

**Awards and Competitions
Report for Council 20 February 2018**

RECOMMENDED that

- (i) The following competitions and awards are facilitated by the Town Council in 2018: scarecrow competition; Christmas card competition, Citizens Award; Youth Citizens Award;**
- (ii) That the general schools competitions are no longer organised**
- (iii) The criteria and timing for each competition and award as detailed in this report is approved**
- (iv) Prizes for the competitions in (i) above are to be met from the Community Engagement budget**
- (v) That the Town Clerk asks for volunteers from Councillors serving at the time of the scarecrow competition to volunteer as judges**
- (vi) The Mayor's Award is presented solely at the Mayor's discretion**
- (vii) That ideas are generated for new competitions for 2019 and presented to Councillors in the latter part of 2018 for consideration**

Introduction

1. For a number of years the Town Council has run various competitions and presented awards to local people. As in recent years, to assist administration all details have been amalgamated and are presented to Council in a single report.

Contextual Information

2. Facilitating the competitions and awards helps promote interest and interaction between the Town Council and the community. These types of community engagement activities which embrace all residents of the town have been well supported by local businesses assisting with advertising and offering prizes.
3. In 2017 the Christmas Card competition was introduced which built upon the design an IMEX flag for the Town Council competition. The Christmas Card competition was to design an official Mayor's Christmas Card - the Mayor set a theme and selected the winning design which was then printed as a Christmas Card.
4. There used to be annual schools' competitions with each school having its own competition organised by the Town Council; the competition was different for each school each year e.g. designing a garden on a plate, decorating a trainer. These have not been run in recent years as there were diminishing entries and the Christmas Card competition is a good alternative.
5. Other ideas for Town Council organised competitions include:
 - Grow the tallest sunflower
 - Grow the biggest potato

With either of these it may be possible to work with local businesses to provide the seed and a growing container and have a display of them for judging - perhaps in the Market House or on the Rec.

6. The following table provides summary information on the arrangements for the various annual competitions and awards: a detailed sheet is provided for each competition and award.

Date report prepared: 21 November 2017

Contact for further information: Administration Officer (Info) Tel: 01460 52149 or
email: town.council@ilminster.gov.uk

| Competition or Award | Provisional Date publicity starts | Provisional Closing date | Number of judges | Prizes | Provisional Date winner announced |
|--|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|---|---|
| Scarecrow Competition | April 2018 | 26 th May 2018 | 3 Councillors (Ilminster Midsummer Experience) | Gift tokens 1st = £30 2 nd = £20 3 rd = £15 | Winners to be informed by Monday 20 th June 2016 |
| Citizens Award | March 2018 | 7 April 2018 | Mayor, Deputy Mayor and the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Open Spaces Committee, Resources Committee and Planning, Highways & Transport Committee (quorum to be 3) | Certificate (Prize from Community Engagement budget) | Annual Community Assembly (9 May 2017) |
| The Bradley Cullen Youth Citizens Award (18 and under) | March 2018 | 7 April 2018 | Mayor, Deputy Mayor and the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Open Spaces Committee, Resources Committee and Planning, Highways & Transport Committee (quorum to be 3) | Perpetual Trophy + Certificate which includes Citation to be produced by Staff or Mayor (Prize from Community Engagement budget) | Annual Community Assembly (9 May 2017) |
| Mayor's Award | N/A | N/A | Mayor | Certificate which includes Citation to be produced by Staff or Mayor And Prize | Annual Community Assembly (9 May 2017) |
| Christmas Card competition | September 2018 | End of October 2018 half term | Mayor | The picture or pictures are used for the Mayor's Christmas Cards | End of November 2018 when the cards go to print |

Scarecrow Competition

General Information

- The Competition is part of the Ilminster Midsummer Experience
- Entries need to close early enough to give sufficient time for ITC Staff to produce a map listing scarecrow locations. The map is used to enable residents and visitors to walk around the town and view the entries.
- Maps are usually available from the Town Council offices (when open) or the Meeting House, Ilminster: a map will also be displayed on the Town Council notice board, website and FaceBook page.

