



Devizes Town Council

www.devizes-tc.gov.uk

Community & Civic Resources Committee

You are summonsed to attend a meeting of the Community & Civic Resources Committee at the following, place and date.

Date: Tuesday, 15 June 2022

Time: Immediately after the Forward Planning Meeting

Venue: Council Chamber, Town Hall, St John's Street, Devizes

Enquiries: Town Hall - Tel: 01380 723333

The Town Mayor: Councillor Gay

Chairman: Councillor East

Councillors:	Bridewell	Burton	Corbett
	Geddes	Hopkins	Hunter
	Nash	Oliver	Parsons
	Pennington	Rose	

SPECIAL AGENDA

1. MINUTES

To approve as a correct record and authorise the Chairman to sign the minutes of the meeting held on 8th June 2021 and which have been circulated alongside the agenda.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

3. DISCLOSURE(S) OF INTEREST

To receive any disclosure(s) of interest by a Councillor or an officer in matters to be considered at this meeting, in accordance with provisions of Sections 94 or 117 of the Local Government Act 1972 or the National Code of Local Government Conduct.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

At the Chairman's discretion, members of the public attending the meeting will be allowed to ask questions, make a statement or address the Council upon a matter of concern to that person which is relevant to the Council. A time limit of 5 minutes per person will be permitted, but this may be extended at the Chairman's discretion and a maximum period of 20 minutes has been allocated by the Council for this item of business

5. REPORT FOR DECISION – ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THOSE WHO PROVIDED SUPPORT TO OUR COMMUNITY DURING THE PANDEMIC

Recommendation

To decide whether and how recognition can be given to many people and businesses of Devizes who stepped to support the community during the Coronavirus Pandemic.

Purpose of the Report

To develop a one-off award to acknowledge those members of our community who have gone out of their way to support neighbours and strangers during the worst of the Coronavirus pandemic.

Background

There are very few people living in our community who have not been affected during the Coronavirus pandemic with many finding themselves for the first time completely reliant on friends, neighbours and strangers to support them with shopping, running errands and transport.

As we hopefully come to the end of the worst of the restrictions intended to help control the spread of infection, it maybe the time to acknowledge those who have made such a difference to people's lives.

Traditionally each year the Town Council has coordinated Civic Awards for those people within the town, who have given their time or skills voluntarily to support community activities, groups, individuals or to enhance the environment we live in.

Whilst the principle of Civic Awards could be a way to acknowledge those who have supported others during the pandemic, the current criteria may discount many unfairly, including businesses, and therefore any award of this nature may need its own qualifying criteria to ensure that nobody is overlooked.

Members of the Council will be aware of many individuals and groups who have provided much needed support; however, should the committee agree that the time is right to acknowledge the great work of our community during the pandemic, there will be many unseen heroes who we must make every attempt to identify.

Options Considered

The Committee needs to identify if the time is right to acknowledge those who have supported others during the worst of the pandemic restrictions.

If the committee feels it is, they need to consider the following;

- How will support and work be recognised?
- How will those who have provided work and support be identified?
- What will be the qualifying criteria?
- Will there be any checks to see if the criteria has been met?
- If so, who will adjudicate to see if the criteria has been met?
- When will the awards be given out and by whom as there could be many hundreds?
- Will there be a follow up way of delivering awards to those who are unable to make the award event?

Implications and Risks

Financial and Resource Implications

There will be some financial and resource implications

Legal Implications and Legislative Powers

The Council will be considering this matter under its General Power of Competence

Environmental Implications

Officers are unaware of any environmental implication for the Council associated with this decision.

Risk Assessment

Officers are unaware of any risk implication for the Council associated with this decision.

Crime and Disorder

Officers are not aware of any issues the Council should consider under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder act 1998.

10. QUESTION TIME

A short time is allowed at the discretion of the Chairman for councillors to ask questions on matters which are not on the current agenda but which are related to matters which have been previously discussed on an agenda relevant to the committee.

At least 24 hours' notice must be given to officers of the intended question. All other matters should be raised on an agenda and the request should be submitted through the Town Clerk

TOWN CLERK