

**WESTON-SUPER-MARE TOWN COUNCIL  
WESTON IN BLOOM WORKING PARTY  
HELD ON TUESDAY 13<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2015  
AT GROVE HOUSE**

Meeting commenced: 1.00 pm

Meeting concluded: 2.30 pm

**PRESENT/IN ATTENDANCE:** Richard Knowles (Chairman), Cllr Jocelyn Holder, Cllr Roz Willis, Jenny Gosden, Pauline Priestman, Roger Brown, Kareen Williams, Debbie Matthews (Love Weston, Malcolm Nicholson (Town Clerk) Zoe Scott (Community Events and Grounds Administrator) and Rob Thurston (Grounds Manager)

<b>1.</b>	<p><b>Apologies for Absence</b></p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from Chris Webber and Cllr Martin Williams.</p>
<b>2.</b>	<p><b>Declarations of Interest</b></p> <p>There were no declarations of interest received.</p>
<b>3.</b>	<p><b>To agree the minutes of the last Weston in Bloom Working Party Meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> September 2015</b></p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting had been previously circulated with the agenda.</p> <p>Section 1 and 6: The word ‘<u>allocated</u>’ should read ‘<u>elected</u>’ so it would be clear that an election took place.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That the minutes with the amendment be approved and signed by the Chairman.</p>
<b>3a.</b>	<p><b>Items raised from the last meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2015</b></p> <p>Richard Knowles had received a card from Bert and Cynthia Filer expressing their thanks to all at Weston in Bloom. They really appreciated their farewell gifts and would let Weston in Bloom know the results of the National Entry as they were attending the awards in Sunderland. Zoe explained that this was not coming out of any Town Council Budget.</p> <p>Jenny Gosden had spoken to Joan Thompson and passed on her thanks for the “Get Well” card she received.</p> <p>Richard understood that Sue and Rod Thomas from the Horticultural Society felt unwelcome at the last meeting and as a result did not want to be co-opted members of the Working Party.</p> <p>Pauline Priestman said that they should have been formally introduced and that there was some confusion as to who they were and why they had been invited. Pauline said they were most welcome to attend the meetings though.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Zoe to contact Sue and Rod Thomas to see if they would like to attend the monthly meetings.</p> <p>Richard had spoken to Georgina, one of the volunteers. Unfortunately, however, due to work commitments she was unable to attend the monthly meetings.</p> <p>Richard announced that the Tesco Cup won at the South West in Bloom awards would be on display in the Mayor’s Parlour.</p>

<p><b>4.</b></p>	<p><b>Monthly Finance Report</b></p> <p>The finance report was distributed and accepted. Zoe explained again that there was to be no spending under any circumstances.</p> <p>Richard explained how the winter bedding needed to be watered in. This was something Zoe would have to talk to Sarah about as the budget was already fully spent.</p> <p>Pauline wanted to pass on her thanks to the Grounds Team for helping with the planting this season.</p> <p>It would be beneficial to gain feedback from the volunteers regarding how they felt the planting went this year.</p> <p><b>Actions:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Zoe to email all the volunteers and gain feedback on how they felt the planting went.</li> <li>2. Zoe to pass on thanks to the Grounds Team.</li> </ol>
<p><b>5.</b></p>	<p><b>Volunteers Feedback</b></p> <p>Zoe explained that this would remain a static item on the agenda in order to have a link between the volunteers and the Working Party. This way Zoe could relay any projects that the volunteers may want to carry out or updates they have.</p> <p>Richard wanted to introduce Debbie Matthews to the meeting and allow her to explain about the 'Year Of The Garden' campaign.</p> <p>Debbie explained that Visit England was running a campaign next year 'The Year of the English Garden' and that Weston would be producing a floral trail of features throughout the town. The features must be available to see from Easter to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2016.</p> <p>All the features must be easily accessible, safe and well maintained. Debbie would need a list of features by the 31<sup>st</sup> October to include them. A few ideas were discussed such as St Paul's Church garden and Worlebury Golf Club.</p> <p>Debbie said it would be nice to include gardens on the trail as well.</p> <p><b>Actions:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Anyone from In Bloom who has any ideas as to what could be included on the trail to speak to Debbie.</li> <li>2. Zoe to pass on Bert and Cynthia's contact details to Debbie.</li> </ol>
<p><b>6.</b></p>	<p><b>WIB 2016:</b></p> <p>Zoe explained that Bev Tucker (Business Improvement District) would only be able to help with the portfolio next year due to BID going to re ballot. Zoe needed to know soon whether or not they would like to enter the competition next year.</p> <p>Discussion ensued and it was agreed a decision would be made at the next meeting after the Working Party had contacted schools and local youth groups to make enquires as to whether they would like to run a project or outreach campaigns along side Weston In Bloom.</p> <p>Some members of the Working Party felt Weston In Bloom needed a year to re group after losing two key members and figure out how they were going to re structure. Others</p>

	<p>felt that not entering may mean a loss of momentum.</p> <p>Zoe thought it would be a good idea to promote Weston in Bloom more throughout schools and Youth Clubs, engaging the community and helping to start new projects based around horticulture, something which was often left out of the main curriculum.</p> <p>Rob mentioned that the plants for next year needed to be ordered at the latest by the end of November. Due to the timescales it was agreed for Rob to order the plants for In Bloom with the view of finding someone who could take over from Bert.</p> <p><b>Actions:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The entire Working Party to investigate possible opportunities to offer outreach to schools, youth and community groups.</li> <li>2. Zoe to set up a meeting with the volunteers to see what their thoughts are on next year and the direction of In Bloom without Bert and Cynthia.</li> <li>3. Zoe and Rob to speak to Bev and North Somerset to decide on a colour scheme for next year.</li> <li>4. Rob to order the plants for In Bloom Summer 2016.</li> <li>5. Zoe to email councillors who sit on the In Bloom Working Party to ask for their contribution to ideas for outreach projects and thoughts on next year.</li> </ol>
7.	<p><b>Forthcoming Expenditure</b></p> <p>This was discussed under Monthly Finance Report.</p>
8.	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p>Councillor Holder said that next year the IYNA evening could be held at St Paul's Church free of charge.</p> <p>Rob explained that a list of Weston in Bloom features had been compiled. The list identified the exact location of each feature and by whom it was maintained. Rob explained that it was a really useful list to have and would help greatly moving forward.</p> <p>It was agreed that going forward, the Working Party would receive their agendas and minutes by email and would in future collect hardcopies at meetings.</p>
9.	<p><b>Date of Next Meeting – Tuesday 10th November 2015, 1.00pm Grove House</b></p>

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at: 2.30 pm

Signed: .....

Dated: .....