



MAYOR'S REPORT TO COUNCIL – NOVEMBER 2024

It has been such an eye-opening couple of months really getting to see some of the really wonderful things our town gets up to and so many dedicated amazing people our community has. I have been to over 35 meetings or events since last council and have thoroughly enjoyed them all.

I have been to many AGM's; my favourite must be meeting the wonderful people at Whitmore Vale House with a gentleman called Peter being a highlight. Peter who has lived his life with Down syndrome is Whitmore Vale's public transport champion. Peter will tell you which bus or which train you need to get, including times or even a platform number to most destinations within Surrey & Hampshire. He also told me that the two bumpiest bus routes are the Haslemere to Godalming route & Guildford to Aldershot.

Haslemere Food Festival was a successful event with many stalls serving some delicious food. It was also great that a stall was provided for the Town Council, so thank you to those who helped us have a presence for the day.

The Haslemere's Sport awards was a great event, and an honour to hand out an award and a council grant to some young, and hopefully soon to be very successful, athletes.

I have noticed that the Haslemere Museum is a big beating heart in our community holding so many events and housing so many good causes, Like the Cards for Good Causes which I attended the launch of in mid October. I urge anyone needing some Christmas cards, to pop along and have a look.

In addition to this the Haslemere Museum Halloween Trail, RNLI 200th Anniversary exhibition, Haslemere's Art Society Exhibition were all held at the Museum.

The pre-launch of the Community Fridge and regular meetings with the Chamber of Commerce are important diary dates.

I am a very proud Mayor, and an even prouder member of our community, and it was an honour to represent the town on Remembrance Sunday as it remembered the men and woman who dedicated their lives to our country and armed forces.

As Mayor you suddenly become aware of how much hard work and effort goes into to organising these sorts of events. Our thanks must go out to our wonderful Town Hall Team, Lisa, Pippa, Jo, Jo & Martin who made the service go without hiccup. This year it was also amazing that so many councillors were involved, either in the town or in their own parishes. Lastly a thank you to all of our Churches (in particular St Barts) and the British Legion team who have all dedicated so much time and effort into the last month or so, and how could I possibly forget to thank, one of the loudest voices in our Country, our very own Town Crier Christian?

The Youth Centre working party has met a couple of times since the last update to council. In October, I attended a meeting at Waverley along with Cllr Robini and the Clerk, to put forward the items agreed by Council back in September. These were well received, and we will continue to work with Waverley to find the best solution for the town's youth. We are awaiting the results of WBC's parking surveys and a meeting with HTC / WBC / Haslemere Youth Hub. Once these are completed, another working party meeting will be held in the New Year followed by an update from WBC. We very much hope to have a full progress update for January Full Council.