

“Beaumaris Means Business” The Town Mayor

When I was elected to the town council some seven years ago, the thought of being asked to be Town Mayor was never on my mind. To be totally honest, I didn't really know exactly how the Town Mayor was elected! The reason I joined the council was to make a difference and to ensure that the town continues to be the very special place that it is. I have thoroughly enjoyed my last two terms on the council and really hope I have managed to make a difference during that time. Now I am both delighted and humbled to be extended the enormous honour of representing our unique town as Mayor for the coming year.

I must first pay tribute to the retiring Mayor and Mayoress Dan and Olwen Jones for doing such an excellent job and in particular for their exceptional charity fundraising efforts for the NSPCC and Crossroads Care. Many thanks to you both for all your hard work – you're a tough act to follow!

So, what are my plans? Well as I made clear in the recent Town Council Annual General Meeting (AGM), my main focus will be 'Beaumaris Means Business' - please think about this as it has more than one meaning.

Volunteers, Businesses, Services and Organisations – “All working together to make the town work”.

For the AGM I wanted to thank all of the volunteers, businesses, services and organisations in the town and wider community, so I began to write a list. It wasn't until I started doing so that I realised just how extensive the list was going to be – this was going to be a very long speech! I was amazed at just how many dedicated and hardworking people are involved in making a town like Beaumaris so special. Everyday from dawn until dusk, hundreds of people work tirelessly behind the scenes, working together to not only ensure that the town is a safe and beautiful place to live, but also that it extends a warm welcome to the hundreds of thousands of tourists who visit each year. A very BIG thank you to you all.

Beaumaris is a fantastic place to live, but we cannot ignore the fact that the current state of the economy makes our lives more challenging on a daily basis. I think that all of us are feeling the impact of the significant budget deficit which Anglesey County Council are finding themselves dealing with, such as the removal or reduction of various services. Please be reassured that The Town Council and myself will continue to productively work with the County Council to reduce any negative outcomes these decisions may have on the town itself.

On a more positive note, this challenging economic climate can result in people, tourists in particular, making different decisions about where they go and how they spend their hard-earned cash. Holidaying in the UK rather than abroad is a trend that we definitely welcome here on Anglesey! So are we seeing this manifest itself here in Beaumaris? Well, we were fortunate enough to have a very busy Easter and we can only cross our fingers and toes that this indicates a promising year lays ahead. However I'm not going to take any chances, and that's why I will be focusing on supporting the corner stone of this whole cycle - the retail businesses – during my year as Mayor. I am committed to supporting volunteer organisations, clubs and community centres which provide a vital backbone to the people of this town and I believe that by encouraging retail business, we can then ensure that this investment is beneficial to us all.

I will be using all opportunities presented to me to concentrate on getting people into town with cash to spend, and encouraging them to return again and again. I live in the centre of town with my wife and two young children and on a warm summers day, when the high street is overflowing with visitors, there is nowhere in the world I'd rather be. So with the support of the town council I have already organised some events in town, starting with Mayors Saturday on 24th May with the RAF WWII aircraft flyby, and there are many other events in the pipeline. I am also hugely looking forward to the traditional 'Beating of the Bounds' perambulation on Monday 26th May and the Commonwealth Torch visit on Thursday 29th May. There will be collections at both of these events for my chosen charities, "Thomas Close Play Association" and "Llanfaes Community Centre" - I do hope you will join me in supporting these exciting town events. Lets all keep working together to make the town work.

“Beaumaris Means Business”

I shall do my very best to serve. Thank you/Diolch
Mayor Cllr Ian Davies & Mayoress Susan Davies