



NORMANTON TOWN COUNCIL

Annual Report 2014/15

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Mayor of Normanton's Overview

Councillor Keith Wilson, JP

My Mayoral year is now at an end and what a great year it has been. I was honoured to be selected as Mayor and I have endeavoured to do justice to the position throughout the year.

I saw my role as Mayor to promote both Normanton and Altofts by attending various Mayoral engagements both within our town and beyond, together with (on many occasions) my wife Wendy who ably lent her support.

It has been a very busy year having acted in my Mayoral role on over 100 occasions. The highlights throughout the year were many and rewarding, these included:

Visits to most of our residential care homes and sheltered housing schemes, at all these visits Wendy and I were given fantastic welcomes. I also visited Mrs Pritchard at her home on the day of her 100th birthday. It was really nice to see her surrounded by several generations of her lovely family, all enjoying the celebration.

Our Gala weekend as always was a great success. It was pleasing to see so many people lining the parade route starting in Altofts all the way to the park. Visiting Mayors from other Yorkshire towns couldn't help but be impressed by the event.

One of the largest events of its kind in the country is Yorkshire Day held on the 1st August. On this special occasion all the Civic heads and dignitaries don their Mayoral robes and chains to network and parade through the chosen Yorkshire town to celebrate what being Yorkshire means to so many people.

2014 being a very special year to mark 100 years since the outbreak of the 1st World War was commemorated by a Festival of Remembrance at Nostel Priory and then a few days later at our service in Haw Hill Park and at the memorial at Altofts. Our own services were supported by the record attendance of local residents and others in much greater numbers than at any other town within the district – which was very pleasing.

The run up to Christmas was one of my busiest periods when I watched our school children presenting their Nativity plays before supporting audiences of family and friends. At our annual Schools Carol Concert held at All Saints Church, children sang carols to a packed audience. They also enjoyed seeing Santa after Yvette and I switched on the Christmas Lights.

Cutting ribbons to mark the opening of our all new Lidl supermarket and at a service to celebrate the restoration of the war memorial at Haven Lodge were both an enjoyable part of my Mayoral duties.

Easter was a very special time – during this period I met and spoke with over 2500 of our school children when I delivered and presented certificates and prizes relating to our Easter Colouring Competition. The smiling faces and warm welcomes made these visits one of the highlights of the year.

All in all it has been a very memorable year mainly due to the wholehearted support that our community gives by turning out to enjoy the very many attractions and events that Normanton Town Council provides for them.

I would like to thank my colleagues and the staff in the office for their assistance and support during the year. I wish my successor Councillor Denton Jones all the very best for his year in office.

I shall of course continue as a councillor having recently been re-elected for a period of 4 years. I am now looking forward to the committee work of the council that a Mayor is unable to participate in during their year of office.

The Work of the Town Council

Mrs Donna Johnston MILCM, Town Clerk & RFO

During the last twelve months the Town Council has continued to provide a high standard of events for the people of Normanton and Altofts. All of these events are provided free of charge and give families an opportunity to enjoy activities in their own area.

This year we have further developed our events to ensure that they continue to be relevant and attract a family audience.

Events this year include: Shopping Week and Family Fun Day; Commonwealth Day; Party @ Haw Hill Park; Normanton Gala and Gala Sunday; Including free funfair for children with special needs, bowls competition, Talk and Slide Show, History Walk and the Macmillan Coffee Morning. Horticultural Show; Christmas Lights Switch On; Children's Christmas Party; Schools Carol Service; Christmas Celebration with Normanton Lions and Churches Together.

In addition to these events, we also held a number of Civic events including: Armed Forces Day; Civic Sunday; Remembrance Sunday.

We have continued to work closely with local Schools, and provide them with an opportunity to learn about the Town Council by offering visits to the Town Council Offices. The Schools visits in 2014 were supplemented with a Power Point presentation which highlighted the history of the Town Council as well as the services that are provided. Our Committees have continued to work hard throughout the year in line with their Terms of Reference.

The Consultative Group in particular have met to consider a wide range of issues affecting the local area including:

West Yorkshire Trading Standards Safer Scheme;
Streetscene – Household Waste Collection charges;
First Responders;
Metro; and
Homestart.

We already have meetings scheduled to the end of 2015 with a variety of speakers who will present topics of interest to the people of Normanton and Altofts.

We have fought hard against threats to services including Butterflies Children's Centre, Homestart

and the increased hire charges at the Alice Bacon Centre.

