

Hailsham In Bloom Sub-Committee

Report (Minutes) of the Hailsham in Bloom Sub-Committee held in the Fleur de Lys Council Chamber/Meeting Room, Town Council Offices, Inglenook, Market Street, Hailsham, on Wednesday 9th June 2010 at 19.30hrs.

Members Present:

- Cllrs J. Bentley-Astor (Chairman), Mrs S. Cottingham, Mrs M. Rowe
- Miss C. Bentley-Astor – *Youth Representative*
- Mr H. Bell – *Hailsham Parochial Church Council*
- Mr L. Lovelady – *Hailsham Lions' Club*
- Mrs J. Simes – *Environment Hailsham*
- Mr R. Grocock – *Resident*
- Mrs S. Rakha – *Resident*
- Mr J. Henderson, Mrs J. Woodley – *Hailsham Horticultural Society*

Officers in Attendance:

- T. Hall
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1. Apologies for Absence

- These were received from Cllr B. Bentley, Cllr Mrs J. Bentley, Mr D. Cottingham and Cllr J. Puttick.

2. Declaration of Interest

- None were received.

3. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

- The minutes of the meeting held Wednesday 26th May 2010 were confirmed as a true and correct record.

4. Orchard & Sensory Garden

- The Chairman reported that the official opening of the Dennis King Memorial Orchard and Sensory Garden was well-attended and thanked everyone who took part in the organisation of the event.
- The Chairman circulated a letter of thanks from the Town Clerk, congratulating all volunteers who participated in the planning, construction and official opening of the community garden. A second letter from the Head Teacher of Grovelands Community Primary School confirmed that pupils and staff would be keen to contribute to the maintenance of the garden, e.g. occasional watering and general monitoring of the site.

5. Town Gateway Floral Markers

- The Chairman reported that the recently constructed town entry floral marker containers will be delivered to the Town Council Offices within the next few days. It is estimated that the markers will be painted and installed with new planting by mid or late June 2010.

6. Creation of Bee Shelter and 'Bee-Friendly' Planting at Hailsham Country Park

- There was nothing further to report on the bee shelter and bee-friendly planting project.

7. Creation of Flower Nursery

- There was nothing further to report on the flower nursery creation project.

8. Town Centre Floral Displays

- Composting, planting and the reinstallation of the pedestrian guard rail planters took place immediately after this meeting.

9. Victoria Road Recycling Murals

- The Chairman reported that the Victoria Road recycling point mural boards have been dismantled and are currently held in storage at Blackman's Yard. The Chairman confirmed that the new murals will be painted and reinstalled within the next two weeks, in time for the South & South East in Bloom judges tour which will take place on Tuesday 6th July 2010.

10. Hailsham Lions' Game & Country Fayre

- Mr R. Grocock reported that the Hailsham Lions' Game & Country Fayre was well-attended, and recommended that the Hailsham In Bloom Sub-Committee hires a pitch to promote projects and volunteer recruitment opportunities at next year's event.

11. South & South East in Bloom Judges' Tour

- It was agreed that the sites to include as part of this year's main tour are Hailsham High Street (town centre floral displays), Vicarage Field and Victoria Road car parks (recycling-themed murals), the Dennis King Memorial Orchard and Sensory Garden, Hailsham Country Park (wildflower meadow, tree planting and bee shelter), at least one of the new town gateway floral markers, the proposed nature reserve site, as well as the winners of the Best Kept Front Garden, Best Wildlife Garden, Best Allotment, Best Public House Display, Best Business Premises (large and small) and Hailsham Heritage Award competitions.
- The Chairman stated that a final, detailed route schedule with precise stop timings will be produced within the next two weeks and a 'test-run' for the route will also be carried out shortly before the official judges' tour date. Additional suggestions for tour stops will be provided at the next sub-committee meeting.

12. Any Other Business

- The Committee Clerk confirmed that the winners and runners-up of the Best Kept Front Garden, Best Wildlife Garden and Best Allotment competitions have been selected, all of which will be notified by post as early as possible. The winner of this year's Hailsham Heritage Award was selected by members' vote at the meeting, and photographs of the building will be taken before the South & South East in Bloom judges' tour date.
- The Chairman reported that E&S Heating and Ventilation Ltd has become the latest supporter of Hailsham In Bloom by donating £300 towards the funding of a future town centre project – money raised from a series of recent activities held to support World Environment Day on 5th June. The money raised will go towards the funding required for the construction of a town twinning-themed floral display in Vicarage Field, a project which is expected to commence in the early autumn of this year. The company has also agreed to sponsor Hailsham In Bloom's Best Kept Front Garden competition prize of £50.

13. Date of Next Meeting

- There being no further business, the meeting closed at 19.55 hrs.
- The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 23rd June 2010 at 19.30hrs in the Fleur de Lys Meeting Room, Town Council Offices.