

**Beverley Town Council**

*Making a difference*



# Annual Report Municipal Year 2015/6



# Overview of Beverley Town Council

## His Worshipful the Mayor of Beverley



Hello, the Town Council overall I believe, has had another successful year.

It has been an honour and a privilege to serve a second term of office as Mayor. My consort, Thomas and I have visited many community groups, churches, residential homes and schools and it has never ceases to amaze us, how community spirited and caring people of the town are. We have been so well received no matter where we have visited.

In attending the events we are always promoting the lovely town of Beverley when meet with other civic dignitaries from around the East Riding and from the North Bank of the River Humber.

We have been able to share the town with others by holding events, the NGS Open Day, Yorkshire Day Celebrations, Beverley in Bloom Town competition, Yorkshire in Bloom judging, Beverley Food Festival, Beverley Christmas Festival of Food & Drink at the Beverley Minster and Beverley Christmas Lights switch on. All of these events were well attended and increased the footfall to the town. A special thank you goes to all volunteers who are involved in the above activities.

This year saw the start of the Tour de Yorkshire in Beverley and I thanked everyone in Beverley for turning Beverley yellow and blue. It was a fantastic tourism opportunity for the town.

The annual town meeting and my civic dinner were held at the East Riding College which has helped to bring a close working relationship with the college.

The business of the Council has proceeded smoothly, a special thank you to all the staff the Town Clerk Ms Helen Watson, Deputy Town Clerk Ms Carol Oliver, Administrative Assistant Mrs Libby Woodhouse, Handyman Mr Mike Andrew, Macebearer Mr Peter Nendick, and to the former Local Food Co-Ordinator Mrs Marie Louise Robinson who left the Town Council in March 2016.

I am grateful to my chosen charities Beverley Community Lift and Beverley Cherry Tree Association Stroke Club for their support at the fund raising events throughout the year.

I would like to thank everyone who has supported me throughout the municipal year and I wish you all well for the future and wish my successor well.



## **Policy and Finance Committee**

### **Committee Chair**

### **Councillor Bryan Pearson**

As Chairman of the Policy and Finance Committee, I would like to thank all the Councillors on the Committee who have been involved over the year. My thanks also go to the Town Clerk for her legal and financial advice, funding and sponsorship management, along with the administrative and operational support from all officers.

One of the roles of the committee is calculating the budget and therefore the precept for the following year. This quite often leads to hours of debate but in the end common ground is reached. Policies are changed as required for efficiencies and law. The present Policy Committee are looking at prudent and cost efficient spending of the budget, which is then managed by the Town Clerk.

The Policy Committee have centred on a cost neutral way of supporting events organised by Beverley Town Council, such as the Food Festivals and the Beverley - Agincourt 600 , which are sponsored by local business and grants, whilst getting more members and organisations from the community involved.

The Town Council were delighted to win the REYTA Best Large Event category for the Beverley Food Festival, and be a finalist in the REYTA Small Event category for The Christmas Festival of Food and Drink, both awarded in March 2016.

On behalf of Beverley Town Council, I would like to thank all our sponsors and grant funders over the year.

## **Planning, Property & Services**

### **Committee Chair**

### **Councillor Elaine Aird**



It has been a very interesting year for the Committee and I would like to thank the Allotment Representatives who have throughout the year continued to support the Committee. They attend the meetings on a regular basis and we receive reports on the various sites.

Whilst we have diligently scrutinized all the smaller planning applications we have also been busy looking at larger applications. One of these larger applications was for the erection of 4 dwellings to be built following the demolition of the Lady le Gros Public House on Norwood.

As well as planning applications from householders for anything from extensions to dormer windows to conservatories, we have also had applications in from businesses for change of use – the most recent one was for change of use from an office to a yoga studio.

We are also asked for new litter and grit bins to be sited

We also get up to date reports on the state of the Skate Park – the ramps have had to be repaired on numerous occasions as has the surrounding fence. All this of course is at a cost to the Council.

