

**WESTON-SUPER-MARE TOWN COUNCIL  
WESTON IN BLOOM WORKING PARTY  
HELD ON TUESDAY 11<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2014  
AT GROVE HOUSE**

Meeting commenced: 1.00 p.m.

Meeting concluded: 2.45 pm

**PRESENT/IN ATTENDANCE:** Richard Knowles (Chairman), Councillor Cyril King, Councillor Richard Tucker, Councillor Roger Bailey, Malcolm Nicholson (Town Clerk) Rob Thurston (Grounds Manger) Burt Filer, Cynthia Filer, Jenny Gosden, Pauline Priestman, Kareen Williams, Jocelyn Holder, Roger Brown, Lew Hartley (Uphill Society) Zoe Scott (Community Events and Grounds Administrator)

<b>1.</b>	<p><b><u>Apologies for Absence:</u></b></p> <p>Councillor Darke Councillor Webb Councillor Willis Bev Tucker Chris Webber</p>
<b>2.</b>	<p><b><u>Declarations of Interest:</u></b></p> <p>No Declarations of Interest</p>
<b>3.</b>	<p><b><u>Notes of the previous Weston in Bloom Working Party Meeting held on 03.12.13.</u></b></p> <p>Pauline Priestman enquired whether we have an update from Councillor Russe. Zoe had not received any information and will enquire if there had been any progress.</p> <p>In Section 3 the line “semi-permanent container” is incorrect and should read “substation”</p> <p>Councillor Richard Tucker gave a small update on the Summerlands Project. Himself and Burt had been planting bulbs in the area and assured the Working Party it was not in an area affected by the Sub Station which is being located there.</p> <p>Burt Filer informed the Working Party he has made purchases agreed at the last meeting consisting of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Growmore</li><li>• Conifers</li><li>• 30 Bags of Compost (ordered)</li></ul> <p>Cynthia informed everyone that she and Burt have had no contact from Cheddar Garden Centre or Puxton Park in response to sponsoring the Garden Competition. They also contacted Cadbury however only received an automated response. Cleeve nursery however seemed very interested and may be able to help. They will keep the Working Party updated.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED: That with the above amendments, the notes be approved.</b></p> <p><b><u>Actions:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Zoe: Contact Councillor Russe</u></b></p>

<p>4.</p>	<p><b><u>Monthly Finance Report:</u></b></p> <p>The remainder of the budget was discussed and accepted.</p> <p>Zoe also presented the Working Party with comparable costs of hanging baskets from previous year (Taunton Dean 2012 and Blaise Castle 2013) however explained they should not just look at the overall price for each year as there were differences in what was purchased. Individual purchases should be evaluated instead of the entire end figure.</p> <p>Richard Knowles asked Zoe if she could find out how many spare hanging baskets Blaise Castle is holding for Weston-in-Bloom.</p> <p>Pauline Priestman raised the question of the price for the Taxi to the Spring Seminars in Bath feeling it was too high. The figure was £100 for travel there and back for 5 people. The price should have been £150 however an agreement was discussed and accepted.</p> <p>Zoe explained that they had looked at train prices and it worked out at around the same price. This was not including the extra costs of taxis to Weston Train station from Bath Station. Therefore it was agreed the taxi were a good option.</p> <p>Burt Filer enquired about whether some of the money Weston-in-Bloom has left could be used for a new feature at “The Homebase Project”. Bert had the idea of installing a wicker watering can. The Working Party all agreed that whatever is installed must not be high maintenance and stand the test of time. Some materials such as Mock Wood and Stone were discussed. It was agreed that a ceiling of £500 be allocated to Burt for finding a new feature.</p> <p>Malcolm Nicholson made the Working party aware that after reviewing the 2014 Budget an extra £1,500 was allocated to Weston-in-Bloom and that the council would be appreciative of any spare funds at the end of year which could be returned. Malcolm expressed that the Council would always be supportive of work carried out by Weston in Bloom however if no projects or maintenance was needed, Weston in Bloom should not feel obliged to spend the remainder of the budget.</p> <p>The Working Party enquired how the water tender was developing. Rob explained that all the paper work is up together, there were just a few finer details to be added.</p> <p><b><u>Actions:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Zoe: Contact Blaise Castle</u></b></p>
<p>5.</p>	<p><b><u>St James Street:</u></b></p> <p>Zoe asked if this item could be carried forward due to Bev Tucker not being present. This was agreed.</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p><b><u>Planting:</u></b></p> <p>The Hanging Basket feature for the railway station has been ordered from PlantScape, Zoe is awaiting a delivery date.</p> <p>Rob explained that he had received an email promoting “Bulbs in The Green” and thought it was a good opportunity. Snowdrops and Bluebells were available and The Working Party will speak to Zoe if they would like to order.</p>

