

Kendal Town Council

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



10 October 2022
V2

To Members of the Kendal in Bloom Committee

Cllr A Blackman (Chair)	C Stuart (Horticare)
Cllr K Blamire	M Nicholson
Cllr D Brown	Toni Yates (Kendal Civic Society)
Cllr L Hendry	
Cllr R Sutton (Vice-Chair)	

You are invited to a meeting of the Kendal in Bloom Committee on Monday, 17 October 2022, 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 local government act 1972, s85.

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. Notes from the Last Meeting

To receive the notes of the meeting of the Committee on 27 July 2022 and to authorise the Chair to sign them as a true record.

5. Review of Spend against Budget 2022/23

To note the budget to date. (See attached)

6. Cumbria in Bloom

To receive a brief verbal update on the entry to Cumbria in Bloom 2022 (the award ceremony is Tuesday 18 October 2022 in Kendal Town Hall).

7. Annual Plan

To consider the progress of an annual plan for the In Bloom programme. (a working doc is attached).

8. Planters on Finkle Street

To consider a plan for two further planters on Finkle Street (see report).

9. Hanging Basket Installation on Market Place

To consider a proposal to install a hanging basket tree on Market Place.

10. Wildflower Planting

To receive a report from the Townscape Officer on the process of Wildflower Planting and make any necessary decisions concerning further planting and composting.

11. Budget 2023-2024

To consider the Committee's budget for the next financial year and to make any necessary recommendations.

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Minutes of a meeting of the Kendal in Bloom Committee held on Wednesday, 27 July 2022, at 7.00 p.m. in the Council Chamber at the Town Hall, Highgate, Kendal.

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

In attendance: Administrative Assistant (Flo McMahon), Townscape Officer (Pierre Labat) and Democratic Services Assistant (Inge Booth).

B1/2022 Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr K Blamire.

B2/2022 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were raised.

B3/2022 Exclusion of Press and Public (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960)

No issues were considered for exclusion.

B4/2022 Notes of the Previous Meeting

Resolved: To receive and accept the minutes of the previous meeting of the Kendal in Bloom Committee held on 13 April 2022 and to authorise the Chairman to sign them as a true record.

B5/2022 Kendal in Bloom and Cumbria in Bloom Initiative

The Chair, Cllr A Blackman, presented a report from the Council Services Officer, agreeing with her comments that this had been a disappointing year for competition participation. This, he said, had been backed up by Cumbria in Bloom judges who had said that bloom initiatives had been slow to pick up in most places following Covid.

The Chair drew particular attention to the two schools, Heron Hill and St Thomas', which had participated in the schools challenge. The schools had replicated the Torchlight Theme – Scrapheap Legacy. St. Thomas' had created a caterpillar structure from plastic chairs no longer used by the school. The structure had incorporated, for example, empty plastic milk containers as labels for plants, and tractor tyres for raised beds. Heron Hill School had truly embodied their gardening project into the school curriculum, with an apiary for bees, raised beds and a polytunnel, with the children becoming very much involved. The Chair informed Members that he intended to ask the Chair of Governors at Heron Hill School if she would be willing to be co-opted onto the Kendal in Bloom Committee. He had also informally asked her if, instead of the usual Kendal in Bloom celebration in the Town Hall, this could be held

at Heron Hill School, with Jackie talking people through what had been done at the school. It was suggested that this might take place on Thursday, 15 September 2022, at 6.30 p.m.

The Chair talked about the Civic Planting throughout the Town which, he felt, looked amazing. On behalf of the Committee, he thanked the Townscape Officer for his contribution. He pointed out that the watering service organised through Continental had helped this year.

The Chair next referred to the Jubilee Bed on Aynam Road which had been opened by the Mayor on 2 June. He commended the Townscape Officer and helpers for their work which had had to be carried out at the same time as the gas works on Aynam Road. This had been the starting point for the Kendal in Bloom tour.

The Chair referred to the trees on Aynam Road which, as part of the Flood Scheme, were to be moved to Fletcher Park. The planters would also be relocated to an appropriate site. The Administrative Officer suggested that there should be some form of communication on the re-use of the trees.

