

**WESTON-SUPER-MARE TOWN COUNCIL
WESTON IN BLOOM WORKING PARTY
HELD ON TUESDAY 13th JANUARY 2015
AT GROVE HOUSE**

Meeting commenced: 1.00 p.m.

Meeting concluded: 2.15 pm

PRESENT/IN ATTENDANCE: Richard Knowles (Chairman), Councillor Ros Wills (Town Mayor), Councillor Cyril King, Bert Filer, Cynthia Filer, Rob Thurston (Grounds Manager), Roger Brown, Jenny Gosden, Pauline Priestman, Jocelyn Holder, Bev Tucker, Kareen Williams, Zoe Scott (Community Events and Grounds Administrator)

1.	Apologies for Absence Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Clive Darke and Malcolm Nicholson (Town Clerk).
2.	Declarations of Interest There were no declarations of interest received.
3.	To agree the minutes of the last Weston in Bloom Working Party Meeting held on the 11th November 2014 The minutes of the previous meeting had been previously circulated with the agenda. RESOLVED: That the minutes be approved and signed by the Chairman.
3a.	Items raised from the last meeting held on 11th November 2014 Roger Brown updated everyone on the Homebase project. It was going well and the next stage was to prepare the ground and then start to plant. Zoe Scott explained that she had received confirmation in writing that the Weston Lions Club would be looking after the floral clock again this year. Richard Knowles said the Big Worle initiative was going well. They would be ordering 2000 plants from North Somerset free plant scheme. The working party was also informed that Worle Lions Club would help with planting this year. Pauline Priestman asked about sponsorship. Zoe Scott explained and told of all her efforts to try and obtain sponsorship. The working party agreed that it would be good to try and get businesses to sponsor their main features such as the Donkey, Train etc. Action: Bert to produce a list of key features and how much they would cost to plant and maintain. Zoe Scott would then begin looking at having signage produced and approaching businesses. <i>Councillor Roz Willis (Town Mayor) and Jocelyn Holder joined the meeting at 1.15 pm.</i>
4.	Monthly Finance Report The remaining balance was £594.12. Roger Brown asked Zoe Scott whether she would write a letter to Homebase Head Office to ask for a discount on the remaining items needed such as bark chippings.

	<p>Councillor Willis asked whether WIB had contacted Mark Walker for permission to transform the project as it was he who planted it originally. Zoe Scott explained how she had tried calling and emailing him many times and had no response. Pauline Preistman had also tried to contact him but had not been successful.</p> <p>The committee asked Zoe Scott to inform Mark Walker that the project was being renovated.</p> <p>Action: Zoe Scott to contact Homebase and Mark Walker.</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Route</p> <p>Bev Tucker asked everyone whether they were happy to keep the same route? The judges were so pleased with it last year.</p> <p>Bev Tucker and Zoe Scott had been informed that the Old Town Quarry may not be available and a different resident's garden may have to be visited. Discussion ensued on possibly visiting Milton Road Cemetery instead of the Quarry. Cynthia Filer knows of another garden that could be visited.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Working Party keep the route the same, allowing for minor alterations.</p> <p>Bev Tucker informed everyone that Chris Webber could only attend the one judging day this year. Zoe Scott suggested that it should be the National Judging day as this was WIB's main day. The Working Party was also reminded of the need for updated information for inclusion in the WIB Portfolio.</p> <p>Action: WIB's portfolio be updated.</p> <p>Cynthia Filer said that Councillor Roger Bailey was organising a school's competition at Westhaven school which sounded like a great idea.</p> <p><i>Bev Tucker left the meeting at 1.15pm</i></p> <p>Action: Zoe Scott to contact Councillor Roger Bailey to see whether Weston in Bloom could help with the competition.</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Forthcoming Expenditure</p> <p>Spending, cut off date: Monday 23rd February 2015</p> <p>National Seminar - 30th January 2015: Zoe Scott and Rob Thurston the Grounds Manager would be attending as the day would consist of information regarding the Route, Portfolio and press etc.</p> <p>RESOLVED: The Working Party agreed unanimously.</p> <p>Spring Seminar - 12th February 2015: The seminar was in Melksham this year. It was agreed that enough information would be obtained from the National Seminar and, therefore, no one would be attending the Spring Seminar this year.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That no one from the WIB Working Party attends the Spring Seminar in 2015.</p>

	<p>April 2015 Budget: The Grounds Manager explained that the Finance Department had asked for an expenditure review to be carried out across the whole Grounds Department. This included Weston in Bloom. The exercise could help identify areas where WIB and Grounds could work together.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That an expenditure report be brought back to a future meeting.</p> <p>Hanging Baskets:</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Working Party approve the expenditure of £2595.15p to order 193 2015/2016 hanging baskets from Rod Pooley.</p>
7.	<p>Updates for Portfolio</p> <p>This agenda item had already been discussed under agenda item 5.</p>
8.	<p>Important Dates for 2015</p> <p>Closing Date for IYNA – 14th March Regional Judging – 8th to 22nd July IYNA Judging – 1st to 31st July National Judging – 3rd to 15th August Presentation – 24th September</p>
9.	<p>Planting</p> <p>Bert and Cynthia Filer informed the working party that they would be leaving Weston in Bloom after this year. Richard Knowles expressed his thanks to them for all their hard work over the years and how they would truly be missed. They had been a big part of In Bloom.</p> <p>Bert Filer explained how 4 more volunteers had signed up.</p> <p><i>Councillor Roz Willis (Town Mayor) left at 2.00 pm.</i></p> <p>It was suggested that John Wheatly visit both the Working Party and the volunteers, a possible venue being the YMCA.</p> <p>Action: Zoe Scott to look at organising a visit from John Wheatly.</p>
<p>Date of Next Meeting – 10th February 1.00pm Grove House</p>	

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at: 2.15 pm

Signed:

Dated: