

# EPPING TOWN COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2016/17



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**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING:** Friday 31st March 2017. 8pm  
Epping Hall, St Johns Road, Epping. CM16 5JU

## TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT

It has been a great pleasure to serve this last year as your Mayor. I have been to many interesting and varied events, too many to mention all of them. Here are just a few.

I attended the planting of a tree at Ivy Chimneys primary and junior school, a street party in Theydon Grove and a special celebration and thanksgiving service at St John's Church, all for the Queen's 90th Birthday.

I found the Remembrance service for the fallen at St John's Church in November a very moving experience and reading out the names on that day is something I will not forget.

Epping Town Council look after Bury Lane cemetery and the extension has now been completed. The Epping in Bloom team and the Underground station both won silver awards when Epping in Bloom entered the Anglia in Bloom competition for the first time. I'd like to thank all the Epping in Bloom volunteers for their continued hard work.

Unfortunately, the Town Show had to be cancelled due to the waterlogged Stonards Hill recreation ground. We hope this year will see better weather. Please put 2nd July 2017 in your diary.

We were extremely sorry to hear of the sad loss of Andrew O'Brien who, with his wife June, have done so much work for the senior citizens of our town.

The Town Council thanks all of the townspeople who are helping to form the Neighbourhood Plan for Epping. It is the intention of the Council to keep the Market character of our town and with

the input from our community, we can hopefully achieve that aim. Epping Town Council analysed Epping Forest District Council's draft Local Plan in great detail and responded with their views on what they felt was best for Epping.

It was an honour for the town when January bought a visit from Her Royal Highness Princess Anne, as she officially opened the new Citizens Advice Bureau office in Hemnall Street. This vital facility is now available for our community

The Town Council received a special achievement award from the Essex Association of Local Councils along with £200. This will be used to purchase a garden seat for the Market Garden Terrace community garden. This garden (opposite the side entrance to Marks & Spencer) has been created for our whole community to share. It is both relaxing and educational, so please go along and enjoy it.

Our Christmas market was a another successful event this year. This, along with the Christmas tree festival at St John's Church, carols sung by our local school children, plus a visit from Father Christmas at the fire station, helped us to get into the Christmas spirit.

We will shortly be refurbishing our playground at Frampton Road and this will provide residents with a wider variety of equipment for the whole family. We have had a busy year and have many things planned for the coming year. We have managed to do this while freezing the precept for 2017-18.

My thanks go to Beverley Rumsey, our Town Clerk, and all the staff, both in the office and the grounds team, who look after Epping so well.

*Les Burrows*

**Les Burrows, Town Mayor**

**Town Mayor**  
Mr L Burrows  
**Deputy Town Mayor**  
Mr A Church

**Members:**  
Mr H Pegrum  
Mr J A Smith  
Mr J Whitehouse

Mr N Avey  
Mrs B Scruton  
Mr D Spillman  
Mr M Wright

Mrs D Baird  
Mr G Scruton  
Miss H Whitbread

## PLANNING COMMITTEE

## NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING

### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Once again, 2016 has been a busy year for the Planning Committee. We have reviewed 214 separate development proposals over the year and made recommendations to the District Council on each of them.

I am pleased to report that in the main, the District Council has agreed with our recommendations, where the Committee has made an objection to a development proposal.

In making its recommendations, the Committee endeavours to reflect the views of the Town's residents, where objections have been lodged against a development.

The Committee welcomes residents who wish to attend meetings to put their views across regarding developments. We try to maintain an informal atmosphere where residents are welcome to speak with the Committee and I hope more residents will use this forum to make their points of view known.

When considering development proposals, we try to preserve and enhance the Town's character as a historic market town in a rural setting in the Green Belt.

*Nigel Avey*

Chairman, Planning Committee

I have also chaired the Neighbourhood Plan Committee. This Committee has been working on the Town's Neighbourhood Plan and this has been progressing well. The Plan will hopefully incorporate residents' views on how the Town should be preserved and enhanced, without becoming the subject of unwanted development.

Part of the Committee's work has been a detailed analysis of the draft Local Plan released by the District Council last year. This draft Plan has raised some significant challenges and concerns. The Committee's response was submitted to the District Council.

We hope the Committee will continue to be involved in the dialogue with the District Council as the Local Plan moves towards the next stage. At the same time we hope to complete work on the draft Neighbourhood Plan, which we intend to articulate a vision of Epping's future.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank co-opted members of the Neighbourhood Plan Committee without whose support and efforts we could not have driven the Plan forward.

*Nigel Avey*

Chairman, Neighbourhood Planning Committee

### PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr N Avey (Chairman)  
Mrs B Scruton (Vice Chairman)

Mrs D Baird  
Mr G Scruton  
Mr J A Smith  
Mr D Spillman  
Mr M Wright

Town Mayor (ex-officio):  
Mr L Burrows

Deputy Town Mayor (ex-officio):  
Mr A Church

### COUNCIL OFFICERS

Miss B Rumsey - Town Clerk & RFO  
Mrs K Harrigan - Finance & Cemetery Officer  
Mrs D Kennedy-Fogg - Committee Secretary  
Miss R Dennis - Bookings & Administration Officer  
Mrs G Vallis - Planning & Events Officer  
Mr W Towers - Recreation & Amenities Manager  
Mr A Clark - Groundsman  
Mr M Patience - Groundsman  
Mr D Manning - Groundsman  
Mr B Jones - Caretaker (Epping Hall)  
Mrs J Tappenden - Caretaker (Epping Hall)  
Mr P Morton - Caretaker (Jack Silley)  
Mr M Allen - Market Manager