The committee's views are also sought on tree applications, on which the Town Council has been consulted by the Local Environment Planning Authority. Some of these we have approved but on several occasions we have objected to the trees being felled and our views have been taken into consideration. We are also informed of planned road closures

The Committee also reviewed the Council's Community Emergency Plan, which we felt ought to be brought up to date. Hopefully in the very near future an officer from the East Riding will be attending to advise us of any changes we need to make.

I would like all my fellow members of the Committee for all their input in the meetings. My thanks also go to the Town Clerk, Administration Assistant and the Handyman for their support throughout the year in facilitating the services required. Last but not least I would like to thank Carol Oliver for all her help and effort that she puts into preparing for the meetings and for all the advice that she has given me during the year.

**Grants Committee**  
**Committee Chairman**  
**Councillor Duncan Jack**

The grants committee has met and looked at many diverse bids for help.

Funds have once again been awarded after very careful consideration as we are aware we are handing out Beverley rate payers' hard earned money.

Funding has been given for projects starting up and those in existence in purchasing items which will have some longevity have been successful.

Douglas Bader Foundation	£600.00
Beverley Westwood Lions Club	£1,230.00
East Yorkshire Broadcasting Ltd	£2,750.00
Beverley Minster Choir	£500.00
Beverley Against Poverty	£500.00
Beverley Male Voice Choir	£600.00
Beverley & District Chrysanthemum Society	£350.00
Beverley in Bloom	£2,596.00
St Mary's Parish Church Two Churches, One Town Story	£1,596.00
Beverley & District Pipe Band	£1,400.00
Beverley Rugby Football Union Club	£1,500.00
Hull Thursday Road Club	£750.00

# Annual Report for Beverley Food Festivals, NGS Open Allotments Day and Local Markets Events

## Helen Watson Town Clerk

The local food activities carried out this year centred on the sustainable aspects of promoting local food, its growers and producers. This included three seasonal events and the continuation of the Wednesday Market local produce markets pilot project.

The seasonal events included:

- The National Garden Scheme (NGS) Open Allotments Day in July – held at Kitchen Lane and Queensgate allotments
- The Beverley Food Festival in October
- The Christmas Festival of Food & Drink in November Six local produce monthly markets from April to September

These events help to boost the local economy, and provide a great showcase for the town for its residents and tourists to enjoy. Over 20,000 people attended the Beverley Food Festival and approx. 9,200 people attended the Christmas Festival of Food & Drink.

The local produce markets extended the local produce offering in Beverley, and helped to revitalise the Wednesday Market area of the town through this pilot project activity. The project was successful in receiving £10,000 from the East Riding of Yorkshire 'High Street Fund', and £5000 from the Beverley Town Council 'From Field to Table' project. 32 different stallholders attended the local produce markets, with a total of 117 stalls over the 6 month period.

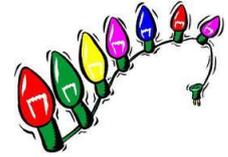
A partnership approach to delivering these local food activities was taken at every opportunity, and this helped to engage the local community, resulting in a wide range of beneficiaries and audience. Partner organisations included: Beverley Minster, Beverley Minster Youth Group, Beverley FM Radio Station, Beverley in Bloom, East Yorkshire Local Food Network, Hull College, HEYHA (Hull & East Yorkshire Hospitality Association), East Riding Dementia Awareness Alliance, The Cherry Tree Stroke Club and Beverley Community Lift.

2015 was the 10<sup>th</sup> annual Beverley Food Festival, and there were 105 stalls. The event also raised a total of £1624.20 for the Mayor of Beverley's charities, through the BBQ and tombola stalls. A special commemorative cake was commissioned and this was shared with visitors to the event.

There were 60 stalls at the Beverley Town Council's 4<sup>th</sup> Christmas Festival of Food and Drink, held inside Beverley Minster.

