

KENDAL TOWN COUNCIL

Kendal in Bloom Committee

**Monday 8th February 2016 at 7.00 pm
in The Mayor's Parlour, Town Hall, Kendal**

- PRESENT** Councillors Lynne Oldham (Chair), Phil Walker (Vice Chair), Clare Feeney-Johnson and Richard Sutton
- Co-opted: Tony Rothwell (Kendal Civic Society), Diane Winder (Horticare), Deborah Wright (SLDC) and Mandy Nicholson.
- APOLOGIES** Chris Rowley (SLACC), Councillor Andy Blackman
- OFFICERS** Janine Holt (Assistant to the Town Clerk), John Belshaw (Town Handyperson) and Nicky King (Council Secretary)
- Also in attendance was Councillor Sylvia Emmott for item 5 on the Agenda (Kendal BID).
- 880/15/16 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**
- None.
- 881/15/16 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
- There were no declarations of interest made at this point.
- 882/15/16 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 3RD SEPTEMBER 2015**
- The Chairman presented the minutes of the meeting held on 3RD September 2015, which had been approved by full Council on 5th October 2015.
- RESOLVED** That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 3rd September 2015 be accepted as a correct record.
- 883/15/16 MATTERS ARISING (Not on Agenda)**
- None.
- 884/15/16 BID – CLLR SYLVIA EMMOTT**
- Councillor Emmott attended the meeting as representative for Kendal BID. She advised the Committee that the BID were keen to participate in the Britain in Bloom competition. She had attended the meeting so that she could feedback to the Board on that item.
- 885/15/16 KENDAL IN BLOOM COMPETITION 2016**
- Janine Holt advised that there would be the usual 3 elements to the competition:

Community Groups – Love Where you Live

To be launched on 1st March. Article included in the next KTC newsletter.

Schools Challenge

Janine Holt had previously circulated some information to the group on national study supported by the Royal Horticultural Society called the 'Seeds in Space' project. The group agreed to incorporate this as part of the schools challenge this year. The project information is completed and can be distributed to schools as soon as possible.

Allotments

Janine Holt reported that there was historically little enthusiasm from the allotment holders for the Kendal in Bloom competition. This year Janine Holt has asked all allotment holders to indicate whether they would like to take part in the competition form best plot. This will ensure that only the allotment holders who are interested take part and make the workload for the judges more manageable.

Janine Holt informed Members that the site reps had suggested a photographic competition idea with a theme of the harvest. Judging would take place during the week prior to the ceremony. Janine Holt was working with Chris Rowley and the Allotments Committee in this respect.

886/15/16

KENDAL IN BLOOM 2016 UPDATE

Members discussed the format of the awards ceremony and whether this should remain the same as previous. The venue for the ceremony was also discussed. Councillor Feeney-Johnson suggested that the ceremony be held in the Georgian Room. Members agreed that this was a good idea and discussed the idea of displaying pictures of the winners from previous years in the room.

CUMBRIA IN BLOOM & BRITAIN IN BLOOM 2016 UPDATE

887/15/16

Britain in Bloom Conference Feedback

The Chair reported that she had attended the Britain in Bloom Conference along with Janine Holt and they had found it to be very informative and worthwhile. They now had more information on the route and format of the portfolio. It was acknowledged that there is a lot of work to undertake particularly on the portfolio. They also mentioned that they had met the judge.

The theme for the competition was confirmed as **Greening Grey Britain for Health and Happiness**. Councillor Walker asked whether pictures were available of the areas of town affected by the recent flooding to show to the judges. Janine Holt confirmed that pictures were available and it had been confirmed at the conference that the flooding would be taken into account.

Councillor Walker suggested planting an area of town with a specific number of plants to represent each household affected by the flooding. Members discussed the idea and they identified an area on

Shap Road where all the plants had been washed away. This would be an ideal location for re-planting. Diane Winder to work on a design for consideration. It was noted that an explanatory plaque would be needed and suggestion made that the pupils of Queen Katherine School be asked to design something suitable. Councillor Feeney-Johnson to contact the school in this respect.

RESOLVED

1. That Diane Winder work on a planting design for the area identified on Shap Road to represent each household affected by the flooding for consideration by the Committee.
2. That Councillor Feeney-Johnson contact Queen Katherine School to request the pupils' involvement in designing a plaque.

888/15/16

Route Ideas

Members discussed the need to form a working group to develop the route and portfolio. Janine Holt will arrange a meeting to progress.

The Chair commented that it was highlighted at the Britain in Bloom conference that getting businesses involved is encouraged. a good thing. Members agreed it would be very beneficial to have the participation of Kendal BID.

