



Eastwood Town Council
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EASTWOOD TOWN COUNCIL - MAYORS SPEECH ANNUAL TOWN MEETING 2019

How time flies - a year since being elected Mayor. I was surprised and honoured.

It's been a difficult year in many respects, but we seem to be on the mend at last. This is due to certain Members taking responsibility.

It was financially a very difficult year due to issues beyond the Council's control, and it has been necessary to streamline and examine each budget area in far greater detail than normal. However, due to the diligence of Members, the Town Council managed to agree a budget which required no increase in the Council tax for Eastwood Town residents – a great achievement in the current climate.

During the last year, the Town Council financially supported the Christmas Lights Switch-on, which, as usual was a great event, and even the terrible weather didn't manage to spoil the evening. They also organised the floral displays around the Town which made everywhere a lot brighter and welcoming. Our Garden Service carried out approximately 120 visits last year to assist elderly people with their gardens, and

this Service has already commenced in the current year. We also managed our wonderful allotments, which continue to thrive with a very high occupancy rate – thanks go to Ken Woodhead who is the Council's representative on the allotments and deals with any issues arising from the sites.

Last year over £2500.00 was given out in Section 137 Grants to local organisations to help them continue their great work in the Community.

I must also pay my compliments to those who assisted with the organisation of the Remembrance Day Parade and the 100th Anniversary of the ending of WW1 – particularly Dave Hallam who took on the massive responsibility of overall control of this event – a sterling effort – the turn out from the Residents of Eastwood was incredible and it was so amazing to see the Town come together for this important event.

I personally have attended thirty different functions as Mayor plus attended six Civic Services in various venues from Southwell Minster to the small church at Attenborough.

My own Civic Service was very well attended and I was complimented on the content – my thanks go to the Town Clerk and her Deputy for the help they gave. Also, not forgetting Revd David Stephenson - who continues to support the Town Council with it's events, and the local schools, whose contributions I think everyone agreed, were fantastic.

The functions I attended varied from visits to Spring Bank School, to the 'Dementia Experience' that I took part in at the Memory Café which will remain one of my most poignant memories.

I must also pay my compliments to Age Concern for the invites for dinners and the AGM, and also to Spring Bank School for the invitation to Christmas Dinner – one of 300 being served that day – the staff must have worked since dawn!!

I have very much enjoyed my year as Mayor and I wish the Town Council a very successful new Term!

Pat Hamilton
Mayor of Eastwood Town Council
2018/19

