

About Wymondham

The newsletter of Wymondham Town Council



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Mayor's Christmas Message

When I wrote in the December 2020 edition of About Wymondham I spoke about how we were looking forward to 2021 with hope in our hearts. That hope ebbed away because in January we were plunged into a further lockdown and all our hopes for an end to the pandemic appeared to lay in tatters! Then came an enhanced and dedicated program of vaccinations, the like of which this country has never seen before. Finally by July all restrictions were lifted and people began to return to some form of normality, albeit with a great deal of trepidation as we learnt to return to a more familiar pattern of life.

Although life appears much better, we should not become complacent, for Covid-19 has not gone away; people are still having to live with the disease and sadly people are still losing their lives. There are still significant outbreaks on the continent so we must stay vigilant and be prepared to wear face coverings from time to time to protect ourselves and others.

In the world of local politics we saw a welcome return of in person meetings, which has enabled more interaction between councillors and participants and helped meetings to flow more easily compared to those held over Zoom. Whilst we were grateful to have the online technology to tide us through the lockdowns, there is in my opinion no substitute for meeting in person.

From July onwards public meetings were reinstated, many were rescheduled events originally postponed when Covid-19 struck and I can confirm that my diary filled very quickly with a stream of events in locations across the county. From mid-July until now, my wife and I have attended over 20 events, and we can honestly say that it has been wonderful to

participate and meet people again. We have made new friends, and these are people that we will continue to meet long after my mayoral term ends. I hope that many of you have shared similar experiences where you have been able to re-acquaint with your families and friends, and indeed make new friends as we have.

I was so pleased to finally be able to hold my Civic Reception in September, as this was also postponed from the original intended date of April 2020. It was a delight to be able to invite friends, family, fellow councillors, dignitaries and representatives of local organisations to meet and enjoy each other's company for a few hours.

Some of my greatest honours involved making presentations to others. I was fortunate enough to be able to present two civic awards; one to Mr Arnie McConnell for his tireless work to support lonely, disadvantaged and vulnerable people in the community, and one to Mr Philip Yaxley to recognise his services to Wymondham and his sterling efforts to preserve the history of our town.

Another honour was laying the wreath on Remembrance Sunday to commemorate all those from Wymondham and beyond who had served their country and paid the ultimate sacrifice; this is a day when the whole town comes together to remember and pay their respects to those brave men and women.

As always, I would like to thank my fellow councillors and Town Council staff for their support throughout the year, again we have endured some difficult times and I really appreciate all the help, support and guidance given. I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to my lovely wife, Sharron, who has supported me throughout year and been my consort at many functions.

Another vote of thanks needs to go to our NHS staff, who again had to cope with very difficult and testing times earlier this year. This also extends to all of those NHS staff and volunteers that have worked hard to deliver a first class vaccination program to protect us against Covid-19. I suspect this vaccination program will be continued for quite some time to give us the immunity we need.

I must also send a massive thank you to all the local volunteers and charitable organisations that helped us navigate through the pandemic. We can all learn from these wonderful people and apply some of their kindness to our everyday lives. Let us continue to keep an eye on our elderly neighbours, perhaps drop a Christmas card through their door with a short message and a phone number beneath the message to let them know they have someone to call on if they need help. Such thoughtful acts can mean so much to many people,

especially at Christmas.

I look forward to the remainder of my term of office, and still feel an immense sense of pride to be Mayor of this wonderful town. Please take care of yourselves and continue to look out for others. May I take this opportunity to wish every one of you a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year.

Cllr Kevin Hurn

Meeting dates – Council and Committees

The Town Council normally meets on the first Tuesday of each month with the Finance & General Purposes and the Leisure Environment Enterprise & Tourism Committees meeting on the third Tuesday, during alternative months. Planning applications are dealt with by the Planning, Lighting & Highways committee which meets on both the first and third Tuesdays monthly. Dates until April 2022 are set out below. The complete list is available on the Town Council's website with agenda being published seven days before the event giving starting times.

January

- 4th Planning Lighting & Highways followed by Town Council
- 18th Planning Lighting & Highways followed by Leisure Environment Enterprise & Tourism

February

- 1st Planning Lighting & Highways followed by Town Council
- 15th Planning Lighting & Highways followed by Finance and General Purposes

March

- 1st Planning Lighting & Highways followed by Town Council
- 15th Planning Lighting & Highways followed by Leisure Environment Enterprise & Tourism

April

- 5th Planning Lighting & Highways followed by Town Council
- 19th Planning Lighting & Highways followed by Finance and General Purposes

Civic Awards

Wymondham Town Mayor, Cllr Kevin Hurn bestowed two Civic Awards this year.

The first of the two Awards was awarded to Arnie McConnell at the Mayor's Civic Reception which took place in September this year. Arnie raises funds for a number of community projects, including The Community Kitchen, The Community Fridge and Help Point. These projects support families and individuals who are experiencing financial hardship and food poverty and tackle food waste in our society. In October 2019 Arnie was recognised by Norfolk Constabulary when he won a Community Citizen of the Year Award for his outstanding contribution in helping to keep Norfolk safe.

The second Award was presented to Philip Yaxley (pictured) who is a Wymondham born and bred local historian who founded, and is the longest serving member of, the Wymondham Heritage

Society. Philip has assisted the Wymondham Heritage Museum with displays and exhibitions and has written many publications for them. He has also been a Trustee of many other groups, societies and charities and has written numerous books about Wymondham. In 2000 Philip became one of the founding members of the Regal Experience Group to keep the Regal Cinema running for open days and special events at the Wymondham Ex Services Club.

It gave Cllr Hurn a great deal of pleasure to present both Arnie McConnell and Philip Yaxley with their well deserved Civic Awards.



Who are your councillors?

As a result of the elections in May 2019, and subsequent by-elections, the following have been elected to serve until the next Local Government elections in May 2023 (May 2025 for County Councillors), representing Wymondham on the county (NCC), district (SNC) and/or town councils.

Central

Mr R Elliott	07733002897	richard@topbarnnorfolk.co.uk	WTC
Mr R Savage	01953 603722	robert.savage@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk	WTC, SNC
Mr K Hurn	01953 798492	kevin.hurn.kh@gmail.com	WTC, SNC
Mr I Flatt	01953 603398	ianorchardflatt@hotmail.com	WTC
Ms K Carsok	07941 514766	kcarsok@gmail.com	WTC

East

Mr P Broome	01953 600829	pbroome.309@gmail.com	WTC
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North

Mrs Y Astley	07912 628095	yvette.astley72@gmail.com	WTC
Mr A Holden	01953 857316	tholden88@yahoo.com	WTC, SNC
Mr J Murrell	07504 695203	jordimurrell@hotmail.co.uk	WTC
Miss P Hubble	01953 604113	pennylibdem@gmail.com	WTC
Mrs K Cross	01953 606996	cllrkatheryncross@gmail.com	WTC
J Hornby	07778 385913	cllrjhornby@gmail.com	SNC

South

Mr J Halls	01953 600720	julian.halls@talktalk.net	WTC, SNC
Mrs A James	01953 605554	annettelibdem@gmail.com	WTC
Mrs S Nuri-Nixon	01953 601108	suzannelibdem@gmail.com	WTC, SNC

County councillors

Wymondham

Mr R Savage	01953 603722	robert.savage@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk	NCC
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Forehoe

D Elmer	07575 578972	daniel.elmer.cllr@norfolk.gov	NCC
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