

Haywards Heath Town Council Community Awards

Premise

The Haywards Heath Community Awards recognise, celebrate and congratulate the unsung heroes of the town who work tirelessly to make a difference to our local community. We are looking for remarkable local community heroes. These may be individual residents or businesses who have made a significant contribution to our local community, either from a specific action or event, or as a cumulative effect, over a longer period of time. The awards will be presented at an Awards Ceremony, to be held on Sunday 9th March.

Eligibility

To ensure that we acknowledge the diverse residential and working population of our town, there are five categories to nominate from. Both individuals and businesses from all sections of our community who have made a visible difference to our town are eligible to be nominated. In general, nominees must be over 18 years of age, please see the criteria for each award below. The awards are not for academic work and must be for unpaid service, with the exception of the Business Award.

Nominees

Nominations can be made by any person or business which has links to Haywards Heath, providing they are not related to the nominee. The nomination can be submitted either online using the link (insert link here) or by paper copy, available from The Town Hall. Nominees may only be nominated for one category and cannot be made posthumously. No serving Haywards Heath Town Councillors can be nominated.

During the nomination period the Campaign will be advertised on the Town Council website and noticeboard (outside the Town Hall), in addition to community venues. Social media such as Twitter, Facebook feeds and Instagram will also be utilised.

Award Categories

Mayor's Award

A person of the Mayor's choosing, who the Mayor believes has made a significant contribution and difference to the town and local community. This can be a person of any age.

Business Award- Community Involvement

An award for businesses who have gone the extra mile to support and be involved with the local community. A business who enhances community life and makes a positive contribution. The business must be located and based in Haywards Heath.

Outstanding Young Person Award

This award is for a Young Person under the age of 18, who has made an outstanding contribution to their local community.

Criteria-

The nominee must be a resident of, or contribute within the Town Council area, they must also be under the age of 18.

Outstanding Adult Award

This award is for any adult, over the age of 18, who has made a significant contribution or service to their local community. This may be a single act or a cumulative effect over a longer period of time.

Criteria-

The nominee must be over the age of 18 and they must be a resident of or contribute within the Town Council area.

Sports Person of the Year, in association with Active Haywards Heath

An award for someone who has excelled in the Sports, Leisure, Fitness and Activity. This award is open to a person of any age. It could be a sports person, mentor, coach or instructor. The award could be for someone who has achieved something within their own sporting efforts, or who has helped others to achieve their goals.

Criteria-

Must reside in Haywards Heath, or regularly attend a sports club etc within the town.

Volunteer of the Year Award in association with Community People

Details of the nominees will be shared with Community People.

The nominee must have completed or be undertaking a voluntary role.

Voluntary Service for a national organisation or for a religious organisation will be considered if it is unpaid and benefits the community of Haywards Heath.

Criteria-

They must be a resident of, or contribute within the Town Council area.

Schedule of dates

Closing Date for nominations- Monday 3rd February 2024 at 5pm.

Winners Chosen- Thursday 6th February/ Friday 7th February 2024

Invites to be sent to winners- Friday 7th February/ Monday 10th February 2024

Award Date- Sunday 9th March 2024.

Awards Panel and decision making

It is recommended that the awards panel consists of the following: Mayor and Deputy Mayor, alongside Katie Rabone from Community People and Nicky Dodds from Clarion Housing as representatives independent from the Town Council.

Completed nominations received by close of play Monday 3rd February 2024 will be reviewed by the awards panel on Thursday 6th February/ Friday 7th February 2024.

The Town Council reserves the right to make no award in the event of no suitable nominations being received.

Any decision made by Haywards Heath Town Council is full and final and, for data protection reasons, discussions will not be entered into regarding unsuccessful nominations.

Further Guidance

Town Councillors may make nominations, but will then be excluded from any involvement in the decision-making process.

Existing Councillors and Town Council employees are ineligible for nomination.

You cannot nominate yourself.