



HUNGERFORD MATTERS....

W e l c o m e

Welcome to the new Hungerford Town Council newsletter. We hope you like the new name? Helen and I felt it lives up to our own town ethos. As your newly elected Mayor and Deputy we hope to carry out our new roles with a recharged enthusiasm, and with your help I'm sure we can overcome any challenges that lie ahead for our town and celebrate the many successes to come. We know that 'Hungerford Matters' to you as much as it does to us. First things first though, what huge shoes we have to fill! We want to congratulate and thank Martin Crane OBE and his lovely wife Virginia on the tremendous amount of work and outstanding achievements seen in the five years that Martin was Mayor. They are going to be a very tough act to follow and we are thrilled Martin is continuing to stay on as a town councillor and chairing up the Tourist and Economy committee. Thank you Martin and Virginia for serving the town so well for five years. We know you have so many treasured memories to share; hopefully now you'll have a little time to share these with your friends whilst you enjoy the fruits of your labour on your allotment.

L i b r a r y U p d a t e

The working party of the Friends of Hungerford Library (FoHL) met on Friday 7th July to discuss the ongoing business plans with Paul James. (West Berkshire Councils Culture Manager) Significant progress has been made with both parties working hard. A 99 year leasehold agreement (peppercorn rent) will be signed off by WBC executive on 7th September. Hungerford Town Council (HTC) commended the work to date of FoHL at a recent full council meeting and offered their continued support. FoHL has committed to bring the full, final proposal back to HTC so that a public consultation can take place. There have been lots of discussions between HTC, West Berkshire Council and FoHL to make sure that the library service remains intact and the building itself becomes a real community Hub for the residents of Hungerford to enjoy. The new charity is currently being set up to manage the library building. This process should be

complete in late July. The charity already has nine local trustees ready to manage this valuable asset for Hungerford. If you would like to offer support to FoHL please get in touch, email cllrknight@gmail.com

D u k e o f E d i n b u r g h

On Sunday 9th July Deputy Mayor, Helen Simpson attended the Duke of Edinburgh awards ceremony held at St Bartholomew's school. The presentation was held in the presence of Mr William Hartley Russell, Her Majesty's Deputy Lieutenant for the Royal County of Berkshire. The afternoon's celebration was very well attended, Helen was delighted to present the awards to John O Gaunt and The Down's School students. Huge thanks go to St Bartholomew' and West Berkshire Council for the organisation of the event and congratulations to all of the students receiving awards.

S a l i s b u r y R o a d

At an extra full council meeting held on 19th June, a unanimous vote by HTC Councillors agreed to take Judicial Review action on West Berkshire Council's Development Plan Document (DPD) with regards to the allocation of Salisbury Rd. We currently are waiting for a High Court Judge to consider if HTC case can proceed; the decision will be known at the end of July. The council are currently seeking Crowdfunding to help with this legal challenge so far over £5000 has been raised. If you would like to donate please follow the link for further information. <http://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/salisburyroad>

Keith Knight (Mayor)
and Helen Simpson (Deputy)

