

Chairman of Council report – Council Meeting **24 July 2026**

Chairman of Council Report



At the end of June we celebrate Armed Forces week across the nation. It is an opportunity to acknowledge the importance of defending our country and the freedoms we so take for granted. Herefordshire has a long military tradition which in recent generations has strengthened to

being our largest single employer with an estimated 1,000 military children in our county primary and secondary schools.

183 businesses and public bodies in the county have signed up to the Armed Forces Covenant which helps support the large number of veterans who transfer from military to civilian life. The council has a long tradition of being very supportive and supports a Veterans centre which with many voluntary organisation gives support, advice and friendship to ex- military.

Shown in the photo above is the platform for the raising of the flag in Hightown Hereford with Lord Lieutenant, High Sheriff, Hereford Mayor and myself. There was also a special day in Kington hosted at Lady Hawkins School where some of the pupils gave excellent speeches.

HRH the Duchess of Gloucester visited The Little Princess Trust to celebrate its 20th anniversary. The trust receives hair donations and has made over 20,000 wigs for children with cancer. They are also one the UK largest funders of children`s cancer research. The Duchess also visited Wyevale nurseries.



I joined the Lord Lieutenant at the presentation of the Kings Voluntary award to the Colwall Orchard Group. The award, equivalent to an MBE, is presented to community and voluntary organisations who have made a significant impact in their local area. The Colwall Orchard group oversee two traditional orchards and allotments

providing opportunities for local people to be involved with nature, food production and country crafts.

Together with Kings Enterprise award for businesses, if as a local member you think there are groups or businesses in your ward that might be worthy of consideration please contact the Lord Lieutenant office at plough lane.

Since our last council meeting the Vice Chairman and I have undertaken various activities including Violette Szabo picnic at Wormelow, Royal Three County Show, meeting of the Mayors and clerks with our new Chief Executive, and Citizenship ceremonies at Garner Hall.

Cllr Roger Phillips OBE JP

Chair Herefordshire Council