

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 31st March 2010 at 19.30hrs.

Members Present:

- Cllrs Mrs J. Bentley, 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*
- 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 and Mr L. Lovelady.

2. Declaration of Interest

- None were received.

3. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

- The minutes of the meeting held Wednesday 17th March 2010 were confirmed as a true and correct record.

4. South & South East In Bloom Judges' Tour 2010

- The Chairman confirmed that the date for this year's South & South East In Bloom judges' tour is Tuesday 6th July 2010.

5. Orchard & Sensory Garden

- The Chairman presented three quotations for the laying of a concrete pathway around the perimeter of the sensory garden, all of which exceeded the Sub-Committee's current budget expectations. The Chairman confirmed that, due to these budget restrictions, the proposal to install a concrete path be abandoned in favour of forming and maintaining a grass path at the site. This proposal was agreed by all members present. The Vice-Chairman suggested that some parts of the internal (crossing) paths could be covered with gravel, in particular the section of the garden pertaining to 'sound'.
- Cllr Mrs J. Bentley reported that a local tradesman is willing to provide a wooden arch and two accompanying seats for the sensory garden at a reduced price of £200. All members present agreed to the purchase of these items.
- The Chairman confirmed that he will undertake a site visit to the Hailsham Country Park within the next two weeks to ascertain the amount of spare wood that is available for the creation of an arbor to be erected at another part of the sensory garden. Any developments will be reported at the next Sub-Committee meeting.
- The Chairman requested that the Sub-Committee form ideas and obtain quotations on suitable materials for the raised plant beds and arbor in time for the next meeting.
- The Vice-Chairman presented a final list of suggested plant species for the sensory garden at a total purchase cost of £791 (plus £78 for plant containers). The Chairman

requested that the Committee Clerk contact the Hailsham Lions' Club and discuss funding payment options and report any developments at the next Sub-Committee meeting.

- Cllr Mrs M. Rowe confirmed that Environment Hailsham will be contributing £200 towards the purchase of the garden entrance memorial plaque.
- The Vice-Chairman agreed to obtain prices for the purchase and installation of the garden's entrance gate(s) in time for the next Sub-Committee meeting.

6. Town Gateway Floral Markers

- The Chairman reported that final costings for the fabrication of additional plant containers will be obtained within the next few days and reported at the next Sub-Committee meeting. It is estimated that the new town entry floral markers will be built in late April and reinstalled in mid May 2010.

7. Tree Planting At Hailsham Country Park

- The Committee Clerk reported that eight lime trees and two field maples for the Hailsham Country Park have been sourced at an overall cost of £690. All members agreed to go ahead with this purchase.

8. Creation of Flower Nursery

- The Chairman reported that, in order for a poly-tunnel to be erected at Marshlands Primary School, a planning application will need to be submitted to East Sussex County Council in the first instance. The planning process may take up to eight weeks to complete and any developments will be reported at the next Sub-Committee meeting.

9. Hailsham Country Park Wildflower Meadow

- There was nothing further to report on the work carried out at the Hailsham Country Park wildflower meadow.

10. Town Centre Floral Displays

- The Vice-Chairman reported that the process of obtaining European funding for the town centre (twinning) floral display project will take longer than originally expected. The Sub-Committee therefore agreed to defer work on the project until later this year.
- The Chairman confirmed that the pedestrian guard rail planters will be reinstalled with spring flowering plants in North Street, George Street and Hailsham High Street on Saturday 3rd April 2010.

11. Tidying of 'Twittens' & Alleyways

- There was nothing further to report on the 'twittens' clean-up project.

12. Creation of Bee Shelter/Bee-Friendly Planting at Hailsham Country Park

- The Chairman confirmed that he will contact a local apiculturalist (based at the University of Sussex) to arrange attendance at a future Sub-Committee meeting and professional guidance on the creation and installation of the bee shelter.

13. Repainting of Recycling Point Mural Displays

- There was nothing further to report on the recycling mural repainting project to be carried out at the Vicarage Field (Waitrose) car park.

14. Creation of Nature Reserve in Hailsham

- The Chairman reported that a site survey will be carried out at the designated nature reserve site and preliminary designs and a management plan will be formulated in the early summer of this year.

15. Use of Empty Shop Unit for Public Information Display

- The Vice-Chairman suggested that the Sub-Committee should hold one Public Information Day at an empty town centre unit before the official South & South East in Bloom judges' tour, as opposed to regular open days on Saturdays as originally proposed. All members agreed to the proposal and the next Public Information Day will be held on Saturday 8th May 2010. The Chairman requested that the Committee Clerk contact Ross & Co to discuss the availability of an empty unit on this date and report any developments at the next Sub-Committee meeting.

16. Hailsham In Bloom Film Night

- The Chairman reported that a total of around £102 was raised from the raffle and donation collections at the Hailsham In Bloom Film Night event held on Saturday 27th March 2010 at the Hailsham Pavilion. The amount of money raised via box office sales is unconfirmed and Mrs J. Woodley kindly donated £10 towards the Hailsham In Bloom campaign.
- The Chairman reported that there is a strong possibility that a London-based comedian will agree to perform a recycling-themed stand-up gig at the Hailsham Pavilion in the near future. The Hailsham Pavilion has agreed in principle to split box office proceeds 50/50, should the event take place. Any developments will be reported at the next Sub-Committee meeting.

17. Any Other Business

- The Chairman requested that the Vice-Chairman and Committee Clerk set up a Facebook group for Hailsham In Bloom within the next two weeks, in order to maximise online publicity of current projects and fundraising campaigns carried out by the Sub-Committee.

18. Date of Next Meeting

- There being no further business, the meeting closed at 21.15hrs.
- The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 14th April 2010 at 19.30hrs in the Members' Room/Mayor's Parlour, Town Council Offices.

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