

**Present:** Councillor Mrs E Hodgkin (Chairman)  
Councillor A Follett (Vice Chairman)  
Mayor, Councillor Mrs J Wood  
Mr A Hawkins  
Mrs C Langler  
Mrs R Reed  
Mrs M Taylor  
Mr K Bishop, Park Services (in attendance)  
Mr A Bell, Park Services (in attendance)

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

**39. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies received from Councillors Mrs G Dodds, Mrs R Myer, Mr C Pye, Mrs G Follett, Mr S Khan and Mr M Jex.

**40. DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

None.

**41. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Henley in Bloom / Civic Pride Meeting held on 13 January 2011 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

**42. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

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

**43. PROGRESS**

A Progress Report was noted and tabled at the meeting.

*Northfield End / Sydney House – 475, 564, 576, 19, 31*

It was agreed to remove this item from the Progress Report as this item was being progressed through Finance, Strategy and Management and Full Council.

*Station Park Sculpture – Minute Nos: 490; 508, 520, 539, 564, 576, 7, 19, 35*

Members were advised that an update from Mr Khan regarding the sculpture had not yet been received and that due to a family illness Mr Khan had not been recently available. With regard to a temporary display for this area, Mr Bartle was still trying to reach Barnstaple in Bloom to ask about the train structure. It was noted that Bideford Town Council should be approached too as this was where the initial contact had been made in the past.

*YMCA Project Phase 2 – Minutes: 546, 564, 576, 589, 7, 19, 35*

The Chairman advised that she would be meeting YMCA in a couple of weeks and that this area would be added to the Gardening Buddies schedule.

*Royal Wedding Commemorative Flowerbeds, Mill Meadows – 37*

Members were updated that after investigation floral crown structures for these beds would be too expensive. However, after discussions with Mr M Sheldrake of Toad Hall a design had been decided (a layered design) for traditional carpet bedding, which would create maximum impact. This planting would take place post the Royal Wedding (early

June) with an information board being produced giving information on Royal weddings in general. It was noted that work had already started on the beds and these beds would be planted by Parks Services with help from the Gardening Buddies.

Competition 'Pride in your Place' - 37

The Committee received and noted the notes from the meeting held on the 17 February 2011. It was noted that a response had been received from SODC regarding placing a plaque on street name plates. Before a decision could be made SODC needed to have more information on what be included on the sign, size and materials used.

The Chairman confirmed that she was still awaiting a response from David Tate regarding sponsorship for this competition. Councillor A Follett advised that he would produce a press release for the Henley Standard to publicise the competition (for inclusion in either the 18 or 25 March editions).

**44. BUDGET UPDATE**

The Committee received and noted the budget report to 21 February 2011.

**45. GARDENING BUDDIES**

The Chairman apologised that she had not yet circulated a list of Gardening Buddy dates but that this list would forthcoming. Members were advised that to date 25,000 crocus bulbs had been planted around the town, of which 20,000 had been kindly donated by Toad Hall Garden Centre and 5,000 as part of the 'Focus on the Crocus' Campaign organised by the Rotary Clubs.

**46. SPONSORSHIP**

The Committee received and noted the sponsorship report. The Chairman and Mayor expressed their gratitude to the Henley Standard for their ongoing support in helping to promote HIB.

Mrs C Langler agreed to speak with Southern Plant Hire regarding their sponsorship (£300) for the Front and Back Gardens and Pubs and Restaurant Competition.

**47. BRITAIN IN BLOOM AND RHS IT'S YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD – UK TREE GIVEAWAY**

Members had before them a report regarding this initiative and were advised that 105 tree saplings would be delivered on 10 March. The UK launch of this campaign was being held on 26/27 March so ideally this or any date in March would tie in with this campaign. After a discussion a date of Sunday, 13 March between 1.00-2.00pm, meeting point Mill Lane car park was agreed. Volunteers would include committee members, Wildlife Association and Gardening Buddies. In edition an article would also be placed in the Henley Standard to promote the campaign and to call for volunteers to help with the tree planting.

*Action: Committee Administrator to provide a press release with all details to the Henley Standard.*

*Action: Park Services to provide 105 spirals for tree saplings.*

*Post meeting note: Mr A Hawkins and Mr G Bartle to meet on 4 March at Marsh Meadows to decide exactly where the trees would be planted in the Meadows.*

**48. 20011/12 EVENTS**

HIB Week – week commencing 23.5.11

- Plant Sale and Swap and 'Plants on the Move' – 28.5.11

It was noted that Toad Hall had kindly donated seeds for members and volunteers to plant and sow in readiness for the 28.5.11.

- Gardener's Question time – 26.5.11

It was agreed to hold an event during this week at the Town Hall.

Hit Litter Day – 2.4.11

It was decided to hold a Hit Litter Day on Saturday 2 April. SODC to be contacted to supply litter packs. Details to be sent out to schools and local youth organisations calling for volunteers.

Front and Back Gardens and Pubs/Restaurants Competition

Mrs C Langler to work with Higgs Group to produce the competition flyer for this year's event.

Britain in Bloom - Thames and Chiltern Regional Competition

It was noted following correspondence received from the organisers of the competition that this year there would no longer be an award for the best portfolio or DVD and there would be a new award to reflect innovative imaginative ideas and projects. Members agreed it was still necessary to produce a portfolio as this helped to promote HIB as well as it providing the judges with pictorial evidence of projects. It was noted the regional theme for 2011 was 'Branching Out' which would be open to entrants own interpretation.

Following confirmation from the competition organisers it had been agreed that this year entrants could choose the day for judges to visit and judge the town.

It was **RESOLVED** to **RECOMMEND** that the Regional judges should be invited to attend the town on the morning of Thursday 14 July 2011 (including lunch) for judging.

An idea to hold a picnic for the judges on the 14 July 2011 (with locally grown produce) in Henley in Transition's new forest area at HTC's 40 acre field was discussed. It was agreed that further discussions would need to take place to progress this idea.

The Chairman advised that a HIB representative had been invited to sit on a Thames and Chiltern Regional Planning Committee which met every three months. It was decided to postpone nominating a representative to sit on this committee until after the forthcoming election in May.

**49. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The following date and time was proposed for the next meeting:

Henley in Bloom/Civic Pride Sub Committee – **Thursday, 14 April at 10.00am** in the Committee Room of the Town Hall.

The meeting closed at 12.20pm.

js

Chairman