The Chair provided detailed information on the Cumbria in Bloom judges' visit to Kendal on 11 July, when both he and the Council Services Officer had accompanied them on the tour. The sites visited had been the wildflower planting and Jubilee bed on Aynam Road; Heron Hill School; Rinkfield Allotments; Ford Park; Subscription Bowling Club; Victorian Fern Garden; Rosemary Lane Community Garden; Nobles Rest Park; Legendary Landscape Planter near the Library; and Unitarian Chapel Gardens. Initial feedback had been positive and the Council had been asked to provide the planting plan for the Jubilee bed which the judges wished to enter into a special award category. The Chair felt hopeful that Kendal may be invited to represent Cumbria in Britain in Bloom. The results would be known in October. The Chair emphasised the fact that biodiversity and climate change aspects had been addressed through Kendal in Bloom, for example the Townscape Officer's composting project and recycling. More such initiatives would be pushed for, and the Chair drew attention to the Committee's support to community groups within the Town. He was keen in time to come to see a community garden in the centre of Kendal run by volunteers, a focal point for people to become involved in. He felt that Chair of Governors at Heron Hill School would be happy to offer her support in such a project.

The Committee considered a number of points which were included within the report, firstly with regard to the merits of extending the wildflower planting to include the whole grass verge at Aynam Road. The Chair felt that this was worth of expansion.

With regard to a suggestion for wildflower planting on the roundabout at Asda, it was felt that this could be a great improvement to what existed, with the Kirkbie Kendal School roundabout being referred to as a good example.

The Council Services Officer had indicated enthusiasm for this year's colour scheme for the civic planting regime which had steered away from the traditional vivid colours, with use of more subtle colours.

The last point included in the report was regarding the re-evaluation and clarification of the aim for the Kendal in Bloom 2023 initiative, and the Chair suggested that this be included as an item on the Committee's October agenda.

Members of the Committee felt that a further report should be brought to the October Committee on proposals and costings around the extension of the wildflower planting at Aynam Road and on the Asda roundabout, and also regarding the colour scheme for the civic planting regime and the Kendal in Bloom 2023 initiative.

The Townscape Officer further sought agreement to the principle of extending planting on Finkle Street nearby to the three benches next to the former Beales store, however, the Chair indicated that it would be appropriate to wait until the future of the birdcage at the top of Finkle Street was known following recent damage to the structure.

Resolved:

- (1) the report be noted;
- (2) arrangements be made for the Kendal in Bloom Celebration to be held at Heron Hill School on Thursday, 15 September 2022, at 6.30 p.m., with Jackie Cotton talking people through what had been done at the school; and
- (3) further reports to be brought to the October Committee on:-
 - (a) proposals and costings around the extension of the wildflower planting at Aynam Road and on the Asda roundabout;
 - (b) the colour scheme for the civic planting regime; and
 - (c) the Kendal in Bloom 2023 initiative.

B6/2022 Kendal in Bloom Portfolio

The Chair, Cllr A Blackman, introduced the Kendal in Bloom Portfolio which had been put together by the recently-appointed Project Officer. He explained that the Kendal in Bloom judges liked to have a Portfolio available so that they were able to see details on aspects which were not included within their tour around the Town. He informed Members that, should Kendal be invited to represent Cumbria in Britain in Bloom, the Portfolio would be developed for inclusion as part of that submission.

A query was raised with regard to the tree planting on Burneside Road detailed within the Portfolio.

Members commended the work carried out by the Townscape Officer on the window boxes at the Town Hall which had been planted up in Jubilee colours. It was recognised that in the context of the Environment Agency Flood Relief works around town the Kendal-in-Bloom necessarily focussed on parts of Kendal least affected by the works. The development of the portfolio in forthcoming months needed to include Community projects from all around the town especially those not included on the Bloom Judges tour. The Chair raised the importance, in the forthcoming months, of keeping a watch on the new footbridge at Gooseholme and the potential to soften the view with landscaping in the surrounding area.

Resolved:

- (1) to note the Kendal in Bloom Portfolio 2022;
- (2) to convey the Committee's thanks to the Project Officer for her work on the Portfolio; and
- (3) the Townscape Officer to look into the matter regarding tree planting on Burneside Road.

B7/2022 Funding Request for Providing Replacement Trees in Woolpack Yard

The Committee considered a report from the Council Services Officer and presented by the Townscape Officer which explained that the Environment and Highways Committee had recently improved Woolpack Yard, with the inclusion of six planters containing evergreen shrubs. These had been provided with support from the “welcome pack” fund administered by the District Council. Unfortunately, the shrubs had failed to survive and had had to be removed. Professional advice had been sought and assurance provided that bay laurels could thrive in that type of environment. It was essential that careful consideration was given to a planting and watering regime. The original “welcome pack” funds were no longer available. It was, therefore, being proposed that six four to five foot bay laurel trees be installed in the Woopack Yard planters, to be supplied and planted by a contractor. The cost for this service would be £864.00 plus VAT, and the Town Council would be responsible for the ongoing maintenance.

Resolved: To approve funding to install the trees in Woopack Yard and the ongoing maintenance, as outlined above.

B8/2022 Review of Spend against Budget 2022/23

The Chair referred to the £8,323 remaining in the Floral Display budget and the Townscape Officer explained that watering had only been included within the contract for the first year. The Chair felt that there was still room within that budget and suggested that it be re-examined at the end of the year.

Cllr L Hendry referred to the flood alleviation works at Hallgarth and landscaping in the sunken area which would take overflow water from the estate. Cumbria Wildlife Trust were due this Autumn (late November) to complete two or three mini copses in the area, and Cllr Hendry felt that it would be nice for St Thomas' and Stramongate School children to plant bulbs in and around these copses at the same time, with involvement from Hallgarth residents and the Townscape Officer. She suggested that this might be given further consideration at the October meeting of the Committee when more facts and findings would be available. Cllr Hendry was very keen to get local children involved. She further referred to a path which had been made by Cumbria County Council in the area and the fact that Cumbria Wildlife Trust were going to instal some decking. This would all add to the biodiversity of the area. Cllr Hendry was keen for residents to take ownership and a pride in the area, also suggesting a local litter picking session, to be arranged through Hallgarth Residents' Association. The Chair drew attention to the fact that the Town Council was able to loan litter picking equipment and raised the need to ensure coverage on social media. He further suggested that officers be asked to look into appropriate funding for the proposed planting scheme.

The Committee was informed that the Chairman and the Townscape Officer had recently noted the starkness of the Market Place on a non-market day, particularly during the 11 months during which there was no large Christmas tree in place. This had raised the potential for the installation of a circular, sectional post where the Christmas tree stood during December, with six arms for hanging baskets. The cost of such a structure would be £1,468.35 plus VAT. The proposal had not yet been put before the Town Clerk. Members, whilst supportive of the idea, drew attention to Kendal Vision who may have plans and to the question of the potential need for planning permission. The importance of ensuring that the proposal was compatible with Kendal Vision's long term plan was raised. It was, therefore, suggested that the matter be brought back for consideration at the October meeting of the Committee pending assessment of these issues.

The Townscape Officer further sought a sum of £400 for a double composting box, pointing out that he could see the need to make more compost.

Resolved:

- (1) to note the review of spend against budget at June 2022;
- (2) a detailed and costed proposal with regard to bulb planting at Hallgarth be brought to the October meeting of the Committee;
- (3) a detailed and costed proposal with regard to the erection of a hanging basket structure in Kendal Market Place be brought to the October meeting of the Committee; and
- (4) a sum of £400 be allocated from the Kendal in Bloom budget for a double composting box.

The meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.