Prizes

- Gift tokens to the value of £30, £20 and £15 for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places funded by donation (to be sourced) and Certificate produced by ITC Staff

Timing

- Scarecrows to be displayed, to coincide with Ilminster Midsummer Experience 7th to 10th June 2018

Judging

- 3 Councillors as judges, judging to be 7th/8th June 2018 (prize rosettes to be pinned on winning scarecrows)
- Judges to submit results to ITC Office by 11th June 2017

Guidelines for entry

- The scarecrow does not need to be a traditional
- Can be made by anything and you are especially encouraged to use recycled materials.
- Scarecrow should include an element of plant material which can be dried, fresh or living.
- Entry is open to Individuals, organisations, groups and businesses
- Scarecrows can be any height up to a maximum of 1.8 metres
- Scarecrows must be made from scratch
- Scarecrows will be judged on strength, durability to the weather, imagination and character.
- Entry may be a single scarecrow, a family or a group
- Scarecrows should be displayed where they can be seen easily and on view

Advertise

- Notice Board – 9th April 2018
- Website - 9th April 2018
- FaceBook Page – 9th April repost 8th May 2018
- Press - 9th April 2018
- School Newsletters – Greenfylde 9th April and Swanmead small ad 12th March 2018 and full ad 16th April 2018

Citizens Award

General Information

- Nominations are made by members of the public to recognise individuals who have made a positive contribution to Ilminster

Prize

- Certificate which includes citation, certificate produced by ITC Staff
produced by ITC Staff between 23rd – 27th April 2018

Timing

- **Provisional Publicity start date** February 2018 (after council meeting)
- **Presented at the Annual Community Assembly**
- **(Invitations to be sent as soon as nominations known)**

Judges

- Selection Committee comprises of Mayor, Deputy Mayor and the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Open Spaces Committee, Resources Committee and Planning, Highways & Transport Committee, quorum of 3

Guidelines for entry

- Nominees and those making the nominations for the Citizen's Award must be on the Electoral Roll for Ilminster
- Nominations must be signed by three individuals who are on the electoral role for Ilminster
- Nominations are not accepted from organisations or societies
- The award may be issued posthumously provided that the nomination closing date is no more than 1 year since the nominee deceased
- Serving Councillors from County, District or the Town Council are not eligible for nomination
- Nominees should not be told of their nomination.
- Nomination forms should either be completed in blank ink or typed

Advertise

- Notice Board, website, FaceBook page, Press asap after February council meeting

The Bradley Cullen Youth Citizens Award

General Information

Prizes

- Certificate which includes citation, certificate produced by ITC Staff **produced by ITC Staff between 23rd – 27th April 2018**

Timing

- **Provisional Publicity start date** February 2018 (after council meeting)
- **Presented at the Annual Community Assembly**
- **Invitations to be sent** as soon as nominations known

Judges

- Selection Committee comprises of Mayor, Deputy Mayor and the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Open Spaces Committee, Resources Committee and Planning, Highways & Transport Committee, quorum of 3

Guidelines for entry

- Nominations must be from individuals and not organisations or societies.
- The people making the nomination must live in Ilminster or go to school in Ilminster
- Nominees must:
 - Be 18 and under
 - Live in Ilminster or have done so within the 12 months immediately prior to the closing date for nominations
 - Or
 - Go to school in Ilminster
 - Or
 - Be an active member of an Ilminster based organisation
- The award may be issued posthumously provided that the nomination closing date is no more than 1 year since the nominee deceased

Advertise

- Notice Board, Website, FaceBook page, Press – asap after February Council meeting

Mayor's Award

This award is issued at the Mayor's discretion. The recipient does not have to live in Ilminster but will have made a significant contribution to the town and its inhabitants.

Christmas Card Competition

General Information

- Each year the Mayor sends out Christmas Cards to organisations that have invited the Mayor to attend events. This is a way of thanking them.
- The competition is based on a theme chosen by the Mayor last years theme was what invoke Ilminster to you

Prizes

- The winner or winners of the competition have their picture printed as the Christmas Card.

Timing

- Publicity to start at the beginning of September 2018
- Entries to be received by the end of October 2018
- Judging to place through November 2018
- Winners announced and go to print 22 November 2018

Judging

- This is done by the Mayor

Guidelines for entry

- Must be under 16yrs old
- Live or go to school in Ilminster

Advertise

- Notice Board
- Website
- FaceBook page
- Press
- School Newsletters – Greenfylde 3rd September 2018 and Swanmead 3rd September 2018