

**WESTON-SUPER-MARE TOWN COUNCIL
WESTON IN BLOOM WORKING PARTY
HELD ON TUESDAY 10th NOVEMBER 2015
AT GROVE HOUSE**

Meeting commenced: 1.00 pm

Meeting concluded: 2.10 pm

PRESENT/IN ATTENDANCE: Richard Knowles (Chairman), Cllr Jocelyn Holder, Cllr Roz Willis, Jenny Gosden, Pauline Priestman, Roger Brown, Kareen Williams, Zoe Scott (Community Events and Grounds Administrator) and Rob Thurston (Grounds Manager)

1.	<p>Apologies for Absence</p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from Malcolm Nicholson and Cllr Martin Williams.</p>
2.	<p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>There were no declarations of interest received.</p>
3.	<p>To agree the minutes of the last Weston in Bloom Working Party Meeting held on the 13th October 2015</p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting had been previously circulated with the agenda.</p> <p>RECOMMENDED: That the minutes be approved and signed by the Chairman.</p>
3a.	<p>Items raised from the last meeting held on 13th October 2015</p> <p>Zoe explained that she had spoken to Sue and Rod Thomas and they were happy to attend the meetings. Pauline felt in future that the Chair should formally introduce any new visitors/members of the Working Party in order to avoid confusion.</p> <p>The Grounds Manager mentioned how the Working Party needed to inform Debbie Matthews from Love Weston about any projects associated with the Royal Horticultural Society's theme 'Greening the Grey'. Zoe explained they do not have the funds currently to invest in a new project.</p> <p>Ideas were discussed such as St Paul's Church Garden and The Rockery.</p> <p>Action: Any ideas for 'Greening the Grey' should be emailed to Zoe.</p> <p>Jenny mentioned how it would be nice to add a feature of some sort to The Rows Garden to replace a basket which was removed many years ago. The Working Party discussed how it would need to be sustainable.</p>
4.	<p>Monthly Finance Report</p> <p>Zoe explained how their budget was fully spent.</p>
5.	<p>Volunteers Feedback</p> <p>Zoe had not had chance to organise a meeting with volunteers. Zoe had spoken to one volunteer who said they were delighted to find out the results of the Regional and Nationals and how all their hard work had been recognised.</p>

6.

WIB 2016:

Zoe had emailed all the schools in the local area to see if any of them would be interested in taking part in some outreach and had a really good response. 5 schools expressed an interest in needing support with current projects or areas of the school which could be used to develop into an Horticultural area. Some schools even said they would love it if some of the children could help with the planting.

The Working Party agreed that this was a good response, however highlighted the resources needed to carry this out.

Action: Zoe to ask those schools who showed an interest if they could speak to the PTA and see if there are any parents who may wish to be involved with a project.

The Working Party thought it may be a good idea to see if Weston Horticultural Society could include school gardens in their annual Garden Competition.

The Working Party wondered if we had received Regional feedback from Southwest in Bloom yet. Zoe had not yet received the feedback and would email the judges to enquire.

Action: Zoe to enquire about Regional feedback.

The Grounds Manager announced the colour scheme had been arranged for next year choosing 'Orange and Gold with Blue, Silver and Red'.

The planting went well with the system of collecting the plants from the cemetery working effectively.

The discussion began on whether or not to enter the Regional Britain in Bloom Competition next year. The Chairman felt strongly that the town should enter.

Concerns were raised as to Bev not being able to help with the route planning next year and only the portfolio. Zoe said it would not be a problem for her in terms of capacity and it would not be any extra work as Zoe helps plan the Route with Bev normally.

Councillor Holder said that both the Wave and the Bucket and Spade need to come down due to how old they are now. Zoe said the Grounds team would be able to help remove the Bucket and Spade, and Roger Brown offered to help remove the Wave Project.

Action: Zoe to check with Weston College (who helped install the Wave Project) if they would like the steel material back for anything and to let Roger Brown know when it can be removed.

A discussion ensued on what we have new to show the judges. The Working Party agreed the Route was good and we could develop the Bucket and Spade and Wave site. This would also link into the 'Greening The Grey' scheme.

Councillor Willis wondered what happened to a tiered planter which used to be on the High Street. It was mentioned it could be in Taunton where the hanging baskets were previously purchased from.

Action: Zoe to try and track down where the planter is.

	<p>A vote took place as to whether Weston in Bloom would enter the Britain in Bloom next year.</p> <p>The vote was carried. Accordingly it was:</p> <p>RECOMMENDED: That WIB enter the Britain in Bloom competition next year.</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>Any Other Business:</p> <p>Richard said the planter outside the Co-operative in Worle had been destroyed. However, the Village Trustees may be replacing it.</p> <p>There were no winter hanging baskets on the Worle War Memorial.</p> <p>Action: Zoe to see about having baskets installed on the Worle War Memorial.</p> <p>Councillor Willis explained she had spoken to the scouts and Sainsbury's about outreach projects with Weston in Bloom. The scouts had not yet replied and Sainsbury's projects we suited to bigger organisations.</p> <p>On the next agenda the Working Party would like 'Regional and National Feedback'.</p> <p>Councillor Willis explained that on the 16th November at the full Town Council meeting, the Tesco Cup, won by Weston In Bloom this year, would be shown to the councillors. Members of the Weston In Bloom Working Party have been invited to attend.</p>
	<p>Date of Next Meeting – Tuesday 12th January 2016, 1.00pm Grove House</p>

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at: 2.10 pm

Signed:

Dated: