

Kendal Town Council

Town Hall, Highgate, Kendal LA9 4ED
www.kendaltowncouncil.gov.uk



16 July 2024

To Members of the Kendal in Bloom Committee

Kendal Town Council Members	Co-optees
Cllr A Blackman (Chair)	J Cottam
Cllr D Brown	C Stuart-Smith (Horticulture)
Cllr A Finch	Toni Yates (Kendal Civic Society)
Cllr E Hennessy	
Cllr L Hendry	
Cllr R Sutton	

You are invited to a meeting of the Kendal in Bloom Committee on Tuesday, 23 July 2024, at **6.00 p.m.**, in the Council Chamber at the Town Hall, Highgate, Kendal. Details of the meeting can be found on the Town Council's website. www.kendaltowncouncil.gov.uk.

(Distributed to other Members of the Council for information only.)

Yours faithfully

Chris Bagshaw
Town Clerk

Public Participation

Any member of the public who wishes to ask a question, make representations or present a deputation or petition at this meeting should apply to do so before the commencement of the meeting. Information on how to make the application is available on the Council's Website - <http://www.kendaltowncouncil.gov.uk/kendal-town-council/statutory-information/guidance-on-public-participation-at-kendal-town-council-meetings/> or by contacting the Town Clerk on 01539 793490.

1. Apologies

To receive and accept any apologies. If accepted, apologies will be considered to be for reasons approved by the Council under the terms of the Local Government Act 1972, S.85.

2. Declarations of Interest

To receive declarations by members and/or co-optees of interests in respect of items on this agenda.

3. Exclusion of Press and Public (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960)

To consider whether there are any agenda items during consideration of which the press and public should be excluded.

4. Minutes from the Last Meeting (pages 3 to 5)

To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Committee on 19 March 2024 and to authorise the Chair to sign them as a true record (see attached).

5. Minute Action Sheet (pages 6 to 7)

To consider a report on actions taken by officers on resolutions or recommendations made at previous meetings (see attached).

6. Review of Spend against Budget 2025/25 (page 8)

To note the Committee's spend against budget (see attached).

7. Bloom 2024 Update Report (page 9)

To note the report and discuss the 2025 initiative

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Minutes of a meeting of the Kendal in Bloom Committee held on Tuesday, 19 March 2024, at 6.00pm in the Council Chamber at the Town Hall, Highgate, Kendal.

Kendal Town Council Members

Cllr A Blackman (Chair)	Present	Cllr D Brown	Present
Cllr L Hendry	Present	Cllr R Sutton (Vice-Chair)	Present

Co-optees

J Cottam	Absent	C Stuart-Smith (Horticulture)	Present
A Yates (Kendal Civic Society)	Present		

In attendance: Chris Bagshaw (Town Clerk), Inge Booth (Democratic Services Assistant), Janine Holt (Council Services Officer) and Pierre Labat (Townscape Officer).

B29/2023 Apologies

There were no apologies for absence.

B30/2023 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were raised under this item.

B31/2023 Exclusion of Press and Public (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960)

There were no excluded items on the agenda.

B32/2023 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Resolved: To receive and accept the minutes of the previous meeting of the Kendal in Bloom Committee held on 13 February 2024 and to authorise the Chair to sign them as a true record.

B33/2023 Minute Action Sheet

The Committee considered a report on actions taken by officers on resolutions or recommendations made at previous meetings.

Ref. No.3 – Development of Civic Planting Strategy – The Council Services Officer reported that she had been in contact with Lakeland Gardens who hoped to start work with immediate effect.

Ref. No.4 – Police Yard Installation – The Council Services Officer reported that she would initially be seeking permission, followed by an application for planning consent, from Westmorland and Furness Council with regard to the installation of a metal display arch.

Ref. No.5 – Civic Planting Maintenance – The Town Clerk reported that he had had sight of the drawings for the sculpture. He understood that there were some issues with regard to the installation thereof and health and safety. The matter would be discussed at the next meeting of the Flood Group.