We have worked with Wakefield MDC to promote Normanton Market to make it an attractive place to shop and have organised a number of Second Hand Markets which have been very successful.

We have continued to provide assistance to residents when they face issues and they don't know where to turn for advice. This has included acting as liaison with other agencies to ensure that residents' concerns are highlighted. We have continued to provide funding for Citizens Advice Bureau and also offer Bereavement Counselling. During early 2015 we have become referrers for the Food Bank and have already issued 5 vouchers to people in crisis from the Normanton area.

The Woodhouse Community Centre has provided a venue for an Information Day in October. Several organisations attended this event which was free for the public to attend. The building has also been further renovated making it an attractive and pleasant place to meet.

The Town Council has provided some additional services in 2014-15 including the Winter Floral Displays and the Town Guide which was delivered to every house in Normanton and Altofts setting out what Normanton has to offer.

The Mayor has worked throughout the year to raise the profile of Normanton throughout the District and beyond. My best wishes to Councillor Keith Wilson and his wife Wendy as they enjoy some well-earned rest and to Councillor Denton Jones who will take over as Mayor for the fifth time in 2015/16.

As this is an Election Year, I would like to thank those Councillors who I have worked with since 2011 who are no longer sitting around the table for a number of reasons. I have enjoyed the last four years and have learnt so much from the Councillors who give up their time, unpaid, for the benefit of the community of Normanton and Altofts.

Normanton Town Council YEAR END 2014/15

Income and Expenditure Account for Year Ended 31st March 2015

31st March 2014		31st March 2015
	Operating Income	
196,606	Administration	201,625
0	Town Hall	0
0	Civic	0
21,667	Grants & Donations	0
2,885	Woodhouse Community Centre	2,900
5,870	Special Projects	6,465
14	Allotments - General	71
480	Allotments - Cypress Road	460
100	Allotments - Edward Street	200
1,830	Allotments - Ellins Terrace	1,720
75	Allotments - Gilcar Street	45
1,210	Allotments - Gladstone Street	1,170
1,095	Allotments - Heys Buildings	945
690	Allotments - Newland Lane	670
560	Allotments - Norwood Street	565
25	Allotments - The Grove	15
1,605	Allotments - Wentworth Terrace	1,325
<hr/> 234,712 <hr/>	Total Income	<hr/> 218,175 <hr/>
	Running Costs	
93,236	Administration	107,588
16,289	Town Hall	20,775
7,508	Civic	9,719
7,865	Grants & Donations	7,727
5,325	Advertising & Promotions	5,391
10,868	Woodhouse Community Centre	7,484
39,373	Special Projects	46,447
992	Allotments - General	834
180	Allotments - Cypress Road	292
937	Allotments - Ellins Terrace	1,012
0	Allotments - Gilcar Street	0
976	Allotments - Gladstone Street	1,559
500	Allotments - Heys Buildings	87
720	Allotments - Newland Lane	481
108	Allotments - Norwood Street	353
1,570	Allotments - The Grove	1,549
3,288	Allotments - Wentworth Terrace	2,869
<hr/> 189,737 <hr/>	Total Expenditure	<hr/> 214,168 <hr/>
	General Fund Analysis	
113,429	Opening Balance	158,405
234,712	Plus : Income for Year	218,175
<hr/> 348,142		<hr/> 376,580
189,737	Less : Expenditure for Year	214,168
<hr/> 158,405		<hr/> 162,412
0	Transfers TO / FROM Reserves	0
<hr/> 158,405 <hr/>	Closing Balance	<hr/> 162,412 <hr/>

Normanton Town Council

Budget 2015/16

	£ p
Expenditure	
1) Cemeteries & Crematoriums	0
2) Sport & Recreation	0
3) Parks & Open Spaces	0
4) Allotments	12,000
5) Community Centres & Village Halls	4,950
6) Libraries	0
7) Markets	0
8) Administration	31,270
9) Salaries & Wages	73,600
10) Contribution to Reserves	
11) Other (Please State)	
Accommodation	17,500
Events and Floral Displays	54,100
Grants and Donations	8,900
Promotion & Communication	6,400
Elections & Civic Expenses	15,770
Total Expenditure	224,490
Income	
1) Fees and Charges	16,490
2) Contribution from Reserves	
3) Other (Please State)	
Total Income	16,490
TOTAL PRECEPT (Expenditure - Income)	208,000



CONTACT DETAILS

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