

Questions for Councillor Jones

Was it hard taking over from the previous mayor?

It was to start off with ..the hardest bit was preparing speeches and learning to smile all the time

Where do you work?

I work at the local jobcentre

Who do you work for?

Department for Work and Pensions

Where do you live?

I live in Dunstable near to Blows Downs

Have you got children?

Unfortunately not but I have nieces and a nephew plus a 9 month old puppy called Poppy

What do you do in your job as mayor? Which part do you enjoy the most?

I represent the town and attend events, speak to local businesses and open new businesses. I really enjoy the visits to schools to speak to the children

Are you in charge of opening shops in Dunstable? How do you decide what to choose?

I do open shops in Dunstable if the businesses ask me to. In the last month I have opened three new businesses.

Do you have a big car?

I have my own little fiat but when we are going out on big events with have an official car with a driver

What do you do to keep the place running?

I liaise with people, oversee meetings and help the other councillors make some important decisions

Are you always busy doing paperwork?

I have lots of paperwork to do each day for my mayoral role. I normally get up and clear my emails about 6am.

Do you have servants?

I have my husband Iain lol ! No no servants... I have a secretary who ensures I attend the right event at the right time and don't get double booked

Have you met any member of the royal family?

Yes I met the Queens cousin last year at the Disability Resource Centre in September

What do you do in your spare time?

I like to spend time camping, visiting family and friends and having a nice meal out with a glass or two of Prosecco

What is it like to be a Mayor?

It is a honour and a privilege to be the mayor

What were your hobbies when you were younger?

I was a tomboy who liked football, tennis, basketball and skateboarding !

What was Dunstable like when you were a child?

Very much like it is today – a lovely town with so much to offer.

What is the most fun thing you have done as a Mayor? What is the worst thing?

As Mayor I have attended over 200 events. There have been lots but one of my first events was to officially open Dukeminster Care Home where Ardley Hill were too to bury their time capsule.

The worst thing I had to do was to taste test a selection of foods including frogs legs and snails!

What qualifications do you need to be a Mayor?

You need to be a Councillor on Dunstable Town Council, you also need to have a kind heart be community spirited and want to help others in the community

What changes can we expect in Dunstable in 2017?

I am hopeful that the town will see a Splash Park in Bennetts Rec open in Spring 2017 and the opening of two new roads which will help with the volume of traffic through our town

When did you become Mayor?

May 16th 2016

Why do you think you were chosen as Mayor?

I have been a councillor since 2009 and have worked hard and represented our town well

Do you get travel to different places and countries in your job as Mayor?

I travel to other parts of Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire to represent our town at other Mayor events

If you were not the Mayor, what would you be?

I would be / will be a Town Councillor

Do you always wear your gown and chain?

Every event I attend I wear the chain. The robes are only worn on Civic occasions such as Remembrance Day