

TOWN CLERK BRIEFING NOTE

5.9 PAST MAYOR BADGES

It is customary for the outgoing Mayors to be presented with a Past Mayor Badge. The Council's current stock is exhausted.

The quotations following, to supply the Council with 5 Badges, have been obtained:

Peter Farrow (local)	£1400 (£280 ea)
Fattorini	£737.05 (£147.41 ea) + £780 'one off' cost for set up
	Total: £1517.05
Vaughtons	£2400 (£480.00 ea)

Putting to one side their actual cost, I believe the Council has no power to purchase these badges. I emailed a number of Confederation Clerks asking whether they issued Past Mayor Badges and how their council's justified the cost:

Clerk A said they issue badges, they were very expensive and she did not know under which power they were purchased.

Clerk B thought there were 'various powers, suggested S137 (*see below*) and advised that she bought them in batches of 6 at £131 each.

Clerk C thought that Sections 142, 144 or 222 of the Local Government Act 1972 would be relevant – but more probably S137. The die cost £150 and the badges cost £5-£6 (min order 25).

Sections 142 and 144 are mainly about promoting tourism. Section 222 permits councils to represent the area's inhabitants at public inquiries and the like.

This leaves Section 137 (the 'free resource'). This power allows a local council to spend (currently) up to £5.64 x the total number of electors on something for which there is no specific power – provided that it will benefit the area, or its inhabitants (including part/some of them) and that the area/inhabitants will benefit in a manner commensurate with that expenditure.

Section 137 has certainly been used by councils to purchase a Mayoral Chain. However, this is an item which will be seen/admired by many residents (helping to instill a sense of place/civic pride), is owned by the Council and is passed from one Mayor to another. A Past Mayor Badge is essentially a gift, benefits just one individual and may spend most of its life in a sock drawer!

TOWN CLERK RECOMMENDATION That outgoing Mayors desiring a Past Mayor Badge be expected to fund such a badge (or similar item) from their Mayoral allowance and/or own monies.

RYE TOWN COUNCIL

**TOWN CLERK'S REPORT
MARCH 2007 (Month 12)**

TOWN HALL COMMUNICATIONS

	Month	Last year	Year to date	Last year to date
Post in	162	177	2015	1872
Post out	71	223	2383	2416
email in*	182	214	2843	2607
email out	76	113	1043	916
Tel calls in	156	168	2473	2332
Tel calls out	78	95	1645	1584
Fax in*	1	5	47	48
Fax out	9	10	205	198
Personal callers	65	78	802	730

TOWN HALL BOOKINGS

General	2	1	45	40
Ceremonies	2	1	26	22
Ceremony enqs	5	5	82	75

TOWN CLERK DATES

Sat 3	Local Action Plan Launch, Community Centre
Tues 6	Planning and Policy Committee meetings
Wed 7	Waste seminar, De La Warr Pavilion
Wed 14	Crowhurst Quality Parish presentation
Mon 19	Council and Planning Committee meetings
Fri 23	Street Trading meeting with RDC
Sat 24	Wedding

25.4.07

**TOWN CLERK'S REPORT
APRIL 2007 (Month 1)**

TOWN HALL COMMUNICATIONS

	Month	Last year	Year to date	Last year to date
Post in	140	212	140	212
Post out	216	157	216	157
email in*	221	199	221	199
email out	146	119	146	119
Tel calls in	199	213	199	213
Tel calls out	100	129	100	129
Fax in*	1	3	1	3
Fax out	11	8	11	8
Personal callers	69	71	69	71

TOWN HALL BOOKINGS

General	4	8	4	8
Ceremonies	0	1	0	1
Ceremony enqs	15	3	15	3

TOWN CLERK DATES

<i>Mon 2</i>	Policy and Planning Committee meetings
<i>Tues 3</i>	Confederation Promotions Working Group meeting, Rye TH
<i>Wed 4</i>	Annual Town Meeting, Community Centre
<i>Wed 11</i>	Rother Assoc of Local Councils meeting, Watch Oak, Battle
<i>Mon 16</i>	Planning Committee meeting
<i>Wed 18</i>	Rother Clerks' meeting, Almonry, Battle
<i>Sun 22</i>	St George's Day Service
<i>Mon 23</i>	Town Management Action Group meeting
<i>Wed 25</i>	Rye District Council candidates' Q & A session
<i>Thurs 26</i>	Rye in Bloom Committee meeting
<i>Mon 30</i>	Public Services Committee meeting

24.5.07

**RYE TOWN COUNCIL
WORK PROGRAMME as at 31 May 2007**

PROJ ITEM 7

Task/Project title	Outline	Deadline	Status	Notes
Allotments – legal status	Asking the Nat. Assoc of Leisure & Allotment Gardeners for a legal opinion	No	Pending	RTC affiliated to the Association in the expectation of availing itself of gratis specialist legal advice
Annual Accounts 2006-07	Town's Council's Income & Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet	31.8.07	Appointed – commences 19.6.07	Drawn up by Gibbons & Mannington
Annual Report 2006-07	Review of the Council year	Early Summer 07	Design & print quotes rec'd	
Annual Return 2006-07 (Audit Commission)	Statutory financial statement and statement of assurance	31.8.07	Pending	Guidance on new requirement to be provided at SALC Clerks' Network Day, 3.7.07. RTC's Audit Day is 29.8.07.
Annual Return 2006-07 (HM Revenue & Customs)	Statutory submission of PAYE data	19.5.07	Filed (completed)	
Cycle Path – linking and extending	Working Group established to explore link the National Cycle Path and extending to the TPCC	No	One meeting – expert advice TBA	ESCC Cycling Officer, Sustrans & RDC Sports Development Officer to be invited to provide guidance
Finger post – Community Centre	To be affixed to 'black & gold' post at top of Conduit Hill	No	Pending	
Grounds maintenance contract (RDC)	Contract expires Mar 09. RDC has a working group to explore options.	No	Awaiting formal approach from RDC working group	RTC has expressed 'in principle' interest in taking on the Rye element of the contract subject to agreement on funding
Internal audit 2006-07	Informs Annual Return (Audit Commission)	31.8.07	Scheduled 5.6.07 & 7.6.07	Internal auditor is Paula Fisher
Newsletter (June 07)	3 pages within <i>Fixtures</i>	18.5.07	Completed	Newsletter published quarterly
Rye Local Action Plan	Consulting the community to produce a statement of actions it would like to see undertaken in the future	No	Some community prospective Steering Group members identified	Plan production expected to take 12-15 months. 'Appeal' for more members to appear in June newsletter

Strand Car Park Pedestrianisation Proposal	Presenting costed proposal of RTC's preferred scheme (dual use summer, car park winter) to RDC	No	Pending	
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