**The Community Training Allotment plot situated on Sparkmill Lane in Beverley continued to be put to good use, with local charity FIND 2 using the plot to extend their learning opportunities for young people and adults with learning difficulties. This was given a 'Thriving award by RHS Its Your Neighbourhood.**

Press and promotion has been a key feature in delivering our project remit, and we have made good use of social media and the Beverley Town Council website. We are grateful to receive great coverage from local and regional press, TV and radio.



## **Christmas Lights Working Group**

### **Group Chair Councillor Ann Willis**

The Christmas Lights Switch on has developed year on year involving the community and this year the school choirs from St. Nicholas and St. John's Primary Schools delighted us with a varied choice of Christmas songs.

The small committee of dedicated members who represent their organisations in the town have met monthly throughout the year to bring about the lighting up of the town for the festive season. I would like to thank all the people behind the scenes who make the town really sparkle and attend to the infrastructure required and replacement of lighting features plus raising funds with which to achieve the finished displays.

Thanks are expressed to:

- My two colleagues Councillors Dodsworth and Tom Astell for their support Prue Blake and her team, who fund raise funds throughout the year too and organise the small trees that help Beverley to sparkle every year.
- Harry Burton and the Beverley Lions who decorate the Market Cross and organise the Service.
- Peter Jacobson and his team from the East Riding, who have the electrical and technical expertise.
- Rod Towse from the East Riding of Yorkshire council RYC has been most helpful in offering a solution for us whilst the meetings looked at the necessary safety measures needed when faced with the exceptionally large crowd of people.
- Judy Sager and Les Ford and The Westwood Lions and, particularly, their lovely sleigh!
- The Beverley Town Council with substantial support from the Beverley Lights Appeal Group, who have built on this initial ceremony with a large Christmas Tree and 2 cone trees, the snowflakes, new small blizzards and larger street decorations.
- Julian Minshall and Phil Scaife from the Chamber of Trade.
- Graham Tait from Wykeland
- Ben Shires who switched on the lights and was brilliant with the children. In particular he coped with the rain and cold.
- Carol Oliver, Deputy Town Clerk, Beverley Town Council, whose administrative support has been invaluable and who sorts out the problems, which always arise

This year the Flemingate Centre's tree was switched on by the Mayor and Ben Shires. At Wednesday Market, the children were presented with their Certificates and prizes for the children's competition by Ben Shires.

The procession ably led by the Beverley & District Pipe Band led the procession from Wednesday Market to Saturday Market, lighting the trees at Angel Square and Wilco's corner and finished with the ~Beverley Lions' service on the Market Cross with the tree being lit by the President of the Beverley Lions and the Mayor.

The weather was as bad as it could be with rain and wind but everyone battled on to make the day a success.

As Chairman of the Christmas Lights Committee I extend my thanks to everyone involved in this real community success.



**Beverley in Bloom**  
**Group Chairman**  
**Councillor Peter Astell**

Over the year, an enthusiastic group of people have endeavoured to keep planters in the filled with flowers despite frosts, snow and drought. The tubs in Wednesday Market catch the eye as you walk or drive through and the manger baskets at the Minster Door Railings are a delight of careful selection and preparation.

I do not intend to name all the people involved in maintaining the town's appearance and our reputation as a consistent award winner in Yorkshire in Bloom I thank everyone for their sterling effort and freely-given time.

Do not be mistaken when you catch sight of a hi-vis jacketed figure weeding or planting around the town, that they are not Town Council employees – they are likely to be Beverley in Bloom volunteers, who care about what Beverley looks like and enjoy the satisfaction of seeing things growing, plants, flowers and shrubs reflecting their interest and pride in the town.

We have an allotment on the Sparkmill Lane site where plants purchased by the Council can be nurtured in two poly tunnels. There is always work to be done there, and we have sub groups organising fund raising events and the Town's floral displays and gardening competition.

