

Community, Leisure & Recreation Committee

Report Title:	Thame Town Awards 2022
Meeting Date:	5 April 2022
Contact Officer:	Lizzie Fuller, Committee Services Officer

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide an update on plans for this year's Town Awards following the panel meeting on 29 March 2022.

Action Required

2. To note the report and updated Terms of Reference.

Update

3. The panel met via Zoom on 29 March 2022. On the agenda was the appointment of the Chair and Vice Chair, review Terms of Reference, receive feedback on last year's awards, and agree the categories / criteria / nomination form questions / publicity / sponsorship / timeline.
4. The Terms of Reference had not been updated since 2015. Some minor / cosmetic changes were agreed, and the following of note:
 - That the ToRs be reviewed annually with changes reported to this committee.
 - That one representative from the Town Council sit on the panel. This would be the Chair of CLR, and the Mayor in their absence.
 - That the panel could invite a general sponsor or multiple sponsors at their discretion.
5. The panel felt that to increase the number of attendees at the ceremony, those nominated could be invited to the awards ceremony, with the panel shortlisting nominees if there were more nominations than the venue could accommodate. Officers would investigate the venue capacity and costs associated with this.
6. With regards to categories, the 6 categories were kept with a change to the Employer of the Year as it was too broad and beyond the scope of the panel in trying to recognise employers that were doing good for both their employees and the community. It was agreed to change this category to 'Company of the Year' with the focus being on companies who had gone above and beyond for the community. The categories will be:
 - Company of the Year
 - Creative Arts Contribution
 - Service with a Smile
 - Sporting Contribution
 - Volunteer of the Year
 - Volunteer Group of the Year

7. Some minor changes were made to the nomination form to enable more detail and direct reference to the criteria.
8. Publicity would be through the usual channels and there would be more opportunities this year due to the timing of the promotion period not being in the summer holidays, during covid restrictions, or coinciding with the TNP2 consultation.
9. Nominations will open on 21 April and run for 5 weeks. The awards ceremony will take place at the Barns Centre on Thursday 14 July.

Resource Appraisal

10. Officers will review the budget in line with the panel's recommendations and sponsorship will be sought to cover costs.

Legal Powers:

- Local Government Act 1972, Section 145

Recommendation:

- i) The report and Terms of Reference be received and noted.*