

EPPING TOWN COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2013/14



ANNUAL TOWN MEETING, Friday 30th May 2014, 8pm
Epping Hall, St John's Rd, Epping CM16 5JU

TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT

The question I suspect every Mayor is most commonly asked is 'Have you enjoyed it?'. Without hesitation, I respond to such enquiries with an enthusiastic 'Yes'. Given the opportunity, I will then go on to describe what a great privilege it is to represent a town as special as Epping, which is home to so many decent and generous people, working selflessly for the good of the community. Epping remains the attractive, vibrant and welcoming place it is thanks to all those who freely give their time to improve the lives of others. As Mayor it has been my great pleasure to meet a small number of them.

2013-14 was another successful year for Epping Town Council. The Town Show on July 7th enjoyed glorious weather and a bumper attendance; the toilets in the Cottis Lane car park were finally refurbished and reopened; the Christmas market again created a wonderful festive atmosphere and attracted large numbers of people; the road-facing benches on the Town Green were

turned around to look into the Green, and a blue plaque scheme was launched to commemorate notable former residents, buildings and events from Epping's long and proud history. All this, and more, was achieved without increasing the Town Council's share of residents' Council Tax, and whilst maintaining the Council's healthy finances.

Finally, one unusual distinction I had as Mayor in 2013-14 was to be the first to work with three Town Clerks. Ash Tad-jirshi left in June, with Bob Whittome returning on a temporary basis until Alan Shaw joined the Council in October. Alan has done a tremendous job in his short time in the role and is a great asset to the town. I thank him, and my fellow councillors, for all they do for Epping.

Will Breare-Hall, Town Mayor

Town Mayor:
Mr W Breare-Hall

Deputy Town Mayor
Mrs B Scruton

Members:
Mr K Avey
Mr N Avey
Mr L Burrows
Mr A Church
Mrs J Hedges

Mrs L Hughes
Mr H Pegrum
Mr J A Smith
Mr J Whitehouse
Mr M Wright

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Planning Committee has examined 160 Planning and tree applications in the past year. Objections have been made where we feel that a proposal will be detrimental to either neighbours or to the Town. I am pleased to note that the District Council has agreed with our views in 103 cases and in a further 19 cases applications have been withdrawn. The Town Council is the only statutory consultee whose role is to represent the views not of the wider area but exclusively of the town of Epping and we have opposed any development that threatens our green spaces or our historic buildings, whilst supporting development that enhances the economic prospects for the town. We continue to be fully engaged in the local plan process and will do everything in our power to safeguard the unique character of our town during the final stages of the plan. I am also pleased to report that we have moved to electronic presentation of planning applications which has enabled members to examine applications in more detail and make more informed decisions.



Michael Wright, Chairman
Planning & General Purposes Ctte

Members

Mr M Wright (Chairman),
Mr N Avey (Vice-Chairman),

Mr K Avey,
Mr L Burrows,
Mr A Church,
Mrs J Hedges,
Mrs J Hughes,
Mr J A Smith,

Town Mayor (ex-officio),
Deputy Town Mayor (ex-officio)

Recreation Grounds/Play Areas:
(Stonards Hill, Ivy Chimneys, Lower Swaines, Frampton Rd, Brook Rd, Parklands.)
Epping Market
Bakers Lane Toilets
Epping Cemetery
Community Halls
Allotments
Street Furniture:
(Bus Shelters, Seats, Notice Boards, Town Signs, Finger Post Signs)
War Memorial
Maintenance of Town Greens
Christmas Lights
Town Magazine
Statutory Consultee for Planning & Highways matters within the Town

Council Officers

A Shaw – Town Clerk

Mrs K Harrigan – Finance Officer
Mrs G Ratcliff – Senior Admin Officer
Mrs D Kennedy-Fogg – Committee Sec.
Mrs J Warner – Admin Officer (Events)

W Towers – Recreation/Market Manager
A Clark – Groundsman
G Lawson – Groundsman
M Patience – Groundsman

B Jones – Caretaker (Epping Hall)
Mrs J Tappenden – Caretaker (Epping Hall)
P Morton – Caretaker (Jack Silley Pav.)

Contacting the Council

Epping Hall, St John's Rd, Epping
CM16 5JU

Tel: 01992 579444 Fax: 01992 579446
email: info@eppingtowncouncil.gov.uk
web: www.eppingtowncouncil.gov.uk

twitter: @eppingtown
facebook:
www.facebook.com/epping.towncouncil
blog: <http://eppingtown.wordpress.com/>

COUNCILLORS' ATTENDANCE SUMMARY 2013/14

Numbers in brackets indicate Cllr not a member of Committee but was in attendance

Councillor	COUNCIL		PLANNING		OTHER §	
	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned
Avey, Ken	9	12	17	24	2	
Avey, Nigel	11	12	18	24		
Breare-Hall, Will	12	12	17	24	5	6
Burrows, Les	10	12	21	24	1	2
Church, Tony	10	12	15	24	1	2
Hedges, Janet	9	12	17	24		
Hughes, Lynn	9	12	20	24	2	2
Pegrum, Hugh	10	12	(5)	24	2	2
Scruton, Barbara	11	12	21	24	6	6
Smith, John Alan	12	12	21	24		
Whitehouse, Jon	12	12	(14)	24	2	1
Wright, Michael	9	12	20	24		

§ Corporate Governance Advisory Committee, Epping Eppingen Committee, Tour de France Committee

FINANCIAL SUMMARY FOR 13/14 (Estimate) & NET BUDGET FOR 14/15

<i>All figures are provisional, rounded to nearest hundred and subject to audit</i>	Actual Net Expenditure 2012/13 (£000s)	Actual Net Expenditure 2013/14 (£000s)	Total Receipts 2013/14 (£000s)	Total Payments 2013/14 (£000s)	Budgeted Net Expenditure 2014/15 (£000s)
Admin	89	85.4	0	85.4	92.4
Grants	4.9	-6	12	6	5.3
Events & Pubs	24.6	29.8	4	33.8	33
Epping Hall	48.5	67.6	32.2	99.8	61.7
Jack Silley	14.3	1	19.8	20.8	8.9
Market	88.1	-6.1	89.5	83.3	-7.4
Cemetery	-1.4	2.8	34.8	37.6	2.9
Parks & Rec	104.3	110.1	6.8	116.9	106.9
Toilets	4.8	9.2	0	9.2	10.7
Allotments	4.8	2	2	4	5
Street Furniture	2	0.3	0	0.3	2.8
War Memorial	0	0	0	0	0
Council as Land-	-3	0.46	3.8	4.3	-3.6
Council as Tenant	0.5	0.4	0	0.4	0.5
Earmarked Re-	0	42.4	0	42.4	40
Transfers	18	0	0	0	20
PWB Repayment	96.3	96.3	0	96.3	96.3
PWB Loan	-100	0	0	0	0
Other Income	-0.9	-40.2	40.2	0	-33.9
Precept	-434.2	-402.4	402.4	0	-404.8
Net Expenditure	-39.4	-6.94	647.5	640.5	36.7
13/14 b/f Balance		181.7	Stonards Project		0
+ Estimated Income 13/14		646.5	Capital Spending Fund		33.7
- Estimated Exp 13/14		632.3	Vandalism Contingency		20
Balance c/f to 14/15		215	War Memorial		2.8
			Election Fund		7.5
			Xmas Lights Fund		0
			Asset Replacement		82.3

§ Heading includes spending on War Memorial.