

Councillor Macauley Vote of thanks Speech

Thank you Chief Executive, Deputy Lieutenant Chris Cotton, Councillors and Madam Mayor, officers and distinguished guests. It gives me great pleasure tonight to give a vote of thanks to the retiring mayor of Merton, Cllr Sally Kenny for all her excellent work which she has done especially during this difficult period of Covid-19 for her two charities Merton and Morden Guild and Morden Little league.

The job of the first citizen of the borough is a very personal one in that the responsibilities are not abstract or theological but rather direct, specific and intimate. Unfortunately, during the period of her mayoralty it has been very difficult for Cllr Kenny to perform any outdoor activities due to Covid restrictions. However during this short period of time she has done quite a lot of activities with her team; virtual bingo, sponsored litter, sponsored swim, charity calendar, virtual raffle auction, Christmas song produced by the students of Cricket Green School and supported by the wonder Cllr Linda Kirby and also a virtual Balloon race. In the last two weeks Cllr Kenny has presented well over 400 certificates to Merton residents who have demonstrated a caring and nurturing approach to their neighbours, throughout the Covid-19 pandemic.

She has also presented well over 600 certificates to Schools, Dr Surgeries and a variety of groups who are helping others throughout the year. Cllr Kenny also attended the London Mayors Association Annual Service in Westminster Abbey with her consort and everyone was socially distanced, which was well attended by other London Borough Mayors. Due to the death of the Duke of Edinburgh, Cllr Kenny paid a tribute to Her Majesty the Queen and opened a book of condolences for the Borough of Merton. She has also had the opportunity to participate in last week's event of an evening song commemoration service for the Duke of Edinburgh, hosted by the Dean of Southwark at Southwark Cathedral. Cllr Kenny has been a very hardworking and outstanding Mayor. Together with her consort her daughter Amanda, also the Deputy Mayor Cllr John Dehaney and his consort have been a great support to her.

Also the Mayor's Chaplain the Reverend David Ruddick, Vicar of Emmanuel who is part of the Morden Church of England team and also Carl and Sandra. On behalf of the Chair of the London Mayors Association, Steve Summers and also members of the Executive, I would like to extend our sincere thanks to Cllr Sally Kenny for her efforts and commitments and the way in which she has performed her duties as first citizen of the Borough. Welcome to the Chain gang. Thank you.

This page is intentionally left blank