



BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES ON THE DEPUTY MAYOR OF BLACKPOOL

COUNCILLOR ALLAN MATTHEWS

2011-2012

Councillor Allan Matthews was born in Blackpool in May 1946 and educated at Waterloo Primary, where he is still Vice Chairman of Governors, and Tyldesley Secondary Modern School.

He started his professional career as an apprentice welder/engineer and then became a trainee butcher with the Co-op after the engineering company folded.

He started with the North West Gas Board, later to become British Gas, in 1965 and attended Preston College to obtain his City and Guilds in Gas Fitting.

He became a member of USDAW at the age of 15 and later joined the GMB, of which he has been a member now for 41 years and is now a retired life member.

Allan was elected on the Council on 8th May 1991 as a Councillor for Tyldesley Ward, the ward he still represents now.

Allan has served on the Planning and Transportation, Policy & Resources and Youth and Community committees and was chairman of the Policy Overview and Scrutiny Management committee.

He was Deputy Mayor of Blackpool in 2001-2002 when Councillor Sue Wright was Mayor and took on the position of first citizen of Blackpool for the Mayoral Year 2006-2007.

He became a member of the Blackpool Council of Youth in the early 60's and for many years chaired the Council's Youth Committee under the old committee system, and to this day his interest and commitment to the Youth Service is undiminished.

He was also Chairman of Blackpool Airport until the sale to a private company and he is the Council's representative on the Prince's Trust Blackpool & Fylde Committee.

His hobbies are Local History of Blackpool, especially Social History, and collecting old Blackpool film. In his younger days Allan was a keen cyclist and swimmer.

He married Angela at Holy Trinity Church 42 years ago, and they have four grown up boys and 3 grandchildren.

Angela was also born and educated in Blackpool. She studied Art & Design at Blackpool College and worked as a retail fashion window dresser and for C&A in Customer Services.

She is a magistrate and member of the Youth Panel of the Probation Liaison Committee and the Howard League for Penal Reform. Her interests are Criminology, Nature Conservation, Art, Genealogy, the NSPCC and Music.