The Committee meets quarters to discuss matters with the Town Council. Most projects are organised and discussed in the groups.

Grants have been applied for to Tesco Community Fund. The group has raised money from sponsorship from companies, social events, donations and applying for grants.

The Beverley in Bloom worked with the Town Council to turn the town "yellow and blue" for the Tour de Yorkshire start by decorating planters with blue covering and yellow bows.

We were proud that Beverley in Bloom was awarded a Silver Gilt certificate for 2015 by Yorkshire in Bloom. Plans for 2016-17 are to replace the planters once the result of the Tesco grant is known and also to apply to the Town Council grants fund for the purchase of replacement planters in commemoration of the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday.



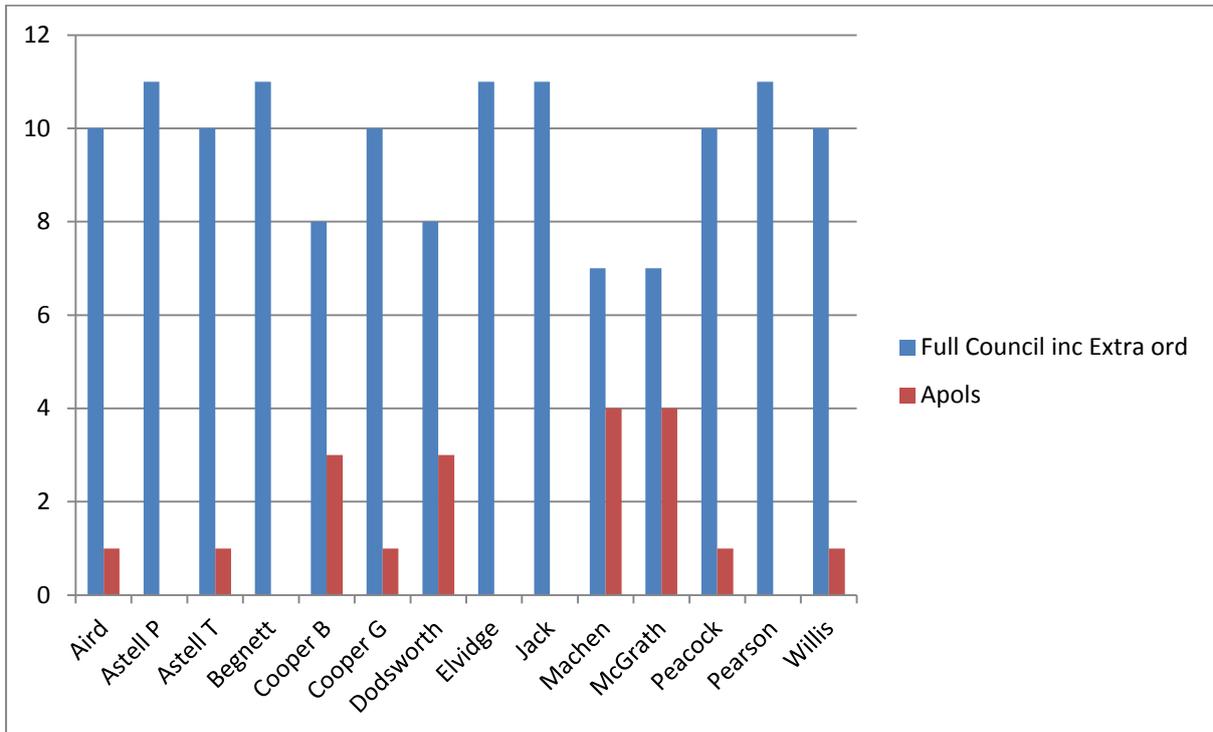
**Beverley War Memorial Hall**  
**Council Representatives – No meetings**  
**held**

