

KENDAL TOWN COUNCIL

Kendal in Bloom Committee

**Monday 20th February 2018 at 7.00 pm
in The Mayor's Parlour, Town Hall, Kendal**

- PRESENT** Councillors Phil Walker (Chair), Lynne Oldham (Vice Chair), Andy Blackman, Stephen Coleman and Richard Sutton
- Co-opted: Tony Rothwell (Kendal Civic Society), Martin Oldham (Horticulture) and Chris Rowley (SLACC)
- APOLOGIES** Mandy Nicholson
- OFFICERS** Janine Holt (Assistant to the Town Clerk), Pierre Labat (Townscape Manager) and Hazel Belshaw (Temporary Council Secretary)
- 967/17/18 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**
None
- 968/17/18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
None
- 969/17/18 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9TH OCTOBER 2017**
The Chairman presented the minutes of the meeting held on 9th October 2017, which had been approved by full Council on 6th November 2017.
- Councillor Oldham proposed that the minutes be accepted as a correct record. This was seconded by Councillor Coleman and carried unanimously.
- RESOLVED** That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 9th October 2017 be accepted as a correct record.
- 970/17/18 MATTERS ARISING (Not on Agenda)**
None
- 971/17/18 KENDAL IN BLOOM COMPETITION 2018**
Janine Holt presented a paper on the Kendal in Bloom Competition 2018 that had been previously circulated. She highlighted that a small working group had been formed to discuss the competition, this comprised of herself, Chris Rowley, The Mayor, Councillor Andy Blackman and Mandy Nicholson. The theme for the planting in town this year is to use the colours red, white and blue to honour the 100th Anniversary of the end of WW1, with a focus on peace. It was felt the competition should incorporate this theme. The competition will comprise of three categories, School's and Young People, Community and Allotments. It was also suggested that Town Councillors be asked to nominate a person or a group from their ward to receive special acknowledgement for their horticultural/environmental contribution. Also to engage with local businesses there will be a

Business Challenge. Following an agreement with the Christmas Lights and Festivals Committee to undertake some work on testing the existing flag poles on the businesses along Highgate to ensure they are fit for purpose it was suggested that businesses are invited to take part in an initiative that enables them to purchase a flag from countries around the world and to have them displayed all summer to continue with the theme of peace and unity.

RESOLVED

Members all agreed that the proposed competition framework for 2018 be accepted and thanked the group for their work. That the proposed competition framework for 2018 be accepted.

972/17/18**CUMBRIA IN BLOOM 2018**

Janine asked Members if they would like to enter the Cumbria in Bloom 2018 awards. She reported that Colin Cheyne had offered to help out in the capacity as a mentor this year. All Members agreed.

RESOLVED

That the Committee agree to enter the Cumbria in Bloom 2018 Awards.

973/17/18**RAF LAMP POST BANNERS**

Janine reported that she had been approached by Brian Harrison from the BID to collaborate on a joint lamp post banner project. The RAF are taking part in a Country-wide initiative to celebrate 100 years since their formation. The proposal is produce a set of lamp post banners for use up Highgate, these will replace the KIB banners for this year only, please note KIB will still feature on the banners, the approx. cost of a full set of banners is £1,200, the BID are seeking a contribution of £600 towards the cost. It was proposed by Councillor Walker to agree to the joint working. This was seconded by Councillor Coleman and carried with one against.

RESOLVED

That the Committee agree to a joint project with the BID/RAF and agree to pay for half of the costs, approximately £600.

974/17/18**BID REPRESENTED ON KIB COMMITTEE**

Janine has been approached by Brian Harrison from Kendal BID who is keen to be involved with the Kendal in Bloom Committee and she is seeking approval for Brian to be a co-opted Member. It was proposed by Councillor Walker to approve Brian Harrison as a co-opted Member of the Kendal in Bloom Committee. This was seconded by Councillor Oldham and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED

That the Committee accept Brian Harrison as a co-opted Member of the Kendal in Bloom Committee.

