Speech re Vote of Thanks to the retiring Mayor of Merton – Cllr Janice Howard
By Cllr Oonagh Moulton, Wimbledon Park Ward at Annual Meeting 16.09.20

Madame Mayor
Firstly I would like to welcome you and offer my congratulations on your election and my very best wishes for your coming year. I appreciate this will not be an easy year but I will endeavour to offer my support whenever possible as I know all councillors across the Chamber would wish to.

Madame Mayor some 16 months ago I stood in Chamber to speak in support of the nomination our then new Mayor, Cllr Janice Howard which as a fellow Ward Member of Wimbledon Park, I was proud to do.

I mentioned then that Cllr Howard would bring added vigour and energy to her role as Mayor. Indeed, as many here tonight know she also has wonderful organisational skills which combined with her great focus and powers of persuasion has ensured that the many Mayoral events and fundraising events that she was able to hold were well supported and that everyone here tonight had the opportunity to be involved and have some fun at the same time!

Madame Mayor, Merton has been lucky to have had such a hard-working and diligent Mayor for a record number of months. She has provided excellent leadership, support and service to our constituents, local communities, businesses & charities across the whole borough. Indeed the amount she has raised is testament to that hard work.

On a personal note I was delighted that one of my former Mayoral charities, Merton Macmillan was chosen to be one of hers too along and along with Faith in Action I am delighted that it has been such a successful fundraising year!

I would I also like to pay tribute to her consort Cllr Andrew Howard and their children Ben & Bella who have supported her and attended many of her wide-ranging events. And of course, also to her Deputy Cllr Ed Foley and his Consort Miranda and their children who have done so much in support too.

Madame Mayor I fully endorse this vote of thanks!

This page is intentionally left blank