## Annual Accounts 2015/2016

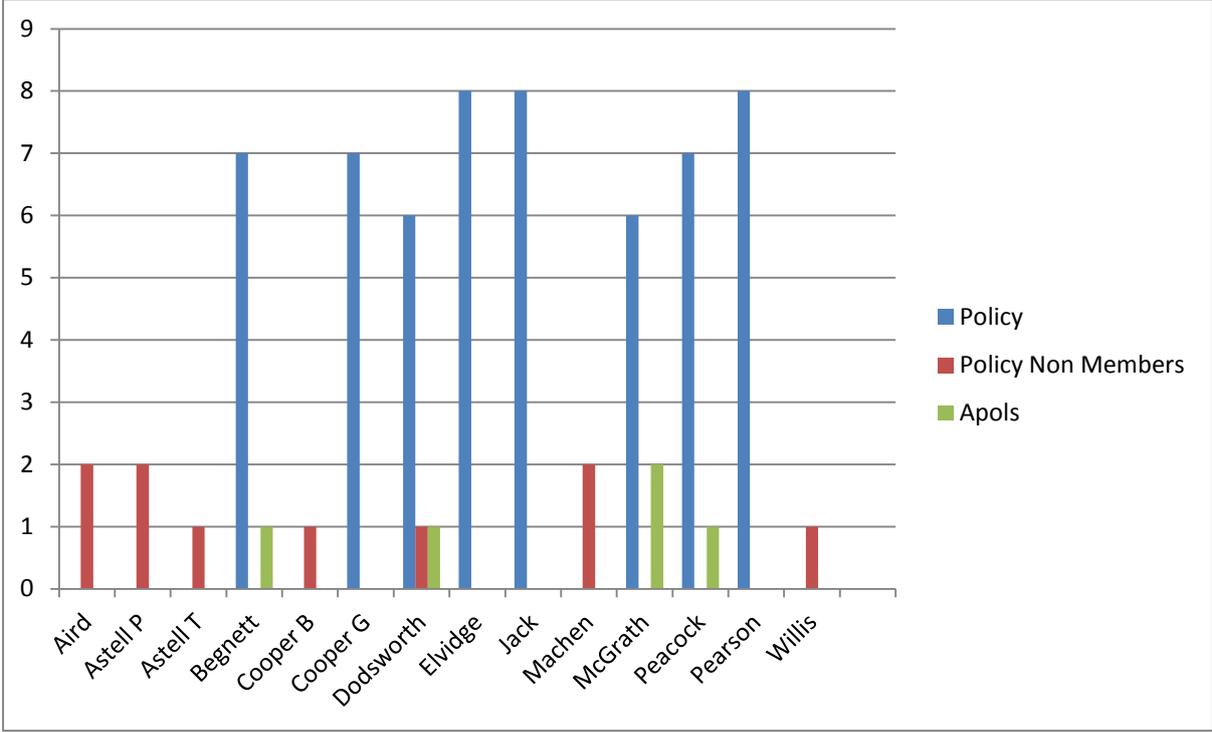
31st March 2015			31st March 2016
	<b>Operating Income</b>		
£250.00	Administration		£0.00
£3,835.00	Civic and Democratic		£469.00
£19,359.00	Grants		£27,778.00
£2,646.00	Town Maintenance		£425.00
£7,307.00	Town Events		£6,956.00
£5,408.00	Allotments		£6,379.00
£285,245.00	Income		£290,730.00
<b>£324,050.00</b>	<b>Total Income</b>		<b>£332,737.00</b>
	<b>Running Costs</b>		
£99,116.00	Staff Costs		£89,858.00
£18,348.00	Administration		£19,086.00
£28,425.00	Accommodation		£25,359.00
£13,822.00	Civic and Democratic		£20,476.00
£45,092.00	Grants		£59,770.00
£42,312.00	Town Maintenance		£43,118.00
£23,670.00	Town Events		£24,186.00
£5,428.00	Allotments		£4,219.00
<b>£276,213.00</b>	<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>£286,072.00</b>
		<b>General Fund Analysis</b>	
£311,810.00		Opening Balance	£363,993.00
£324,050.00		Plus : Income for Year	£332,737.00
£635,860.00			£696,729.00
£276,213.00		Less : Expenditure for Year	£286,072.00
£359,647.00			£410,657.00
-£4,346.00		Transfers TO / FROM Reserves	-£1,325.00
£363,993.00		Closing Balance	£411,982.00

