

# Newbury Town Council

## Mayor's Report for Full Council Meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2016

Fellow councillors, ladies and gentlemen...

In the six weeks since the last Full Council meeting on 15 May 2016 (which was Mayormaking) my Mayoress and I have attended a total of 29 events on your behalf:

17/05/2016 - Unveiling of wheelchair swing in Victoria Park for NTC  
18/05/2016 - NTTA meeting  
19/05/2016 - Volunteer centre Befriending Scheme launch  
21/05/2016 – Newbury Spring Festival closing concert at St Nicolas Church  
22/05/2016 - Opening of Newbury Emporium  
24/05/2016 - St Nics C.E. Junior School - NACE Award and talk by Ed (34 marathons)  
27/05/2016 - Opening of Splash Park in Victoria Park  
27/05/2016 - Press launch of Truckfest South  
28/05/2016 - Opened Truckfest South  
29/05/2016 - Gave out Awards at Truckfest South  
29/05/2016 - Bayer 10k (started races, gave out medals and awards)  
02/06/2016 - High Sheriff Summer Reception  
03/06/2016 - Reception for Sir Peter Michael (unveiling of Newbury Coat picture)  
04/06/2016 - Coffee Morning in aid of Eight Bells for Mental Health  
07/06/2016 - West Berks Hospital QE90 Garden Party  
10/06/2016 - WBC Schools Cake Competition at Newbury College  
11/06/2016 - National Federation of Cemetery Friends AGM @ Phoenix Centre  
12/06/2016 - Picnic in the Park for Her Majesty's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.  
15/06/2016 - Time to Talk AGM  
17/06/2016 - Received Lord Lieutenant James Puxley at Kennet Radio  
18/06/2016 - Coffee morning in aid of 2<sup>nd</sup> Newbury Scouts  
18/06/2016 – Opened Priory Road Street party – (“a Space Jollity”).  
19/06/2016 - WBC Duke of Edinburgh Awards at St Barts School  
23/06/2016 - St Joseph's School 50th Anniversary buffet  
23/06/2016 - Trinity School House Speaking Competition  
24/06 2016 - Fairclose Day Centre Afternoon Tea to celebrate Her Majesty's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.  
25/06/2016 - AFC Newbury Boys and Girls Presentation Day  
26/06/2016 - Armed Forces Day parade and Service  
26/06/2016 - Lions Club of Newbury Charter Dinner

I won't list them all right now - not least because I don't want to send you all to sleep with a long list! - but there are a few highlights that I would like to mention.

Several of the events have involved students from primary and secondary schools, such as the Duke of Edinburgh awards and the National Association for Able Children in Education award to St Nicolas CE Junior School. It has been particularly inspiring for me to see first hand the amazing achievements of our next generations of Newbury citizens.

I'm delighted that Newbury Town Council has been able to augment the public facilities in Victoria Park with new play equipment, and it has been a particular pleasure to see the splash park being used.

Other highlights include opening TruckFest South by being driven around the showground arena on a monster truck, which was a lot of fun but slightly scary, too!

And the Armed Forces Day parade and service held last Sunday in the Market Place was a particularly dignified and moving ceremony – my thanks to all the councillors who supported the event.

Looking ahead, the mayor's diary for the next few weeks continues to be very full. One important event worthy of mention is next Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> July, when we will be holding a 12 hour vigil to commemorate the start of the Battle of the Somme 100 years ago.

If you are able to support the event by taking part in the vigil for an hour at some stage during the day, that would be very helpful and I'm sure Joyce would be pleased to hear from you.

Finally, looking ahead to the rest of this meeting and future full council meetings, let me assure you that I will of course be evenhanded in my chairing of our meetings but I will not let members speak out of turn or breach Standing Orders.

Standing Orders are very clear that each member may speak only once on any matter, and for a limited time. Generally speaking we have always been reasonably relaxed regarding that particular provision in our Standing Orders, and I see no reason to change that flexibility significantly, but I would like to see debates making progress rather than getting stuck on granular points.

So with this in mind, I would please ask you all to think about all of the points you want to make in each debate, make them all in your first speech. The Proposer of each motion does have a Right of Reply at the end of the debate and before the motion is put, but that Right of Reply does not extend to every member, and it is not a valid "point of order" to query or disagree with something that another member has just said.

Thank you very much, and I am of course happy to answer any questions.

**Julian Swift-Hook**

Mayor of Newbury

27<sup>th</sup> June 2016