## COUNCILLORS' ATTENDANCE SUMMARY 2016/17

<b>COUNCILLORS' ATTENDANCE SUMMARY</b>						
<b>2016/2017</b>	<b>Council</b>		<b>Planning &amp; General Purposes</b>		<b>Corporate Governance Advisory, ExtraOrdinary and Neighbourhood Planning</b>	
	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual
Avey, N	9	8	16	10	9	4
Baird, Mrs D	9	7	16	9	4	4
Burrows, L Town Mayor	9	9	16	11	10	8
Church, A Deputy Town Mayor	9	7	16	11	10	8
Pegrum, H	9	7	16	(6)	4	2
Scruton, Mrs B	9	7	16	13	10	8
Scruton, G	9	8	16	15	5	6
Smith, J A	9	9	16	16	5	5
Spillman, D	9	8	16	14	5	5
Whitbread, Miss H	9	7	16	6	4	3
Whitehouse, J	9	8	16	(9)	4	7
Wright, M D	9	8	16	14	9	6

NB Numbers in brackets indicate not a member of that Committee but has attended some of the meetings of that Committee or part of a meeting.

NB Cllr Miss H Whitbread was a member of P&GP Committee until 12<sup>th</sup> December 2016

NB Cllr G Scruton, Cllr D Spillman & Cllr J Whitehouse have given extra assistance to the Neighbourhood Planning Committee

Meetings from 10<sup>th</sup> May 2016 until 10th January 2017 inclusive

**FINANCIAL SUMMARY FOR 2016/17 & BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR 2017/18**

<b>EPPING TOWN COUNCIL</b>	<b>2016/17</b>		<b>2017/18</b>	
<b>SUMMARY &amp; ESTIMATES</b>				
	<b>GROSS</b>	<b>NET</b>	<b>GROSS</b>	<b>NET</b>
Service & Committee Support	174638	173738	167290	166390
Loan payments	102416	102416	102416	102416
Grants	4500	4500	4650	4650
Events & Publications	35600	32300	34620	31320
Public Halls	44355	-3145	43130	-4370
Market	67170	-17830	66870	-19130
Cemetery	6320	-31180	7640	-36360
Parks & Maintenance	175560	169010	197590	191040
Public Toilet	7330	7330	7690	7690
Allotments	800	-1600	800	-1700
Street Furniture	2300	2300	2300	2300
Leases	1151	-2649	2301	-1499
Capital Projects	20000	20000	13000	13000
Neighbourhood Planning	5000	5000	6000	6000
War Memorial	100	100	100	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>647240</b>	<b>460290</b>	<b>656397</b>	<b>461847</b>
<b>Less</b>				
Transfer to (+) from (-) reserves		-20		84
<b>PRECEPT + LCTS GRANT</b>		<b>460270</b>		<b>461931</b>

## COUNCIL FUNCTIONS

### RECREATION GROUNDS/PLAY AREAS:

Stonards Hill Recreation Ground  
Ivy Chimneys Playground  
Lower Swaines  
Frampton Rd  
Brook Rd  
Parklands, Coopersale

Epping Market  
Bakers Lane Toilets  
Epping Cemetery, Bury Lane  
War Memorial, Town Green

### COMMUNITY HALLS:

Epping Hall, St John's Road  
(also the offices of Epping Town Council)  
Jack Silley Pavillion, Stonards Hill Recreation Ground

### ALLOTMENTS:

Lower Bury Lane, Meadow Road

### STREET FURNITURE:

(Bus Shelters, Seats, Notice Boards,  
Town Signs, Finger Post Signs)  
Maintenance of selected greens  
Christmas Lights

### PUBLICATIONS:

Town Magazine: Talk About Epping  
Spring, Summer, Autumn, Winter  
Residents are invited to submit material for consideration. Deadline dates in the back of each issue.

### EVENTS:

Town Show, Christmas Market, Continental Markets  
Consultee for Planning & Highways matters within the Town

## COUNCIL PRIORITIES

Epping Town Council have a three-year Action Plan which details Council's priorities between 2016-19. Amongst those for 2017-18 are the Neighbourhood Plan for Epping, the refurbishment of one of Council's five playgrounds and hopefully the refurbishment of the Jack Silley Pavilion and improvements at Stonards Hill Recreation Ground.

The Neighbourhood Plan is a big project and will help shape how Epping develops in the future. Epping Town Council have successfully received over £7000 in funding to assist with their work on Neighbourhood Planning, meaning less spent from their own budget.

Playgrounds are costly to refurbish, so Council will use some of their own funds to deliver a refurbishment and also apply for outside funding. Epping Town Council plan to refurbish one per year and in the financial year 2016-17, it was Frampton Road. In 2017-18, another will be chosen. The refurbishment of Stonards Hill Recreation Ground will be a large project, which will be delivered largely from section 106 money (allocated through Epping Forest District Council's planning system).

Epping Town Council manage and maintain many parts of Epping Parish (including Fiddlers Hamlet and Coopersale) and a large part of our work is the ongoing responsibility and work associated with our important functions and services. This includes regular maintenance of our six recreation grounds, management of two allotment sites, our Monday charter market, the publication of our quarterly magazine which provides Epping-related information, providing community hiring facilities, management of the war memorial, management of Bury Lane cemetery (extended in 2016) and care of our town's public toilets in Bakers Lane.

Epping Town Council have another busy year planned, but have not increased the precept for residents in the 2017-18 financial year.

## CONTACTING THE TOWN COUNCIL

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Twitter: @EppingTown

**TALK ABOUT EPPING**  
Town Magazine  
Spring, Summer,  
Autumn, Winter  
Epping Town Council publication





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