made to improve facilities for our young people across the borough.

Finally can I say thank you to all those who have made this progress possible. It is often not without difficulty or controversy but by working together so much has been achieved. We can and will do even more.

With best wishes,

Vernon Coaker



Pictures Above

Vernon with the Home Secretary Jacqui Smith.

Vernon with Bob Vaughan-Newton, the Crime Reduction Manager for the Gedling Borough area, outside Vernon's the office in Daybrook.

Vernon in Netherfield High Street.

Vernon with Salim the proprietor of Ivy Leaf residential Home, Gedling.

Working with families

Vernon has visited the three Sure Start Centres in the constituency. The existing centres are Arnbrook on Bestwood Lodge Drive, Killisick at Killisick Community Centre and in Netherfield at the St George's Centre. More are planned.

Each centre provides children under 5 and their families with a variety of services and information. Sure Start is a Government programme aimed at delivering the best start in life for every child by bringing together early education, childcare, health and family support.

All the staff at Arnbrook, Netherfield and Killisick have worked hard to get the Centres off the ground. It is their hard work and dedication which means that Sure Start continues to be a success. Mums, dads and children were making good use of the facilities when Vernon visited.



Mums, children and Vernon at the Sure Start centre in Netherfield.



Health Care Assistant Jodie and Vernon at the Sure Start centre at Arnbrook.

There are plans for more Sure Start Centres in Gedling which is great news. Sure Start is also active in Phoenix with health care professionals working there as well as activities for families. Sure Start is due to set up a permanent base in Phoenix and this will be great for the community. It is hoped even more will be established in Gedling in the future.

Helping pensioners in Gedling

Pensioners are entitled to a decent and secure retirement.

During the recess Vernon has been out and about visiting warden-supported complexes throughout the constituency. He has met with pensioners at Coronation Walk in Gedling, Seagrave Court in Arnold, Britannia Court in Netherfield, Foxhill Court and Orchard Court in Carlton and Ivy Leaf Residential Home in Gedling. Vernon is always pleased to meet pensioners for a chat and to see if there is anything he can help them with.



Vernon joins the knit and natter club at Coronation Walk, Gedling.

Vernon is happy to make home visits if mobility is a problem and meets many pensioners at his surgeries and at various places across the constituency. If you would like Vernon to visit you personally or to meet your group please contact Vernon's office.

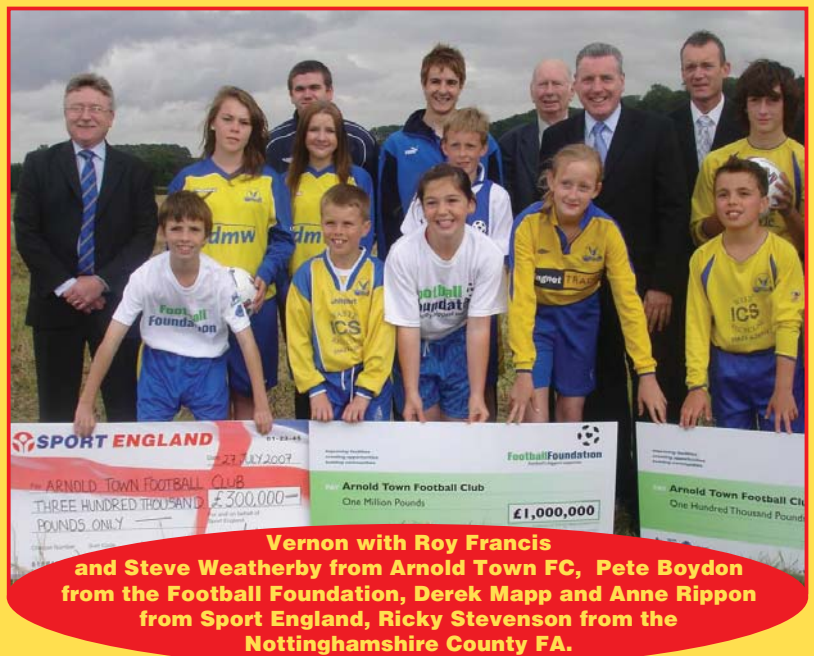
Investing in our community

Arnold Town Football Club have been awarded funding worth £1.4m to become a sporting hub in the Nottinghamshire community.

Vernon presented a cheque to the club in July at the site of the new sports complex, Eagle Valley, Oxtan Road, Arnold (adjacent to the A614/ B6386).

The club have been awarded £1 million from the Football Foundation, £300,000 as part of the Community Club Development Programme (CCDP) and a further £100,000 from the Football Stadia Improvement Fund (FSIF). CCDP is a Government funded scheme, managed by Sport England, to develop links between the country's leading junior clubs and their local communities.

The funding will provide a new six changing room pavilion with ancillary facilities, as well as five full size, three junior and two mini grass pitches on a new site.



Contact Vernon

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Visit Vernon on the Web



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