

Chairman's Announcements – Council Meeting – 26th January 2018
Events attended by the Chairman/Vice Chairman since
the last Council meeting on 13th October 2017

- 14th October – Tackling Loneliness, High Sheriff's Conference, Bishop's Palace
- 17th October – Royal Visit by HRH the Duke of Cambridge to 'Ascension' Hereford Cathedral
- 18th October - The Royal Navy Section, Combined Cadet Force, Trafalgar Dinner
- 19th October – Armed Forces Community Briefing and Dinner
- 20th October – VIP Opening of The Orchards Housing Development, The Walk, Withington
- 20th October – Herefordshire Federation of Young Farmers Clubs AGM
- 21st October - Youth Participation Group Networking Event, Town Hall
- 22nd October - Hereford Cathedral Harvest Festival
- 26th October - HGTA Annual Apprentice Awards
- 27th October - Herefordshire Poppy Appeal, Hereford Skate Park
- 29th October – Leominster Civic Service
- 29th October - Hereford & Worcester Army Cadet Force Combined Charitable Trust Patron's Curry Lunch
- 7th November – Aylestone School Celebration Evening
- 8th November - Field of Remembrance, Hereford Cathedral
- 9th November - Roger Arthur Clark Rally and Reception, Leominster
- 10th November – Hereford & Worcester Fire Service Awards Evening
- 11th November – Armistice Day Service, St Peter's Square, Hereford
- 12th November – Remembrance Sunday Service at Stirling Lines
- *12th November – Remembrance Sunday Service in Hereford
- 13th November – Citizenship Ceremony
- 19th November - Dr Roger Morgan, British Empire Medal Ceremony
- 19th November - Road Peace Service, Hereford Cathedral
- 23rd November - The Herefordshire and Worcestershire Sports Awards
- 25th November - Ledbury Christmas Light Switch On and Nativity Service
- 28th November – Covenant Annual Review Signatories Briefing
- 28th November – Encore Autumn Brass Concert
- 30th November - High Sheriff's Lecture
- 4th December - Opening of Housing Development at St Botolph's Green, Leominster
- *11th December – Citizenship Ceremony
- 13th December – Herefordshire Museum Service Support Group Christmas Celebration
- 14th December – Hereford Cathedral School Carol Concert, Hereford Cathedral
- 17th December - St Michael's Light Up A Life Service, Hereford Cathedral
- 19th December - ABF The Soldier's Charity Carol Concert, Hereford Cathedral
- 20th December - Leadon Bank Ledbury Anniversary Event - Shaw Healthcare
- 22nd December – Hereford Cathedral Carol Service
- *8th January – Citizenship Ceremony
- 20th January – Herefordshire Royal British Legion County Conference

*Vice Chairman attended

Herefordshire Community Champion Awards 2018

This month I have launched the campaign to find the Herefordshire Community Champions of 2018. There are 5 categories of Champion;

- Community
- Volunteer
- Caring
- Environment
- Youth

Anyone is invited to nominate their chosen candidate to be a Champion and win the award of a trophy and £500 cash at a special dinner to be held on 16th March 2018. Councillors, staff and anyone in Herefordshire are invited to submit nominations no later than 16th February 2018 by visiting www.herefordshire.gov.uk/champions.

Civic Service - Sunday 18th March 2018 at 3.30pm

The Commonwealth Heads of Government summit meeting is to be held in London in April. As the annual summit meetings move round the various Commonwealth countries, it is probable that this will be the last such summit meeting to be presided over the Queen, following her decision to restrict her foreign travel commitments. In view of this, there is a move for Lord-Lieutenants throughout the country to put on special events to commemorate the occasion and for this to happen between Commonwealth Day on 12th March and the commencement of the Summit on the 16th April.

Following discussions between Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Herefordshire, the Dean and myself, it has been decided to have a joint Civic and Commonwealth Cathedral service on the afternoon of 18th March with a particular Commonwealth flavour.

Members are asked to note the date and to make a particular effort to help celebrate the occasion by attending the flag raising ceremony on Monday 12th March and the joint Cathedral Service on Sunday 18th March. Further details will be forthcoming in due course.

Weeping Window art installation

Working with the Cathedral and representatives from the WW1 Committee, the Council coordinated a successful bid which resulted in Hereford Cathedral being selected as one of the last 4 venues to host the famous poppy art installation – 'Weeping Window'. The installation, a cascade comprising several thousand handmade ceramic poppies, will be at the cathedral from 14th March to 29th April 2018. Alongside the display, will be an exciting programme of activities for visitors and the local community, to include a Home Front exhibition, talks, music, readings, school visits and family activities.

A project manager and volunteer coordinator have been recruited and they are working with a small organising group to secure sufficient funding to stage the event and to finalise all the practical requirements and arrangements.

This is a fantastic opportunity for Herefordshire, not only as a means of remembrance, but also for our local economy. Previous locations that have hosted the Weeping Window have reported a huge increase in visitor numbers (over 100%), increased take up of local visitor accommodation and increased spend.