

PAPER B

Chairman's Report 15th July 2020

Cllr. George Cameron

I would like to start my report by thanking all our services, especially our NHS and all our officers who worked with our members to see us through this awful pandemic. Our local hubs have been fantastic, The West Wight hub even received Royal recognition for their hard work throughout the period and this is ongoing. Thank you. The clap for carers event on Thursday's was very well supported by all residents of our island and I was proud to attend several different communities for this event on a weekly basis, it proved our solidarity and loyalty.

It is with sadness that I must announce the passing of Councillor Harry Rees, Harry was a very prominent councillor and served on several committees, he also served as a member of Shanklin Town Council for more than 30 years. we all knew Harry well and our condolences to Councillor Shirley Smart and their family. Councillor William Burt (Bill) who passed away, Bill served as an Isle of Wight councillor from 2005 to 2009. I also pay tribute to Councillor Shirley Laird who passed away, Shirley served as a Councillor for eight years as the member for Calbourne, Shalfleet and Yarmouth and Upper Chine Governess and arts patron.

Our VE 75 celebrations went as well as expected in the circumstances and the boundaries of lockdown. I travelled to several areas where street parties were taking place and it was good to see everyone making an effort to celebrate this great event. Girlguiding IW members have not just been celebrating 75 years since VE Day but looking into the history of the event. Some of the girls have been studying just what happened at those street parties for the public whilst others have discussed Winston Churchill's speech to the nation, looked at 'make do & mend' clothes and undertaken a quiz and crosswords relating to 1945.

Dozens of Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and their leaders dressed in their Girlguiding uniforms and enjoyed home-made cakes with their family members whilst others decorated their homes and gardens with home crafted bunting or Union flags. Unfortunately, our Armed Forces Day was cancelled, and this was very disappointing for me as I treasure this event, but this will be rearranged for next year.

Along with Councillor Lora Peacey-Wilcox I would like to thank our Chaplain, Veronica Brown for her services to this council over the last three years. Veronica is relocating to the mainland and we would like to wish Veronica and her family all the best for the future.