7.	<p><b><u>Uphill Society:</u></b></p> <p>Lew Hartley thanked the Working Party for allowing him to present his ideas. Lew explained that Uphill has many areas which are being developed, looked after by a voluntary group of people, and the village has plenty to offer. They look after two flowerbeds, Folly Lane Triangle, Uphill Way, The Donkey field and many more areas throughout the village. Lew thought it may be nice idea for Uphill to have a slightly bigger presence on the Judging Route. Currently the judges only visit Westhaven School and Lew felt that the In Bloom Group may be missing out.</p> <p>Zoe explained that a meeting was arranged on the 27<sup>th</sup> February at 1.00pm at Grove House to discuss the route for 2014.</p> <p>Lew explained that although the initial planting of projects is feasible with the voluntary group they have, the maintenance becomes an issue. Councillor Bailey proposed that Weston in Bloom give the Uphill Society £500 from next year's budget.</p> <p>Richard Knowles explained in previous years the Weston-in-Bloom group have helped by giving Uphill flowers for planting. The Working Party expressed that for the In Bloom group all the maintenance was carried out by them, including the tools they use and no costs were associated.</p> <p>Malcolm expressed that instead of giving a lump sum of £500, if the Uphill Society could produce a breakdown of things they need help with, such as planting and projects, the Weston-In-Bloom Group could see how they can help. Malcolm also explained how with the Toilets currently being taken over by the Council, there will be space behind the set in Uphill which may be able to be used for storage in the future.</p> <p>Lew brought up the discussion of in future years being able to use the watering contract Weston-in-Bloom have. Rob Thurston explained this could be looked into further.</p> <p>It was agreed that Uphill Society approach the Working Party with a breakdown of their needs.</p>
8.	<p><b><u>Forthcoming Expenditure:</u></b></p> <p>See "Monthly Finance Report"</p>
9.	<p><b><u>Any Other Business:</u></b></p> <p>Burt Filer expressed how this year Britain in Bloom was promoting the Theme "Going for Gold". The Working Party was confident in the theme they had decided on.</p> <p>Richard Knowles explained how the Planter outside Lloyds Bank in Worle had been damaged and needed replacing.</p> <p>Lew Hartley left at 2.35pm</p> <p>Zoe had been contacted by a lady from The Friendship group in St Andrews Hall, the Bournville.</p> <p>She would like the Working Party to come and talk to them about what they do. There were two dates available, 3<sup>rd</sup> September and 5<sup>th</sup> November. Zoe passed her details on to Cynthia Filer.</p>

	<p>Pauline Priestman thought it would be nice to write a letter of thanks to the council for the extra money allocated to them.</p> <p>It was raised that items were being carried forward over a number of meetings and if a system could be put in place to minimise this.</p> <p><b><u>Actions:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Zoe: Look at the system of Actions being carried forward.</u></b></p>
<b>10.</b>	<b>Date of Next Meeting – 11<sup>h</sup> March 1.00pm Grove House</b>

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at: 2.45 pm

Signed: .....

Dated: .....