Kendal Town Council 2022-23 Budget6 Months Exp - April-SepIncome/Exp

	22/23 Budget	Exp to Date	Forecast
KENDAL in BLOOM			
Floral Displays	£21,500	£16,486	£21,500
Other	£188	£1,281	£6,500
Projects & Grants	£8,700	£1,281	£6,500
Total KIB	£30,200	£17,955	£28,188

Kendal in Bloom - Annual Plan

	April	May	June	July
Kendal in Bloom Competition	Promote the competition		Installation of KIB Lampost Banners - Organise the KIB judging teams	KIB Competition judging
Cumbria in Bloom	Draft CIB judging tour		Finalise CIB judging tour	CIB Judging Tour
Civic Planting & Contract		Tenders considered by Bloom sub-group (every 3 years) Summer planting begins.	Watering contract commences	Inform successful tender provider
Rotary Crocus Planting			Rotary crocus funding request	
Committee Meetings	KIB Committee			KIB Committee

August	September	October	November	December
KIB Competition judging	Plan KIB awards ceremony	KIB Awards Ceremony	Determine KIB competitions	
		CIB Awards Ceremony		
	Watering contract ends for the year	Review civic planting scheme with provider. Winter planting takes place.		
			Rotary crocus planting	
		KIB Committee - annual budget review		

January	February	March
		Launch of KIB competition
Decision on participating in CIB & consider criteria		
Officers to draft tender document	Committee to approve tender document	Tender circulated
	KIB Committee - consider Britain in Bloom entry if appropriate	

Agenda Report

Committee: Kendal in Bloom	Meeting Date: 17 th October 2022
From: Council Services Officer	Agenda No.:
Description: Funding request for a hanging basket tree to be located in Market Place.	

Summary: The committee are asked to consider a request to fund the fabrication of a hanging basket tree to be located in the Market Place. The cost of this is £1468.35 + vat

Background

The suggestion was put forward in the July Committee meeting to utilize the existing ground slot located in the Market Place for a hanging basket tree. This will provide a floral display during the summer season.

Proposal

To fabricate a circular, sectional post, that it fits within the existing ground slot used by the Christmas tree.

The total height would be approx. 4m high. The mid section and the top section would both have 3 arms coming off it for hanging baskets, the arms will incorporate traditional scrolls and have eyelets onto which the baskets could be secured.

Overall the heights can be modified as required. The baskets would be at approx. 1.5m and 2.4m, the structure will be galvanised and powder coated black.

Permission will have to be sought from South Lakeland District Council prior to fabrication.

Recommendation

That Committee members consider funding approval for the purchase of a hanging basket tree.

Agenda Report

Committee: Kendal in Bloom	Meeting Date: 17 th October 2022
From: Council Services Officer	Agenda No.:
Description: Funding request for two planters on Finkle Street.	

Summary: The committee are asked to consider a request to provide 2 wooden planters on Finkle Street. The cost of these planters are £498.00

Background

A small working group which consists of representation from KTC, SLDC, Kendal Futures and BID has been looking at ways they can visually improve the town centre and in particular Finkle Street.

Proposal

The group have proposed that two round planters are installed at either side of the bench on Finkle Street, these are to form part of the civic planting regime and will be maintained by Kendal Town Council.

Recommendation

That Committee members approve the funding for two planters in Finkle Street.

Wildflowers Turf Training Report 01.09.2022

By Pierre Labat

About

- Following the successful planting of the wildflower turf at Sommervell garden in the spring 2022. We recognised the need to know and understand the growing and use of the product.
- KTC agreed to send the Townscape Officer for a day training for the possibility to use more wildflowers around the town and to maintain the plants.
- You can find more information about the company on:
<https://wildflowerturf.co.uk/about-us/>

Benefits of using wildflowers

Research: The positive impact of wild flower planting in an urban environment

A summary of work carried out by Dr Mat Tallis, The School of Biological Sciences, University of Portsmouth, August 2014.

Wildflower Turf Ltd commissioned Dr. Mat Tallis at The School of Biological Sciences, University of Portsmouth to investigate and bring together previous research relating to the introduction of wild flowers into urban environments.

The findings, highlighted briefly below, illustrate how wild flowers have been proven to deliver benefits to urban environments by improving air quality, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, lowering maintenance costs, increasing biodiversity and improving human health.

Air Quality

Road verges provide an excellent surface to target vegetation planting for urban pollution removal – being closest to the emission source.

