



Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Community Life Awards 2008

Village of the Year

Entry Guidelines



Village of the Year

About Village of the Year

Village of the Year is all about recognising well-balanced, proactive and caring communities which, irrespective of size, have made the best of local opportunities to maintain and enhance the quality of life for everyone living there.

Entry Conditions

Entries may be submitted by any properly constituted community group in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough that meet the following criteria:

- ❑ A 'not for profit' local organisation or trust set up to improve the social, economic or environmental health of the local community.
- ❑ Demonstration of a strong emphasis on the involvement of local individuals or groups active within the community.
- ❑ Networks or forums acting within the localised community.

Please note that entries to Village of the Year must be **supported** by the Parish Council, even if another community group has co-ordinated the entry.

Entries should focus on initiatives that have taken place in the last two years. Re-entrants are required to demonstrate how the community has been enhanced or developed since its last entry.

Potential entrants must also note that:

- ❑ Communities with a population in excess of 5,000 will not be eligible for the national CALOR competition;
- ❑ Communities cannot be nominated to represent their county in the national Calor Village of the Year for England competition in successive years (i.e. the 2007 winner, Little Paxton, cannot be selected as the 2008 representative).

Suitability of all entries is at the discretion of the judges.

Entries will only be accepted if received on or before 30 June 2008.

Any queries regarding a community's eligibility should be forwarded to Julie Weekes, the Community Life Awards Co-ordinator on tel: 01353 865032 or by e-mail, enquiries@communitylifeawards.org.uk.

Village of the Year

Submitting Entries

Entries must be submitted on the Village of the Year Entry Form which can be downloaded from the Community Life Awards website at www.communitylifeawards.org.uk. Those without access to the internet should request a copy of the form by contacting the Community Life Awards Co-ordinator whose details can be found on page 5.

We would prefer you to prepare your entry on a computer to make reading it easier for the judges. You may send your entry to us via e-mail or on a CD-ROM but we will also need a hard copy posted to us as we do require a signed copy.

Accompanying your entry, please supply up to **six digital photographs** together with a brief explanatory note of what each photo shows. The photos should support your entry and bring it to life. Please note that the quality or otherwise of your photographs will not affect the judging of your entry, as there are no marks at stake.

These photographs may be used on the organiser's website or on other promotional material for the awards. We hope to build up a library of photos to act as good examples to other community groups and to inspire future entrants to the awards. Please ensure that consent is given for any photographs used and that you have written consent from a parent or carer for any photographs of children or young people.

Guidelines on completing the entry form

Please complete an answer for all of the topics that you believe are relevant to your village. The judges will be looking for answers which are appropriate to the size of your village. Quality is more important than quantity. This competition is not about what you *have* as a community, but what you *do* as a community.

To give you some guidance, examples of things you might like to tell us about are included in the entry form.

Village of the Year

How your entry will be assessed

The members of the independent judging panel have been selected because of their experience and background relevant to the competition.

The judges will evaluate all entries received and consider each on its own merit. In particular they will be looking for evidence of activities that are community-driven rather than led by outside agencies or processes.

The judges will compile a shortlist of three finalist villages. Shortlisted villages will be notified by letter and informed of a further round of judging, which will involve a team of judges visiting the village between mid-July and mid-August.

Each visit will last up to two hours and will be an opportunity for the judges to observe evidence of statements made on the entry form. Judges would appreciate a short tour of the village, by car if possible, and a chance to meet representatives of local organisations. During the visit shortlisted villages can put forward further information to support their entry and an informal presentation if desired. Further guidance will be given to those successful in getting to this point.

Prizes

The winner will be announced at the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Community Life Awards Dinner which will take place on Tuesday 2 September 2008.

The three finalist communities will be invited to send up to four representatives to the Awards Dinner to help recognise and celebrate their community's achievements and to hear whether they have been chosen as Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Village of the Year 2008.

The winner receives a cheque for £1,000 and the Fairhaven Trophy.

They will also receive a framed certificate and a commemorative photograph.

Press and Media Interest

There will be considerable press and media coverage from across the county resulting in excellent publicity for the winning community.

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Community Life Awards 2008

Village of the Year

Sponsor

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Village of the Year
is sponsored by
Calor



**Any queries regarding
Village of the Year
should be directed to:**

Julie Weekes
Community Life Awards Co-ordinator
Cambridgeshire ACRE
32 Main Street, Littleport, CB6 1PJ
Tel: 01353 865032
E-mail: enquiries@communitylifeawards.org.uk

**Further information on the Cambridgeshire and
Peterborough Community Life Awards can be
found by visiting the awards website:
www.communitylifeawards.org.uk**

