

Town Council gains Quality Status accreditation for a third time.



Halewood Town Council were awarded a further four years re-accreditation for Quality Status at a meeting of the Lancashire Association of Local Councils Headquarters on Tuesday 22 January 2013.

The Chairman of the Panel called the submission document "**exemplary**" and congratulated the Town Council on the beginning of their third term of qualification.

The award of the certificate took place on Saturday 13 April 2013 at Lancashire County Council Headquarters in Preston, and the Chair of the Accreditation Panel, Gordon Johnson, presented the certifi-

cate to the Mayor of Halewood, Cllr Gary See, Leader of the Political Group, Cllr Norman Hogg and Town Manager, John Green.

It was commented upon about Halewood Town Council not only being the first local Council in Lancashire and Merseyside to receive the original accreditation back in 2004, but also the first to receive a second re-accreditation, and LALC representatives made special comment about how highly this Town Council is held within LALC and indeed nationally.

The Town Council obtained its first Quality Status in 2004, which was then re-accredited in 2008.

FAREWELL TO THE TOWN MANAGER, JOHN GREEN.

The current Town Manager, John Green, retires from the Town Council on 31 May 2013, after over eleven years in this position, and nearly forty-two years local government service in all. John's replacement will be announced in due course, and will hopefully commence in June 2013. We wish John a long and healthy retirement as he leaves us, and in turn, John thanks everyone he has come into contact with in the past eleven years for their help and support, along with his own best of wishes to them for the future.

FINANCIAL OUT TURN FOR 2012-2013 (SUBJECT TO EXTERNAL AUDIT APPROVAL)

	Expenditure	Income	Net Cost
Community Centres	£ 209,215	£ 88,336	£ 120,879
Administration/Environment	£ 195,682	£ 3,280	£ 192,402
	£ 404,897	£ 91,616	£313,281

To enable a comparison to be made, here are the equivalent 2011-2012 figures.

	Expenditure	Income	Net Cost
Community Centres	£ 210,322	£ 86,828	£123,494
Administration/Environment	£ 200,646	£ 1,938	£ 198,708
	£ 410,968	£ 88,766	£ 322,202

A Message from the Out Going Mayor of Halewood—Cllr Gary See



This year, I have had the honour and privilege of serving the people of Halewood as Town Mayor. The community of Halewood never ceases to amaze me and throughout the year I have had the opportunity to recognise the contribution of many of our residents.

The Town Council's Community Achievement Awards held at the Arncliffe Centre in May, gave me the chance to formally thank and recognise seven local volunteers for their varied contribution to Halewood life. During the year, I have met many selfless individuals who give up their own time to improve the lives of others and our thanks go to them for all their hard work.

Friday 7th September 2012 will go down in Halewood folklore as the day the first shop opened in our new District Shopping Centre. Barnardo's Registered Charity opened their store on this day and I welcomed the opportunity to meet and greet their staff and customers. Over the ensuing months, up until Christmas, and in representing the Town Council, I also 'cut the ribbon' on many other stores and welcomed their customers to our revitalised Town Centre. Having waited many years for the development, our Town Centre is now the vibrant heart of a resurgent Halewood and it has been an honour to be Mayor at this time.

One of the many highlights of my term of office as Mayor has been meeting the pupils in our Schools. On behalf of the Town Council, both the Deputy Mayor and myself presented mugs to each pupil in our Primary schools to mark the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and I have had the pleasure of recognising the achievements of many of our talented young people. No review of the last year would be complete without some reference to the Olympic and Paralympic Games held in London last summer. Halewood was magnificently represented by Olympian Heptathlete Katarina Johnson-Thompson and by brothers, Marc and Dan Powell who, like their father Councillor Terry Powell before them, completed in the Paralympic Judo championship. The Town Council recognised their perseverance and dedication to their sport.

Another highlight of my year as Mayor, was attending the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra concert at Halewood Centre for Learning in December. Once again the Town Council part sponsored and helped organise this event which also brought together many of our schools, Halewood Centre for Learning, St Edmund Arrowsmith Catholic Centre for Learning and the Knowsley Singers to form the combined choir. My thanks go to all the partners, sponsors, volunteers and Town Council and Borough Council staff who made this evening so memorable. Christmas also gave the Town Council the opportunity once again to fund traditional pantomimes at the Arncliffe Centre and at New Hutte Neighbourhood Centre and contributed towards the cost of the pantomime at Halewood Centre for Learning. These brought much joy and laughter to our young people. Our older generation weren't forgotten either, as we again provided funding towards the Pensioners Christmas Party at the Arncliffe Centre.

In what was a very busy year, we continued our friendship links with Ballinasloe Town Council in the west of Ireland; once again gave the opportunity to residents to show off their gardening skills in our annual competition and supported Halewood Junior Football League. We supported the 2012 Culturefest which gave residents the opportunity to take part in a wide variety of cultural activities in the summer.

An integral part of the Borough Council's Area Partnership Board, the Town Council helped support its work to provide support to Halewood residents affected by the various Welfare and Benefit Changes being made by Central Government.

Earlier I mentioned the valuable work of volunteers. I am delighted that this year has seen the strengthening of various groups and the establishment of others. Halewood Community Spirit is fast becoming known for its work organising community events and Memory Lane Knowsley Dementia Care Support, the newest of our voluntary run groups is fulfilling much needed help in this specialist area. My admiration and thanks goes out to all community and voluntary organisations who work for the community of Halewood.

I would like to thank my fellow Councillors for their support throughout my year of office and the staff of the Town Council for their help and assistance. In particular, can I thank John Green, Town Manager for his hard work for the Town Council over the last 11 years and wish him a long and happy retirement.

It would be remiss of me not to mention Councillor Peter Corkill who sadly passed away recently. Peter was a true gentleman who, by his selfless nature epitomised all that is good about Halewood. The Council miss him and I miss him a great deal personally. Our thoughts and prayers are with Councillor Tina Harris and all of Peter's family.

Finally, I am proud to have represented our wonderful community during the year and I wish my successor, Councillor Edna Finneran a very happy and fulfilling term of office during 2013/14.

Councillors Surgeries

North Ward (Labour) — Please contact the Town Council Admin Offices for latest surgery details.
South Ward (Labour) - Please contact the Town Council Admin Offices for latest surgery details
West Ward (Labour)— Please contact the Town Council Admin Offices for latest surgery details

PLEASE NOTE OUR CONTACT DETAILS

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Councillors by Ward

North Ward— Cllrs Mrs S.Powell, T.Powell,
K.Dalton & Ms E.Finneran
West Ward— Cllrs N.Hogg, R.Swann, T.Fearns &
G.See
South Ward— Cllr Ms C.Harris, Ms M.Grant, &
A.Harvey. (Plus one vacancy)