

AGENDA ITEM 13: CIVIC AWARDS 2020

Special contributions to the community made by individuals, young people and organisations are recognised by the Town Council through the following annual Civic Awards:

Mayor's Awards: Presented to up to 5 local people for their personal contribution to the community.

HMS Ganges Youth Trophy: Presented to a local young person (aged 21 or younger) or organisation supporting young people in Felixstowe.

The Community Award: Presented to recognise the contribution to the community by a local organisation.

In usual circumstances the Mayor presents the Civic Awards at the Annual Town Council meeting in May as part of the conclusion to their Mayoral year. *Nominations for the 2020 Civic Awards were sought to recognise contributions made up to the end of 2019/early 2020.*

Due to the current circumstances and the Annual Town Meeting being cancelled this year, alternative arrangements should be made to ensure that those being recognised are not overlooked. It is also important that this year's Awards are not postponed for any significant length of time, so as not to suggest any link or be confused with valuable recent and ongoing contributions being made due to coronavirus. Council may well wish to concentrate its 2021 Civic Awards in reflection recognition of the community response to the coronavirus. With a new Mayor due to be elected on 20th May, there is a short timeframe in the current Mayoral year to resolve this.

Following discussion with the Mayor and Mayor's Secretary, the following arrangements are proposed:

1. Mayor's Awards panel (comprising Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Civic & Community Committee Chairman and Finance & Governance Chairman to review nominations and decide Awards (prior to Annual Council 20th May)
2. All nominators contacted to let them know outcome.
3. Mayor to contact winners to personally congratulate them. This could be over the phone or via Zoom as preferred.
4. Publish winners online and via press release etc.
5. The Award itself to be sent to winner thereafter, with an invitation to attend a short celebration at the Town Hall in due course, when guidance permits.

Council is requested to consider and approve the arrangements for the 2020 Civic Awards.
