



NORMANTON TOWN COUNCIL

Annual Report 2008 - 2009

www.normantontowncouncil.co.uk

T: 01924 893794

F: 01924 897515

E: enquiries@normantontowncouncil.co.uk



**QUALITY
TOWN
COUNCIL**



Mayor of Normanton's Overview

Councillor Denton Jones

I am pleased to introduce the Town Council's Annual Report which is designed to give you an overview of the work of the Town Council over the past twelve months.

This is the third occasion that I have had the privilege to be the Mayor of Normanton Town Council and I am very grateful for the confidence and support of all the members of the Town Council who have elected me to this important role.

Normanton is a very closely knit community and I believe there is a great deal of pride in having a Town Council and also having the Mayor attending and supporting a wide range of community events.

In 2008/2009 I was able to attend a whole range of Town Council events and, as always, the Gala and Switching On of the Christmas Lights attracted big crowds. The Gala seems to grow year by year and in 2008 the events of Gala Day were among the best I can remember.

I have very much appreciated the support given to me by other civic dignitaries in the area. We have enjoyed each other's company on a number of occasions in Normanton during the year and I have had invitations to support events in other local authorities during my term of office.

One of the highlights of the year was the opportunity to attend local schools and it was a great joy to be present at a number of school activities and share with the children in these activities. It was also a pleasure to welcome school children to the Town Hall to take part in mock Council meetings. I think these initiatives are very helpful in enabling young people to understand about the work done by the Town

Council and also to see members of the Town Council in action at a meeting.

I am particularly grateful for the support I received during the year. Reverend Edith Dawson was my Chaplain and she was a great help to me during my year of office. I would also like to thank my two Mayoresses, Helen and Susan, for their support in the year and my Deputy Mayor, Councillor Mike Burch, who also gave great support. The Deputy Mayor attended Yorkshire Day on my behalf and it was wonderful for him to be part of this great celebration. I would also like to thank the staff at the Town Council for all the work they undertook to make the arrangements for the various events and make sure that I was in the right place at the right time for my civic engagements.

During my year of office I was able to support a number of charities. One of the highlights of the year was when I abseiled down the side of Wakefield Cathedral. It was a great thrill to do this although I will confess to being more than a little nervous at the prospect. At the end of my year of office I had a presentation night at which funds from the Mayor's Charity were presented to the following organisations:-

Dr Jackson Cancer Fund
Parkinson's Disease Society
Prince of Wales Hospice
Wakefield Hospice
West Riding Blind Association
Yorkshire Air Ambulance

It has been a very busy year and I will look back with many happy memories of events and people.

The Work of the Town Council in 2008-2009

One of the features of the Town Council's work is the major events that are organised throughout the year. The Gala and the Switching On of the Christmas Lights are two events which are high on the social calendar of Normanton. The Gala is probably one of the biggest events of its kind in Yorkshire. Again the Gala was blessed with good weather and big crowds turned out to witness the procession and the events at the park. While the Town Council continues to be challenged by the health and safety requirements in connection with the holding of the Gala, arrangements have been put in hand to ensure that the Town Council can continue to organise what is an event greatly appreciated by the people of Normanton and Altofts and beyond. The Gala Sub-Committee does a wonderful job in organising all the different aspects of the Gala. The Switching On of the Christmas Lights attracted big crowds to the town centre. In 2008 we had a TV personality, Michelle from The Royal, who joined the Mayor and local MPs to celebrate the Switch On. Throughout the year there have been a wide variety of other events organised by the Town Council. Many of these events are connected with the Gala and are held during the ensuing fortnight. Remembrance Sunday is always an important event with ceremonies in Normanton and Altofts. There was again a very good attendance for the Remembrance Sunday Services commemorated, as always, with the release of pigeons at the conclusion at each of the services. The Remembrance Sunday Services are a fitting tribute to those who have served and given their lives on behalf of their country. Another of the projects that the Town Council seeks to promote each year is the floral displays particularly in the town centre. In 2008 the Town Council encountered some difficulties with the replacement of lamp columns and the requirement for licences in respect of the testing of these columns. Unfortunately

some sponsorship was lost because of these difficulties. Discussions with Wakefield MDC have now resolved matters and hopefully there will be no further difficulties in the new year. Many compliments have been paid regarding the quality of the hanging baskets provided in the town centre and in other areas and the Town Council is justifiably proud about this particular service and the way in which the donors of the hanging baskets are recognised with the provision of plaques. Recently the Town Council re-launched the Town Centre Partnership. This is something that has been supported by the Town Council for a number of years but the Town Council has been keen to re-launch the Town Centre Partnership in conjunction with Wakefield MDC. Throughout Wakefield MDC, a number of communities have developed Town Centre Plans and these provide for a number of schemes to be included on an action plan to enhance the standing of town centre activities. A public meeting was held recently and attended by a number of people interested in taking part in the Town Centre Partnership. It is therefore proposed to set up a new Town Centre Committee and seek to draw up a plan which can be used to develop priorities for Normanton Town Centre. One of the important sub committees of the Town Council is the Talking Newspaper Sub Committee. All aspects of the administration of the Talking Newspapers is dealt with through the Town Council's office. This is a very important facility for many people in Normanton and Altofts. The Town Council has recently agreed to invest in the purchase of some new equipment which it is hoped will make the service even more effective. Anyone who knows of any person who might benefit from this service should contact the staff at the Town Hall.