Ref. No.7 – Civic Planting Maintenance – The Town Clerk referred to the Levelling-Up Fund money that was due to be spent on the indoor and outdoor markets, Kent Street and connectivity to Miller Bridge. He referred to the concordat with Kendal Futures with regard to the planting scheme.

Ref. No.8 – Civic Planting – The Council Services Officer advised that she would start soon to look at capacity and finance with regard to future projects.

Resolved: To note the report.

B34/2023 Review of Spend against Budget 2023/24

The Council Services Officer presented a review of spend against budget 2023/24 as at 11 March 2024. The Committee discussed the need to try to spend the remaining money before the end of this financial year. The Council Services Officer explained that she hoped that her recent contact with Lakeland Gardens would result in making a start on this and, in addition, drew attention to plants for the Jubilee Bed for which Toni Yates was seeking funding. The Council Services Officer was of the opinion that the 2023/24 budget would be fully spent.

The Town Clerk further drew attention to planting by the Town Council in 2000 of daffodils at the corner of Miller Bridge and Aynam Road and the need for these bulbs to be replaced following work which had been carried out there by the Environment Agency; whilst bluebells were being planted there, these would take some time to come to anything. It was, however, pointed out that daffodil bulbs could not realistically be purchased until August/September, and so could not come out of the 2023/24 budget.

Resolved: To note the report.

B35/2023 Kendal in Bloom 2024

The Council Services Officer presented the draft Kendal in Bloom 2024 initiative which had been developed by the working group. The Chair explained how the contents were aimed at inspiring the community to join in and contribute. The 2023 Bloom Portfolio would be included within the documentation as an example. The Council Services Officer confirmed that the event would be publicised through schools, businesses and community groups, and through Facebook, and that a link to the 2023 Portfolio would be included. Also suggested was the potential to include a link to the Royal Horticultural Society's "Community Sewing Seeds" scheme, which provided many good ideas for these types of community events.

The Chair referred to his recent walks through the Town during which time he had, on two consecutive Mondays, seen Toni Yates weeding the Jubilee Bed and the Coronation Garden. This had led him to consider whether the Committee might wish to promote a Bloom Gardening Group; a group of volunteers who could work together with Toni. The Council Services Officer undertook to post a call out for volunteers on Facebook.

Resolved: To post a call out for volunteer for a Bloom Gardening Group on Facebook.

Further discussed was the need for visuals within the Kendal in Bloom 2024 documentation, and the Town Clerk explained that this work would be carried out within the office. Attention was also drawn to inclusion within the document of information on the availability of Bee Houses made by Men in Sheds. The Town Clerk took the opportunity to refer to the Mayor's recent visit to Kendal's Twin Town of Killarney at which she had been presented with a wooden pen made by their Men in Sheds; she had also come back with a number of ideas passed on to her on community gardens.

Discussion led to the topic of companion planting and the need to find someone to lead a workshop on the subject. To this end, it was suggested that Lakeland Gardens may be able to assist.

Resolved: To approve the Kendal in Bloom 2024 initiative, subject to the inclusion of appropriate visuals, as outlined at the meeting.

The meeting closed at 6.25 p.m.

Kendal-in-Bloom Committee - Minute Action Sheet - as at 16-07-24

Ref. No.	Meeting Date	Minute No.	Title	Action (Resolution)	Officer Responsible	Deadline, if any	Date Actioned	Comments
3	25/07/2023	B8/2023	Development of Civic Planting Strategy	To support the proposals for the appointment of an independent specialist to undertake a review of the civic planting in Kendal, the Council Services Officer to bring a further report detailing a firmer plan with costings	JH		Ongoing	The Council Services Officer is awaiting a reply from the independent specialist.
4	17/10/2023	B19/2023	Police Yard Installation	To explore the installation of a metal display arch ensuring costings are included.	PL		Ongoing	To speak with W&F colleagues re:permission and planning consent.
5	17/10/2023	B19/2023	Civic Planting Maintenance	The Town Clerk to liaise with the Environment Agency on the planting at Beezon Fields.	CB		Completed	The Town Clerk will provide feedback to the Committee as and when appropriate.
7	17/10/2023	B19/2023	Civic Planting Maintenance	The Town Clerk to act as the link the Committee and the wider Market Place development group.	CB		Completed	The Town Clerk will provide feedback to the Committee as and when appropriate.
8	13/02/2024	B27/2023	Civic Planting	Future projects would require a great deal more thought prior to any adoption. Memoranda of Understanding would be required from third parties, explaining the terms under which any future management would be taken by the Town Council, and the likely ongoing cost.	JH		Completed	

