

HTC/15/03

Hawkinge Town Council



Annual Report **2014/15**



In May 2013, I had the honour and privilege of being elected the Town Mayor of Hawkinge by my fellow Councillors and was overjoyed to be re-elected for another year at the beginning of this municipal year. Over the last eleven months the Mayoress and I have attended many functions both here in Hawkinge and in the local Towns where we have promoted Hawkinge and what Hawkinge has to offer. The Town Mayor's Charity has had a rather successful year. One of the most central events to take place to raise funds was the Mayor's "*Day Out*" which took visiting Mayors from right across Kent to visit but a few of Hawkinge's greatest assets. Fundraising has also taken place in the form of a quiz night that raised over £1,000. When it came to present the donations from the Mayor's Charity, there was over £4,700 to divide between some well-deserving local causes. I would like to thank the Mayoress, my fellow Town Councillors, our County Councillor Susan Carey and our District Councillors: David Godfrey, Stuart Peall and Philip Martin. Finally I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Town Clerk, Tina Wiles and her Assistants, Lynne Martin and Aston Mannerings for their support during the year.

Tony Hutt

Town Mayor of Hawkinge 2014-15

Meetings:

Over the course of the last twelve months, there have been eleven meetings of the full Council.

Regarding the two principal committees of the Council, the Finance and General Purposes Committee met on six occasions and the Planning and Development Committee met on fourteen occasions. The Planning and Development Committee viewed at least 39 applications and responded to the District council.

In addition, some Councillors represent the Town Council on outside bodies such as the Community Centre, the Village Hall Management Committee and the Hawkinge Community Football and Sports Trust. The Town Council wishes to acknowledge those Councillors who give their time in supporting these organisations.



Hawkinge Allotment Society:

The allotments in Stombers Lane are managed on behalf of the Town Council by the Hawkinge Allotment Society. The Society continues to go from strength to strength.

Hawkinge Community Football and Sports Trust:

The Sports Pavilion at the top of Pavilion Road off the A260 continues to be operated by the Hawkinge Community Football and Sports Trust. The administration of this Trust is handled by the Town Clerk and the Financial Assistant from the Town Council Offices based in the Community Centre and all enquiries regarding the site and bookings should be made to them.



The ground is home to the very successful Hawkinge Town Football Club and Hawkinge Youth Football Club, the latter of whom are partners with the Town Council on the Trust.

The Hawkinge Under 5s pre-school group have now been running a very popular service from the Pavilion for over a year.

Open Spaces:

The Town Council maintains five open spaces in Hawkinge under lease from Shepway District Council these sites being, The Green outside the Community Centre, Underwood, Haven Drive, Kettle Drive and Pannell Drive.





Multi-Use Sports Areas:

The Town Council continues to provide recreational facilities at different locations throughout Hawkinge. This is done through the existence of Multi-Use Sports Areas (MUSAs) off Pannell Drive and Kettle Drive.



For younger children of local residents there are also play areas provided by the Town Council on the same sites.



Annual Carol Service:

The Town Council held its annual Carol Service on 7th December in the Community Centre in partnership with Hawkinge Baptist Church with contributions from Churchill School and Hawkinge Primary School.

The music for the event was provided by the Folkestone Band of the Salvation Army.



The Community supported the event with somewhere in excess of 300 attending leaving only standing room in the Sports Hall. Plans are already under way to host a similar concert on 6th December 2015.

Hawkinge Village Hall:



The Town Council maintains its healthy working relationship with the Village Hall and its Management Committee. The Village Hall has supported the Town Council's Civic Functions, helping the Mayor raise funds for his charities. The Town Council will continue to build on its cooperation with the Village Hall for

the benefit of the people of Hawkinge.

The Future:

The recent Local Governance Review has come into effect and the Town Council elections in May transform the Town Council from nine members to thirteen. This includes the major change that individual Councillors represent the area of Hawkinge, or ward, for which they are elected and not the whole of Hawkinge. Furthermore, the Mayoral election also takes place at the first Council Meeting after the Local Elections.

The Town Council will continue to support and work with local groups and will maintain its efforts to preserve the way of life and improve the standards enjoyed by the residents of Hawkinge at present.