



# EPPING TOWN COUNCIL Annual Report 2009-2010

## Town Mayor's Report

It's been a busy year. A constant stream of kind invitations from local charities and organisations has given me the privilege of participating fully in the town's life. I have met many kind local people who work hard for our town's welfare.

There is always a need for people to participate in the community, but it is encouraging to see so many activities available to residents. Sports like cricket, football, tennis, squash, golf, petanque, archery and bowls. Bands, choirs, dancing, arts and music societies also thrive. Special interest groups, many of which have charitable objectives, also enrich Epping.

Rotary once again provided major assistance in coordinating the many volunteers helping with the Christmas Lights. Increasing regulation and cost will force an early review of arrangements.

The Town Council continued to run important local services for Epping people like the recreation grounds and greens, cemetery, market, two public halls, allotments, seats, fingerposts, shelters and public toilets. Additionally, the completion of the Stonards Hill play area refurbishment and the planning of improvements to other play areas has kept Council busy.

The Town Show was a very successful event which drew local people together for a free day of fun. The year was rounded off with a very merry Christmas Market (with Santa's grotto courtesy of Epping's Fire Brigade) during which Council assisted St John's Church in staging its beautiful Christmas Tree Festival.

*Councillor Janet Hedges  
Town Mayor*

## List of Members

**Town Mayor**  
Mrs J Hedges

**Deputy Town Mayor**  
Miss O D Dunseath

### **Members**

Mr K Avey  
Mr E J Hines  
Mr J Lewis  
Mr R Macrae  
Mr B D Murphy  
Mr H Pegrum  
Mr J A Smith  
Miss M Starling  
Mr A Warner  
Mrs M-L Whitbread

**ANNUAL TOWN  
MEETING**

**FRIDAY  
12th MARCH 2010  
at 8 PM**

**EPPING HALL  
ST JOHN'S ROAD,  
EPPING**

**Planning and General Purposes Committee**      *Chairman : Cllr. K Avey*  
*Vice Chairman: Cllr J Lewis*      *Committee: Cllrs B Murphy; J A Smith; Miss M Starling; Mrs J Hedges (Town Mayor) ; Miss O D Dunseath (Deputy Town Mayor)*

Planning continues to be a very important issue for Epping's residents. Many local people want to see more accommodation but not many wish Epping's environment to change radically. An increasing number of decisions are made by technical officers of the Planning Authority (Epping Forest District Council) on the basis of nationally set criteria. Under the current planning system, local people and their elected representatives have increasing difficulty in trying to influence local development. The town council takes its responsibility to speak for local people very seriously.

In the period from May to January, Committee considered and commented on 102 applications (23 for new builds; 65 for alterations and 14 for work to protected trees). Although the town council is not the planning authority, it is a 'statutory consultee' and has the right to have its opinion heard by the decision making body. If the town council objects to a proposal the matter cannot be delegated to planning officers but will go forward for decision to a full planning committee. Between May and January the district council refused 10 of the 13 applications on which the town council had lodged objections. The district council also refused a further 5 applications to which the town council raised no objections.

Committee also responded on behalf of local people on 13 consultation requests including policies on Homelessness; East of England Plan; Gambling; Red telephone kiosks and parking.

*Councillor K Avey*

## **CONTACT THE TOWN COUNCIL**

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Email:  
info@eppingtowncouncil.gov.uk

Website:  
www.eppingtowncouncil.gov.uk

## **FUNCTIONS**

Recreation Grounds  
Statutory Planning Consultee  
Allotments  
Market  
Cemetery  
Community Halls  
Bus Shelters  
Seats  
Public Toilet

## **LIST OF OFFICERS**

**Town Clerk**

**& Responsible Finance Officer**

R C Whittome, BSc (Hons) *CertHE(Local Policy)*

**Finance Officer** - Mrs K. Harrigan

**Senior Administration Officer**

Mrs G. Ratcliff *CILCA*

**Committee Secretary**

Mrs D Kennedy-Fogg

**Administration Officer**

Mrs J Warner

**Recreation Manager & Market Superintendent**

- W Towers

**Groundsmen**

A P Clark, G J Lawson & M Patience

**Caretakers**

***Epping Hall:***

D Halliwell & Mrs J Tappenden

***Jack Silley Pavilion:***

P Morton

**FINANCIAL SUMMARY FOR 08/09 (APPROX) AND NET BUDGET FOR 10/11**

	Actual Net	Est Net	Net Exp		Est 09/10	Est 09/10
	Exp 08/09	Exp 09/10	Budget 10/11		Receipts	Payments
	£000's	£000's	£000's		£000's	£000's
Allotments	4	4	5		1	6
Public Toilet	6	6	6		0	6
Cemetery	2	9	9		27	36
Epping Hall	56	56	57		34	90
Interest	-7	0	0		0	0
Jack Silley Pavilion	-2	8	8		13	21
Market	-19	-11	-12		96	86
Miscellaneous	8	17	15		8	24
Recreation Ground	87	88	84		0	89
Administration	76	78	80		0	78
Stonards Hill	19	24	20		6	30
Capital	121	14	0		0	14
PWB Repayment	96	96	96		0	96
Grants	-30	5	5		0	5
Planning	15	15	15		0	15
to/from earmarked reserve	-66	20	31		111	42
<b>Total</b>	<b>371</b>	<b>430</b>	<b>418</b>		<b>197</b>	<b>638</b>
Precept	-360	-400	-410			
Net Expenditure	11	30	8			
			<b>Earmarked reserves at end of 09/10</b>			
<b>General Fund Balance</b>	<b>000's</b>					<b>000's</b>
09/10 b/f balance	129		<b>Capital Spending Fund</b>			12
+ Est Income 09/10	586		<b>Cemetery</b>			0.4
- Est Exp 09/10	596		<b>War Memorial</b>			0.2
balance c/f to 10/11	100		<b>Theydon Trust Loan</b>			9
			<b>Xmas Lights Assoc. Cap. Fund</b>			0.5
			<b>Asset Replacement</b>			44
			<b>Election fund</b>			3
			<b>Vandal contingency fund</b>			8

**COUNCILLORS'**  
**ATTENDANCE SUMMARY**

2009/10	Council		Planning & General Purposes		Corporate Governance Advisory	
	Actual	Possible	Actual	Possible	Actual	Possible
Avey, K	8	8	16	16	(1)	(1)
Dunseath, Miss O D	8	8	16	16	1	1
Hedges, Mrs J	7	8	12	16	0	1
Hines, E J	1	8	(0)	16	(0)	(1)
Lewis, J	5	8	11	16	(0)	(1)
Macrae, R	6	8	(0)	16	(0)	(1)
Murphy, B D	3	8	6	16	(1)	(1)
Pegrum, H	6	8	(0)	16	1	1
Smith, J A	7	8	15	16	(1)	(1)
Starling, Miss M	4	8	6	16	(0)	(1)
Warner, A	6	8	(0)	16	(0)	(1)
Whitbread, Mrs M-L	4	8	(0)	16	(0)	(1)

*Notes: Numbers in brackets indicate not a member of that committee*

*Meetings included from 19th May 2009 to 15th December 2009*