



Ripon City Council Achievements 2015/16

The Annual Parish Meeting provides an opportunity to look back over the year and outline what Ripon City Council has achieved. During 2015/16 we have, amongst other things:

- Adopted a Business Plan for the period 2015 – 2020 which provides the residents, businesses and organisations with a clear view of what the Council is seeking to achieve over the coming years.
- Agreed and set a budget for 2016/17 which will enable us to invest over £42,000 in providing support to a number of organisations through our small grants scheme and our partnership delivery fund and to support the delivery of strategic investments.
- Progressed, in collaboration with our partners and the volunteer team, the development of the Ripon City Plan (which will be subject to further community consultation in summer 2016), to provide a strategic plan for the development of Ripon between 2015 and 2030, including developing key policies for improving the City Centre, redevelopment of the MOD sites and identifying new sites for businesses and housing.
- Expanded the marketing and promotion of Ripon using the Discover Ripon brand by continuing to grow our social media channels, developing our website, producing new promotional videos, introducing new events guides and improving the information on the City Centre signboards.
- Worked with organisations to attract new events to the Market Place such as the Riponian Rally and St Wilfrid's Rally and support the growth of existing events such as Love Your Local Market Day and St Wilfrid's Parade.
- Continued to manage and maintain Hugh Ripley Hall as a valued community venue in the city which is used by a number of organisations and started a process of planning for improving the facility.
- Responded, as a statutory consultee, to Harrogate Borough Council as the local planning authority, on 144 planning applications representing local views and concerns.
- Recognised the important military history and connections of the City by granting the Freedom of the City to RAF Leeming and celebrating this as part of the Battle of Britain commemorations.
- Continued to lead the Alderman TF Spence Charity which comprises of both Ripon City and Littlethorpe Parish Councillors and representation from other organisations and interested parties to manage the Quarry Moor Nature Reserve site for the benefit of the community.
- Ensured that the views and concerns of Ripon residents have been considered by responding to consultations about proposed changes to fire cover arrangements in Ripon, the emerging Harrogate District Local Plan and changes to Ripon Library.