



# *Stocksbridge Town Council*

## *Annual Report 2020/2021*



### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

It's been a funny old year, hasn't it?

Let's start at the beginning and thank my Deputy Mayor Richard Crowther for his support. A major big thank you to Teresa Bisatt and Karen Lindley for their tremendous hard work. The Council would not run without their organisational skills and dedication to the community to make sure everything is sorted behind the scenes.

Last year drifted into this year with the pandemic and because of this I was able to stay in the position of Mayor for a second term. I took this on with trepidation and worry as I knew things weren't happening. Unfortunately, things had to be cancelled until further notice and to stay within Government guidelines. Home schooling carried on and non-essential shops had to remain closed. I personally feel we have done amazingly as a community, helping each other especially the vulnerable and the ones in need. The zoom meetings set up by many to help with people's well-being and mental health are of great support.

This year we have welcomed the various vaccinations to combat the corona virus and our local Health Centres Deepcar and Stocksbridge have done an amazing job in getting everyone vaccinated as quickly and efficiently as possible.

I would like to congratulate Julie Grocutt on becoming our Cabinet Member for Transport and Development while still working hard as a Town Councillor. Julie has been at the forefront of our Town being successful in its bid for the Towns Fund of just over £24m. Work is ongoing to progress proposals which incorporate not just the Town Centre improvements but also leisure facilities, transport and environmental projects. Here is the link for further information [welcometostocksbridge.co.uk](http://welcometostocksbridge.co.uk)

As Town Councillors we have all been working hard representing our community with regards to planning developments such as Wood Royd Road and Hollin Busk. Dealing with individual cases such as housing, rubbish and general enquiries. Whilst many events were cancelled one event we did manage to carry out during the pandemic was a Christmas card competition with the local schools. Hundreds of entries were received with 16 finalists being chosen. The overall winner's design was used for the Town Council's Christmas card.

Citizens Award details 2019/2020:-

Mandy Aitken, Steel Valley Beacon Arts – in recognition of the hard work she does for children and youths.

Susan Davis, Mealtime Supervisor, Stocksbridge NI School – for over 36 years' service, ensuring that the dinner times run smoothly, knowing all the children by their little idiosyncrasies, working with umpteen different mealtime supervisors, staff and headteachers over her time at the school.

Trevor Fletcher and staff at Crown Cars – for their outstanding efforts on behalf of the community during the floods in 2019, saving many households from flood damage due to their prompt actions with the provision of flood defences.

Veronica & Ray Hawley & volunteers at Stocksbridge Food Bank Volunteers for their tireless work in providing a much needed service to residents in the area. I was lucky enough to visit all these fantastic people and give them their awards in person.

Awards for 2020/2021:- The awards were presented by newly elected Mayor, Cllr. Richard Crowther and Deputy Mayor, Cllr. Joe Staniforth



Valley Medical Centre and Deepcar Medical Centre for their hard work during the pandemic and in particular the delivery of the vaccination programme.





Katy Travis & Lee Hible, Stocksbridge Community Leisure Centre, for coordinating all the local people who volunteered during the pandemic.

Stocksbridge Community Care Group for keeping in contact with residents/vulnerable people during the pandemic.

All 6 schools in the area have been awarded £100 of book tokens each as a thank you to all the children, teachers and staff for their continued hard work and efforts during the pandemic.



Another thank you goes out to the work that the newly formed Stocksbridge and Deepcar Litter Pickers Group are doing, headed up by Helen Frith. Please contact them if you wish to volunteer.

I didn't think I would have much to say in this year's Annual Report but looking back I feel that we have an amazing community, so supportive and caring. We still feel pride in our NHS and key workers. Our local shops are still helping with deliveries. The Food Banks and Book Exchanges are still doing a fantastic job and now with everything opening up slowly I hope that this will continue, being caring and supportive in our community. Last of all I would like to thank you all for helping and supporting me in my role as Mayor of Stocksbridge, Deepcar and surrounding areas and wish the next Mayor all the enjoyment and best wishes in their role as I have loved it all. Thank you!

***Cllr. Catherine Ward***  
***Mayor/Chairman 2020/2021***

### **FINANCIAL REPORT 2020/21**

The Town Council approved expenditure for the financial year 2020/21 of £152,179. The main items of expenditure being: - contribution to Stocksbridge In Bloom and Steel Valley Project; Christmas Illuminations contract and maintenance and cleaning of the public toilet block at Bolsterstone. Grants of £2,500 were awarded to local groups for activities/projects in the area. Grants under the Sheffield Lakeland and Landscape Partnership scheme totalled £7,400. The Town Council contributed £20,000 to Stocksbridge Community Leisure Centre for running costs towards the small pool. During the year £45,743 Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) has been received from SCC. The precept collected from the local taxpayers amounted to £132,628. The balance was met from reserves, miscellaneous income and donations from local businesses towards the Christmas Illuminations. The Town Council are the facility managers of The ARC Town Hall building and income/expenditure for the building is also shown within the Town Council's accounts. The Town Council's accounts are subject to internal and external audit. The final audit report will be displayed after completion of the external audit. For the current year 2021/22, budgeted expenditure amounts to £161,494 with a precept of £128,124.

### **ELECTED MEMBERS FOR THE YEAR 2020/2021**

East Ward – Cllrs. Maximillion Milton and Mark Whittaker; North Ward – Cllrs. Richard Crowther and Catherine Ward  
South Ward – Cllrs. Julie Grocutt and Alan Law; West Ward – Cllrs. Susie Abrahams and Joe Staniforth

Clerk to the Council :- Teresa Bisatt

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