

Thank you Madam Mayor.

I would like to thank Councillor Janice Howard for being a superb Mayor and first citizen of this borough, and her loyal Deputy Councillor Ed Foley. I hope Janice has enjoyed her time as Mayor. Councillor Howard has been a wonderful Mayor and has visited many groups and organisations across the borough and they've all been very pleased to see her.

I also note all the charity events that Janice has very skilfully organised which have been well attended, supported and rather fun. I particularly enjoyed and liked the cricket match which has held at Mitcham Cricket Green and the Christmas dinner. Alas, with Covid locking down the country back in March, it was very sad that Janice's "piece de resistance" showpiece event, the Mayoral charity ball, had to be cancelled.

Again, Councillor Howard showed a remarkable bounce back from this, arranging several auctions which helped generate a lot of funds and cash for her chosen charities. I was quite pleased myself because I won some wine on the latest auction and I do enjoy a glass of vino. I also know that over her time as Mayor Councillor Howard raised I think if I'm not mistaken a record amount in her Mayoral year, which is great to see. Janice, many thanks and congratulations on your time as Mayor of Merton.

Councillor Daniel Holden

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