

## Chairman's Report – January - February 2020

### **Citizenship Ceremony**

Tues 7 Jan- Seaclose Offices

The first session of new citizens this year and as usual, a great opportunity to welcome new citizens to our country and to make them feel welcome

### **Barton School Council chamber visit**

Wed 8 Jan- County Hall

A group of Barton School pupils paid a visit to the council chamber and took part in a Q & A session, specific on the subject of climate change and what the council is doing about this issue. The pupils were also treated to a presentation of the mace by our mace bearer, they found the whole visit interesting. I would like to thank Councillor Brodie for arranging this.

### **Ron Smith Memorial Celebration**

Tues 21 Jan – New Holmwood Hotel Cowes

This was a memorable occasion and there were many tributes paid to Ron and the appreciation for the work he has done for the Council was overwhelming.

### **Royal British Legion conference**

Sat 25 Jan- Nine Acres Primary School

This was my first attendance at the RBL conference and it will not be my last, I think this is an important event and I thank all those who volunteer to make the big wheel of the RBL turn.

### **Havant holocaust Memorial Ceremony.**

Mon 27 Jan – Havant Cemetery

This was a very moving ceremony and I was privileged to represent the Island at this service which was attended by all civic heads from Hampshire.

### **Reopening of the RSPCA animal centre.**

Wed 29 Jan – RSPCA Centre, Merstone

I attended the official opening of the newly built extension at the RSPCA centre at Merstone. After ground-breaking efforts of fundraising and a lot of work this project was finally delivered. I was surprised at the work that the volunteers do at the centre and learned quite a lot from this visit, I encourage everyone to support the RSPCA, I think they are doing a marvellous job.

### **Staff Awards Evening**

Fri 31 Jan – Gurnard Pines

What a brilliant evening and to see the enthusiasm of the teams, supporting the winner of their category was fantastic. I congratulate all that took part and especially the winners of the awards. It is well deserved. I thank all the staff that work for the council, their dedication is noted.

### **Noel Turner Science Festival**

Thu 6 Feb – Cowes Enterprise College.

This year this festival went higher than before, there were lots of exhibitors and it is surprising how much the island is involved with science. All the island schools visited the festival which was greatly supported by Winchester College.