# Councillor Attendance Figures

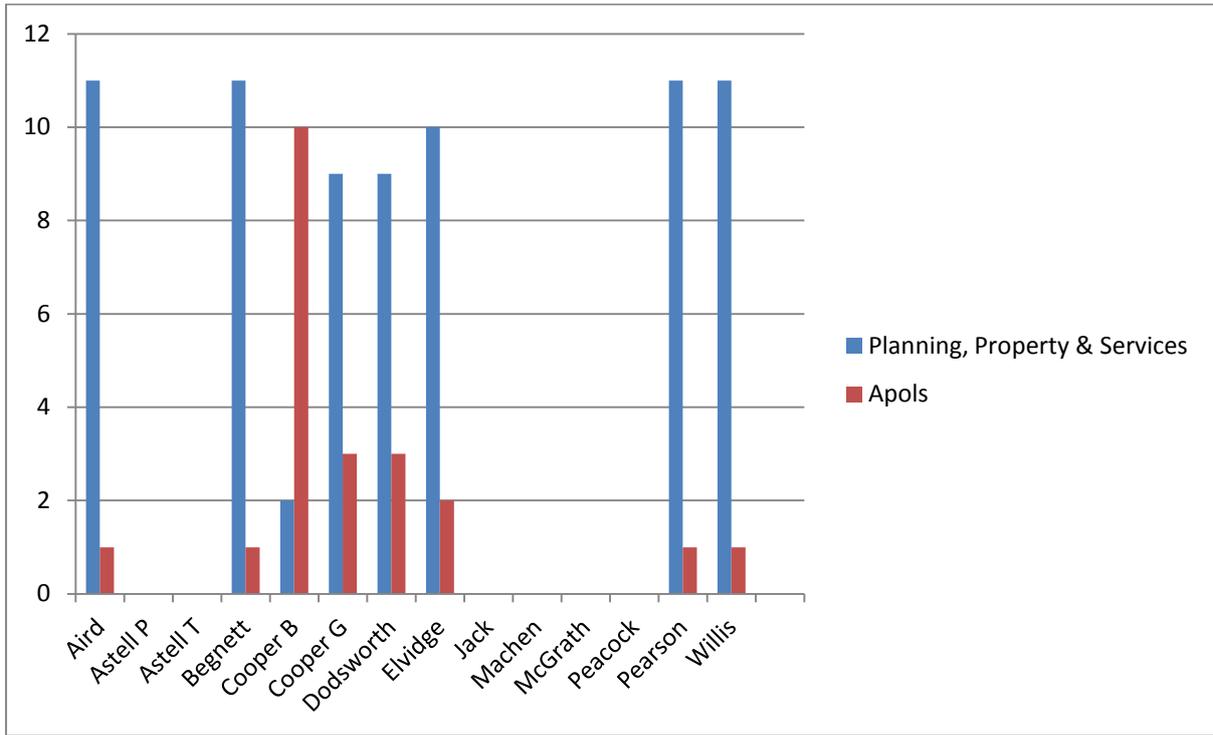
## Full Council including Extra-Ordinary Meetings



# Policy Meeting



# Planning, Property & Services



**Town Councillor Allowances**  
**The Local Authorities (Member's Allowances)**  
**(England) Regulations 2003**  
**2015/16 Financial Year**

Allowances paid to each member of Beverley Town Council are as follows:

