

Present: Councillor Mrs E Hodgkin
Councillor G Dodds
Councillor A Follett
Mayor, Councillor Mrs J Wood
Mrs C Langler
Mrs R Reed
Mrs M Taylor
Mr K Bishop (in attendance)

Also Present: Miss J Smith - Minute Taker / Committee Administrator

It was noted that the election of a Chairman and Vice Chairman would be made at the next meeting after The Recreation and Amenities Committee meeting had been held. It was agreed that Councillor Mrs E Hodgkin remains as Chairman for this meeting.

583. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received from Councillor Mrs R Myer, Mrs T Palmer, Mr A Hawkins, Mrs G Follett and Mr S Khan.

584. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None received.

585. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Henley in Bloom / Civic Pride Meeting both held on 25 March 2010 and the Notes from the meeting held on 22 April 2010 were approved and signed by the Chairman, Mayor, Councillor Mrs Hodgkin as a true record.

586. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public present at the meeting.

587. PROGRESS

A Progress Report was noted and tabled at the meeting.

Garden with disabled access at Mill Meadows – Minutes: 411, 431, 490, 508, 538, 564, 576

Mr S Khan was unfortunately unable to attend the meeting but had given a written update that they had hit a brick wall re the funding for this project so from their perspective this project had been put on hold. In light of the refurbishment of the Leichlingen Pavilion toilets it was agreed that this project be put on hold until September.

Northend/Sydney House – Minutes: 475, 564, 576

Dispute regarding ownership issues ongoing.

Station Park Sculpture – Minutes: 490; 508, 520, 539, 564, 576

Mr S Khan has provided a written update that he had recently had positive meetings regarding the possible funding of the sculpture and he should know more in a few weeks.

YMCA Project Phase 2 – Minutes: 546, 564, 576

Councillor Mrs E Hodgkin advised that at the weekend they would be planting up another couple of borders and if any one was interested in helping out they would be meeting at 11:00am on 31 May 2010.

Hi-Q Tyres on Reading Road – Minutes: 552, 564, 576

Councillor Mrs E Hodgkin advised that she had not yet spoken with the Manager of Jet Garage regarding sponsoring tubs on the forecourt in conjunction with Mr Reid of Hi-Q Tyres, but that she would make contact.

588. BUDGET UPDATE

An update of the Henley-in-Bloom budget as at 17 May 2010 was received at the meeting. It was also noted that to date 47 summer hanging baskets had been sold and that following a chase-up by Councillor A Follett at least nine more orders were to be received. The summer baskets would be installed at the end of this week (w/c 24/5/10), slightly earlier than originally planned.

Mayor, Councillor Mrs J Wood advised that she had received a number of complaints regarding the businesses in Reading Road who felt that they are not being involved in the town's initiatives. She suggested that perhaps she contacts the Mrs B Richardson and Mr O O'Dell and they do a joint 'walkabout' along the Reading Road visiting the businesses to encourage them to join the Partnership to enable them to have a voice in the town's Partnership activities as well as joining in on some of the town's initiatives e.g. the hanging baskets scheme.

589. BATTLE OF BRITAIN 70th ANNIVERSARY

Members had before them two quotes:

- (i) For the plants for the RAF Roundels for the raised flowerbeds at Mill Meadows at a cost of £283.50.

It was **RESOLVED** to **RECOMMEND**

that plants for the RAF Roundels for the raised flowerbeds at Mill Meadows are purchased at a cost of £283.50.

It was suggested that the dates for planting up these two beds would be either the evening of 7 or 10 June. Mayor, Councillor Mrs J Wood confirmed that she would contact ATC with these dates to ask for volunteers to help with the planting.

- (ii) Information Board to produce artwork and proofs and supply one A2 size aluminium graphic sign complete with single aluminium post and fixings at a cost of £480.

It was agreed that the cost of £480 for a temporary sign was too high. Councillor A Follett asked Mr K Bishop if a wooden sign and post could be made by Parks Services to keep costs down and that a laminated information sheet is placed on the sign giving information about the Battle of Britain and asked that a quote be obtained for producing a laminated A3 information sheet.

