

The Annual Meeting of the Town of Heanor and Loscoe held on Thursday 18 May 2023

Present: Councillor E Hamilton (Mayor), N Beswick, S Bower, C Cox, J Edge,
C Emmas-Williams, E Hamilton, M Howard, T Holmes,
A Jones, P Jones, C Neale and J Ward.

Also present: Four members of public.

001 Apologies

No apology for absence was received.

002 Minutes

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Annual Heanor and Loscoe Town meeting held on Tuesday 12 May 2022, be confirmed as a correct record, and signed by the Mayor.

003 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

005 Financial Statement

The Town Council year-end accounts for 2022/23 have been finalised. They show a net asset balance of £394,848.50.

The Town Council continue their tenancy agreement with Derbyshire Dales Citizen Advice for Units 3, 4 and 5 on the lower level of the Town Hall, the Service Level Agreement with Groundwork Greater Nottingham for the maintenance of The Red River Local Nature Reserve and the Service Level Agreement with Derby and Burton NHS Trust which secures their hire of The Old Fire Station for the provision of a regular phlebotomy service.

The summer planting and Christmas lighting scheme both, again, proved very popular with our residents and visitors to the area. Neighbouring Parishes and Towns contacted us to praise the Christmas lights.

The Town Council provided £5,850 in funding to several local organisations.

A number of projects were taken from balances this year, namely: St. Lawrence's church lights, sport sessions on Lockton Park, street name plaques, visual/audio equipment at The Wilmot Street Centre, sponsorship of twelve individuals to attend Belper Youth Festival and the Henry Garnet Fireworks event at Heanor Town Football Club.

Both the Town Hall and The Wilmot Street Centre showed an increase in revenue, contributing to an income 20K in excess of the budgeted amount. Expenditure was very much in line with the projected budget.

The precept for 2023/24 has been set at £265,405.

005 Mayor's Report by Councillor Eileen Hamilton

This past year has seen moments of joy and of sadness. The joy was when we celebrated Queen Elizabeth II 70th year on the throne, her Platinum Jubilee, and the sadness of her death a few months later.

To commemorate the Jubilee the Town Council provided a pin badge for all primary school children in the area. I had the privilege of delivering these badges to the schools and attended many school assemblies and garden parties. I had a thoroughly enjoyable time meeting the future generation.

The Town Council also decorated the town with bunting. Various venues and streets held afternoon teas to celebrate the occasion including one on the memorial park.

The death of the Queen was a more solemn affair and the Town Council opened up a book of remembrance for residents to offer their condolences and share their thoughts, this was sent on to Buckingham Palace. Various church services were held, and I attend these and the Proclamation of the new King.

The bunting is again in place to celebrate the crowning of the new King Charles III and events are again being held to celebrate this. The Council has again issued all the primary school children with a pin badge to commemorate the Coronation.

The Town Clerk represented the Council at a church service to celebrate the coronation and throughout the year I attended various Civic functions and community events including the Gregg Cup.

The flower baskets again brightened up the town centre and were greatly appreciated by the residents.

Yet again we held a very successful Christmas lights switch on event. Enjoyed by the thousands of residents and visitors to the area who attended, and many emails were received praising our Christmas light displays and fireworks.

The phlebotomy service in The Old Fire Station continues to be a success, consistently used to nearly full capacity. The Town Hall and Wilmot Street are also appreciated by the community as useful meeting places bringing welcome income to the council.

The 'Fallen' sculpture, a tribute to the people who perished in the Second World War, has finally been erected in Heanor Memorial Park and an unveiling will take place soon.

What of the future

We start the new Civic year with a new council, and I would like to welcome all of you to Heanor and Loscoe Town Council

Work on the Charles Hill development has finally started, and the Market place development is at the consultation stage. Preparatory work has also begun on the Grammar School redevelopment.

I would like to thank the Deputy Mayor Cllr Kieran Hill, the Leader of the Council Cllr Paul Jones and the Deputy Leader Cllr Celia Cox for their help and support

I would like to thank all of the past Councillors for the support that they have given to Heanor and Loscoe Town Council. Many of them helped out at the Remembrance service and Lights Switch on risking life and limb, controlling the traffic.

My very special thanks go to our Town Clerk, Laura and our Deputy Clerk, Kerry for their help and guidance to all of us but especially to me over the past year which has been invaluable.

006 Public Comment

No comment.

007 Any Other Business

There being no other business raised, the Mayor thanked those present for their presence and closed the meeting at 6.40pm.