



## Ripley Town Council

Town Hall, Market Place  
Ripley DE5 3BT

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Linda McCormick  
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### Ripley Town Council

### Annual Report 2017/2018

#### Planning Applications

The Town Council continues to consider and comment on planning applications submitted to Amber Valley Borough Council for developments within the Ripley Township and RTC has a Neighbourhood Plan in place..

#### Play Equipment

The new play equipment installed at Cedar Avenue purchased through the Tesco Bags of Help Scheme has been a great success. RTC are responsible for the play equipment at Porterhouse Road and Cedar Avenue which is inspected and maintained on a regular basis.

#### Bus Shelters

RTC have installed 13 bus shelters throughout the township.

#### Planters

The Town Council are looking to tidy up the area on the Market Place by the railings and to install planters along there to make that area much more tidy and attractive, The Town Council also maintain 5 concrete planters and have hanging baskets displayed throughout the town.

#### Ripley Greenway

The Town Council have continued to work with the Derbyshire Probation Service who litter pick and empty the bins to keep the Greenway tidy for everyone to enjoy. The Town Council are very appreciative of the hard work provided by volunteers who have worked to tidy and cut back some of the overgrowth keeping the Greenway looking very picturesque. The Town Council have ordered two more litter bins for the Greenway.

#### Toilets

The Town Council have continued to manage and clean the toilets on Ripley Market Place and Heage keeping the toilets fully open.

#### Policing in Ripley

Ripley Town Council paid £7500.00 annual rent for the Police to keep them in the Town Centre Office for 2017.

#### Grant Aid

The Town Council has continued its policy of financial assistance to local clubs and organisations. Grant awards have been awarded during the year as follows:

Ambergate Brownies	£100.00	Marehay Methodist Church	£100.00
AV Alliance for Learning	£150.00	Moorwood Moor Angling Club	£500.00
AV Camcorder Club	£150.00	Nether Heage Methodist Church	£100.00
Carousel Craft Group	£100.00	Nether Heage Play Group	£100.00
Friends of Carr Wood	£100.00	Ripley & Alfreton Tennis Club	£500.00
Friends of Ripley Greenway	£100.00	Ripley & District Heritage Trust	£200.00
Greenhillocks Fellowship	£150.00	Ripley Ladies Garters	£150.00
Highedge Historical Society	£100.00	Ripley Morris Men	£100.00
League of Zeal Motorcycle Club	£100.00	Ripley Old Age Pensioners Ass.	£200.00
Marehay Community Trust	£500.00	Ripley Running Club	£500.00

St Luke's Church Heage	£200.00
Sawmills Village Hall	£150.00
Heage Village Hall	£100.00
1st Waingroves Guides	£100.00
Waingroves Community Ass.	£150.00
Waingroves Comm Woodland Trust	£100.00
Waingroves Drama Group	£100.00
Waingroves Methodist Church	£100.00
Waingroves Rainbows	£100.00
Waingroves show	£100.00

Waingroves Well Dressing	£100.00
Woodies Wings	£100.00
Ripley Town Football Club	£1000.00
Ripley Music Festival	£3000.00
Amber Sound	£3000.00
Ambergate Carnival	£500.00
Ambergate CC	£500.00
Butterley United CC	£500.00
Marehay CC	£500.00
Total	£14,400.00

## **Publicity**

The Town Council believes that it is important to keep residents of Ripley informed about its activities. The public and press are welcome at all meetings of the Town Council, and time is allocated at the start of the meetings for public participation. Representatives from the local newspapers are invited to attend meetings in order to report Council matters more fully. We have now employed a Deputy Clerk to help to work with the community and increase publicity to inform residents and businesses of events and working with all to promote the works of the Town Council.

The Town Council publish a newsletter which is delivered to 14,100 properties at least four times a year in the Township, giving various information to residents.

There is a website which has various information of what is happening in the Ripley Township, businesses, traders and retailers and links to District and County Council. We also have actively used Social Media to get our information to the public. Our Facebook page proves a positive and popular media vehicle with around 1300 'likes'. We also have a Twitter page with 1344 followers.

## **Twining**

Ripley is twinned with Chateau-Renault, a small town in the Loire district in Central France. The settlement of Chateau-Renault dates from the feudal wars that occurred in the eleventh century between the Counts of Blois and Counts of Anjou. In the early part of the century a local member of the court of the Count of Blois was charged by the construction of a defensive structure (most likely a simple wooden tower) on the site of the present Chateau. He named this defensive structure after his son Renaud, this was the original of the town's name. However, the defensive structure was not enough and the area was soon lost to the Counts of Anjou. It was under the new management that land was gifted for the construction of a chapel and a small settlement at the foot of the castle site. The town was renowned through nineteenth century France for the leather produced there, with levels of calcium carbonate in the water giving the leather produced there a thick resistance nature and the arrival of the railway in 1867 ensured that this product had access to the market. There is a copy of the signed Charter between the two Towns in the Town Hall which was signed by Ripley in 1996. There is a separate Twining Association totally independent of the Town Council, some of whom enjoyed a visit to Chateau Renault.

