

## **Chairman's Announcements**

May I welcome on your behalf those Honorary Aldermen who have graced us with their presence today: Honorary Alderman Michael Woodhall. Thank you for your support.

And I would also like to say how good it is to see Cllr Peter Edgar back in the Chamber. It is great to have you back.

Members, you have received a list of the engagements your Vice Chairman and I have attended on your behalf, some of the highlights that I wish to mention are:

### **Sebastian Trust**

As many of you know, Sebastian's Action Trust supports many Hampshire families who have a child with a life limiting or life threatening illness. Much of this support is provided at The Bluebells, a unique family respite holiday home in North Waltham just south of Basingstoke. Cllr Robert Taylor kindly invited me to visit The Bluebells on the 29 June. The leisure and therapeutic facilities are out of this world. This certainly is a place for love, laughter, memory making and relaxation.

### **Suffragette Movement**

The Chairman was presented with a beautiful wreath by Hampshire MP's, Maria Miller, Caroline Nokes and Mims Davies on Sunday 15 July at Queen Eleanor's Garden to commemorate the 100 year anniversary when women finally won the right to vote.

The Representation of the People Act came into effect on the 6 February 1918 and meant that women over 30 who owned property could at last have their say. It was a right that was fought for and won by the suffragette movement; a movement that began in Manchester. Its leader was Emmeline Pankhurst, she was born on the 15 July and would have been 160 years old.

### **Civic Day**

As your Chairman, I hosted a Civic Day on the 5 September so the civic dignitaries of Hampshire could see and experience two of our exceptional country parks – Royal Victoria Country Park and Manor Farm. These two parks are well worth a visit.

I would also like to put on record my thanks to the Country Park team, in particular Jo Heath and Paul Del-a-More, for all their hard work in making this day so informative and enjoyable.

### **40 Year Long Service**

One of the most rewarding of my tasks was to host two tea parties, to honour staff that have completed their 40 years of dedication and service for the benefit of the people of Hampshire.

### **Congratulations**

Cllr Kirsty North (née Locke)

I would like to take this opportunity of congratulating Cllr Kirsty Locke on her recent marriage. Kirsty will now be known as Cllr North.

## **Deaths**

I regret to announce the death of Honorary Alderman Edith Randall. Edith represented Totton from 1977 to 1981, Totton South from 1981-1993 and again from 1997-2005.

If any Councillor would like to say a few words please indicate now.

If there are no further tributes, please stand for one-minute's silence in memory of Edith.

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