Councillor Feeney-Johnson suggested that before and after pictures should be taken, with the 'before' pictures taken now.

889/15/16

New Projects

Deborah Wright reported that there are plans to undertake wild flower planting at the Castle, Tenterfell and Hawesmead. It would be beneficial for the details of these schemes (especially the Castle) to be included in the portfolio. Deborah Wright will keep the group informed.

The Chair reported that Shap Road and the surrounding area had been very badly affected by the floods. This area has been identified for development. Janine Holt advised Members that the various projects on Shap Road were being proposed in conjunction with the Environment & Highways Committee. The Environment & Highways Committee have some development funds available to support projects. The KIB Committee has some extra funding in the next financial year for Britain in Bloom and it was suggested that these funds are allocated to the Shap Road improvements. The proposals included:

- Planting cherry trees
- Installing similar ring planters and baskets on the verge opposite the Furmanite building
- Bulb planting along Shap Road.

The Chair mentioned that there were concrete planters in storage on the Mintsfeet site. Members discussed whether these could be used on Shap Road, along with ideas for making the planters more attractive. It was agreed that they should be stone faced on the outside.

Councillor Feeney-Johnson commented that it was the third time in ten years that certain properties on Aynam Road had been flooded and remarked that it would be nice to remember that area of town. It was noted that the seating area along Aynam Road was very poor and the footbridge over the river was still closed. Councillor Feeney-Johnson advised that work on this bridge had been due to commence at the time of the flooding in December.

Councillor Feeney-Johnson proposed that any unallocated budget from the Kendal in Bloom and some of the development funds from the Environment and Highways Committees be spent on improvements to the Shap Road area. This was seconded by Councillor Walker and carried unanimously.

Tony Rothwell informed Members of a small area close to Brantfield Nursery on Queens Road that could be uplifted at little cost. Councillor Emmott offered to email Councillor Archibald in this respect and it was noted that Councillor J Robinson would have the contact for the Fellside Forum.

RESOLVED That Councillor Emmott email Councillor Archibald in respect of the area on Queens Road which Tony Rothwell suggested could be uplifted.

RECOMMENDATION That unallocated budget from the Kendal in Bloom and development funds from the Environment and Highways Committees be spent on further improvements to the Shap Road area.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

890/15/16 Sandylands Allotments

The Town Handyperson reported that re-fencing had just been completed on Sandylands allotments. Ideas were needed for some planting to soften the fencing. Janine Holt advised that the side facing houses should be planted with something flowering and for the other side it was hoped that allotment holders could be encouraged to plant sweet peas etc. Diane Winder suggested a sunflower race with a prize for the winner.

After a general discussion Councillor Feeney-Johnson proposed that allotment holders on all sites be encouraged to make 'grey spaces green' by planting fenced areas and the Kendal in Bloom Committee purchase appropriate seeds to supply to allotment holders. Janine Holt to progress further.

RESOLVED That allotment holders on all sites be encouraged to make 'grey spaces green' by planting fenced areas and the Kendal in Bloom Committee purchase appropriate seeds to supply to allotment holders. Janine Holt to progress further.

891/15/16**Wildlife Wetland Area - Underley Hill**

Janine Holt advised that Bryan Williams (site rep for Underley) had put forward an idea to create a small wetland area in an already boggy corner of land which sits between the Underley allotment sites, adjacent to an area used by allotment holders for parking. The project would improve the appearance of the area, create a wetland habitat and benefit allotment holders by controlling slugs and snails due the increase in numbers of frogs etc.

She further advised that there had also been suggestion of a possible herb garden on the area. Chris Rowley (site rep for Underley Road) was working on the idea but it was dependant on getting a small team together from Hallgarth who would be prepared to maintain the herb garden.

Janine Holt advised that no costings for the projects were available yet, although an estimate of £500 had been suggested for the herb garden.

Diane Winder advised that Cumbria Wildlife had funding available for encouraging the formation of wetlands.

Members discussed both proposals. Councillor Feeney-Johnson suggested that the sum of £500 be spent on the herb garden project and this was agreed.

RESOLVED

That the sum of £500 be spent on the herb garden project at Underley Hill.

892/15/16**ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER**

Janine Holt confirmed that an article focusing on Love Where you Live would be included in the next edition of the Newsletter due out in March.

893/15/16**FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

Members considered the Financial Statement as at the end of December 2015. The Committee agreed to the following expenditure:

- £500 for the herb garden project
- £100 to purchase seeds for the fencing project on allotment sites (Diane Winder to price up sunflowers and everlasting sweet peas).

