

# Hailsham In Bloom Sub-Committee

Report (Minutes) of the Hailsham in Bloom Sub-Committee held in the Members' Room/Mayor's Parlour, Town Council Offices, Inglenook, Market Street, Hailsham, on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2010 at 19.30hrs.

## Members Present:

- Cllrs J. Bentley-Astor (Chairman), Mrs S. Cottingham, J. Puttick (Vice-Chairman), 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*
- 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, Mrs B. Henderson, Mr J. Henderson and Cllr Mrs J. Bentley.

### 2. Declaration of Interest

- None were received.

### 3. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

- The minutes of the meeting held Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010 were confirmed as a true and correct record.

### 4. Orchard & Sensory Garden

- The Chairman reported that a local tradesman is willing to provide a wooden arch for the sensory garden at a reduced price of £156. All members present agreed to go ahead with the purchase of this item and that the construction of the arbor will take place on site.
- The Chairman confirmed that he will undertake an additional site visit with a local landscape gardener on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2010, to discuss the design of the garden and obtain quotes for the construction of raised plant beds. The landscape gardener has assured the sub-committee that all work on the construction of the raised beds will be completed in time for the official Sensory Garden Planting Weekend which will take place on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> and Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2010.
- The Chairman reported that a meeting was held with local solicitors Hart Reade at the sensory garden site last week and the overall outline of the design of the garden was presented to them. Representatives from the company were pleased with the sub-committee's plans for the garden and stated that they would be willing to continue sponsorship of the project in future years, as an ongoing community project.
- The Committee Clerk confirmed that the order for the purchase of the perimetral fruit trees has been fulfilled and that arrangements for delivery to the Town Council Offices will be made as early as possible.
- Mr L. Lovelady reported that the Hailsham Lions' Club has agreed to provide funds, amounting to a total of £871, for the purchase of shrubs and flowers. The Chairman requested that the Committee Clerk produce a formal letter of intent to the Hailsham

Lions' Club in time for their next committee meeting which will be held in early May 2010.

- The Vice-Chairman suggested that any unused plants could be sold at the forthcoming Hailsham In Bloom Public Information Day, which will take place on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2010 at a venue yet to be confirmed.
- The Chairman reported that a local resident has offered to donate a number of terra cotta pots of various sizes, which can either be fixed into the ground at various points in the sensory garden, or planted in the raised flower beds, helping to control the overall size of the plants. The Chairman requested that the Committee Clerk contact the resident as soon as possible to discuss this further and make arrangements for the collection of the pots.
- The Chairman reported that the final order for the sensory garden plants and flowers will be finalised at the next sub-committee meeting, and the plants purchased as early as possible thereafter. Any additional suggestions for suitable plant species can be raised at the next meeting.
- The Chairman reported that the hand-crafted wooden windmill kindly donated by a local resident will be positioned in the centre of the 'sound' section of the garden. Cllr Mrs M. Rowe agreed to inform the resident of the sub-committee's intentions as soon as possible.
- The Chairman confirmed that a site visit will be carried out on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2010 to mark the location of the raised plant beds with paint and make a start on ground preparation for the lower-level plant beds.
- The Vice-Chairman confirmed a quote for the purchase of the garden's entrance gate(s) will be obtained in time for the next sub-committee meeting.

#### **5. Town Gateway Floral Markers**

- The Chairman reported that final costings for the fabrication of six additional plant containers have been obtained from a local company at a cost of £100 each. All members present agreed to the purchase of these items based on the quote received. It is estimated that the new town entry floral markers will be reinstalled in mid May 2010.

#### **6. Tree Planting At Hailsham Country Park**

- The Committee Clerk confirmed that the order for the purchase of eight lime trees and two field maples has been fulfilled and the trees will be delivered to the Town Council Offices by no later than Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2010. The Chairman requested that the Committee Clerk ask Town Council Works staff for any spare tree support poles and ties available and report any developments at the next sub-committee meeting.

#### **7. Creation of Flower Nursery**

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

#### **8. Town Centre Floral Displays**

- The Chairman reported that the pedestrian guard rail flower planters have been reinstalled at North Street, George Street and Hailsham High Street and are beginning to bloom.

#### **9. Creation of Bee Shelter/Bee-Friendly Planting at Hailsham Country Park**

- There was nothing further to report on the Hailsham Country Park bee shelter/bee-friendly planting project.

## **10. Public Information Day: Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2010**

- The Chairman reported that Ross & Co are still awaiting final confirmation from property owners regarding the use of an empty town centre shop for the next Hailsham In Bloom Public Information Day, which will take place on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2010 (9am to 2pm).
- The Chairman confirmed that representatives from Wealden District Council's recycling team and South East Water's conservation department will be attending the open day.

## **11. Hailsham In Bloom Competitions**

- It was agreed that the following sub-committee members organise and arrange judging of the following Hailsham In Bloom 2010 competitions:

Best Kept Front Garden: **Cllr Mrs M. Rowe/Environment Hailsham**

Best Wildlife Garden: **Cllr Mrs M. Rowe/Environment Hailsham**

Best Kept Allotment: **Mr J. Henderson/Hailsham Horticultural Society** (to be confirmed)

Best Business Premises (small): **Cllr B. Bentley**

Best Business Premises (large): **Cllr B. Bentley**

Best Public House Display: **Cllr J. Puttick**

Hailsham Heritage Award: **Cllr Mrs S. Cottingham**

## **12. Date of Next Meeting**

- There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20.50hrs.
- The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2010 at 19.30hrs in the Fleur de Lys Meeting Room, Town Council Offices.

*TH/SSEIB/15.04.10*