

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS AT THE
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING AND COMMUNITY AWARDS
MONDAY 10TH MARCH 2025 AT 7.30PM**

PRESENT:

Cllr P. May (Town Mayor), Cllr S. Sayes (Deputy Town Mayor), Cllr A. Acott, Cllr E. Harvey, and Cllr B. Botham

APOLOGIES: Cllr S. Sach, Cllr P. Greig, Cllr D. Anderson, Cllr J. Anderson, Cllr D. Blackwell and Cllr S. Brooke.

45 members of the public
Mrs E. De Can – Town Clerk
Mrs L. Gould – Deputy Clerk
Mrs K. Bali – Community & Events Officer
Mrs A. Wakenell – Community Officer

Refreshments were provided from 7.00pm and the meeting commenced at 7.30pm.

1. ‘Welcome from Canvey Island Town Council Town Mayor’ – COUNCILLOR PETER MAY

Cllr May welcomed all residents to Canvey Island Town Council’s Annual Town Meeting and Community Awards evening and explained the procedure for the evening. He 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 Community Awards were presented.

2. To confirm and sign as a true record the minutes of the Town Meeting held on the 25th March 2024

The minutes of the Town Meeting held on the 25th March 2024 were **CONFIRMED** and signed as a true record.

3. COMMUNITY AWARDS

Cllr May 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 five award categories this year which are:

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

Citizen of the Year

Cllr May presented the award to Lin Ridgewell in recognition of being a huge support to the Smallgains Social Club and all the events they put on, she is a valued club member and appreciated by many in the community, would do anything for anyone and assists in all areas at the club, without hesitation.

Young Person of the Year

Cllr May presented the award to Frankie Wise in recognition of being an inspiration to the local community by showing bravery beyond his years in an emergency and attempting to save the life of a stranger by courageously performing CPR.

Community Group of the Year

Cllr May presented the award to the Phoenix Club in recognition for providing a safe space and offering a wide range of activities for those with learning disabilities, creating a welcoming atmosphere and helping people feel accepted and providing support workers who take pride in their work and are very important to the members.

Best Community Contribution from a Local Business

Cllr May advised that the winner of this award is the Morrisons Community Champion in recognition for the work in raising awareness of other local organisations, assisting a variety of projects across the Island and helping a wide range of organisations within the community.

Youth Community Group of the Year

Cllr May presented the award to the Canvey Island Youth Football Club, Mini Kickers in recognition for their work in building confidence boosting football training sessions for children, ages 18 months to 7 years, run by strong and supportive volunteers who encourage local youth to enhance their sport skills and confidence and being an organisation which has had significant growth and continue to be admired and appreciated by many.

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.

One question was received in advance of the meeting and asked can the Town Council disclose their plans for the lake for the next 2 years, or do they still regard the lake as beyond recovery?

A copy of the Councils vision for Canvey Lake was provided which was approved on the 20th January 2025 and it was confirmed that it was agreed at a meeting on the 24th February 2025 that although desilting the lake was not part of the Councils vision for immediate action, investigations should be made into obtaining funding to de-silt the lake and reduce silt levels.

To close the evening and awards Cllr May 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 8.00pm

Town Mayor

9th March 2026