

WELLS CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE WELLS IN BLOOM SUB-COMMITTEE HELD IN THE EAST ROOM, WELLS TOWN HALL, AT 6.00pm. THURSDAY 7TH NOVEMBER 2019

PRESENT:

<u>Sub-Committee members:</u>	<u>Co-opted members:</u>
Cllr Pamela Crummay (Chairman)	Mr John Beauchamp
Cllr Celia Wride	Mrs Linda Bishop
	Mrs Sylvia Hanks
	Mrs Gwen MacKenzie
	Mrs Linda Thomas

IN ATTENDANCE: Wells in Bloom Officer: Andy Allen
2 members of public (new volunteers)
WCC: Sandy Bristow

19/11W APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Oliver Hartley
Cllr John Osman (Mayor)

The Chairman announced that Cllr Tony Robbins was no longer a member as he recently resigned from WCC.

19/12W DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None declared.

19/13W MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING held on Thursday 18th July 2019

were proposed, seconded, approved and later signed by the Chairman.

19/14W MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Neither wishing to speak.

19/15W FINANCE REPORT

- i. Sponsorship
All sponsorship has been received totalling £8,570. Lost 3 sponsors but gained another 3.
- ii. To approve quotes for purchases for summer 2020 planting
Quotes received from:
 - a) Sweet Acre Nurseries £6,896.80 (+VAT)
 - b) Mousehole Nurseries £6,258.00 (+VAT)

S Hanks left the room as interest declared in Mousehole Nurseries, returning after decision.

Discussion took place and the unanimous decision was to accept Sweet Acre Nurseries' quote.

19/16W WIB OFFICER'S REPORT

- i. Summer plants
All present agreed that the plants this summer were exceptional. The hanging baskets and troughs were outstanding. A Allen has sent a letter of thanks on behalf of WIB to 'Superior Plants'.

- ii. Presentation evening
Thanks were conveyed to all who helped on making the presentation evening a success and to Mary-Anne for the beautiful displays. Positive feedback was received.
- iii. Winter plants
Winter plants are due to arrive at the Town Hall on Tuesday 12th November at 10.30am. Volunteers will be asked for their help to sort the plants.
Plant-out will be on Sunday 17th November from 9am. Volunteers will be contacted.
- iv. Sustainable planting
Discussion took place as to how to go forward, including selecting new plants which not only live longer but also attract insects too. It was suggested to seek advice from a horticulturist. Cllr Crummay is going to follow this up.
Also, the suggestion came up that used plants are given away, possibly for a donation. This would need to be advertised.

19/17W COMPETITIONS REPORT

- i. Schools and Pre-schools
L Thomas and G MacKenzie reported that they have been inspired this year, however are looking to make improvements next year. They said that there is a good relationship between WIB and the schools.
- ii. Allotments
A Allen reported that not all entered the allotments competition; 3 allotment-holders at the Bishop's Palace declined. The judges enjoyed their role and there has been positive feedback from allotment-holders. Full results will be made available on the WCC website.
- iii. Gardens
J Beauchamp reported that canvassing in support of the gardens competition proved quite successful. He feels that the 'Businesses' category should possibly be dropped as there were little or no entrants. It was suggested that guidelines should be provided for judges. The suggestion was also put forward to give nursery garden vouchers as a prize.

19/18W ANY OTHER MATTERS OF REPORT

- i. J Beauchamp and L Bishop announced that after 16 years they are retiring as members of WIB. L Bishop wishes to continue as a volunteer.
On behalf of WIB, A Allen thanked them for their hard work and commitment over the years.
- ii. L Thomas and G MacKenzie reported on their main objective in trying to get more schools involved. Bishop's Palace have agreed to support WIB by providing children with access to the Bishop's Palace allotment gardens, including their own planting space. WCC will support advertising. Other avenues are being explored, for example Sustainable Wells and Somerset Wildlife Trust.

- iii. Suggested new categories for competitions:
 - a) Novice
 - b) Small Planter
 - c) Recycling Garden and/or Scarecrow
 - d) Bishop's Palace Award
- iv. S Hanks suggested a social get-together for WIB members and volunteers. Possible date Friday 6th December. Cllr Crummay will make enquiries with the Town Hall Manager with regards booking a suitable room.
- v. S Hanks conveyed a message from Maureen Brandon, who sent her best wishes, saying that she was very sorry she couldn't be present.

19/19W **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** 6pm, Thursday 12th February 2020