

Communications

Item 1

Dear Full Council

In the Lord Mayor's communications there are apologies from time to time for absences at Full Council meetings so keeping up with the tradition I have let the Deputy Lord Mayor know that as the Lord Mayor I will be absent from the Full Council meeting but I hope you will forgive myself for not joining you at what could be a brief council meeting today.

As many of you will know the cities of Portsmouth and Duisburg are twinned and it is with great pride and honour that as your Lord Mayor I have been invited to attend and address the city and citizens of Duisburg to commemorate the bombings and destruction of the city of Duisburg 70 years ago to this day (14 October 1944). The events very much look forward to a successful future and a peaceful one between our two cities. Earlier this year it was a privilege to host the Mayor of Duisburg to mark the 70th anniversary of the D-Day Campaign, it is a great honour to take up their offer to be with them for their commemorations, so I do again apologise for not attending today.

It has been a very busy period over the summer and autumn months in the city marking many events and centenaries and I would like to thank all of those who have been involved and have taken part in such events as the First World War commemorations in the summer, our city's Civic Mass and the city's City of Football bid, I hope that the councillors were not too traumatised by the sight of the Lord Mayor in full football kit and limited football skills and it was such great fun to captain a councillors' 5-a-side football team, so thank you again to all those involved. I am still in discussion with the Portsmouth News over an 11-a-side football match between our two organisations but will keep you all posted when this event can happen.

All the best from your Lord Mayor in Duisburg and I hope you have as peaceful and warm a meeting today as I am having in Duisburg. I look forward to seeing you all again at the November meeting.

Item 2

The Lord Mayor has written to Dame Mary Fagan on her retirement from the position of Lord Lieutenant of Hampshire, thanking her for her service to the city and has written to congratulate Nigel Atkinson on becoming the new Lord Lieutenant of Hampshire, he has had his first Royal visit to Portsmouth and it was a delight to welcome His Royal Highness Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex to this city last month