

CIVIC REPORT

Councillor Roger Carter – 26th February 2019 – 25th March 2019

DATE	FUNCTION	COMMENTS
28 th February	Sturminster Newton Civic Afternoon	Deputy - A wonderful event where a huge number of volunteers were brought together to celebrate and thank them for everything they do! I was blown away by the amount of people and amazing work they were doing!
1 st March	Corfe Mullen Parish Council Parish Tour & Annual Reception	The Chair of the Parish Council organised a tour of the village which included the history and the modern parts/leisure hub at Corfe Mullen. The visits ended with a tour of Julia's House Hospice – an organisation that requires £7m per year to run their two establishments. The buffet meal was also shared with local organisations and volunteers.
1 st March	2019 Community Chest Launch	Hall and Woodhouse give generously to local charities for a variety of reasons and good causes. They are worth bearing in mind when local charities want money for specific projects although they are now recognising that core funding is often an issue with charities.
4 th March	East Dorset District Council Chairman Thanksgiving Service	A very fitting way to ceremoniously hand over power to the new Unitary Authority from EDDC. A celebratory service was attended by all East Dorset Mayors in gowns and chains of office and representative children from many schools in the EDDC area. Musket volleys on the Minster Green and refreshments with entertainment completed the proceedings.
13 th March	Stronger Voices Forum	This was a presentation, primarily by Dorset NHS outlining Dorset's 5-year plan towards integrated care. Sadly, North Dorset was not mentioned during the presentation.
14 th March	Gillingham Civic Day	An interesting talk about St. Thomas' Church (primarily a 19 th Century building in Gothic revival style) was followed by a visit to the same. This was followed by a visit to the small museum (many artefacts in a small space) and the Gillingham Leisure Centre – interesting because it is run successfully as a Charitable trust and after initial funding now runs without taxpayer funding. Lunch at the rugby club was followed by a visit to a Garden Centre which assists and employs young adults with SEN – work and work experience are coupled with life-skill classes and basic literacy and numeracy. A wonderful organisation.
20 th March	Railway Club Presentation	I was privileged to not only show appreciation to BFRC for their help with WW1 commemoration exhibitions, but for giving people an opportunity to learn new modelling skills or hone well established ones. I was very impressed with the care, skill and dedication of the members and the beautiful models they make.
22 nd March	Passing Out Parade SPARC Plus Squad Blandford Fire Station	Similar to the work of the Prince's Trust, D&W Fire Service offer 5-day courses to late teens/early adults based upon fire and rescue scenarios. The aim is not to produce firemen as such but to give young people essential life skills – teamwork, perseverance and confidence. Each was given a recognised AQA qualification on completion of the course. It was amazing to see how, in a short space of time these young people had obviously learned a wide range of practical and life skills.

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Meetings Attended by the Chairman of Council

None