



LEE 16 November 2020

Agenda Item - LEE1601/20

Winter Photography Competition

Introduction

The Parish Council has, as one of its strategic objectives, the enhancement of the well being of residents.

It has not been possible for most of 2020 and will not be possible for several months, for the Parish Council to put on events that bring people together socially and that have been so appreciated in the past.

It seems likely that Christmas will be different this year, due to the Covid 19 pandemic, and families will be affected in their enjoyment of the time.

Gatherings of groups of people are likely, even after the current restrictions on the freedoms of movement and association are relaxed, to be very limited to try to limit the spread of the virus.

These factors are likely to induce feelings of loss and some regret.

This paper offers a Covid safe, low cost, potentially high impact proposal simply to cheer people up.

Discussion

The recent online Dog Show and Pumpkin carving competitions showed that the reach of the Parish Council social media channels is greater than the boundaries of the village attracting entries from a wide audience. They were enjoyed by participants and viewers.

This proposal is to build on that reach to stage a virtual (online) photography competition, themed around Christmas, although in this case it will be open only to Croxley Green residents.

Competitors would be asked to send in a single image file that, for them, makes the season memorable. It might be a place, an object, an event, a person and the main thing is that it conjures up, for them, a happy time.

In the spirit of reaching out widely we could offer small prizes to different groups, plus a prize to the overall winner of best photograph. Groups might include but not be limited to:

- children up to year 6
- children of secondary school age
- adults
- senior citizens
- residents of retirement or care homes
- business people
- members of sports teams based in Croxley (rugby, football, bowls, tennis)

The scheme will be administered by parish officers; shortlisting will be carried out by a virtual panel of councillors and officers; and prize-winners, including overall winner, will be selected from the shortlists by a public vote.

The prizes will be £25 Love2Shop Gift cards, and the overall winner will receive a gift card and a small shield, to keep for one year.

The cost of the scheme will not exceed £500

Recommendations

- That Council approves the principle of staging a virtual photography competition.
- That Council approves allocating £500 from the Coronavirus EMR as the cost of staging the competition.

Cllr Nigel Cole
November 2020