

Mayor's Diary

Since my last diary submission in February, I have indeed been very busy, but not I hasten to add with Council business, as much as I have with my professional business, which has taken me back and forth to London several times, to Scotland, The Lake District, Switzerland, Norway, Finland, Denmark and Sweden. So, at times such as this it is a great help to be able to rely upon the fact that we have several other councillors and our Clerk, each of whom can and do more consistently give time and considerable effort to ensuring that the administration of Upton is taken care of.

As we head now towards the end of April and into May, this is the time of year that the Mayor either offers himself for a second year of office, or steps down, and in my case as my work commitments are increasing and presenting me with less time available to commit to Upton Town Council, without having to constantly make compromises to either council or job responsibilities, it is with some regret that I will be stepping down, especially as during the first year I think one spends so much time in learning to do the job of Mayor, and it's in the second that one can relax a little and enjoy the occasion in the knowledge that you're sufficiently experienced now to hopefully be getting it right more often!

That said, I can't completely wind down just yet, until the Civic Service, Annual Town Meeting and Folk Festival have each passed. So, to review what I've been involved with over the past couple of months, aside from a variety of less notable activities and lots of legwork in getting the Civic Service organised, here are some of the "highlights".

February 19th As predicted in my last diary, I did eat some of Mrs Bullock's delicious cake just prior to presenting awards to her and several of her fellow charity workers at the 21st anniversary of the Upton Branch of the Arthritis Research Campaign.

February 24th Meeting of Upton Town Council's Staffing Committee.

March 1st Meeting of Hall, Finance & General Purposes committee, which was preceded by a discussion with Police representatives on the subject of alcohol byelaws and the provision of alcohol free areas.

March 10th Meeting with the Rector to plan the order of service for the council's annual Civic Service, followed by a visit to a printer to organise the same.

March 15th Meeting and town tour with various representatives from County and District Council and other associated agencies to discuss the viability and potential to establish the 3rd phase of improvements along the riverside, from The Kings Head to The Swan. That evening I chaired the monthly Town Council meeting.

April 19th Monthly Town Council Meeting.

Mark Kerrigan, 18th April 2005.