

**WESTON-SUPER-MARE TOWN COUNCIL
WESTON IN BLOOM WORKING PARTY
HELD ON TUESDAY 11th AUGUST 2015
AT GROVE HOUSE**

Meeting commenced: 1.00 p.m.

Meeting concluded: 2.35 pm

PRESENT/IN ATTENDANCE: Richard Knowles (Chairman), Cllr Jocelyn Holder, Jenny Gosden, Pauline Priestman, Roger Brown, Bev Tucker, Malcolm Nicholson (Town Clerk) Zoe Scott (Community Events and Grounds Administrator), Rob Thurston (Grounds Manager) Sue Thomas (Weston Horticultural Society) Rod Thomas (Weston Horticultural Society)

1.	<p>Apologies for Absence:</p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Roz Willis, Bert Filer, Cynthia Filer and Kareen Williams.</p>
2.	<p>Declarations of Interest:</p> <p>There were no declarations of interest received.</p>
3.	<p>To agree the minutes of the last Weston in Bloom Working Party Meeting held on the 14th July 2015</p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting had been previously circulated with the agenda.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the minutes be approved and signed by the Chairman.</p>
3a.	<p>Items raised from the last meeting held on 14th July 2015</p> <p>Sue and Rod Thomas introduced themselves, explaining that they were members of the Weston Horticultural Society and that they had been heavily involved in the Weston in Bloom Judging this year as well as the Flower Show.</p> <p>The Working Party welcomed them.</p> <p>Jenny mentioned how Joan Thompson who used to attend and help Weston In Bloom was very poorly.</p> <p>Action: Zoe to send Joan a card, saying “Thinking of you and thank you for all your help in the past”.</p> <p>Pauline wanted to apologise for having to leave the previous meeting early.</p> <p>Richard and Zoe proposed that a “Thank you Afternoon Tea” should be organised for all the volunteers to say thank you for all their hard work over the years. Zoe explained how this was also a good opportunity to meet them all and gain a better understanding of what projects were looked after by who.</p> <p>The Working Party agreed unanimously.</p> <p>Action: Zoe to arrange two possible dates for the “Thank you Tea” in September.</p>

<p>4.</p>	<p>Monthly Finance Report:</p> <p>The finance report was distributed and accepted.</p> <p>Roger asked if there were funds in the budget to replace the baskets at Paddock Park. Zoe explained it would have to come out of next year's budget.</p> <p>Zoe highlighted how this was a good example of what she needs to know when the Finance Team ask what projects were being planned for the next financial year, something which needs to be considered when allocating the WIB budget for 2016/2017.</p> <p>Zoe said it was important that the Weston In Bloom Working Party inform her of any anticipated works which may need to be carried out. The budget needs to be thought through carefully in order to allocate funds to projects appropriately otherwise it is likely the funds will not be allocated due to lack of notice.</p> <p>A few members thought the money had run out sooner than in previous years. Rob mentioned how we have had an extra judging day this year which had resulted in an increase in expenditure.</p> <p>Cllr Holder said the Wave project really did need looking at and re developing. Again Zoe said this could be another project for the year to come.</p> <p>Action: The Working Party to email Zoe a list of projects for the year 2016/2017 so she can calculate costings.</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Forthcoming Expenditure:</p> <p>This was discussed under Monthly Finance Report.</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>National Judging Day Review:</p> <p>Pauline said that the judges were delighted with the town, expressing good comments. They were lovely people to meet.</p> <p>The Working Party agreed the day was a success.</p> <p>It was raised that one of the judges thought it would be nice if someone could attend the National Awards in Sunderland on the Friday 16th October.</p> <p><i>Zoe reminded the Working Party of a previous minute from 12.05.15 stating "That if any member of the WIB Working Party wished to go to the National Awards then Weston In Bloom would pay for the ticket of £18.00 (providing the budget allowed). Other expenses accrued by an individual member would have to be paid by that member."</i></p> <p>It was agreed that currently no one wished to attend. However if anyone was to change their minds, they should contact Zoe.</p> <p>Malcolm and Richard will be attending the Regional Awards in Dartmouth on Friday 24th September.</p>

<p>7.</p>	<p>Flower Show Review:</p> <p>Sue and Rod Thomas felt it was the best Flower Show they had held to date. Hosting it in the town centre enticed a large amount of people to the event and they did not hear one single negative comment. They had more children’s entries than ever before and many people were asking how they could become involved and enter next year.</p> <p>Richard was at the Flower Show helping and teaching children about planting. He said the day was a great success and lots of people attended.</p> <p>Zoe handed out a leaflet she had produced for the event asking for volunteers to help with Weston In Bloom. Many leaflets were given out and the Working Party hopes this would attract new volunteers.</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Planning for the future:</p> <p>Zoe asked the Working Party what the current understanding of Bert and Cynthia’s retirement was.</p> <p>Pauline explained they are happy to remain on the Working Party and also plant the Train and Bio Diversity Garden. Sue and Rod have been asked to also help plant the Train.</p> <p>The Working Party thought it would be a good idea to have a list of all our features available at the volunteer ‘Thank you Tea’ for people to write their name next to. This would give us a better understanding of where we need help.</p> <p>Sue asked if the plants are sourced locally. It was explained they are through a mixture of Westhaven School and Blaise Castle Nursery in Bristol.</p> <p>Rob said the Grounds Team could help plant the Wallflowers upon delivery due to it being a time sensitive task. They need to be planted within 2 days of arrival.</p> <p>Bev highlighted the need to discuss whether they were entering the competition next year or not. It was agreed to discuss this at the meeting in October.</p> <p>Action: To include our entry next year on the October agenda as well as feedback gathered from volunteers at the ‘Thank you Tea’.</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p>Planting: This was discussed under ‘Planning For The Future’.</p>
<p>10.</p>	<p>Any Other Business:</p> <p>Richard announced how the ‘Bucket and Spade’ may be able to be replaced with a boat. The Working Party thought this was a good idea but needed to be thought through a bit more. It was suggested this could be a project for next year.</p>
<p>11.</p>	<p>Next Meeting: AGM</p> <p>Pauline asked Malcolm how the process should be managed.</p> <p>Discussion ensued and it was agreed:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Votes can be taken at the meeting and nominations are not needed beforehand.• WIB can decide if they would like to change any co-opted members at the meeting.
11.	Date of Next Meeting – Tuesday 8th September 2015, 1.00pm Grove House

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at: 2.35 pm

Signed:

Dated: