

## Kirkbymoorside Town Council

### Information for the meeting on Monday 18 November 2024

#### 9. Community Awards & Celebration Events

**To receive a report on the Community Celebration Event and Community Awards on 12 October 2024**

#### **CELEBRATION DAY & COMMUNITY AWARDS EVENT PARTICIPANTS/ATTENDEES FEEDBACK**

**Were the Celebration Day and Community Awards event well-organised?** 100% Yes

##### Comments

I appreciated how early all notifications were sent out, including the invite to even have a stall, which gave us plenty of time to prepare what we wanted to take as well as staff our shop so that I could attend. I also thought giving a table plan around a week before the event was very helpful rather than leaving it to the day to try and get people in the right places. You managed to get a wide variety of groups and organisations which I think speaks to how well organised it was. The only thing I think could have been improved in terms of organisation was the actual set up of the tables and chairs on the Friday night as lots of people turned up to help and then seemed to be stood waiting for a job to do, as there was not much we could do without being directly instructed, though I'm sure this would be smoothed out if we did the event again.

Well organised and friendly. The Town Band obviously made a significant contribution and extended the event to make it worthwhile and enjoyable. It would be hard to follow with an equivalent entertainment spot (unless the Town Band became a regular feature). As far as I could see, the bar worked well and the refreshments were excellent.

**Should the Town Council consider running it again next year, and annually?**

**Yes**

##### Comments

I definitely think it should be run again, and annually as it's great to have events to look forward to throughout the year, I think the turnout was brilliant for a first time, and that could be increased next year when people know more of what to expect. There was definitely a buzz in the air once the bunting went up on the street and the atmosphere in the Memorial Hall on the day was fantastic.

It could be hard to ring the changes sufficiently whilst retaining the relevance to Kirkbymoorside. Nevertheless, it is something which should punctuate the town calendar.

Yes definitely and running it annually would be a great idea.

**From your perspective, was the event worthwhile?** 100% Yes

##### Comments

I would say it was definitely worthwhile as we made a nice amount of money from our stall and sold 34 raffle tickets where we normally sell a maximum of 8 in a day at the shop. We also had lots of productive conversations with members of the public, some of whom shop with us regularly and some who I hadn't seen before. It also allowed me to find out more about what happens in our town, for example Age UK works with innocent smoothies on "The Big Knit", and

through the event I discovered the woolcrafters group who I then contacted to see if they would like to join in the project.

It brought residents and local organisations together to share a great day and evening

**What suggestions and ideas do you have for the Town Council to consider regarding the Celebration Day & Community Awards?**

I would say that it would be good to have it across 2 days, if possible, for example one day for the stalls in the memorial hall and a second for the extra events such as the history walks and exhibition in the Moorside Room. I heard a number of stall holders - and myself - who would have liked to do these other events but as we were on our stalls alone we couldn't.

Comments applicable to the overall Kirkby Day and Community Awards event and what may be wider opportunities for celebrating the town, its people, and its achievements:

- I wouldn't want to over-formalise things, but is it also an opportunity to tell more of the Kirkbymoorside story to more people?
- The Annual Town Meeting has a limited attendance so could the Community Awards event reiterate some of the points from the Town Meeting?
- Is there an opportunity to recruit more people to join formal and informal groupings - if they knew about them? I'm thinking of organisations and activities such as the litter picks, or Christmas decoration work?
- Is there a chance that more businesses would be willing to let the town share their pride in what they do - maybe through a guided visit to some premises (health and safety permitting)?
- Local History is part of the town pride and if Steve and his colleagues were willing, further guided walks on the day could be worthwhile.
- Could the Kirby Day offer a greater opportunity for all the voluntary organisations to get together and collaborate on activities or recruitment?
- And who would organise it all? Already the Town Council (and friends) achieve much (and sometimes with little acknowledgment).

Can the event (and the day itself) be even more inclusive?

But overall, thank you for enabling a really successful event which I hope will roll forward into the future.

**CELEBRATION DAY PARTICIPANTS**

**Was the Celebration Day well-organised?** 100% Yes

Comments:

Yes, the event was very well organised. However, there appeared to be no obvious direction to the stalls upstairs. A number of visitors did not realise there was more to see. Perhaps next time this could be more considered.

YES THANK YOU ALL! It seemed to us that much planning had been done, and it was well publicised. Always worth doing more publicity, though, and perhaps arrange something special for the lunchtime slot, when it was quiet.

It was well managed and organized, however we felt that the daytime activities in the memorial hall went on a little long. Its hard to manage as a small organisation with only a few volunteers. We felt that finishing at 1pm would have been sufficient.

**Should the Town Council consider running it again next year, and annually? Mixed Response**

Comments

**Yes.** There was a very good turn out, and all organisations had the chance to "network" and advertise their activities. Good to see and meet Town Councillors, and for them all to see the range of things that the townfolk are doing.

**Maybe:**

Depends if the organisers have enough energy to do it every year - it could be every 2 years

Perhaps every other year?

Perhaps a bi-ennial event would be better

**No,** I personally think every three years would make more of an impact and allow for different nominations.

**From your perspective, was the event worthwhile? 100% Yes**

Comments

It was a nice day and good to celebrate our town and the people in it.

The event was very worthwhile. There were a lot of lovely comments about the community spirit in Kirkby.

#### **COMMUNITY AWARDS ATTENDEES**

**Was the Community Awards event well-organised? 100% Yes**

No Comments

**Should the Town Council consider running it again next year, and annually? Yes/No**

Comments

Depends if the organisers have enough energy to do it every year - it could be every 2 years

**No,** I personally think every three years would make more of an impact and allow for different nominations.

**From your perspective, was the event worthwhile? 100% Yes**

Comments

I think it was well organised, should be run every year and it was certainly worthwhile. It lifted the profile of the Town Council especially. The atmosphere in the Memorial Hall on the day was fabulous and well supported. Well done to all who organised it.

It was a wonderful evening, very well organised. It is lovely to witness the talents in the community and to have them recognised and encouraged.

The band was amazing.

The food was lovely and well presented.

**What suggestions and ideas do you have for the Town Council to consider regarding the Community Awards?**

It's already been suggested that the training sections of the band could use the church if the weather's not good - which would be a perfect solution

I think it could be made better if all of the nominees in each group were brought either on to the 'stage' or at last brought together in the floor area by the 'stage' before the winning nominee is announced.

Finally, to say a big thank you to everyone involved in creating the event and ensuring it all ran smoothly, I do hope we get another one!