Mayor's Report to Full Council – 26th February 2020

January has been an unexpectedly quiet month for the Mayoralty, however I have been kept busy with a total of 31 unofficial, council and ward meetings.

The first official engagement was on January 27th, the Holocaust Memorial Service at Havant Cemetery. It was a very moving ceremony with the laying of wreaths and poems and readings from Borough school children. The service was very well attended and I was pleased that the Mayors of Fareham, Gosport and Winchester and the Chairmen of the Isle of Wight, and East Hants also attended not only to show their support for our commemoration, but also to remember the six million Jews who died.

On February 1st, I opened a new charity shop on Hayling Island. The Brent Lodge Wildlife Hospital near Chichester already has a shop in Havant but this is their fifth shop to open in the country. The opening was very well attended, and I wish them every success in the future.

On February 6th, I attended the Havant Borough Sports Awards at the Horizon Leisure Centre and it was inspiring to see so many people being awarded trophies for their achievements in promoting sport in the Borough.

Saturday was a busy day as my Consort and I did a bucket collection at Asda in Waterlooville for my two charities, and managed to raise £600 which was amazing. It was a six-hour shift, and at the end of that we attended a fund-raising event for the Mayor of Test Valley at Romsey. It was a long day, but worth it and I would like to thank the five volunteers who each did an hour or more to help us collect. This was much appreciated. We are holding another collection at Asda in Havant on Saturday March 7th, so any volunteers would be wonderful!