It was **RESOLVED** to **RECOMMEND**

that a budget of £150 be allocated for producing this sign.

Action: Committee Administrator to obtain quotes for A3 laminated information sheet.

590. HART STREET PLANTER

Councillor Mrs E Hodgkin advised that following a meeting with Windowflowers the barrel planter at the end of Hart outside Maison Blanc would be removed. Ideally a cast iron planter would be more suitable but these were expensive. It was therefore agreed to hold off putting a replacement planter in this area until the autumn.

591. GARDENING BUDDIES

Mayor, Councillor Mrs E Hodgkin advised that following Saturday's plant sale and swap four more Gardening Buddies had volunteered. She also advised that she had been approached by several other people regarding two other Gardening Buddies projects: Northfield End triangle piece of land outside Rupert House school and the area behind the River & Rowing Museum which is currently being done by volunteers who work at the museum.

592. SPONSORSHIP

An updated list of 2010/11 Sponsors and potential sponsors were noted.

The Mayor, Councillor Mrs E Hodgkin suggested that Tomalin and Son are approached to see if they would sponsor two wooden barrel planters outside their premises by the bench.

Action: Committee Administrator to write to Tomalin and Son.

Councillor Mrs E Hodgkin advised that she had received a reply from Mr Ratcliffe, Higgs Group who had agreed to increase the sponsorship of the Reading Road roundabout to £1000 and had proposed that a three year contract be put in place for this sponsorship. Councillor Mrs E Hodgkin advised that following a meeting with Windowflowers it was hoped that the costs for the maintenance would be reduced as part of this would be carried out by Park Services. She suggested that once the new maintenance costs were known then an agreement could be made with Higgs Group regarding their ongoing sponsorship.

Mr R Reed reported that one of the signs is missing on the roundabout and asked that this be replaced.

Action: Committee Administrator to order new sign for roundabout.

As no response had been received from ManningUK regarding their continuation of sponsorship of the Henley Bridge flowerbed from July 2010, it was agreed that a follow-up email should be sent as Ward Consultancy had shown an interest in sponsoring this bed.

Action: Committee Administrator to write to ManningUK.

Post meeting note: Sponsorship monies of £500 received from ManningUK.

Councillor Mrs G Dodds suggested that to raise monies perhaps Henley in Bloom could start a Friends of Henley in Bloom and approach the local B&B's in the town. She suggested that for £25 these businesses become a Friend of Henley in Bloom. Councillor E Hodgkin suggested that in return they are mentioned in the portfolio.

Action: Committee Administrator to draft a letter to go out to the local B&B's.

593. HENLEY FESTIVAL OF FLOWERS WEEK OF 16 MAY 2010 – WASH-UP

Mayor, Councillor Mrs E Hodgkin confirmed that following a wash-up meeting held prior to this meeting (notes of the meeting attached to these Minutes) there had been a consensus to run this Festival again next year week commencing the 6 June 2011. She gave special thanks to Councillor A Follett and Mrs G Follett for all their hard work during this week.

594. 20010/11 EVENTS

- ***Big Tidy Up Campaign- Wash-up:*** 1 May 2010. Councillor A Follett advised that they had received good support for the campaign with the youth organisations. In addition, following this event some of the schools had undertaken a litter pick in areas around their schools. He confirmed the Cleanest School Competition had been won by Valley Road. It was also agreed that Councillor E Hodgkin would write a letter to the editor of the Henley Standard regarding residents and businesses tackling the weeds outside their premises.

- **Thames and Chiltern Judging Lunch – date to be confirmed:** Councillor Mrs E Hodgkin advised that following a meeting with the owners of The Red Lion they had agreed to host the lunch for the judges. Councillor G Dodds stated that this was a good idea but that the Red Lion front gardens desperately needed attention therefore this would not be a good place to take the judges. Councillor Mrs E Hodgkin explained that she had put Mr Gill in touch with Windowflowers who would hopefully be carrying out horticultural services for them and agreed to contract Windowflowers to confirm they were going to carry out this work.

Councillor Mrs E Hodgkin advised that work on the portfolio needed to commence and that any ideas for items to be included should be given to Mrs M Taylor or herself. Mrs M Taylor would also be producing a 10 minute film which would be presented to the judges as well as being entered for a separate award. Mr R Reed advised that Higgs would potentially do the printing but asked that Councillor Mrs E Hodgkin send an email with this request.