Lower lying vegetation such as wild flowers (range 0-2m in height above the road surface) provide surfaces for pollution removal at the site where traffic derived pollution is most concentrated and also at the height where the pollution is most readily inhaled by humans.

A bio-diverse road verge offers the most optimum green structure for pollution removal:

Multiple species occupy different heights – providing a rougher surface to enhance deposition.

Different leaf forms provide a more complex surface so capturing a wider range of pollutant types.

Wildflower and biodiverse road verges enhance the pollution removed by trees as they can bind particulate pollution that has

been re-suspended or washed off overhead trees.

Green roofs provide additional urban areas for planting and diverse roof vegetation can also enhance pollution removal. This additional area is often substantial e.g. 16% of London is estimated to be roof (GLA 2008) (just less than the 20% estimate for tree cover).



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Greenhouse Gas emissions

Wild flower areas have the potential for a net removal of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. The lower the management needs of that space the greater the CO₂ removal potential.

The reduced mowing, fertilization, pesticide and herbicide treatments of wild flower areas will reduce greenhouse gas emissions and air and water pollution associated with these practices.

For wild flower areas, the annual mow of predominantly senescent material would be expected to massively reduce the potential of BVOC (Biogenic Volatile Organic Compounds) emissions compared with regular mowing required for non-wild flower managed alternatives.



Cost

The management of wild flower areas is estimated to be half the cost of a non-wild flower managed alternative.

The financial implications of managing road verges for wild flowers compared with the normal vegetation management practices were calculated for Florida and this showed an approximate 50% annual saving when managing for wild flowers. Normal practice was estimated at \$414.10 per acre per year and wild flower management at \$208.6 per acre per year, the savings were from reduced mowing, weed and fertilizer control (Harrison 2014).

"This showed an approximate 50% annual saving when managing for wild flowers."

Cost savings by using wild flowers in Florida (Harrison 2014)

Biodiversity

Wild flower areas may offer a natural way of reducing pests and pathogens (biocontrol) by harbouring more solar dwelling beneficial spiders and bugs (Bragman et al., 2002) in the urban environment.

Plant species richness, reduced management intensity and provision of nesting sites, as well as a food source, will increase abundance and diversity of pollinators.

Provision of high density flower planting in traffic polluted areas will support urban bee populations by improving foraging and pollination abilities.

Health

Urban green space can benefit physical health through improvements in air quality and urban temperature regulation. (Twary et al., 2008).

It can also improve mental health by active or passive participation and interaction with green spaces. (Nuttall et al., 2013)

Wildflower Turf Limited has been delivering guaranteed wild flower environments since 2003 and aim to develop products that deliver significant benefits to the human communities that experience and enjoy them.

If you would like to find out more about integrating wild flower planting into a project you have, please feel free to call 01256 771222.

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"The reduced mowing, fertilization, pesticide and herbicide treatments of wild flower areas will reduce greenhouse gas emissions and air and water pollution associated with these practices."

