



Job Description for Town Crier

Responsibility

The Town Crier will represent Wincanton and its residents, so you are expected to maintain a high standard of appropriate behaviour and courtesy at all times during your duties and at competitions. You are required to be clean, smart, polite, jovial and be able to project your voice.

Costume

The appointee will receive items of clothing in order to perform their duties. These will remain the property of Wincanton Town Council and must be returned at the end of the appointment. Wincanton Town Council will reimburse dry cleaning costs for the uniform for up to but not exceeding three times per financial year.

Skills

Wincanton Town Crier is required to write a relevant cry for each event they are engaged. Approval will be required by the Town Clerk prior to performance. Word limit for cries is 100-200 words. All cries must commence with 'Oyez, Oyez, Oyez' and must conclude with 'God save the Queen'. All cries must be non-political and non-religious and must be in good taste and in the spirit of the role. You will be expected to have and develop a good local knowledge, with an understanding of the Town and its history.

Duties

It is anticipated you will attend all Wincanton civic events. You will liaise with the Town Clerk, who will be your Line Manager, regarding all matters concerning your role. It is anticipated you will attend all major events in the Town, and it is hoped you will be invited to perform cries throughout the year promoting various charitable events in the town. The Town Council reserves the right to refuse permission for any activity which they may consider inappropriate or contrary to the policies of the Town Council.

Voluntary position

The post of Town Crier is voluntary and unpaid however the Town Council agrees to give favourable consideration towards a nominal honorarium to contribute to wear and tear of parts of your attire not provided by the Council and as a token of the Council's gratitude.

Insurance

The Council agrees to include your position within its Public Liability Insurance.

Other income

Invitations to perform commercial cries for local businesses in the area, e.g., opening of stores, are both encouraged and allowed, subject to approval from the Town Clerk. Fees for such engagements will be negotiated by you and be yours to keep. The council reminds you that such income must be declared to HMRC as appropriate. The Town Council reserves the right to refuse permission for any activity which they may consider inappropriate or contrary to the policies of the Town Council.

Membership

You are encouraged to join the nationwide Ancient and Honourable Guild of Town Criers and the annual membership will be reimbursed to you.

Please note:

Any person found by the Town Council to be in serious breach of any of the above conditions, or otherwise be considered as having bought the position into disrepute, will be immediately removed from the role of Wincanton Town Crier. Any person who has been dismissed by the Town Council from the post of Wincanton Town Crier, for bringing the position into disrepute, will not be eligible to hold the post at any other time in the future.

Terms & Conditions

The position of Town Crier for Wincanton is open to male and female applicants, aged 18 years. It is desirable that applicants possess the following:

- Excellent written and oral communication skills
 - An outgoing personality
 - Reasonable knowledge of the history of Wincanton or be able to acquire some
 - Proven reliability
 - Ability to stand for long periods of time
 - Ability to project voice
 - Ties to Wincanton
1. All applicants must have a strong desire to be the Town Crier for Wincanton.
 2. Each applicant must complete an application form. The signed Application Form is evidence of the applicant's consent to these terms & conditions.
 3. Applications not made in accordance with these terms and conditions will be invalid and not considered.
 4. The decision of Wincanton Town Council to accept or reject an application is final. No correspondence will be entered into.
 5. Wincanton Town Council will shortlist all qualifying applicants.
 6. Shortlisted applicants will be required to perform their cry to the public, to be arranged.
 7. All decisions made in relation to the successful applicant and appointment of the new Town Crier will be final.

The position of Town Crier is an internationally recognised ancient and honourable position. Wincanton Town Crier is an honorary, voluntary post for which Wincanton Town Council acts as appointing body and agent. The Town Crier is a very public ambassador for Wincanton and as such the postholder will be expected to abide by certain rules.

APPLICATION FORM

APPLICANT DETAILS (Please print clearly)		
Name		
Address		
Contact Numbers	Home	Mobile
Email Address		
Do you have any criminal convictions? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, please provide further details. Please note by signing this application, the successful applicant agrees to Wincanton Town Council completing a criminal history check prior to being engaged as the official Town Crier.		

Please explain why you would be suitable for the role of Wincanton Town Council's Town Crier.

Please write below an original cry based on the theme 'Wincanton'. Your cry must be between 100-200 words.

(Please note if your application is shortlisted you will be required to perform this cry to the public, date and location to be notified)

DECLARATION

I have read and accept the Job Description and Terms & Conditions for the Wincanton Town Council Town Crier Position

Signed:

Date:

**Please send applications to Wincanton Town Council, Council Offices, Market Street, Wincanton
Or email to info@wincantontowncouncil.gov.uk**

APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED NO LATER THAN FRIDAY 8th OCTOBER 2021
