

TOWN COUNCIL **OF FRINTON AND WALTON**

TOWN MAYOR'S ANNUAL REPORT **2015/2016**

COUNCILLOR JACK ROBERTSON

Introduction

It has been a pleasure to serve the area as the Town Mayor. I have enjoyed the many events that I have attended during the year and the many people that I have met who give their time freely to run these events and help others in many ways. Following the elections in May 2015 we had some new Members elected and we welcome them as they settle in to their new roles.

Crime and Disorder

The Town Council has continued to work with our local Police Force in keeping crime and particularly anti-social behaviour to a minimum in our area, through the funding of six PCSO's and also through the regular Crime and Disorder Meetings which are held at the Council House. Local officers including the PCSO's, have achieved various initiatives to keep our crime very low in our towns and villages and many other areas within the County would be pleased to be able to report such low crime figures and good police liaison. This Council and moreover its residents have once again put their money where their mouth is and supported the police in our District. The Town Council are convinced that in these days of constant police cuts that our local PCSO's are invaluable, and we will continue to work with the local police to ensure that our area remains a low crime place to live and visit.

Seafront Shelters

The Town Council has carried out maintenance to the Seafront Shelters and is currently looking at the Clock Tower Shelter and the adjacent one at the bottom of Connaught Avenue for repairs and refurbishment. These two shelters have been vandalised on many occasions and if you see anyone vandalising the shelters please let the police know.

Columbine Centre

The Town Council is continuing to promote the Columbine Centre for local clubs to meet, a well-equipped theatre and an ideal wedding venue. Some very good and well attended events have taken place during the past year. Maintenance of the centre is an ongoing programme.

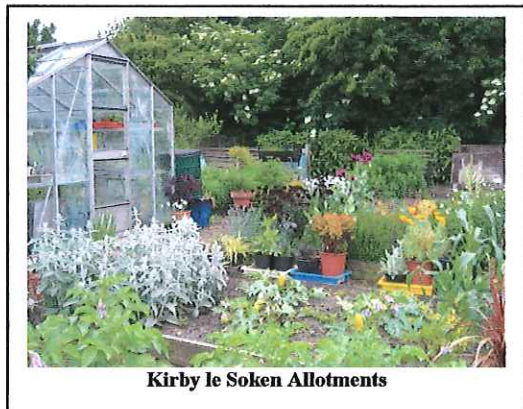
Financial Management

The Town Council received a clear audit as usual, this year. The value of our three-year rolling programme is also now apparent and, looking back, it is cheering to see that we have done most of what we said we would do and a bit more besides. The precept for this forth coming year is £387,895 (also in receipt of £43,293 Local Council Tax Support Scheme Grant from Tendring District Council).

Bus Shelters, Notice Boards and Public Seats

General maintenance takes place throughout the year and all bus and sea front shelters are thoroughly cleaned on a regular basis but unfortunately this is an on-going job as people misuse them.

Allotments



We currently have a small waiting list on all sites, so if you would like to be considered for a plot then just enquire at the Town Council office to get your name on the list for one of the sites. Fresh vegetables and keeping fit at the same time.

Website

Our website, hosted free of charge by the Essex County Council, is regularly up dated with minutes and agendas. The website address is: www.essexinfo.net/frinton-and-walton-town-council

There is a separate website address for the Columbine Centre and also one for the Walton Market which allows for interested stallholders to apply on line for a regular or occasional stall. This site also gives information on any extra days or events. Regular days are Thursdays year round and Mondays on Bank Holidays and every week from end of July to August Bank Holidays. There are some new stalls attending so why not pop along for some bargains. We had a visit from an Italian Market last year and it is hoped that this will be back for the late May Bank Holiday along with the normal market so well worth coming out to take a look.

Planning Applications

During the course of the year the Town Council has considered and made recommendations on 272 planning applications and Tree Preservation Orders. Of this number only 36 have been at variance with the decisions of the District Council.

Staffing

I would like to thank our staff for their work on your behalf during the past year. The Council House deals with many questions and queries from our residents on many matters not just Town Council issues. The office at the Triangle Shopping Centre is open from 9 am to 1 pm Monday to Friday.

Food Bank

I decided again this year rather than send out Christmas Cards to ask everyone at the Town Council to donate goods for the food bank. This was very successful once again and food bank organisers were very pleased with the collection just before Christmas.

Conclusion



I have enjoyed many Mayoral engagements throughout my year including the honour of prize giving at the annual Children's picture competition which was won this year by Erin Cosson.

I would like to thank Cllr Robert Bucke my Deputy Mayor this year and all other Members for their support.

Councillor J Robertson
Town Mayor