975/17/18**PLANTING TENDER**

Janine provided an update on the current situation for Members on the planting contract. Following a number of problems with the previous contractor she reported that the Town Clerk had now terminated the contract. As an interim measure, Continental have agreed to cover the summer and winter planting for 2018. She

reported that this situation has provided an ideal opportunity to reassess the tender document. Taking into account the need to redraft and incorporate new requirements for the civic planting she was seeking approval for the tender to be issued ready for a new contractor to be in place by Spring 2019. There was some discussion by Members to bring this forward so the new contractor was in place for the winter planting in 2018. Janine advised that the new contractor would need to be in place by June so they could source/grow the plants ready for planting in October and that this may not be a realistic timescale with the amount of work needed to draft the document. It was proposed by Councillor Coleman that they would review progress at the next meeting in April. This was seconded by Councillor Oldham and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED

That the progress of the tender document will be reviewed at the April meeting.

976/17/18**APPROVAL FOR EARLY REMOVAL OF WINTER PLANTING**

Janine advised Members that a lot of the plants in the Town are water logged in the planters, this is possibly due to the quality of the peat free compost that was used by the previous contractor. The Townscape Manager reported that the plants will need to be removed to allow the planters to drain. The problem is severe at the Aynam Road site and there is a risk of losing the Townscape Manager was seeking approval to undertake this work and associated costs.

Chris Rowley commented that peat free compost can vary enormously and it would be worth researching. The Townscape Manager would undertake some research and report back to the committee. It was proposed by Councillor Walker to agree in principle that the plants be removed from the planters early and a cost to be agreed under the budget item on the Agenda. This was seconded by Councillor Coleman and carried unanimously. There was then a further discussion that the trees on Aynam Road need some maintenance.

A further discussion was held in respect to the trees in all planters along Highgate. Following on from advice from Graham Nicholson from SLDC, the trees would all need to be replaced in 2019 the planters are due to becoming pot bound. All the trees will be recycled. Taking into consideration this advice it was agreed by Members not to go to the expense of removing all the trees and replacing all the compost but as an interim measure to remove the top layer of compost from the planters and replace with the alternative compost. The Assistant to the Town Clerk pointed out all the tree tubs only had a small amount of the inferior compost in each planter due to the roots of the trees being so near the top of each planter.

RESOLVED

That the Committee agree in principle to remove the plants from the planters early and a cost for this be discussed under the budget Agenda item.

77/17/18**AYNAM ROAD TREE MAINTENANCE**

The Assistant to the Town Clerk advised Members that the trees on Aynam Road that have the star trellis behind are in need of professional pruning. She is seeking approval from the Committee for the work to be carried out by a contractor. Martin at Horticare advised that this may be something that he could do and will happily take a look. Members agreed for Martin to look at the work required and report back to the Assistant to the Town Clerk.

RESOLVED

The Committee agreed to essential tree maintenance to be undertaken on the trees at Aynam Road.

978/17/18**CONTINUED SUPPORT OF THE WESTMORLAND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY SUMMER SHOW**

Janine was looking for approval to continue to work with the Westmorland Horticultural Society Summer Show, as in previous years. It was proposed by Councillor Oldham to continue to work the Westmorland Horticultural Society Summer Show. This was seconded by Councillor Coleman and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED

That the Committee agree to continue to work with Westmorland Horticultural Society Summer Show.

979/17/18**KENDAL IN BLOOM AND ENVIRONMENT AND HIGHWAYS JOINT PROJECTS**

The Assistant to the Town Clerk advised that there was nothing to report at the moment. Councillor Coleman asked that with the focus of the Kendal in Bloom competition being to create peace gardens then it would be good to make sure that the peace garden in Kirkland is looking its best. This project was originally undertaken by the E& H Committee. Martin advised that this was something that Horticare had previously undertaken with SLDC. He will take a look at the area and liaise with the Assistant to the Town Clerk who can then feed into Deborah Clarke at SLDC.

RESOLVED

Horticare have agreed to assess the Peace Garden in Abbot Hall and report his findings to the Assistant to the Town Clerk.

980/17/18**ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER**

Members agreed to look at ideas at the next Meeting.

RESOLVED

There are no suggested items for the newsletter this meeting.

981/17/18**FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

Members considered the Financial Statement as at the end of January 2018.

Janine advised that £5,205 was left at the end of this year.

Councillor Coleman highlighted that some of the costs, for example, the vehicle running costs are committed so should not be included in the remaining budget.

Members proposed up to £3,000 should be allocated for the removal of the trees.