Ref. No.	Meeting Date	Minute No.	Title	Action (Resolution)	Officer Responsible	Deadline, if any	Date Actioned	Comments
9	19/03/2024	B35/2023	Kendal in Bloom 2024	To post a call out for volunteer for a Bloom Gardening Group on Facebook.	JH		Ongoing	To ask the Admin Officer to put a post on facebook page.

07/07/2024

Kendal Town Council

Page 1

11:27

Detailed Income & Expenditure by Budget Heading 01/07/2024

Month No: 4

Cost Centre Report

	Actual Last Year	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	Transfer to/from EMR
<u>Kendal In Bloom</u>							
KIB Floral Displays	19,045	10,807	30,000	19,193	3,477	15,716	
KIB Projects & Grants	8,621	90	6,000	5,910	3,131	2,779	
Other Expenses	84	0	0	0		0	
Kendal In Bloom :- Indirect Expenditure	<u>27,750</u>	<u>10,897</u>	<u>36,000</u>	<u>25,103</u>	<u>6,608</u>	<u>18,495</u>	<u>0</u>
Net Expenditure	<u>(27,750)</u>	<u>(10,897)</u>	<u>(36,000)</u>	<u>(25,103)</u>			
<hr/>							
Grand Totals:- Income	0	0	0	0			
Expenditure	27,750	10,897	36,000	25,103	6,608	18,495	
Net Income over Expenditure	<u>(27,750)</u>	<u>(10,897)</u>	<u>(36,000)</u>	<u>(25,103)</u>			
Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	<u>(27,750)</u>	<u>(10,897)</u>	<u>(36,000)</u>	<u>(25,103)</u>			

**Agenda Report**

Committee: Kendal in Bloom	Meeting Date: 23 rd July 2024
From: Council Services Officer	Agenda No.: 7
Description: Kendal and Cumbria in Bloom Update Report	

Summary: *The committee are asked to note the report and discuss the future of the bloom initiatives*

Following on from concerns raised by the Council Services Officer (Janine Holt). A meeting was held on the 28th of May, present at that meeting was Councillor Blackman, Chair of Kendal in Bloom and Councillor Liz Hendry and Janine Holt.

After a thorough discussion about the 2024 Bloom initiative. The decision was reached to cease the Kendal in Bloom initiative for 2024 and to withdraw the application for Cumbria in Bloom. Several factors influenced this decision: -

- The ongoing installation of flood defences in Kendal. Resulting in traffic congestion and the building work affects the overall aesthetics of Kendal
- A key wildlife/biodiversity area which it was hoped could form a large part of the Cumbria in Bloom judging tour is behind schedule by approx. 18 months and would not be ready to be viewed by the Cumbria in Bloom judges
- Civic planting has been planted late due to the weather in spring. Thus, resulting in underwhelming displays in early July
- The contract for civic planting is currently being reviewed. This has resulted in Officers having no input into the planting scheme or design preferences of the civic planting.
- Renovations to the Birdcage resulting in the removal of the 12 floral displays from a key area and unsure of the installation date
- The local Kendal in Bloom initiative struggled to attract entries this year
- Shortage of staff within the office resulting in a change in priority areas for the Council Services Officer

Kendal will still host the Cumbria in Bloom awards ceremony.

Recommendation

The Committee is to undertake a thorough review of all the activities relating to Bloom and to devise a plan for 2025.

N.B. The planting strategy is in the early stages of development and needs to be considered when discussing future plans. The initial report is expected in September 2025.