

## County Council – 15th December 2020

### Chairman's Announcements

#### People

##### **Former County Councillor John Powley**

It is with regret that the Chairman reports the death of former County Councillor and Honorary Alderman, John Powley, who represented the Soham and Fordham Villages Division on behalf of the Conservative Party from 1967 to 1977 and 1997 to 2013. During this time, he was the Cabinet Member for Social Services and Corporate Services as well as Chairman of the Council from 2011-13. The Council's thoughts are with his family, friends and colleagues at this very sad time.

#### Awards

##### **Public Service Communications Award**

The Council's Communications Team received a Bronze national award for its work in communicating with communities in Peterborough around the rapid response to rising infection rates in the city. This prestigious national award was staged jointly by the LGcomms and the Government Communication Service (GCS) to recognise the achievements of communicators in the public sector.

Using postcode data and information on the spread of COVID the Communications Team was able to focus its messages on specific sections of the Peterborough community where infections were at their highest. Local information was used to communicate with residents about the need to follow public health advice and Government guidelines. The work carried out during COVID-19 has been used as a blueprint for the communications work done across the whole of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

##### **Association of Democratic Services Officers (ADSO) – Learner of the Year 2020**

Nick Mills, Democratic Services Officer, has won the ADSO Learner of the Year 2020. Together with James Veitch, formerly a Democratic Services Assistant, and now an Energy Projects Officer in the Energy Investments Unit, they both successfully completed the ADSO Certificate of Democratic Knowledge. The Certificate comprises seven knowledge modules covering all aspects of Democratic Services. These are assessed through the submission of written assignments and by responding to questions through, for example, a professional discussion.

Nick was awarded the Learner of Year out of over 20 candidates nationally. To win this award you need to demonstrate the following: demonstrated significant progress, innovation or resilience during the course of their studies; applied their learning in the workplace for the benefit of their organisation; demonstrated new skills or personal

development as a result of their studies; shown that their qualification and learning experience has directly influenced their progression in the workplace; and their nomination is supported by their employer.

## Service Developments

### **Alconbury Topping Out Ceremony – 28th October 2020**

The Chairman attended the Topping Out ceremony at the new Alconbury Weald HQ on Wednesday 28th October.

## Messages

### **Remembrance Sunday / Armistice Day – 8th and 11th November 2020**

This year because we are working differently due to COVID, we were not able to commemorate Remembrance Sunday and Armistice Day in the same way. On Remembrance Sunday the Chairman laid a wreath on behalf of the people of Cambridgeshire at the War Memorial, Hills Road, Cambridge. The Chairman recorded a special video for Armistice Day encouraging everyone to observe the two minutes silence if they would like to wherever they were working at home or in the office.

### **Chairman's Commendations awarded in November**

Earlier this year the Chairman announced a monthly scheme to celebrate the fantastic work of those who have gone above and beyond in supporting their local communities since lockdown began in March due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The scheme will run for at least six months and Members are reminded to continue to send in their nominations. During the first week of every month, the Chairman will issue a certificate to those nominated.

The Chairman was delighted to issue a further three certificates during November to individuals, businesses and community groups in recognition for their excellent work throughout the Covid-19 pandemic. Full details of each Member's nomination can be seen on the council's website.