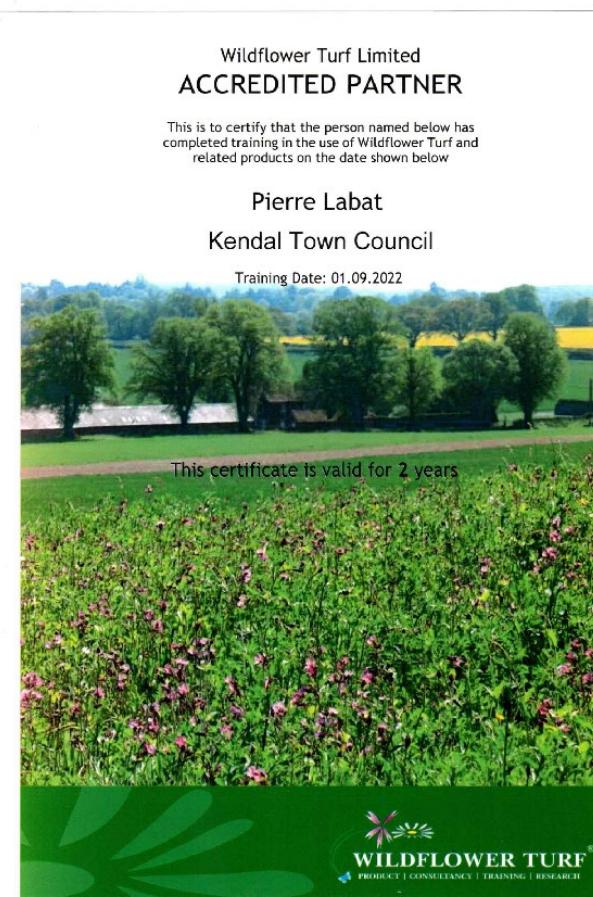
Installation and maintenance

- Choosing a site
- Managing expectation
- Access and maintenance
- Requiring planning and permission
- What type of flowers

Requirements for best results

- Is the soil fertile.
- Free draining
- Drought tolerant
- Slopes and angles
- Access
- Removal of weeds and debris
- Avoiding poor light and shades

Wildflower Turf Accredited Partner



Proposed New Projects

- Asda roundabout - WFT Wildflower Landscape Turf (WFT-Landscape-34)
- TAP entrance board - Meadowscape Pro Landscape 34
- Bulbs for Somervell garden - BULBS Pastel Spring Mix (BULB-PS) (Bag 150)
- Installation of wildflower turf interpretation board at Somervell Garden

Wildflower Interpretation Board

Small Wooden Style

A3 £375

A simple, budget information panel ideal for natural trails, tree identification or memorial walks. The back is waterproof tricoya 5mm all-round bigger than the printed panel. The backing can be left with a natural finish or painted in a choice of colours.

The printed panel is screwed onto the backing and set at a 45-degree angle on a green oak post 75mm diameter, total post length 1.2m.



Quote



Quote

Invoice Address	Delivery Address	Date:	21/09/2022
Pierre Labat	Pierre Labat	Quote Ref:	Q26315
Kendal Town Council	Kendal Town Council	Payment Terms:	Proforma
Mintworks	Mintworks	VAT ID:	N/A
124 Highgate	124 Highgate	Delivery Method:	Courier (Palletline)
Kendal	Kendal	Project Name:	40m ² L-34 & 40m ² MSP L-34 - KENDAL
LA9 4HE	LA9 4HE		

Product	Quantity	Unit	Unit Price	Net
WFT Wildflower Landscape Turf (WFT-Landscape-34)	40	m ²	£10.25	£410.00
Meadowscape Pro Landscape 34	40	m ²	£6.75	£270.00
BULBS Pastel Spring Mix (BULB-PS) (Bag 150)	2	Each	£40.00	£80.00
BULBS Pastel Spring Mix (BULB-PS) (Crate 1500)	1	Each	£370.00	£370.00
Delivery	2	Each	£98.00	£196.00
WFT-Finisher (20kg)	2	Each	£13.25	£26.50
50m ² per pallet - 2 pallets required			Sub Total ex VAT:	£1,362.50
			Total VAT @20%:	£270.50
			Total Payable:	£1,623.00

Quotes are valid for 30 days. See www.wildflowerturf.co.uk/terms/ for terms and conditions.



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Overton
Basingstoke
Hampshire
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Tel: 01256 771222

www.wildflowerturf.co.uk

Company reg.no: 7724908. Reg address: Ashe Warren Farm, Hampshire, RG25 3AW
VAT Reg no: 117 7278 02. Bank: NatWest Bank plc. Bank Account No: 88392384. Sort Code: 55-81-26
Quote Ref: Q26315

Page 1 of 1

Please send all remittance advices to accounts@wildflowerturf.co.uk

Recommendations

- KTC would like to expand the wildflower growing in different parts of the town. Abbot Hall park, corner of BT exchange building, Gooseholme to name a few.
- Insects and people will benefit from the use of wildflowers.
- Climate change may have an impact on the civic planting, wildflowers will help in keeping Kendal looking great.