

## Community, Leisure & Recreation Committee

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| <b>Date:</b>            | <b>10 July 2018</b>                                     |
| <b>Title:</b>           | <b>Town Awards 2018</b>                                 |
| <b>Contact Officer:</b> | <b>Lizzie Fuller, Community Project Support Officer</b> |

### **Purpose of the Report**

To provide an update on the 2018 Town Awards and to consider any changes to the 2019 Awards.

### **Background**

1. The Town Awards were introduced not only to recognise those within the parish who have made an outstanding contribution but also to promote the whole ethos of community involvement. The first awards were presented in 2009.
2. The Awards Panel consists of 10 members who represent businesses, churches, schools, the Citizens Advice Bureau, community, sports clubs, emergency services and includes the Chairman of the Community, Leisure and Recreation Committee and the Town Mayor.
3. Social Media, including Facebook and Twitter, have been used to publicise the Town Awards and this together with the ability to complete online nomination forms has proved a great success in encouraging people to get involved with the process. Articles have also appeared in Thame Out magazine, the Thame Gazette and on the Town Council's website and weekly electronic newsletter. Posters were displayed in numerous shop windows as well as on the Town Council's noticeboards and A-board.
4. The questions on the nomination form remained the same as last year as the panel felt this improved the quality of the nominations received and, hence, enabled them to make an informed decision.
5. The categories for this year's Awards were; Lifetime Achievement, Sporting Achievement, Volunteer of the Year, Service with a Smile and Creative Arts Achievement. The panel chose two individuals to receive a Volunteer of the Year award. The winners were invited, together with members of their family, to a presentation evening at Thame Barns Centre where the Town Mayor presented the Awards.
6. To mark the 10<sup>th</sup> year of the Town Awards, all previous award winners and panel members were invited back to help celebrate ten years of the awards. A bespoke birthday cake and cupcakes were made and decorated, and each sponsor donated a small gift to the winner of their category. One of the previous winners also provided musical accompaniment to welcome guests. All printed and digital publicity promoted the fact it was the tenth awards.
7. No changes are proposed for next year, except a scaling back of the awards event to that held in normal, non-celebration years.

**Resource Appraisal**

8. There was an increased budget allocation of £2,500 to fund the tenth town awards. In addition £600 of sponsorship was secured from 4 sponsors (Thame Freight Services, Thame Leisure Centre, Atalay's Kebab Van and Towersey Festival) to cover additional costs.

Income and Expenditure 2018 Awards (spread across 2017/18 and 2018/19 accounts)

| <b>Income</b>       |               | <b>Expenditure</b>             |               |
|---------------------|---------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Allocated Budget    | £2,500        | Purchase of 6 Awards/Engraving | £205          |
| Sponsorship         | £600          | Promotion & printing           | £358          |
|                     |               | Awards Event                   | £898          |
| <b>Total Income</b> | <b>£3,100</b> | <b>Total Expenditure</b>       | <b>£1,461</b> |

9. Any excess of funds at year end (which sometimes includes sponsorship received in advance) is transferred into a reserve to help fund the following year's event.
10. A request will be made to the budget working group for a reduced budget in 2019/20 for the Town Awards.

**Legal Powers:** The Local Government Act 1972, Section 145

**Recommendation:**

- i) To note the report*