



*The Lord-Lieutenant of Rutland
Dr Sarah Furness PhD*

5th June 2024

Dear Mr Mayor

I write to you in your role as Mayor of Oakham and Chairman of Oakham Town Council to request that Oakham Town Council take ownership of Rutland's statue of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth on behalf of people in Rutland. I am delighted at the positive responses to this first memorial statue to our Late Queen. As you know it has had world press coverage and it appears to be bringing people into Oakham. There are usually people looking at it and photographing it. In fact, it is doing all that we wanted providing a beautiful tribute to Queen Elizabeth and helping to put both Rutland and Oakham on the map.

I and my team helped raise funds and facilitated the erection of the statue. However, it belongs to people in Rutland not to me personally. I would be grateful if Oakham Town Council would hold the statue in perpetuity on behalf of people in Rutland. It is all paid for (there are still some lights to be added.). I think it would be very appropriate for the council of the county town to hold it for Rutland people. I mentioned this to HRH The Duke of Edinburgh who also thought that it was a good idea for the town council to hold it. I am already so grateful that you insure it. I do hope that the council agrees to this request.

All best wishes

Sarah Furness



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