



PRESS RELEASE

Annual Town Meeting and Citizenship Award Presentation

Residents were invited to the Annual Town Meeting at 8pm on Wednesday, 15 March 2023, in The Murray Hall, at 106 Borders Lane, Loughton IG10 3SB.

Displays were set up by local groups, organisations and charities that were successful with their grant applications which gave residents an opportunity to view before the formal meeting commenced at 8pm.

The meeting agenda followed the usual format with reports from the Town Mayor and Chairmen from the Town Council Committees about the Council's activities and achievements during the past year and its on-going plans for the future.

As part of the meeting Cllr Barbara Cohen, Loughton Town Mayor presented Heidi Chow with the Citizenship Award for 2023 in recognition of her dedication and voluntary work within the community and especially for the GROW Community Garden.

In her speech Cllr Cohen said that Heidi has been volunteering for GROW Community Garden at Pyrles Lane for over 6 years, in more recent years taking a lead role. The Community Garden project brings many benefits to a variety of local residents. The garden brings people together, combating social isolation and provides an outdoor activity promoting health and wellbeing. This is a particularly important project for adults or children with learning difficulties to participate in. A Town Councillor recently stated that ' whenever I visit the GROW Community Garden, I leave feeling that the world is a better place than when I arrived!'

Loughton Town Council support this nomination and congratulate Heidi on her deserved win!

Heidi received the presentation of the Silver Rose Bowl which she will keep for a year. A glass engraved award and a scroll for keeps and a cheque for £250 for her chosen charity.

A Certificate of Recognition was also presented to Mohan Panesar, for his exceptional work, above and beyond for the benefit of Loughton residents for over 30 years as his work as a pharmacist in the Broadway.

An engraved plaque was also presented to the winner of the 2023 Loughton Building Design Award.

The Town Council is keen to protect and preserve the architectural heritage of Loughton. The winner of this year's award unanimously chosen by the judges was 49 Church Lane. A fine job has been done with the detailing, particularly the bold extension of the modillion cornice. Everything is right, it all looks in keeping and makes a worthy addition to the varied streetscapes of Church Lane and adds interest to the scene at the crossroads. The awards were presented to the owners and developers, Mr & Mrs Wheeler. Sadly Mrs Laurence Becker, the architect was unable to receive her award in person.

Representatives from local groups, organisations and charities that were successful in their grant applications received certificates to mark their achievement. In total the Town Council presented £35,441 to Community Groups in Loughton, providing assistance to very worthy local causes.

The meeting was concluded by a question-and-answer session which allowed residents to express their views and ask questions about issues in the town.

After the meeting, light refreshments were served and there was time for residents to have an informal chat with the voluntary groups and their Town Councillors.

For more information contact:

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