**A colorful emblem with a bird on top

Description automatically generated Broadstairs & St. Peter’s Town Council**

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Cllr Mike Garner

Cllr Mike Garner, Town Mayor acceptance speech May 2024

"I’d like to start by thanking Cllr Bright for his hard work over the last year. He was on a steep learning curve, having taken on the role last year as a new councillor, and I think he’s done a great job.

I couldn’t be prouder to have been elected by you to Chair the Town Council and to become Mayor of the Town that Carole and I made our home 9 years ago and the place we love to live.

I was delighted to become the first ever Green Councillor elected in the Town in 2019 and I’ve really enjoyed my time to date on both the Town and District councils representing the people of St Peter’s. While, of course, I’m now especially pleased to be the first Green Party councillor to have been elected as a Mayor in Thanet, this isn’t a party political role. I see it as an opportunity to work with all of you, councillors and council officers, and all of our residents to make the town a place we can all be proud to live in and a town visitors want to stay and come back to.

We agreed a fantastic action plan last year to help do this around the three pillars of cleaner, safer and kinder and having made a really good start, I want to make sure we keep the momentum going. We all bring different skills and experiences to our roles as councillors and officers of the council and I want to make sure we all get involved in progressing that plan.

I’m also keen to build on the good working relationships we’ve made this year with the various community groups who do such great work around the town, some of whom are here this evening. Working together, with them and all who live here, is key to our success as a Town Council.

This is a great town and community that we’re all proud to be part of and I’m looking forward to the year ahead and to meeting and working with as many of our community as possible to make sure we keep it that way."