

**WESTON-SUPER-MARE TOWN COUNCIL
WESTON IN BLOOM WORKING PARTY
HELD ON TUESDAY 19th NOVEMBER 2019
AT GROVE HOUSE**

Meeting commenced: 11.00 am

Meeting concluded: 12.07 pm

PRESENT/IN ATTENDANCE: Councillors Roger Bailey, Roz Willis, Dave Dash, Kareen Williams, Roger Brown, Philip Dinham, Malcolm Nicholson (Town Clerk) Fay Powell (Grounds Manager) and Zoe Scott (Community and Grounds Officer).

1.	Apologies for Absence and Notification of Substitutes Apologies were received from Councillor Thornton, Councillor Bute, Councillor Armstrong, Jim Sellars, Sandra Sellars, Bev Tucker, Jenny Gosden and Maureen Jackson.
2.	Declarations of Interest There were none received.
3.	To agree the accuracy of the minutes of the previous meeting held on the 08th October 2019 PROPOSED: Councillor Dave Dash SECONDED: Councillor Roger Bailey RESOLVED: That the minutes be approved and signed by the Chairman. The Chairman thought a specific amount had been agreed for the budget allocation to volunteer travel expenses. The CGO explained a suitable amount had been accounted for in the budget setting process.
4.	Monthly Finance Report The remaining balance after committed expenditure was £1,595.09
5.	Ebdon Road and Train Station This item was differed until the next meeting. Action: CGO to liaise with Jim and Sandra re Train Station.
6.	Winter Planting Progress All the features were planted. Worle Highstreet still had some pots which needed planting. Discussion ensued on the process in place for volunteers to communicate between each other. <i>Kareen Williams entered at 11.15am</i>

	<p>Action: CGO to arrange a meeting with all volunteers in January to discuss communication and future planting. Also ensure growmore, compost and bone meal is available for the next planting season.</p>
7.	<p>In Bloom Awards</p> <p>The chairman noted that the judges thought some grasses in the sustainable beds at Sparky would work well. £100 would cover the costs of purchasing and planting some heathers and lavender.</p> <p>PROPOSED: Councillor Roz Willis SECONDED: Councillor Kareen Williams</p> <p>RESOLVED: That £100 be allocated for new planting at Sparky the Donkey.</p> <p>It was thought a visit to neighbouring In Bloom entrants would be beneficial.</p> <p>The Working Party was pleased with the Silver Gilt they received.</p> <p>A member was disappointed with the comments received about litter and cigarette ends considering the hard work BID put in before judging. The portfolio in future will highlight further the work they do.</p>
8.	<p>Re-Wilding Progress</p> <p>The Grounds Manager explained a Grounds Review is taking place and an area of consideration is re-wilding. With the council having declared a climate emergency, the grounds review will set the scene for how the town council's climate footprint can be managed. The Grounds Manager was happy to give a presentation to the Working Party. Tree planting was an avenue being explored and suggestions are always welcome for more ideas.</p> <p>Sue Thomas thought that buddleias would be a great choice of plant as they are hardy and very resistant. It was also discussed about using Crassisporum and Crassifolium.</p> <p>Action: CGO to speak to NSC about a location for planting on the seafront.</p>
9.	<p>Watering Contract</p> <p>Moving forwards the Watering Contract will be carried out in house as of April 2020. This will offer more flexibility.</p> <p>Water butts are also going to be installed in the cemetery.</p>
10.	<p>New Raised Bed</p> <p>The Chairman had previously met with Linda Neat at Weston College to discuss the refurbishment of a raised bed outside the college on Knightstone Road. The college has some budget which can be used however they would need guidance on what plants to be used etc.</p>

	Action: Roger Brown, Phillip Dinham and Roger Bailey to liaise with the college.
11.	IYNA Lunch The working party agreed a date of Tuesday 21 st January 2020. Action: The CGO to arrange the IYNA lunch.
12.	New Volunteers and Training progress This item had already been discussed.
13.	Hosting in Bloom Awards South West in Bloom had asked for towns to put their names forward for hosting the awards ceremony in 2020. It was agreed this was too short notice however Weston would potentially be interested in hosting future years. Action: The CGO to enquire with South West In Bloom about hosting the awards ceremony in future years.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at: 12.10 pm

Signed:..... Dated: