

Mayoral Update January 2021

Happy New Year!

Christmas was a very different time for many of us, but I'm sure we all appreciated the simpler things in life. What a lovely sight to see Plymouth City Bus bringing festive cheer to the Torpoint and Rame Area with their Santa Bus!

Christmas Day allowed doorstep visits organised by Torpoint Churches Together. The Town Clerk and myself visited four residents for a little festive catch-up. I also visited Torcare Nursing Home to thank all the staff working on Christmas Day.

As the Civic Service was cancelled in 2020, I still felt it was important to present the Annual Civic Awards to those members of the community who have gone above and beyond in the interest of others. I was able to carry out socially distanced presentations to the following recipients:

**Citizen of the Year 2020 – Mrs Vivienne Morris.** Viv has worked over many years with the Foodbank at St James Church and thus enabled Torpoint to be in a better position to become a Foodbank Distribution Centre during the Pandemic. Viv has been heavily involved with the St James Christmas Day Lunches, and this year, as Secretary of Torpoint Churches Together, she has led on a project to provide a little doorstep cheer on Christmas Day for those in our community who would otherwise be home alone.

**Person of Courage Award 2020 – Mr Paul Goodall** Paul is a person who faces challenge with an armoury of good humour. The last ten months have proved to be difficult for everyone but Paul has presented as a role model to us all, as he has approached life with determination to overcome the challenges he is presented with on a daily basis. He has been President of the Lions and has advised the Town Council on disability issues.

#### **Community Group Award 2020 – The Local Community Markets Group**

When the Pink Ladies took over the running of the Torpoint Community Markets they could not have envisaged what a lifeline they would provide for the community in the future months. The group were able to respond immediately to a community need when we went into the first Lockdown building a network of volunteers to collect shopping or prescriptions, check in on and make friendly calls for those in our community who were shielding. In addition to this, the group has been organising the Torpoint Foodbank and most recently have built up a Virtual Community Market which has been to the benefit of Traders, Crafters and our community. I am sure that we are all eagerly awaiting the return of the very popular monthly Markets when restrictions permit.

Congratulations to Mr Kevin Sheer on his Long Service Medal in recognition of 30 years' service with Her Majesty's Coastguard Service.

A card has been sent to the family involved in the house fire at Trelawney Rise and I would like to thank all those members of the community who donated to the family, together with Councillor Mrs. K Brownhill for assisting with the co-ordination and receipt of items which are much appreciated.

Wishing you all a Happy, Healthy and Safe 2021.

Kind regards

Councillor Mrs Chris Goodman – Town Mayor