

Full Council

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| Title: | Town Council 50th Anniversary |
| Date: | 20 February 2024 |
| Contact Officer: | Clare Peacock, Communications and Events Officer |

Purpose of Report

1. To suggest and discuss ideas on how Thame Town Council can commemorate their 50th civic anniversary year.

Background

2. For the civic year May 2024 - April 2025 Thame Town Council will have been formed for 50 years. We would like to use this event to celebrate Thame and use this anniversary as an opportunity to communicate and educate.
3. The Councillors agreed they did not want to host a big event.
4. During the last report on the 50th birthday, councillors agreed they did not want to set a budget for this or a working group.

Potential ideas to discuss:

5. The newsletter will have an article each week dedicated to the birthday. This will be a variety of interviews, and a look back at previous newsletters and newspapers to see how the Council have shaped Thame over the last 50 years.
6. May: We will be celebrating the start of the new Mayoral year, with an interview with the Mayor, an article on how the council are elected and the council structure. We will also be hosting Taste of Thame, as well as opening Thame Town Awards nominations.
7. June: We hope to have a float at Thame Carnival, created and run by the council. We would also like to have councillors help the maintenance team for a week, as a piece on how the council have helped make Thame look as gorgeous as it is.
8. July: The council will be asked to help staff with Ace Week activities with our local secondary school. The Town Awards will also be held on 18 July.
9. August: We would like the council to have a community stand in the market each week of this month, to talk with residents. We hope they would also like to join in with the Market Community Fun Day.

10. September: We hope councillors would like to promote the twinning towns of Montesson and Sinaia.
11. October: We will be hosting our Art Crawl
12. November: Councillors will be asked to help with the Christmas Lights Switch on event, as well as the Charities Fair.
13. December: Promoting the fun Christmas activities, the council will be hosting in December. We would also like councillors to join in with the running of the senior tea party, and carols around the tree.
14. January: We hope to help the local clubs put on a club fair again as the 2023 fair was a great success.
15. February: We hope to launch the youth council.
16. March: Annual Town Meeting
17. April: We hope the Mayor will host a charity event for their Mayoral year.
18. A suggestion of a time capsule has also been made, although the grounds in which to bury it have not been discussed (the new play area at Elms Park could be an option). The capsule will cost no more than £50 and would be funded by the Corporate Image Budget (Account Code 4119 – Budget 24/25 £1K).

Resources

19. Officer time, printing, stationery budgets

Power

- Localism Act 2011

Risk Assessment

20. Any option considered would be part of a full risk analysis and presented to relevant committee for Council approval.

Action Required

- i) To consider the report and any relevant action and set up a 50th Birthday Working Group.*