

Mayor's Diary

As the newly elected town mayor for Upton, I thought I should start by introducing myself. I'm Mark Kerrigan and have been a town councillor in Upton now for 3 years, 2 of which as deputy mayor. I first moved to Upton from Twyning in 1995 and lived at Tunnel Hill for 8 years. I'm certainly looking forward to my year ahead as town mayor, supported by my wife Gloria, as mayoress. I anticipate that it may well be an eventful one given the many changes I expect to see during that term, not least a new town clerk who starts with us in July in anticipation of Mrs Beattie's retirement at the end of August, the building of the new viaduct, expansion of the marina, and I'm sure many other events major and minor.

I have listed below just some of the tasks that I've undertaken since taking office.

May 4th; Attended Annual Council Meeting, this being the occasion when councillors elect their mayor for the forthcoming 12 months, as well as deputy mayor, and chairmen and members of each committee. A meeting of the Finance, Hall & General Purposes Committee then followed.

May 13th; Meeting with Town Clerk at Memorial Hall to deal with various items of correspondence and to plan the agenda for the forthcoming monthly council meeting.

May 18th; Monthly Council Meeting at which we were fortunate to have three candidates present themselves for co-option to the town council. There being just one vacancy, a vote was undertaken, with the outcome being that Tim Perry became co-opted as our new town councillor.

May 25th; After experiencing the extreme traffic delays in town that morning as a result of new concrete bollards being placed at the bridge entrance, I called County Cllr Bob Bullock who responded immediately and by discussion with various parties they were painted to improve visibility and the gap between them widened.

May 28th; Meeting at Memorial Hall.

June 1st; Meeting with Colin Bayliss, our town caretaker, to welcome him back to work following a spell of illness.

June 2nd; Attended meeting at Malvern Police Station with various police, health and council officers to discuss the redesign and refurbishment works of the Hanley Road toilets.

June 8th; Attended Finance, Hall & General Purposes Committee meeting.

June 12th; Visited the Upton Community Care coffee morning, where I was made most welcome and introduced to most of their members in attendance, who undertake a variety of worthy tasks for the benefit of many Upton area residents.

June 17th; Meeting at Malvern Hills District Council with several district councillors and officers to discuss further the refurbishment progress with the Hanley Road toilets.

Mark Kerrigan.