



### WORDS FROM MAYOR OF CROMER 2012/13 CLLR. GWEN SMITH

It has been a very busy year starting with the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations during which Cllr. Vera Woodcock MBE was presented with a jewel to commemorate 60 years of service as a councillor for Cromer & Suffield Park. In July the Olympic Torch visited Cromer and hundreds of people lined the streets en-route. Cromer Carnival was a whirl of activity and excitement and I had a lovely week with the Royal Party and the carnival organisers and helpers.

In October I had one of my best afternoons as Mayor, meeting the cyclists from BLESMA – a charity for current and ex-servicemen and women with missing limbs. They were on a six day cycle ride from Sandringham to Greenwich. The Civic Service was very well attended and on Remembrance Sunday I laid a wreath on behalf of the Town Council.

The Christmas Celebrations were successful and the Crab & Lobster Christmas Tree was a talking point and brought more visitors to the town. Once again the New Year's Day Fireworks were superb and brought large crowds in to the town.

The Cromer Branch of the Royal British Legion was my charity for the year and a cheque for £514.49 was presented following my civic fundraising evening.

The Bus Station is improved but there is still work to be done. The Town Council is working towards obtaining land for more allotments as the current site will eventually be needed for burials.

Cromer Town Council hosted a pan-parish meeting with representatives from the East of England Ambulance Trust at which concern was raised about waiting times for ambulances.

Finally I would like to mention our young people. I was lucky to attend the Awards Evening at Cromer Academy and met many of the pupils. I hope the young people soon get their skatepark at The Meadow and that Cromer Youth Football Club finds a permanent home.

### FINANCE 2012/13

The accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013 show a total income of £256,566 and expenditure of £208,000. The main income was from the precept, cemetery and rental income from North Lodge. The main expenses were cemetery maintenance, salaries, street lighting, utilities and loan repayments. The end of year accounts can be viewed in full on the Town Council website.

### WORDS FROM MAYOR OF CROMER 2013/14 CLLR. DAVID PRITCHARD

Following my year as Deputy Mayor it was an honour to be elected as the Mayor of Cromer Town Council. Unfortunately the first weeks of my year were tinged with great sadness following the death of our longest standing councillor Vera Woodcock M.B.E. She had served this town for over 60 years.

Over the last 18 months I have been working with Westerleigh towards the proposed Crematorium in Cromer and the next few months will see the Public Consultation and planning process commence. From the many people I have spoken to, it is evident that there is a need for such a facility.

During my year as Mayor I intend to set up a committee of interested people with a view to raising funds for the complete restoration of the War Memorial. With the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of World War One five years away, now is the time to start this. If you would like more information, please contact the Town Council Office. One of the fund-raising events I propose to hold will be a Community Carol Service early in December and hope that many groups and individuals from Cromer will be joining me.

To keep you informed of what I've been doing, I have created a blog which you can follow at <http://cromermayorpritchard.wordpress.com>

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