

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS AT THE  
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING AND COMMUNITY AWARDS  
MONDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2023 AT 7.30PM**

**PRESENT:**

Cllr D. Anderson (Town Mayor), Cllr E. Harvey (Deputy Town Mayor), Cllr A. Acott, Cllr P. May, Cllr B. Palmer, Cllr J. Anderson, Cllr S. Sach, Cllr P. Greig, and Cllr C. Sach

**APOLOGIES:** Cllr D. Blackwell and Cllr N. Harvey

87 members of the public  
Mrs E. De Can – Town Clerk  
Mrs L. Gould – Deputy Clerk  
Mrs A. Wakenell – Community Warden

Refreshments were provided from 6.30pm and the doors to the hall were opened from 7.00pm for residents to arrive to start at 7.30pm.

**1. 'Welcome from Canvey Island Town Council Town Mayor' – COUNCILLOR DOREEN ANDERSON**

Cllr D. Anderson welcomed all residents to Canvey Island Town Council's Annual Town Meeting and Community Awards evening and explained the procedure for the evening. She confirmed that there will be an opportunity to enjoy refreshments and to speak to councillors or officers about any of the council's activities during the last year after the presentation and asked residents to be seated by 8.15pm at the latest to proceed with the Community Awards.

**2. To confirm and sign as a true record the minutes of the Town Meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

The minutes of the Town Meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> March 2022 were **CONFIRMED** and signed as a true record.

**3. 'The Benefits of Creating Communities inclusive of People Affected by Dementia' - presentation from Mark Neville, Essex Community Dementia Support Service.**

Mark Neville provided a short presentation detailing the causes of dementia and explaining how residents, businesses and local authorities can assist in formulating a plan to set up Canvey Island as a Dementia Friendly Community.

**4. An opportunity to engage with your Local Councillors regarding Town Council activities.**

Members of the public were given the opportunity to engage and discuss issues with Town Councillors whilst enjoying refreshments provided.

**5. COMMUNITY AWARDS**

Cllr D. Anderson advised that the Town Council Community Awards is an initiative to recognise those individuals and organisations who selflessly give up their time in the community to help others without expecting any recognition, making a significant contribution to the quality of life for residents of Canvey Island. There were nominations received for four award categories this year which are:

- Citizen of the Year (over 18 years)
- Community Group of the Year.
- Youth Community Group of the Year.
- Best Community Contribution from a Local Business

### **Citizen of the Year**

Cllr D. Anderson presented the award to Ivor and Ann Earl in recognition of working tirelessly for the benefit of the community, organising a Ukraine appeal using an empty shop in the town centre resulting in £150,000 worth of aid to be sent to those in need, both worked tirelessly as Marshall's for the Covid Vaccine Clinic, and both actively take part in the Rotary Santa Sleigh each year.

### **Community Group of the Year**

Cllr D. Anderson presented the award to Canvey Island School Uniform Bank in recognition for their hard work setting up a school uniform bank to help families in need with the cost of buying new school uniform and to ensure that no child attending school feels left out due to their parents being unable to afford either uniform, prom outfits or fancy dress. This unique service was set up and publicised by themselves and completely self-funded.

### **Youth Community Group of the Year**

Cllr D. Anderson presented the award to the Castle View IT Support Students in recognition for their work with the Town Council in supporting members of the public to develop their technology skills through the IT Support sessions held every fortnight. Users of the service have described the students as a credit to the school and their parents.

### **Best Community Contribution from a Local Business**

Cllr D. Anderson advised that the winner of this award is, S. Stibbards & Sons in recognition for its work within the community, donating Christmas Trees to schools and organisations, producing, and donating plaques to remember events and notable individuals and sponsor community events. Sadly, they were not able to attend this evening.

### **Special Recognition Awards**

Cllr D. Anderson presented special recognition awards following nominations under the Citizens of the Year category to:

Lee Sayer for supporting ongoing development of local groups and projects, representing residents, groups and small businesses, inspiring community involvement by sharing good news and community event details and helping behind the scenes with lots of community projects.

Jack Bloomfield for not only working for East of England Ambulance Service but also volunteering to support Canvey First Responders, single handily looks after the 18 public access defibrillators monthly and arranging for a further 4 to be installed.

Angela & Gary Walford for organising quiz nights on Canvey to raise funds for local organisations and charities which are completely self-funded and have been doing this for several years.

To close the evening and awards Cllr D. Anderson congratulated all the award winners, thanked them for their contribution to the community of Canvey Island and thanked all the residents for attending and supporting the Town Council.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

Town Mayor