Post meeting note: Judging date for Henley confirmed as 8 July 2010.

- **Front and Back Gardens Competition – 5 July and 10 July.** Mrs C Langler advised that she had given all last years entrants a copy of the 2010 entry form as well as dropping copies off at various businesses and organisations within the town. She confirmed that Mrs T Palmer and Mrs R Cassidy had also been given copies to distribute too. To date only three entrants had been received. Councillor E Hodgkin suggested sending copies to Mr A Hawkins for distribution. It was confirmed that the judges for the competition would be: Mrs C Langler; Mrs G Follett; Councillor Mrs E Hodgkin, Mayor, Mrs J Wood and Mrs S Gale (Southern Plant Hire) plus Mrs M Taylor as the photographer.
- **Pubs and Restaurant Competition:** date confirmed as the 15 July 2010 at 11:00am. It was confirmed that the judges would be Mr R Reed; Mayor, Mrs J Wood plus the landlords from The Anchor and the Saracens Head (past winners).
Action: Committee Administrator to contact the landlords to ask if they would be judges.

Post meeting note: Contacted landlady at Saracens Head, she thanked the Committee for the offer but does not want to be a judge. Awaiting a response from the landlords of The Anchor.

595. **DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The following date and times were proposed for the next meetings:

Henley in Bloom/Civic Pride Sub Committee – Thursday, 1 July 2010 at 09:30am in the Town Hall.

The meeting closed at 12:35am

js

Chairman

NOTES OF A MEETING OF
HENLEY FESTIVAL OF FLOWERS COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY 26 MAY 2010 @ 9.30
“Wash up” Meeting

Present: Cllr E Hodgkin (Chairman)
Cllr A Follett (Vice Chairman)
Mrs M Taylor (Henley Photographic Club)
Mrs Jane Rowton-Lee (Henley Flower Club)
Mrs R Cassidy
Mr R Reed
The Mayor, Cllr J Wood
Mrs V Clark (URC)

Apologies Ms Carolyn Molyneux (Delegate Services)
Mrs G Follett (Henley in Bloom)

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| | | Action |
| 1. | Flower Arranging Demonstrations (Monday 17th May 2.15/7.00) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• JRL thanked all involved for good sessions• Needs follow up with EH on expenses / finances / ticket sales etc | EH/JRL |
| 2. | Shop Window Competition (throughout the week) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• EH thanked all involved for a very good display• Thanks to Hotel Du Vin for their hospitality• Possible improve on publicity /display on winners for next year | |
| 3. | Photographic Competition (16-22 May @ Christ Church Centre) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• All Ok and ran well• Possibly use photos in Henley in Bloom display | |
| 4. | Art Competition (17- 19 May @ River & Rowing Museum) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• May look at different venue next year - ? Old Fire Stn gallery• MT suggested a word search competition for schools based on flowers etc• May need to find a better date to fit school activities | |
| 5. | Gardeners Question Time (20th May @ 7.00 @ Town Hall) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Very good evening but low attendance ? not a good time of year• Were tickets at £5 too much ?• Martyn Sheldrake was very good• Consider special speaker next year to attract more people | |
| 6. | Plants on the Move (22nd May from 11.00 – Market Place) And Plant Swap/Sale (22nd May from 10.00 - 3pm in Market Place) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Very good day and about £450 raised – excellent atmosphere and community involvement / good help from Allotment Assoc. members, Judith Smith, & Gardening Buddies - Thanks to all• Plants on the Move - 14 entrants - Good for first year• Next year ? give wheelbarrows to schools to attract entries? | |
| 7. | Floral Displays in St Mary’s & Christ Church (all week) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• URC was good - St Mary’s could have be better - Lions Club display was very good. | |

- ? Next year - just concentrate on one church
8. **Advertising / Publicity**
- Could be even better next year - ? posters around town
9. **And, finally - Do We do It Again????**
All agreed YES - Possible dates would be w/b 6 or 13 JUNE 2011

AF 2/6/10