Chairman's Announcements – Meeting – 3 February 2017

Events attended by the Chairman of Herefordshire Council since the last Council meeting on 16 December 2016

- 20 December Meet the Postmen at Hereford Delivery Office
- 20 December -ABF The Soldiers Charity Carol Concert
- 23 December –Cathedral Festival of Lessons and Carols
- *09 January –Citizenship Ceremony
- *11 January Funeral of Vice-Chairman
- 21 January Royal British Legion AGM

I wish to extend my thanks to Councillor John Stone for his kind assistance in deputising for me at the Citizenship Ceremony and Councillor Peter McCaull's funeral in my absence.

This year's Civic Service will take place on Sunday 12th March at 3.30pm at Hereford Cathedral. In consultation with the Dean, I propose to make the service particularly relevant to one of the Council's priorities – Children and young people. Representatives from uniformed organisations and youth groups will be invited to take part. In addition, the wonderful internationally renowned Cantible choir will be taking part and is a particular attraction. I would ask as many of you as possible to support this important civic event.

The Herefordshire Community Champions Awards are taking place again this year with kind sponsorship from Cargill and promotion by the Hereford Times. The competition was launched on 12th January with the closing date for nominations being 22nd February. More information and nomination forms can be found on the Council's webpage. Please publicise the event in your wards and either nominate someone or encourage others to put forward deserving people or groups for one or more of the five categories.

The independent remuneration panel will be considering the members' basic allowance and the special responsibility allowance in March 2017. Following this they will be making recommendations to Council in May 2017 in connection with these allowances. As part of their considerations, they would be grateful if members could please complete a short survey which was sent out via email on Monday 30 January 2017. I would urge all councillors to participate in this survey.