

Chairman of Council report – Council Meeting

24 May 2024

Since the last council meeting I have attended the declaration of the new High Sheriff Patricia Churchward, presentation of British Empire medals, the annual meetings of the Armed Forces Covenant, SSAFA , and held a meeting and tour of our Heritage Archive and Resources Centre (HARC) for our Mayors.

I was particularly pleased to see the Lord Lieutenant presented the King`s award for voluntary service to the South Wye Development Trust at their home base of the Kindle Centre. The work going on at this Centre for many years to support the local community and refugees in our City is exemplary and worthy of this high national award – equivalent to a MBE. I would encourage elected members to look in their own communities to similar organisations who make significant contributions to the wellbeing of residents and our environment.

Together with the Vice Chair I attended the seminar of the Herefordshire Tourism BID who have recently been awarded the Local Visitor Economic Partnership status which means it collaborates with Visit England on innovations and campaigns in the sector, and is doing great work to promote our local tourism.

I attended civic receptions and services in the County and in Worcestershire and Gloucestershire, several productions at the Courtyard witnessing the talent of our community including an impressive evening by the Herefordshire youth orchestra

The Bishop, Mayor, Chairman of the Guild of Showmen and myself took part in the historic ceremony of the opening of the St Ethelbert`s May Fair in Hereford witnessing the payment of twelve and half bushels of wheat. We were joined by most of the market town mayors and many others from south Wales. The tradition of this event was enhanced by the Bishop wearing a wig worn by one of his predecessors over 200 years ago at the same event.



This month marks the changeover of our City and Market town mayors and I would like to thank Cllr Jacqui Carwardine, Cllr Allan Williams, Cllr Louis Stark, Cllr Helen L`Anson, Cllr Dee Dunne-Thomas, and Cllr Elizabeth Banks for their commitment and support to their local communities and their comradery throughout the year.