

## **Meet Your New Mayor and Deputy Mayor**

At the Council's Annual Meeting on May 15<sup>th</sup> the Council appointed its new Mayor and Deputy Mayor for 2017/18



**Councillor Mary Matthews – the Mayor of Bungay**

I have lived in and around Bungay for over 20 years - a working mum with two teenage children and a hugely supportive husband! A few years ago, I joined the Bungay Chamber of Trade as Events Co-ordinator, organising the annual street markets and actively promoting our historic town.

This experience made me more passionate about Bungay, made me think about being more involved with the community and prompted me to stand for election onto the Town Council in March 2016

I'm a good listener and have a wealth of experience working with people. I place importance on collaborative working to fulfil the needs of our entire community. I'm an action taker who likes to get things done.

I am fully committed to our wonderful, unique town. I want to ensure it flourishes, grows and our community is well served by your local council. I am incredibly proud to have been elected to the council and look forward to meeting and talking to residents over the next year.

'I am incredibly proud to take the position as Mayor and look forward to working as a collaborative, progressive and united council who are forward, rather than backward facing.

I think that it is important that in order to fulfil this, and I include myself, all personal politics and agenda are left at the chamber door in order to do the best for our community'



**Councillor Mick Lincoln – Deputy Mayor**

I became a town councillor in 2016 after having lived in and around the town for over 30 years. In my professional life, I was a teacher both in Bungay and Beccles and I ended my career by retiring from the headship of one of the Lowestoft High Schools. As some of you reading this will know, retirement gives you a chance to do many of the things you might have put off whilst working. In my case I have taken up one new interest – golf (which I play very badly but enjoy a great deal).

Over the last 20 years of living in Bungay itself I have grown more and more attached to the town and retirement has also given me the time to become a councillor and, I hope, to put the skills which I have developed in my life to the service of the town and all of its people.

It would be true to say that my first year as a councillor has involved a steep learning curve seeing how the council operates, what it can do and what it can exert influence on others to do. Obviously, the job is to do the very best that is possible for the town and its people. I believe that Bungay is a great place to live but I know also that it has so much potential to be even better.

I am particularly interested in what Bungay has to offer its young people and I expect as a councillor to be involved in this aspect of our town. For me Bungay is a fantastic place to live but I can understand why, perhaps, some young people would not see it that way. I hope that as a town councillor I can be involved in developments for younger people and children.