

Report to Cabinet

Subject: Pride of Gedling Community Awards

Date: 11 September 2014

Author: Corporate Director (Stephen Bray)

Wards Affected All

Purpose

- To seek Cabinet support for the organisation of an awards ceremony in early 2015 to honour and recognise achievements in the community, with a view to establishing the ceremony as an annual event.

Key Decision

This is not a key decision.

Background

Members have expressed an aspiration to establish an annual event at the Council to honour and recognise the work of ordinary citizens of the Borough who make a positive difference in their communities. This was first considered in 2012, but other commitments prevented its progression. Recent developments, including the possibility of promotional and organisational support from the Nottingham Post, mean it is now possible to take the initiative forward.

Proposal

It is proposed that an awards event takes place annually in the New Year around the typical "awards season". The awards will allow for the Council to formally recognise the outstanding work of local people in their communities. The proposed title for the ceremony is the Pride of Gedling Community Awards.

A range of award categories are under consideration - a list of possible categories is attached at Appendix A. For the first year, it is suggested that between 6 and 9 awards are presented – this may expand further in future years.

The suggested “Volunteer of the Year” award would be the Pam Clipsham Award currently presented by Gedling CVS. Discussion with CVS indicate that, while they wish to continue with their own volunteer awards evening (held in the Autumn), they would welcome their main award for overall volunteer of the year (which is the Pam Clipsham award) to be presented at the Pride of Gedling evening.

The “Star of Gedling” award will be chosen from the winners of the other categories to be the overall winner for the year.

Nottingham Post have indicated that they would be keen to project manage the event. Services they would offer include: -

- Full management of the event
- Branding
- Organisation of the nominations
- Judging
- Inviting shortlisted
- Organisation and delivery of the awards evening
- Pre promotion advertisements
- Editorial leads on all shortlisted individuals
- Post event feature
- Digital promotion
- Social media exposure

The Communications and Community Relations teams will work collaboratively to deliver and promote the event alongside the Nottingham Post, but the Post will effectively coordinate the entire event and its promotion.

The Civic Centre is proposed as the venue for 2015. Up to 100 guests could be accommodated. The ceremony would include a drinks and canapés reception.

Alternative Options

Alternative options considered include not holding an awards ceremony and holding a more expansive ceremony at an alternative venue, with a wider range of awards.

Financial Implications

Costs will be shared between the Council and award sponsors. The Council’s contribution would take the form of a fee payable to Nottingham Post for their

services as set out above. That fee is estimated at around £500 per award category, so costs would be between £3,000 and £4,500 depending on how many award categories are included. The Council would work with the "Post" to seek out sponsors from within the community for each award to fund the estimated remaining costs.

The Council contribution can be funded from existing approved resources.

Appendices

Appendix A – Suggested award categories

Background Papers

None

Recommendation(s)

Cabinet is recommended to:-

- Support the organisation of a "Pride of Gedling" Community Awards ceremony early in 2015, with a view to this becoming an annual event.

Reasons for Recommendations

To allow for the Council to formally recognise the outstanding work of local people in their communities.