

## MAYOR'S REPORT - MONDAY 13TH MAY 2019

I am proud to have been the Mayor of Looe for the last four years, the town I was born in and have a family connection going back many generations. This has been a time in which there have been many incidents in the town, some making me very proud, and some making my cry as if my heart would break. The town is a true community with a heart that beats strong giving support in times of need and comfort, in times of distress. It has many organisations, groups and charities which keep people active and supported. The Town Trusts who run and care for many parts of the town, support our heritage and work for the benefit of the community. Our two schools, who have both achieved Good Ofsted ratings in the recent past, giving our children a good start in life.

We must congratulate all our local sports clubs for the achievements over the last year from World Champions to New Club houses. Our children have a host of groups to attend from Rainbows, Brownies to Scouts and we should be thankful for all those who support them.

Over the last 12 months the Town Council have also been very active and should be proud of its achievements. They have taken over the Library and Information Service and some other estate alongside this in the Millpool. There are plans to refurbish the site and deliver many community benefits. The Neighbourhood Plan has had its first consultation, we must consider what the community has said and respond. The work by Councillor Penhaligan on making the town Dementia Friendly and part of the Safe Places and Purple Angel schemes. Its leading part in the Looe Saves The Day music festival the Councillors who supported it and the Council staff who worked so hard to make it possible. I could fill this page with the work of this Council but it is not the time, but if you would like to join the Council there are two vacancies.

The Mayor is the Chairman of the Council which can be a difficult job, can only be done with the support of a Deputy Martin Gregory and Committee Chairman and I personally thank them for all they do. The Town Councillors who work for nothing on committees and around the town, I respect you for your commitment. The office staff who work tremendously hard day in and day out for the community, our Library staff, our cleaners and our Tourist Information Staff who all support the town.

I thank the community for their support over the last four years, my wife Rayna who without my life would not be kept in order. My children, family and friends who never stop keeping my feet on the ground when the going gets tough. When things are back in order I hope to come back, but for now I will continue my work as a Councillor, gardener, road sweeper and litter picker all of which I love doing.

Over the last four years the Mayor's expenses from 2015/16 have amounted to only £2,057.20 out of an allowance of £16,000 and the Mayors Charity has handed out over £11,700 to groups, organisations and charities over that same period.