

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

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

15. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received from Councillor Mrs R Myer, Mrs T Palmer and Mr A Hawkins.

16. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None.

17. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Henley in Bloom / Civic Pride Meeting held on 1 July 2010 were approved and signed by the Chairman, Mayor, Councillor Mrs Hodgkin as a true record.

18. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

19. PROGRESS

A Progress Report was noted and tabled at the meeting.

Garden with disabled access at Mill Meadows – Minute Nos: 411, 431, 490, 508, 539, 564, 576, 587

Mr Khan confirmed that this project would have to be put on hold for the foreseeable future as the quotes obtained from builders were too high.

Councillor Mrs E Hodgkin advised that following a Full Council decision the refurbishment of the toilets at Mill Meadows were now no longer going ahead.

Northfield End / Sydney House

Councillor G Dodds asked that OCC (Oxfordshire County Council) via Finance, Strategy and Management give an update on Northfield End.

Action: Town Clerk to contact OCC for an update and provide an update to this Sub Committee via Finance, Strategy and Management.

Station Park Sculpture – Minute Nos: 490, 508, 520, 539, 564, 576, 7

Mr S Khan advised that it would be difficult for his charity to provide money for this sculpture but that he had one potential sponsor. He proposed holding a competition with a two-tier process. Firstly, to involve the local schools asking pupils aged 11-16 to design a sculpture (made of bronze or iron) which would go to a vetting committee. Secondly, the general public to judge the winner through the Henley Standard. The timescale he

proposed was October to December 2010 for the first stage with the competition being announced in January 2011 through the Henley Standard. The sculpture would be moulded in March/April 2011 with completion/installation anticipated by December 2011. Councillor G Dodds recommended including A-Level students upping the age category from 11-18 year olds as this would then involve Shiplake College, Henley College and The Oratory, as well as Gillotts School.

Councillor E Hodgkin advised that the design would need to have Henley Town Council approval as it was on Council land and this approval would need to be built into the timetable. She proposed a Councillor was part of the vetting committee and volunteered herself as well Mr Reed from the Henley Standard.

Mrs G Follett asked if a display of the vetting committee chosen designs could be put on display for members of public to view during the judging stages.

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

that Councillor Mrs E Hodgkin and Mr R Reed are part of the vetting committee for the Station Park sculpture.

Action: Councillor Mrs E Hodgkin to provide contact details to Mr S Khan for the above mentioned schools and colleges.

Battle of Britain flowerbeds – Minute Nos: 527; 539; 576, 589, 7

Councillor Mrs E Hodgkin advised that there was to be a Battle of Britain Service held on Sunday 19 September organised by the 447 Air Training Corp Cadets involving a parade to include the army and sea cadets followed by a service held at the Obelisk and the two raised flowerbeds (designed as RAF Roundels) at Mill Meadows. Park Services were asked to be involved to do an extra tidy up of these beds and the surrounding area as well as meeting Councillor A Follett on the morning to ensure the area was set up in readiness for the service. It was suggested that signs were produced and placed on the Battle of Britain information board informing members of the public of this meeting.

Action: Committee Administrator to provide public notices and to contact Mr M Shelldrake of Toad Hall sponsor of the roundel flowerbeds to ask if he would like to attend and bring his Word War jeep.

Action: Park Services to prune flowerbeds and tidy area prior to 19 September 2010.

Post meeting note: Mr M Shelldrake was unable to attend as he was going to be on holiday.

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

Councillor Mrs E Hodgkin advised that Phase 2 was due to be completed in the autumn. YMCA in conjunction with Lions Club of Henley-on-Thames had sourced sponsors for the second phase of the project.

20. BUDGET UPDATE

Members had before them an update of the Henley-in-Bloom budget as at 6 September 2010. It was noted that 78 summer and 17 autumn/winter hanging baskets had been sold to date. Miss J Smith advised that an email mail shot had recently been circulated to businesses with an order form for autumn/winter baskets and that there had already been some additional enquiries.

21. GARDENING BUDDIES

Councillor Mrs E Hodgkin advised that a new timetable with Gardening Buddies dates would be circulated shortly with a focus on planting crocus on the grass on the Reading Road Roundabout. Councillor Mrs E Hodgkin referred to the 5000 bulbs from the Rotary Club of Henley-on-Thames as part of their 'Focus on the Crocus' initiative in conjunction with Thanks for Life (www.thanksforlife.org) and showed members a copy of a flyer that been produced by the Rotary Club of Amersham. She advised that following a meeting with Mr M Pooley, Rotary Club of Henley-on-Thames, to decide a suitable place to plant the bulbs, that an area in between Valley Road School flower bed and The Lions of Henley Wishing Well flowerbed had been identified.

Councillor Mrs E Hodgkin proposed that once the bulbs had been planted that a HIB (Henley in Bloom) sign is placed in this area to recognise, the sponsors and their initiative 'Focus on the Crocus'.

It was **RESOLVED** to **RECOMMEND** that a HIB sign is produced to recognise, the sponsors and their initiative 'Focus on the Crocus'.

22. THAMES AND CHILTERN JUDGING AWARDS PRESENTATION ON 30.9.10 (St Mary's Church, 10 Church St, Amersham, Bucks, HP7 0DB)

Councillor E Hodgkin confirmed that there were nine members of the committee including HTC officers attending the presentations. Details regarding car sharing and timings to be confirmed nearer the time with attendees.

23. FRONT AND BACK GARDENS/PUBS COMPETITION AWARDS PRESENTATION ON 7.10.10 at 7:00pm (COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL)

Councillor Mrs E Hodgkin confirmed that Vince Hill has kindly accepted to attend as a special guest and help present the awards on the evening. Invitations to entrants to the competitions, HIB sponsors and members of the HIB Committee had been sent in July. She also advised that again this year there would be a Gardening Buddy of the Year Award and asked the Mayor to present this award.

24. SPONSORSHIP

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

Councillor Mrs G Dodds asked if the BT/electricity control boxes outside Maison Blanc could be painted as these were very unsightly. Councillor A Follett advised that these boxes were the controls for the traffic lights as well as BT boxes. Councillor Mrs G Dodds suggested that OCC and the companies that maintain these units should be approached to ask if these could be painted.

Mayor, Councillor Mrs J Wood suggested writing to the companies in the Smith Centre, Fairmile.

Action: Committee Administrator to write to BT and OCC for traffic lights operators for repainting of these units and in addition to write to the any new companies in the Smith Centre, Fairmile regarding HIB sponsorship.

25. 20010/11 EVENTS

Henley Festival of Flowers (HFF) Week

Councillor Mrs E Hodgkin confirmed the date as week commencing the 16.5.11, however, Councillor A Follett advised that this may clash with local elections and Mayor Making. Councillor Mrs E Hodgkin confirmed that she would check with the Town Clerk and Henley Flower Club if the date needed to be moved.

Post meeting note: local election date confirmed as the 5.5.11 and Mayor Making 16.5.11, date of HFF week now 23.5.11 confirmed with Flower Club and in Town Hall diary.

Other Projects:

Other ideas for planting on the two raised beds were discussed to replace the Battle of Britain Roundels in 2011. Mr R Reed confirmed that he would check/research any appropriate anniversaries that fall in 2011.

26. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The following date and time was proposed for the next meeting:
Henley in Bloom/Civic Pride Sub Committee – **Thursday, 13 January 2011 at 09:30am** in
the Town Hall.

The meeting closed at 10:50am.

js

Chairman