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COUNCIL
19 MAY 2022**CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

THE OUTGOING CHAIRMAN will report:**Chairman's Visits and Functions Attended**

1. A list of functions attended by the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of Council since the last meeting is attached.

Death of Former Worcestershire County Councillor

2. Philip Gretton, who represented Redditch South division on the Council from 2001-2016, sadly passed away on 5 March 2022 following a long illness.

3. Philip served as Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Communities from 2005 to 2012 and was a valued member of the County Council, holding many key positions during his political career, before he stepped down due to ill-health.

4. His funeral service took place at Our Lady & St Joseph Catholic Church, Alcester, B49 5DY on Monday 4 April 2022 at 12noon. The Chairman attended the Service, together with former and serving Councillors.

Royal Visit to the County

5. HRH The Princess Royal attended the RHS Malvern Spring Festival at The Three Counties Showground on Friday 6 May 2022. The Chairman was presented to HRH and remained with the Royal Party throughout the visit.

Foster Care Fortnight

7. Foster Care Fortnight is The Fostering Network's annual campaign to raise the profile of fostering and show how foster care transforms lives.

8. Foster Care Fortnight 2022 is taking place from 9-22 May and the theme this year is 'fostering communities'. The campaign will be used to shine a light on the many ways people across the fostering community support each other.

9. Throughout the fortnight, the Fostering Network will be running events, sharing content on social media and highlighting the transformative power of foster care.

Sabrina Bridge Wins Top Civil Engineering Award

10. The Chairman was delighted to learn that Sabrina Bridge in Worcester has been awarded a top civil engineering award for improvements made as part of its major refurbishment.

11. The bridge was announced as the winner of the West Midlands Institute of Civil Engineering (ICE) Small Project of the Year, a category for projects costing up to £2million.

12. The major refurbishment was completed in March 2021 and included the complete replacement of the bridge-span steelwork, a brand-new composite deck, repainted handrails, ramps, stairs and main mast, and the introduction of dampers to reduce bridge movement.

13. The award was presented to the County Council at the awards ceremony held on 5 May 2022.

UK National GO Awards

14. Worcestershire County Council are finalists in the UK National GO Awards for the 'Covid-19 Response and Recovery – Local Government' category, for a system called Nimrod.

15. Nimrod was developed as part of Worcestershire's local outbreak management plan for the Covid-19 pandemic and is already an award-winning system.

16. The County Council were announced Silver Winners in the Digital and Technology Category in the Public Sector Transformation Awards 2022 earlier this year for the development of Nimrod. Nimrod is now an integral part in the day to day running of the LORT and public health response to the management of Covid-19 across Herefordshire and Worcestershire.

17. The winners of the prestigious UK National GO Awards 2022 will be announced at a ceremony in Birmingham on 25 May 2022.

75th Anniversary of Worcestershire Archives

18. Worcestershire Archive & Archaeology Service marked their 75th Anniversary on Wednesday, 27 April 2022 with a celebratory event at The Hive, Worcester.

19. The event celebrated 75 years since the creation of Worcestershire Record Office with former colleagues, volunteers and the Friends of Worcestershire Archives.

20. The Chairman was delighted to say a few words at the Service, in company with the Deputy Lieutenant of Worcestershire, Sir Nicholas Lechmere (Bt).

THE INCOMING CHAIRMAN will report:

Group Photograph

21. The Chairman wishes to report that it is intended to take a photograph of all Members today. It is envisaged that the photograph will be taken at start of the lunch break. Weather permitting this photograph will be taken out of doors on the steps leading to the main entrance to County Hall; however a wet weather alternative is available.

Contact Points

Specific Contact Points for this report

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Functions Attended by Steve Mackay as Chairman since February 2022 Council Meeting

<u>Date</u>	<u>Function</u>
4 March**	Mayor of Kidderminster's Charity Ball @ Town Hall, Kidderminster
6 March	Worcestershire Civic Service @ Worcester Cathedral
11 March	Worcestershire Tourism Awards @ Stanbrook Abbey Hotel, Worcester
18 March	An Evening with Worcester Mela @ Art House, Worcester
20 March	Wychavon District Council Civic Service @ All Saints Church, Evesham
23 March	National Day of Reflection @ The Guildhall, Worcester
25 March	Chairman of Stratford-on-Avon District Council Charity Ball @ Alveston Manor Hotel, Stratford-on-Avon
31 March	Portrait Unveiling of Cllr Allah Ditta @ The Guildhall, Worcester
1 April	Mayor of Stourport's Charity Ball @ Stourport Manor Hotel
3 April	Pershore Town Civic Service @ Pershore Abbey
4 April	Philip Gretton's Funeral Service @ Our Lady & St Joseph Church, Alcester
9 April	Malvern Hills District Council/Malvern Town Council Civic Service @ St Matthias Church, Malvern Link
13 April	Declaration of Office as High Sheriff of Worcestershire of Andrew Manning-Cox @ The Shirehall, Worcester
19 April	Citizenship Ceremony @ County Hall
21 April	Worcestershire Lord Lieutenant's Cadets' Awards Ceremony @ Guildhall
22 April	Mayor of Droitwich River Boat Party Cruise
27 April	75 th Anniversary of Worcestershire Archives @ The Hive, Worcester
28 April**	Queen's Surprise Jubilee Event @ Redditch
28 April	Bewdley Town Mayor's Afternoon Tea @ Wharton Golf Club, Bewdley
29 April	Mayoral Banquet @ The Guildhall, Worcester
4 May**	Bewdley Mayor Making Ceremony @ Guildhall, Bewdley
6 May	HRH The Princess Royal to RHS Malvern Spring Festival @ Three Counties Showground, Malvern
6 May	Chairman of Bromsgrove District Council's Charity Dinner Dance @ Grafton Manor, Bromsgrove
9 May	Evesham Mayor Making Ceremony @ Town Hall, Evesham
18 May	Kidderminster Mayor Making Ceremony @ Kidderminster Town Hall

**denotes attendance by Vice-Chairman

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