

## Mayor's Column June 2016

**It is with great pleasure that I am writing this as Mayor of Fowey for a second term.**

I am also very lucky to be working with a group of councillors who voluntarily give of their free time to take part in meetings, following up queries, talking to and asking people about their opinions. This communication is very important to the Town Council so we can respond to your concerns. Please go to our website, run by our Webmaster Cllr. Carol Eardley, <http://www.foweytowncouncil.gov.uk>. Cllr. David Willmore runs our Facebook page <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Fowey-Town-Council/408736029293341> with regular updates.

**Talking of Councillors, the Town Council has a vacancy now**, with the resignation of Tony Delves who has served on the Town Council for five years and is now sadly leaving Fowey. The Town Council should operate with ten councillors is down to nine. I would urge anyone who might be thinking of becoming a member of the Town Council to get in touch with me.

**Last month, we had a very successful Festival of Arts and Literature**, well done Melissa Hartwell and Paul Staniland joint chair of the Festival Committee and, of course, Director of the Festival Brenda Daly. The Festival had some headline names from the journalist Malcolm Bell, David Suchet, Vince Cable and the entertaining Ann Widdicombe.

A new event this year for the Festival was 'Kids Lit' which was run in both the Primary school and Fowey River Academy organised by Marion Mcneir MBE. There were visiting authors as well as a children's literature competition, organised by Janet Anderson and Sue Strachen. The Festival, which is run largely by volunteers, brought hundreds of people into Fowey for the week. Culturally, as well as economically, the Fowey Festival is important to the Town and to Cornwall, well done all.

**The Town Council introduced the award of Good Citizen** last year, an award to recognise the work the local citizen who is involved in the life or work of the town, a person who enhances the quality of life in Fowey for the benefit of the people of Fowey. This year we had many nominations, but the majority were for Lynn Goold, who has sold her business after thirty years in Fowey.

This is the citation, 'This award is in recognition for the outstanding contribution for many years to tourism in Fowey. Lynn has also played an important role in the life of Fowey through her contribution to the Chamber of Commerce, Daphne du Maurier Festival and as President of the Fowey River Lions. By promoting the culture and beauty of Fowey, Lynn has also helped to boost the tourism an economy for the people of Fowey. It is for this outstanding contribution to Fowey that I have no hesitation in awarding her the accolade of Good Citizen'.

**I was saddened to hear of the closure of beds in Fowey Hospital, from ten down to six beds.** It was only last year that the Minor Injuries Unit was closed due to lack of trained staff. You may remember we asked former CEO of the then Peninsula Community Health to come and talk to the Town council to explain this decision. Now under a new administration, since April 2016, Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (CFT), have surveyed Fowey Hospital and found that with the number of staff and design of the building, there were concerns with fire safety and evacuation procedures. The CFT have carried out the widening of doors, installation of ramps to ensure patient safety. Helen Luther, Chair of the League of Friends was 'concerned to hear that at present the hospital has only 6 beds and that, combined with the closure of the MIU, this does put the hospital's future in jeopardy'.

**Oh Yeah, Oh Yeah, Oh Yeah – The town of Fowey needs a Town Crier!** We have been without this essential part of our town since the retirement of Michael Penprase last September. A Fowey Town Crier can welcome visitors and dignitaries to Fowey as well as support the many charity events which take place around the town. How should we choose a new Town Crier? Does it have to be a man? I think a woman could be just as good. Let me know your ideas. If you have someone in mind, please nominate them, by email please, if you think they would be a good Town Crier.

**And finally,** if you like a good curry there will be a Curry Evening on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June to support Squires Field Community Centre. Sponsored by Sunny Spice we are hoping to raise £500 to support this excellent new project. Booking is essential; please contact me to reserve a place/table.

You can contact the Town Council through our Clerk Sally Vincent, or myself as Mayor. Where we have Councillors who are at work, in Town, please respect their business priorities.

**The Council welcomes comments from residents and you are always welcome to come to Council meetings and raise any concerns you may have during “Public Questions”.**

**The June Council meeting in the Town Hall is on June 15<sup>th</sup> starting at 7.00pm.**

Also contact us by:

[www.facebook.com/Fowey-Town-Council/408736029293341](https://www.facebook.com/Fowey-Town-Council/408736029293341)

[www.foweytowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.foweytowncouncil.gov.uk)

[www.foweysfuture.co.uk](http://www.foweysfuture.co.uk) (Neighbourhood Plan)

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