

COUNCIL

10 NOVEMBER 2022

CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

Royal Visit to the County

2. HRH Princess Alexandra visited The Royal Porcelain Works in Worcester on Tuesday 19 October 2022.

3. The Chairman was presented to HRH and remained with the Royal Party throughout the visit.

London Bridge

4. The Chairman would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff involved in the preparation and delivery of the London Protocol arrangements following the announcement of the death of Her Majesty The Queen on Thursday 8 September 2022.

5. Due to the impeccable and thorough preparations in place, the Council were able to respond at speed and with the utmost of respect, whilst under an immense amount of pressure.

6. The Chief Executive received a letter of thanks from the Lord Lieutenant, in which he placed on record his gratitude to the staff at County Hall and in the District Councils for all their magnificent efforts in ensuring that Worcestershire responded to the death of Her Majesty The Queen in a dignified and appropriate manner.

7. The Chairman is immensely proud of the exemplary way the Protocol was delivered and would like to extend particular thanks to Libby Tassell and all the Emergency Planning staff and to Jo Dalton and her Communications Team for their outstanding hard work and support during such a sad time for the nation.

FosterTalk Awards 2022

8. The FosterTalk Awards celebrates the achievements of foster carers, social workers, fostering staff and supporters who have shown dedication and commitment to improving the lives of children and young people in care.

9. Worcestershire Children First were shortlisted in 3 award categories at this year's FosterTalk Awards 2022 – Foster Carer of the Year, the Lifetime Achievement Award and Outstanding Commitment to Fostering Children with Disabilities.

10. The Chairman was delighted to hear that Janice Finnie was awarded Foster Carer of the Year 2022.

11. Janice has been a foster carer for over 32 years and given so much time and love to many children in care. Despite the diverse range of ages, backgrounds and challenges, Janice has always ensured that every foster child received the same loving and nurturing environment as her own children.

12. On behalf of the County Council, the Chairman would like to congratulate all the nominees from Worcestershire Children First, with special recognition to Janice for all her years of dedication as a successful and valued foster carer.

BBC Hereford & Worcester Make a Difference Awards

13. A group of litter picking volunteers who have been helping to keep Hartlebury Common tidy have received a commendation award at the BBC Hereford & Worcester's Make a Difference Awards.

14. The group were recognised for their environmental work and the positive impact their work has had in clearing the Common, the biggest project The Pickup Artists have ever taken on.

15. The clean-up has taken 3 years, over 500 volunteer hours and has been supported by £26,000 worth of funding and team support from Worcestershire County Council.

16. The Council's Greenspace Team spent over 370 hours clearing the overgrowth so that the volunteers could reach the fly-tipped rubbish and litter.

17. The Chairman thanks everyone involved in this major project for all their hard work in achieving this outstanding result.

Contact Points

Specific Contact Points for this report

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