Janine advised that the Project Manager is working with SLDC on looking at the planters and furniture in town. Some of the work is looking at changing the planter tubs on Highgate to wooden planters and asked the Committee if this is something to look at and move away from plastic. She suggested starting with the promenade planters outside the Town Hall. Tony Rothwell highlighted there is maintenance costs to consider. Janine advised that wooden promenade planters are approximately £200 per planter although these have no reservoir. The Assistant to the Town Clerk reported that she was meeting with a joiner to ascertain costs of producing a bespoke wooden covers for the original plastic planters. Councillor Coleman suggested that costs be obtained and discussed at the next meeting with a plan to start with the planters outside the Town Hall ready for when the scaffolding is removed, which is believed to be in March.

It was proposed by Councillor Walker to approve the following spend from budget. This was seconded by Councillor Coleman and carried unanimously:

- £600 from Kendal in Bloom Competitions for RAF banners
- Up to £3,000 from Floral Displays for the removal of the trees on Aynam Road and the maintenance with the star trellis trees.
- £800 from Maintenance and Installation for the new planters outside the Town Hall.

RESOLVED

That the Committee agree to spend £600 for the RAF banners, £3,000 for the removal of trees and maintenance of the star trellis trees on Aynam Road and £800 for new wooden promenade planters outside the Town Hall.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

982/17/18

Councillor Sutton had been approached by a resident in his ward regarding dog fouling in the Pollinator Project area. There was some discussion by Members on how difficult it is to catch the people responsible.

983/17/18

Chris Rowley gave an update on the Pollinator Project. He advised that they were funded last year by an educational charity and a report was produced which the Assistant to the Town Clerk will circulate. In total 10,000 wildflower plugs went in and lots of children were involved. Stuart Lockton has now left and Ian Roddum has been appointed. There will be less work to do in 2018, there will be another survey which will be added to the spreadsheet. More work will come in 2019. He advised that due to changes in the dates he has unfortunately missed the deadline to apply for LIP funds and will therefore be looking for another funder. The Assistant to the Town understood that the reserved allocation in the budget was for the Pollinator Project but will check with the Treasurer. The Assistant to the Town Clerk advised that she had been approached by Selside School who are interested in taking part in Kendal in Bloom but are situated

outside the town boundary. Chris Rowley to contact them to see if they want to be involved in the Pollinator Project.

RESOLVED

The Assistant to the Town Clerk will confirm if the reserved allocation is set aside for the pollinator project.

984/17/18

Councillor Blackman is looking for ideas to help promote the next Keeping Kendal Mint Clean, which is happening on the first weekend in March. Councillor Oldham has plugged on Facebook and Members felt it was worth asking the Westmorland Gazette to promote. The Assistant to the Town Clerk advised that signs could be put up on all allotment sites.

985/17/18

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

That the next meeting will be held on Monday 16th April 2018 at 7.00pm.

The meeting closed at 8.17pm.

Summary of Information, Resolutions and Recommendations to Council

Min	Subject	Information/Resolution/Recommendation to Council	
971/17/18	KIB Competition 2018	RES	Members all agreed that the proposed competition framework for 2018 be accepted and thanked the group for their work. That the proposed competition framework for 2018 be accepted.
972/17/18	Cumbria in Bloom 2018	RES	That the Committee agree to enter the Cumbria in Bloom 2018 Awards.
973/17/18	Lamppost Banners on Highgate	RES	That the Committee agree to a joint project with the BID/RAF and agree to pay for half of the costs, approximately £600.
974/17/18	BID Representative	RES	That the Committee accept Brian Harrison as a co-opted Member of the Kendal in Bloom Committee
975/17/18	Planting Tender	RES	That the progress of the tender document will be reviewed at the April meeting.
976/17/18	Early Removal of Plants	RES	That the Committee agree in principle to remove the plants from the planters early and a cost for this be discussed under the budget Agenda item.
977/17/18	Tree Maintenance on Ayman Road	RES	The Committee agreed to essential tree maintenance to be undertaken on the trees at Aynam Road.
978/17/18	Westorland Horticultural Show	RES	That the Committee agree to continue to work with Westmorland Horticultural Society Summer Show.
979/17/18	Assessment of Peace Garden	RES	Horticare have agreed to assess the Peace Garden in Abbot Hall and report his findings to the Assistant to the Town Clerk.
981/17/18	Financial Statement		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £600 from Kendal in Bloom Competitions for RAF banners • Up to £3,000 from Floral Displays for the removal of the trees on Aynam Road and the maintenance with the star trellis trees. • £800 from Maintenance and Installation for the new planters outside the Town Hall.

983/17/18	Pollinator Project	RES	The Assistant to the Town Clerk will confirm if the reserved allocation is set aside for the pollinator project.
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