



Ripley Town Council

Town Hall, Market Place
Ripley DE5 3BT

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Ripley Town Council

Annual Report 2016/2017

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 has been installed at Cedar Avenue which was purchased through the Tesco Bags of Help Scheme. 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 four bus shelters on Derby Road, Bull Bridge, Riversdale Ambergate and Old Road Heage

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, at present we are waiting on a license to do this from AVBC. The Town Council have also installed and maintained 5 concrete planters throughout the township.

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.

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

The Police office in the Old Town Hall, where the Police when not on patrol or called out to incidents, are in situ and the Police and the PSCO's are always supportive of the Council's events, participating in activities in the Town. Their involvement is always very welcome and appreciated by the Council. Ripley Town Council pay £7500.00 annual rent for the Police to keep them in the Town Centre Office otherwise the township would have lost a valuable asset.

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:

Aim Excelsum Music	£150
Ambergate Carnival	£500
Ambergate CC	£500
Ambergate & District Playgroup	£150
Ambergate Royal British Legion	£150
Amber Valley Alliance for Learning	£150
Amber Valley Camcorder Club	£150

Amber Valley First Responders	£100
Amber Valley Stroke Group	£150
Breast Feeding Support	£100
Butterley United CC	£500
Friends of Carr Wood	£100
Friends of Ripley Greenway	£100
Greenhillocks Fellowship	£300

Heage Firs Allotment Association	£100
Heage Village Hall	£1500
Highedge Historical Society	£100
League of Zeal M/C Club	£100
Marehay Community Trust	£500
Marehay Cricket Club	£500
Michaelmas Market	£1500
Moorwood Moor Angling Club	£500
Nether Heage Methodist	£100
Nether Heage Playgroup	£100
Penguin Club	£150
1 st Ripley Guides	£150
1 st Ripley Scouts	£250
ReThink	£200
Ripley Amateur Boxing Club	£200
Ripley & District Heritage Trust	£200

Ripley & District Twinning Association	£250
Ripley Ladies Group	£150
Ripley Morris Men	£100
Ripley OAP Association	£200
Ripley FC	£500
Ripley Rangers FC	£500
St Luke's Heage	£100
Sawmills Village Hall	£150
Waingroves Community Association	£150
Waingroves Drama Group	£100
Waingroves Methodist	£100
Waingroves Rainbows	£100
Waingroves Show	£100
Waingroves Well Dressing	£100
Ripley & Alfreton Tennis Club	£500

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 employed a Community Officer 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 13,800 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 1100 'likes'. We also have a Twitter page with 1249 followers. We continue to use the hashtag #ripleyandproud to build a following.

Twinning

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 towns 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 Twinning Association totally independent of the Town Council, some of whom enjoyed a visit to Chateau Renault in April.

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 being our 765th 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 25th 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 by invitation only and organised by The Town Council and the Showmen’s Guild at Lumb Farm with each member attending paying for their meal.

Remembrance Parade and Service. The Deputy 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 Town Mayor attended the parade and service in Ambergate and Heage.

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 Mr George Smith for his tireless dedication to the St John Ambulance for over 50 years.

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 Derwent Valley Wind 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 from Frozen and artificial snow which proved a great success. Thanks to Amber Sound 107.2 FM for their live outside broadcast, Derwent Valley Wind Band for playing the Christmas Carols 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 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. This festival has a separate committee which arrange the event, although Ripley Town Council is supportive and awards a grant towards the event.

Michaelmas Market. The Michaelmas Market was held again this year organised by Tony England of England Barker Jewellers supported by the Ripley Chamber of Trade and was a brilliant success, supported by the Council and a grant given with lots of stalls, food & drink & entertainment. Despite a very cold day, the event was once again very well attended.

Mayor’s Charity Auction. In February this year, the Mayor held a Charity Auction kindly hosted by The Seafish Restaurant. Lots of businesses from Ripley and beyond generously donated items to be auctioned and everyone who attended enjoyed a buffet supper from the Seafish. The evening was a great success with over £1200 being raised for the Ripley Hospital League of Friends which is the chosen charity of this year’s Mayor.

Family Variety Evening. This year, the Town Council organised a ‘Family Variety Evening’ at Marehay Miner’s Welfare. This evening was designed to provide affordable entertainment for all the family. It was really well attended with entertainment provided by The Great Lorenzo, Ripley Academy of Dance and music from Bruce Swanwick and Steve Chase. Feedback from the event was good.

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

Civic Dinner - The Civic Dinner was held at the Lumb Farm, Marehay.

Hanging Baskets - The Council has again, for the 9th year contracted for Hanging Baskets put up around the Township.

Ripley Town Council – Full list of Councillors details

Ambergate Ward

Councillor Mrs C Worth

Tel: 01773 853571 24 Derby Road Ambergate DE56 2GE

Councillor N Weaving

Tel: 01773 856375 9 Riverside, 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 Loblely

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 – Cllr Ms L D Cox
- Ripley and District Heritage Trust - Cllr A Bridge
- Ripley and District Town Twinning Association – Cllr M J Missett
- Waingroves Community Association – Cllr D Williams
- Heage Windmill Society – Cllr A Johnston
- Amber Valley Access – Cllr P Loblely
- Police, Parish / Town Liaison meetings – Cllr C Cutting
- 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 S Freeborn and Mrs C Worth
- Derwent Valley Mills Partnership – Cllrs D Williams
- Derwent Valley Line Community Rail Partnership - Cllrs D Farrelly and M J Missett
- Ripley Chamber of Trade – Cllrs 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 £224925. 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 went 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.