

Report from The Mayor October 2017

It has been a while since my last report due to the summer break, holiday season and special meetings to discuss the Local Plan. Here is a brief outline of just some of my activity:

Events and Civic Duties attended include:

- Bungay Street Market – Antiques Fair
- Mettingham Church fundraising lunch, a very well supported event that raised a substantial amount of money.
- A celebration to mark 25 years of Bungay Library in it's current premises and welcome it's new patron Sir Laurie Magnus. Again, incredibly well attended with great food and very interesting company.
- Beccles Civic reception
- Dementia Friend Event at Fisher Theatre
- Cinema and Create first session.
- Bungay Civic Service - £188.50 raised for Suffolk User Forum
- Lighting Lunch in aid of Christmas Lights
- Woodbridge Civic Service
- Made Honorary member of The British Lions

Meetings:

Mick and I met with Liz Casey, our local inspector to talk to her about specific issues we are facing in the town: ASB, speeding, parking and lack of police presence.

Liz confirmed that we would soon be getting a new PC, Dan Morse, as a shared resource with Beccles. Dan's area of expertise is ASB and had been recruited in acknowledgement of the spate of incidents in both Beccles and Bungay.

Liz was interested to hear about our plans for CCTV and promised to speak with Mark Kerridge regarding our signage / parking problems. She also suggested that her next police meeting may be held in Bungay. Still waiting confirmation of this.

Raised issue that it was almost impossible to get through to 101 to report non-urgent crime.

I also met with the new PC - he seems enthused and committed to halting the increased ASB Bungay has experienced over the past few months by a small group of youngsters.

I was asked to meet with a Bungay resident regarding parking problems in and around Bungay, all areas of concern were already on BTC's radar – these need revisiting with David Ritchie as MK is no longer in post.

Gordon Knowles' family asked if I could get involved to try and bring Gordon back to Bungay – he recently had a stroke and was in the JP Hospital with no

spare nursing beds in Bungay and a funding gap to negotiate. I have met with the family several times, as has Sue Collins, to offer support and establish where we could best help them.

Many phone calls to social workers and nursing homes later, Sue very kindly attended a meeting to discuss Gordon's future care plan on behalf of the family. I have managed to secure £96/week ongoing care grant from The Printers Charity and after several calls to All Hallows, found out last week that Gordon's care needs are being assessed over the weekend and hopeful Gordon will be moved back to Bungay asap. Fingers crossed.....

A couple of dates for the diary:

Remembrance Service on Sunday 12th November at 2pm (not 3pm)

The Town Dinner is being held on 1st December at The Fisher Theatre it would be good to see this supported by the members of BTC – tickets from the theatre from 1st November.