## **Events**

Ripley Town Council organise a number of events, competitions and awards during the year as follows:

**Best kept Allotment and best kept Garden Competition supported by the Midlands Co-operative Society.** This competition is open to all residents in the Ripley Area including Ambergate, Bullbridge, Hammersmith, Heage, Lower Hartshay, Marehay, Nether Heage, Ridgeway, Sawmills, Street Lane, Upper Hartshay and Waingroves and the Allotment site holders. This year was again, very successful and there were wonderful garden displays and allotment plots to be proud of.

**Ripley Fair** dates back to 1251 and 2017 being our 766th Fair and pre-dates the famous Nottingham Goose Fair. The Fair is organised by the Derbyshire, Notts Mid and South Section of the Showmen's Guild. The 'Precis of Charter' to be used by the Ripley Town Mayor and stated each year as follows; 'By the powers invested on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of November 1251 by King Henry III it should be known that there is a Charter which allows for all time use of land in the former manor of Rippeleg (now Ripley Market Place) for a Fair for a period of 3 days every year and the Ripley Town Mayor confirms that the Kings Charter is upheld for the year of 2016 and officially opens the Fair'.

**Ripley Fair Dinner.** This is annual event is organised by The Town Council and the Showmen's Guild at various locations with each person attending paying for their meal.

**Remembrance Parade and Service.** The Ripley Mayor attended the service held around the Ripley War Memorial at All Saints Church with several dignitaries and families who had lost members in recent conflicts, laying wreaths and crosses. There was a good turnout for the parade, with people lining the road. The Ripley Branch of the Royal British Legion have taken over the running of the Remembrance Parade and Service. Ripley Deputy Mayor attended the parade and service in Ambergate and Heage.

**Long Song Project.** Fleet Arts supported by the Ripley Town Council are working with schools for various projects commemorating the First World War with localised performances of songs and verses, stories and readings and young bands.

**Certificate of Merit.** The Certificate of Merit is awarded to a person who has been nominated for their contribution to public life and must live or work in the Ripley Township. A Selection Committee, chaired by an independent person then selects the nominee from the nomination forms sent in by the general public. This year the Certificate of Merit was awarded to Mrs Gwen Mitchell a very deserving lady for many years voluntary work, Gwen is a kingpin of the local Methodist Church and, although she is in her 80s, she continues to organise the letting of the premises to community groups and is the key contact. She is always present and working at the Spring Fair, Christmas Fair, Easter breakfast and every other open event. She also raises funds for various activities by making jams and preserves from donated fruit, making cakes and biscuits and collecting and wrapping gifts for the children stalls at the Christmas Fair. She is well known and loved by the whole community for her enthusiasm and commitment.

**Ripley's Big Day Out.** This event held at the Midland Railway, Butterley which was a fantastic project giving many partners the opportunity to attend and give help and advice for the older generation. There were free train rides, a church service, brass band playing, all the facilities at the Midland Railway were available and the event was a brilliant success. Thanks to all who attended and we look forward to another but different event for 2018.

**Ripley Christmas Lights switch-on.** The Town Mayor, switched on the Christmas lights in a very busy Ripley Market Place. There were carols with the a brass band playing, free children's rides, late night shopping, hot food and drinks stalls, with Father Christmas in attendance presenting children with glow items, the Mayor gave out Christmas presents to young children and there was a fancy-dress competition. There were Characters Chase and Belle, also artificial snow which proved a great success. Thanks to Amber Sound 107.2 FM for their live outside broadcast, and a very big thank you to all who came to enjoy the festivities in the Town.

**Ripley Spring Festival and Well Dressing.** This year the Well Dressing located at the Market Place at the side of the Old Town Hall was blessed by Rev John Wigram of All Saints Church and was created by Rethink of the Croft Slack Lane Ripley and is situated on Ripley Market Place. The Spring Festival with various stalls including some charity stalls, free children's rides, entertainment and many various stalls, Amber Sound 107.2 FM live outside broadcast Hot and cold food and drink and was very well attended.

**Bands in Crossley Park.** A variety of bands held concerts over 6 Sundays in Crossley Park organised by the Town Council. The Friends of Crossley Park were very pleased that the Town Council had carried on this initiative.

**Ripley Music Festival.** The Festival is supported each year by the town Council through an annual grant, publishing the programme of events and co-ordinating our events in Crossley Park to coincide with the festival.