894/15/16**EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

It was agreed to move to Part II. Councillor Emmott left the meeting at this point.

RESOLVED

That the press and public be excluded for the following items of business.

Part II

In accordance with Section 100(B)(2) of the Local Government Act 1972, the following reports were excluded from inspection by members of the public as they contain exempt information as described in Schedule 12A of the Act, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006, as follows:-

- *Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) [Paragraph 3]*

FINANCIAL OR BUSINESS AFFAIRS [Paragraph 3]**895/15/16****Planting Tenders**

Janine Holt circulated a report following the invitation of tenders for the Council's civic planting contract from 1 October 2016. Tenders had been invited from six organisations and also advertised on KTC's website. Three organisations had declined to tender and one tender had been received via the advertisement on the website, with a total of four tenders being received. All tenders received had been marked against the same criteria.

Janine Holt advised that Hortons Landscaping was the preferred tenderer and three satisfactory references had been supplied. The tender was for a three year Long Term Agreement, with an option to extend for a further two years.

Councillor Feeney-Johnson proposed that a recommendation be made to Council to accept the most favourable tender for the Council's civic planting contract beginning 1 October 2016. It was agreed that a get out clause must be written into the contract.

RECOMMENDATION That Council accepts the tender from Hortons Landscaping for the Council's civic planting contract for a three year period beginning on 1 October 2016, with an option to extend for a further two years.

896/15/16**READMISSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC****RESOLVED**

It was proposed that the press and public be re-admitted for the remainder of the meeting (none were present).

ANY OTHER BUSINESS**897/15/16****Work Experience Placement**

Diane Winder requested that the Town Handyperson consider taking on a service user on a work experience placement and submitted a written request. Janine Holt advised that she would pass this to the Town Clerk for consideration.

RESOLVED

That Janine Holt pass the request from Diane Winder for a work experience placement to the Town Clerk for consideration.

898/15/16 Working Group Meetings

Janine Holt advised that she would circulate possible dates for the working group to meet.

RESOLVED That Janine Holt circulate possible dates for the working group to meet.

899/15/16 Milnthorpe Road Planters

The Town Handyperson advised that the fixings on the Milnthorpe Road planters required replacing at an approximately cost of £200.

Councillor Feeney-Johnson proposed that the fixings be replaced up to a maximum of £200 from the current year's budget.

RESOLVED That the fixings on the Milnthorpe Road planters be replaced up to a maximum of £200 from the current year's budget.

900/15/16 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

That the next meeting will be held on **Monday 16th May 2016 at 7.00pm.**

The meeting closed at 8.20pm.

Summary of Information, Resolutions and Recommendations to Council

Min	Subject	Information/Resolution/Recommendation to Council	
887	Britain in Bloom Conference Feedback	RES	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That Diane Winder work on a planting design for the area identified on Shap Road to represent each household affected by the flooding. 2. That Councillor Feeney-Johnson contact Queen Katherine School to request the pupils' involvement in designing a plaque.
889	Cumbria in Bloom & Britain in Bloom 2016 Update - New Projects	RES REC	<p>That Councillor Emmott email Councillor Archibald in respect of the area on Queens Road which Tony Rothwell suggested could be uplifted.</p> <p>That unallocated budget from the Kendal in Bloom and development funds from Environment and Highways Committees be spent on further improvements to the Shap Road area.</p>
890	Community Projects – Sandylands Allotments	RES	That allotment holders on all sites be encouraged to make 'grey spaces green' by planting fenced areas and the Kendal in Bloom Committee purchase appropriate seeds to supply to allotment holders. Janine Holt to progress further.
891	Community Projects – Wildlife Wetland Area – Underley Hill	RES	That the sum of £500 be spent on the herb garden project at Underley Hill.
895	Part II – Planting Tenders	REC	That Council accepts the tender from Hortons Landscaping for the Council's civic planting contract for a three year period beginning on 1 October 2016, with an option to extend for a further two years.
897	AOB – Work Experience Placement	RES	That Janine Holt pass the request from Diane Winder for a work experience placement to the Town Clerk for consideration.
898	AOB – Working Group meetings	RES	That Janine Holt circulate possible dates for the working group to meet.
899	AOB – Milnthorpe Rd planters	RES	That the fixings on the Milnthorpe Road planters be replaced up to a maximum of £200 from the current year's budget.
900	Date of Next Meeting	INFO	That the next Committee meeting be held on Monday 16 th May 2016 at 7pm.