	Allowance	Travel
Aird		£0.00
P Astell	£250.00	£966.60
T Astell	£250.00	£250.00
R Begnett	£250.00	£250.00
B Cooper	£250.00	£250.00
G Cooper		£0.00
Dodsworth	£250.00	£37.44
Elvidge	£250.00	£250.00
Jack		£0.00
Machen		£0.00
McGrath	£250.00	£250.00
Peacock		£0.00
Pearson		£0.00
Willis	£250.00	£37.50

## Town Councillor Contact Details

Elaine Aird 13 Northfield Road Beverley HU17 7HN <a href="mailto:elainea@elainea.karoo.co.uk">elainea@elainea.karoo.co.uk</a>	St Mary's West Conservative 864423	David Elvidge 97 Norwood Grove Beverley HU17 9JP <a href="mailto:munchjess@munchjess.karoo.co.uk">munchjess@munchjess.karoo.co.uk</a>	St Mary's East Conservative 870979 (h) 07859 191573 (m)
Peter Astell 41 Neville Avenue Beverley HU17 0HX <a href="mailto:peterastell@yahoo.co.uk">peterastell@yahoo.co.uk</a>	Minster North Labour 07907 353115	Duncan Jack 98 Laughton Road Beverley HU17 9JR <a href="mailto:grocerjack@grocerjack.karoo.co.uk">grocerjack@grocerjack.karoo.co.uk</a>	St Mary's East Independent 862894 (h) 882437 (w)
Tom Astell 24 Beaver Road Beverley HU17 0QW <a href="mailto:cllr.tomastell@gmail.com">cllr.tomastell@gmail.com</a>	St Mary's East Labour 07929 797150	Nick Machen 2 Thurstan Road Beverley HU17 8LP <a href="mailto:nick@nickm.karoo.co.uk">nick@nickm.karoo.co.uk</a>	St Mary's West Beverley Party 864645
Robert Begnett 32 Goodwood Close Beverley HU17 9TF <a href="mailto:rob.begnett@gmail.com">rob.begnett@gmail.com</a>	St Mary's East Independent 07870 204988	Paul McGrath 7 Waterside Road Beverley HU17 0PP <a href="mailto:pmcgrath@pmcgrath.karoo.co.uk">pmcgrath@pmcgrath.karoo.co.uk</a>	Minster South Labour 865027 (h) 07789 003730 (m)
Ben Cooper 54 Sigston Road Beverley HU17 9NX <a href="mailto:bipodtouchc@googlemail.com">bipodtouchc@googlemail.com</a>	Minster North Labour 861948(h) 07946 575953(m)	Dominic Peacock 1 The Sycamores Beverley HU17 0PF <a href="mailto:depyeo@yahoo.co.uk">depyeo@yahoo.co.uk</a>	Minster South Conservative
Geoff Cooper 302 Grovehill Road Beverley HU17 0JE <a href="mailto:geoffcooper@hotmail.co.uk">geoffcooper@hotmail.co.uk</a>	Minster South Conservative 868003	Bryan Pearson 1 Westwood Road Beverley HU17 8EN	St Mary's West Conservative 861122(h) 867103 (w)
Philip Dodsworth 15 Kings Square Beverley HU17 9HH <a href="mailto:p.dodsworth@email.com">p.dodsworth@email.com</a>	Minster North Independent 867406 (h) 07779 143905 (m)	Ann Willis 23 Hillcrest Drive Beverley HU17 7JL <a href="mailto:tomann.willis@gmail.com">tomann.willis@gmail.com</a>	Minster South Labour 07961 699049 888511

**Town Clerk:** Ms Helen Watson **Deputy Town Clerk:** Ms Carol Oliver

**Other Officers:** Mrs Marie Louise Robinson (left 31.03.2016) and Mrs Libby Woodhouse

**Handyman:** Mr Mike Andrew **Macebearer:** Mr Peter Nendick

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