We hope that you will all continue to support the work of the Town Council in the new municipal year.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

2008-9

| INCOME 2008-9 | £ |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Precept | 165,000.00 |
| Interest | 3,444.66 |
| Allotments | 3,468.00 |
| Special Projects | 6,729.59 |
| Gala Charity Appeal | 845.00 |
| Talking Newspaper | 278.00 |
| Woodhouse Community Centre | 3,826.08 |
| General | 1,221.82 |
| VAT | 1,5522.47 |
| Total | 200,335.62 |

| EXPENDITURE 2008-9 | £ |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Admin | 78,860.87 |
| Telephones | 7,178.35 |
| Accommodation | 20,911.00 |
| Elections | 3,060.71 |
| Donations | 300.00 |
| Allotments | 3,571.05 |
| Training | 265.00 |
| Special Projects | 35,406.80 |
| Gala Charity Appeal | 825.00 |
| Talking Newspaper | 816.73 |
| Woodhouse Community Centre | 6,806.52 |
| Breathing Places | 9,516.00 |
| General | 13,466.20 |
| VAT | 10,697.96 |
| Total | 191,682.19 |

BUDGET 2009-10

| <i>Expenditure</i> | 2009/10 |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Budget Heading | Budget |
| ADMINISTRATION | £90,020.00 |
| SPECIAL PROJECTS | £38,250.00 |
| ACCOMODATION | £15,450.00 |
| Training | £650.00 |
| Talking Newspaper | £1,000.00 |
| Allotments | £5,000.00 |
| General | £13,000.00 |
| Woodhouse Community Centre | £5,000.00 |
| Elections | £3,000.00 |
| Donations | £2,500.00 |
| VAT | £12,000.00 |
| | |
| Town Centre Partnership | £2,500.00 |
| | |
| Total | £188,370.00 |
| | |
| <i>Income</i> | 2009/10 |
| | Budget |
| Special Projects | £5,700.00 |
| Talking Newspaper | |
| Allotments | £2,000.00 |
| General | £500.00 |
| Wodhouse Community Centre | £2,000.00 |
| Interest | £3,000.00 |
| VAT | £10,500.00 |
| Precept | £165,000.00 |
| | |
| Total Income | £188,700.00 |
| | |
| Income - Expenditure | £330.00 |

YOUR COUNCILLORS

| | | |
|---|-------------|-----------|
| Councillor Raymond Best 3 Bransdale Close, Altofts, Normanton, WF6 2S | Tel: 893153 | ALTOFTS |
| Councillor Mrs Mabel Betts 2 Garth Avenue, Normanton, WF6 2DJ | Tel: 894048 | WOODHOUSE |
| Councillor Mrs Elaine Blezard 4 Browns Green, Off Attlee Street, Normanton, WF6 1FE | Tel: 894581 | COMMON |
| Councillor Michael Burch 3 Crinan Court, Altofts, WF6 2TH | Tel: 223008 | ALTOFTS |
| Councillor Mrs Denise Clay 123 Church Lane, Normanton, WF6 1AY | Tel: 223510 | WOODHOUSE |
| Councillor Richard Clay 123 Church Lane, Normanton, WF6 1AY | Tel: 223510 | WOODHOUSE |
| Councillor Gary Firth 40 Coronation Avenue, Altofts, WF6 2OW | Tel: 893632 | ALTOFTS |
| Councillor Mrs Margaret Howard 15 Newfield House, Normanton, WF6 2RR | Tel: 893597 | CENTRAL |
| Councillor Mrs Heather Hudson 35 Churchfield Croft, Altofts, WF6 2QD | | ALTOFTS |
| Councillor Denton Jones 6 Thorne Close, Normanton, WF6 1PD | Tel: 893326 | CENTRAL |
| Councillor Mrs Hazel Jones 22 Garth Avenue, Normanton, WF6 1DJ | Tel: 896453 | WOODHOUSE |

YOUR COUNCILLORS

Councillor T G Jordan Tel: 894694 COMMON
10 MacKinnon Avenue, Normanton, WF6 2HP

Councillor Francis Kendall Tel: 223739 ALTOFTS
37 Priory Close, Altofts, WF6 2PT

Councillor Cyril Marshall Tel: 893940 ALTOFTS
38 Churchfield Croft, Altofts, WF6 2QB

Councillor Mrs Pam Mayne Tel: 314622 CENTRAL
51 Newfield Crescent, Normanton, WF6 1SH

Councillor Graeme Milner Tel: 890513 CENTRAL
89 Dalefield Road, Normanton, WF6 1HG

Councillor Mrs Elizabeth Pratt Tel: 892025 WOODHOUSE
26 Queen Elizabeth Drive, Normanton, WF6 1JH

Councillor Mrs Sheila Smales Tel: 894463 WOODHOUSE
137 Queensway, Normanton, WF6 1NB

Councillor Barry Smith Tel: 895527 CENTRAL
21 Fairway Approach, Normanton, WF6 2LX

Councillor Alan Wassell Tel: 895194 CENTRAL
23 Newlaithes Crescent, Normanton, WF6 1SX

Councillor Mrs Mary White Tel: 250645 CENTRAL
65 Sandal Hall Mews, Walton Lane, Sandal, Wakefield,

Councillor Bill Wood Tel: 893882 ALTOFTS
Acorn Lodge, 19 Oakwood Drive, Altofts, WF6 2NX



CONTACT DETAILS

Mr Graham Wilson
Town Clerk

Normanton Town Council
PO Box 145
Normanton
WF6 2WB

Or visit us at the Town Hall, High Street, Normanton
Office Open 9.30am—1.00pm

Telephone: 01924 893794

Fax: 01924 897515

E-mail: enquiries@normantontowncouncil.co.uk

Website: www.normantontowncouncil.co.uk