**Ripley Family Christmas Market.** The Christmas Market was held for the first time this year organised by Ripley Town Council and supported by the Ripley Chamber of Trade and was a brilliant success, with lots of stalls, food & drink & entertainment, plus free children's rides around the town. The weather was perfect, the town was extremely busy and the event was very well attended.

**Civic Service** - The Civic Service was held at All Saints Church.

**Civic Dinner** - The Civic Dinner was held at the Village Inn, Marehay.

**Hanging Baskets** - The Council has again, for the 10<sup>th</sup> year contracted for Hanging Baskets put up around the Township and baskets along the railings on the Market Place opposite the top of Grosvenor Road, what a fantastic display again this year.

### **Ripley Town Council – Full list of Councillors details**

#### **Ambergate Ward**

Councillor Mrs C Worth  
Councillor N Weaving

Tel: 01773 853571 24 Derby Road Ambergate DE56 2GE  
Tel: 01773 856375 9 Riversdale, Ambergate, DE56 2EU

**Butterley Ward**

Councillor S D Freeborn  
Councillor T E Holmes

Tel: 01773 749000 56 Alfred Street Ripley DE5 3LD  
Tel: 01773 742574 12 Wall Street Ripley DE5 3DE

**Central Ward**

Councillor R P Ashton  
Councillor Ms L D Cox

Tel: 01773 745420 28 West Avenue Ripley DE5 3JD  
Tel: 01773 742574 12 Wall Street Ripley DE5 3DE

**East Ward**

Councillor S Carter  
Councillor I Fisher  
Councillor M G Jones  
Councillor M J Missett  
Councillor R Emmas-Williams

Tel: 01773 741600 37 Bridle Lane Ripley DE5 3BL  
Tel: 01773 745221 54 Waingroves Road Waingroves Ripley DE5 9TD  
Tel: 01773 742225 9 Manvers Avenue Ripley DE5 3ER  
Tel: 01773 749968 2 Broadway Ripley DE5 3LJ  
Tel: 01773 746543 29 Porterhouse Road Ripley DE5 3FL

**Elms Ward**

Councillor A Bridge  
Councillor Mrs J H Gregory  
Councillor C Cutting

Tel: 07877 707768 26 Hawthorn Avenue Ripley DE5 3PJ  
Tel: 01773 744477 43 Peartree Avenue Ripley DE5 3PR  
Tel: 01773 747105 101 Highfield Way Ripley DE5 3RT

**Heage Ward**

Councillor D Farrelly  
Councillor Mrs L Joyes  
Councillor P Lobley

Tel: 07541 692290 25 Balers Hill Heage DE56 2BL  
Tel: 01773 857320 30 Brook Street Heage DE56 2AP  
Tel: 01773 856874 2a Cookfield Heage DE56 2TF

**Marehay Ward**

Councillor M Wilson

Tel: 01773 745477 7 Bowler Street Ripley DE5 8HZ

**North Ward**

Councillor Mrs S Emmas-Williams  
Councillor P Moss

Tel: 01773 746543 29 Porterhouse Road Ripley DE5 3FL  
Tel: 01773 748827 123 Warmwells Lane Ripley DE5 8JE

**Waingroves Ward**

Councillor D A Williams

Tel: 01773 744754 19 Queens View Drive Waingroves DE5 9TP

**Representatives on outside Bodies.**

- Derbyshire Association of Local Councils Executive Committee – Cllrs: L Cox & T Holmes
- Ripley and District Heritage Trust - Cllr A Bridge
- Ripley and District Town Twinning Association – Cllr M Missett
- Waingroves Community Association – Cllr D A Williams
- Heage Windmill Society – Cllr N Weaving
- Amber Valley Access – Cllr S Freeborn
- Police Parish / Town Liaison meetings – Cllr A Bridge
- William Holmes Court Almshouses and the Ernest Joseph Ellis Fermor Charity – Cllr R Emmas-Williams and Cllr I Fisher till 2018
- Amber Valley Parish Liaison Committee – Cllrs Mrs C Worth and S D Freeborn
- Derwent Valley Mills Partnership – Cllr D Farrelly
- Derwent Valley Line Community Rail Partnership – Cllrs M Missett
- Ripley Chamber of Trade – Cllr R Emmas-Williams

**Financial Situation** The Town Council's income is obtained from Ripley Township council taxpayers, collected via a precept on the Amber Valley Borough Council. The precept (i.e. the amount of money we ask from residents each year) was £245000. This represented a 10p per week increase on a Band D property which would raise a further £30,000 for the year to help enable Ripley Town Council to achieve its aims and objectives. This was sent out to the electorate for consultation.

**Allotments.** The Town Council have 5 sites from which they collect rent. The individual Allotment Associations deal with the day to day running of the Allotments and the Ripley Town Council previously agreed 5-year minimum licence for each site.