**Information about Applying for the Post of Bellman or Town Crier for Hexham**

Bellman and Town Crier mean exactly the same thing.

This is a post open to any gender aged 18 years or over.

The Bellman will perform at all major events and when news of great import occurs.

The Bellman will be given a script to shout out.

The Bellman will be given full Livery and a bell to use.

The Bellman will be encouraged to join the Ancient and Honourable Guild of Town Criers if they like. The fees will be paid by Hexham Town Council.

The Bellman will be supported by the Town Council if they would like to participate in any of the national town crier competitions.

This is a voluntary position.

This is a fun post and calls for bags of character as well as a voice that can knock planes out of the sky. But it is a post that also carries the pride of the town. The town crier represents Hexham and must do so with dignity and charisma.

To apply you will need to return the completed application form. We will respond with a script for you to start rehearsing. This is your formal invitation to join us at The Beaumont Hotel at 11.30am on Saturday 9th April 2022. We will buy you a coffee and at 12.30pm we will proceed to the Market Place. Once in the Market Place a real Town Crier will give a demo. Following that, all applicants will be given the chance to have a go using the script with which they have been furnished. 4 Judges will decide the winner.

The criteria for judging are;

**Volume** – being loud!

**Clarity** – how clearly you shout and how well your words can be understood

**Diction** - how you speak each word

and **Inflection** - how you say each word and the rise and fall of the text as you speak it. The best will be chosen there and then and offered the post. After all the excitement we will get the winner measured up for full livery and start discussing appointments.