

**HAILSHAM TOWN COUNCIL**  
**HAILSHAM IN BLOOM COMMITTEE**

**REPORT** (Minutes) of the meeting of the Hailsham In Bloom Committee, held in the Fleur de Lys Meeting Room, Town Council Offices, Market Street, Hailsham, on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2012 at 7.30pm.

Prior to commencement of formal business, a period of not more than 15 minutes was assigned for the purpose of permitting members of the public to address the Committee or ask questions (on matters relevant to the responsibilities under the direction of this committee).

None Presented.

HIB/12/4/  
42 **Present:** Cllrs J. Bentley-Astor, R. T. Grocock, Mrs M. Rowe and Mrs M. Skinner; Mrs D. Bentley-Astor, Mr B. Goldsmith, Mr J. Henderson, Mr L. Lovelady, Ms S. Mulley, Mr J. Ratcliffe, Mrs L. Woodley and Mr G. Yates.

43 **Officers Present:** T. Hall (Committee Clerk).

44 **Apologies For Absence:** Apologies were received and accepted from Mr H. Bell, Cllr Mrs M. Burt and Mrs B. Henderson.

**Declarations of Interest**

45 None were received.

**Minutes of Previous Meetings**

46 **RESOLVED** to note that the Minutes and Reports of the Meeting of the Hailsham In Bloom Committee (Ref: HIB/12/3/29-41) held on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2012 were confirmed as being a correct record and adopted by the Town Council at a meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> June 2012.

**Matters Arising**

47 None were received.

**Committee Expenditure**

48 **RESOLVED** to recommend to note and adopt the summary of the Hailsham In Bloom Committee Income and Expenditure for the period ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013, as at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2012 as circulated with the Agenda and as Appendices HIB/12/4/48A.

**South & South East In Bloom 2012 Results**

49.1 The Chairman reported that a number of recommendations were made by South & South East in Bloom judges following their tour of Hailsham in July. In terms of 'Horticultural Achievement', these include enhancements to some of the town's public open spaces and car parks, both of which the Committee will address in the future. Pertaining to 'Environmental Responsibility', it was advised that more emphasis is to be placed on wildlife conservation and biodiversity levels, of which Hailsham In Bloom will incorporate into the Dennis King Memorial Sensory Garden and other sites throughout the town. The

judges recommended that a record be kept indicating the number of volunteer work hours put into individual Hailsham In Bloom projects, and more information be provided relating to the involvement of young people in the community in particular.

- 49.2 Areas in which South & South East in Bloom judges felt the town excelled include the town centre floral displays, recent improvements to the Dennis King Memorial Sensory Garden, the Diamond Jubilee Community Rose Garden project, the development and the establishment of the Hailsham Heritage Trail, and the cleanliness of the town as a whole.

### **Hailsham In Bloom Awards Presentation**

- 50 The Chairman reported that the necessary arrangements for the event, including catering and photography, have been made. The majority of the competition winners and runner-ups have confirmed their attendance at the presentation and recipients of individual Certificates of Excellence will be determined in the next few days.

### **Winter Planting and Maintenance**

- 51.1 The Chairman reported that pansies, hyacinths and wallflowers will be planted in the pedestrian guard rail planters and raised beds by the end of October, although the containers will need to be filled with new compost prior to any planting activities.
- 51.2 The Chairman reported that a local farmer has agreed to donate a sizeable amount of compost for use in the Dennis King Memorial Sensory Garden. The replacement of compost on the site, along with the removal of old bedding plants and replanting will be carried out by Hailsham In Bloom volunteers during the winter months.

### **Summer Planting (2013)**

- 52.1 Councillor Bentley-Astor advised that small plant containers could be placed at various points in the town centre to enhance the existing floral displays. The Chairman requested that this potential new project be discussed in more detail at the next Committee meeting.
- 52.2 The Chairman reported that permission has been granted by East Sussex County Council to install plant containers under road name signs throughout the town, subject to certain criteria. Residents will be consulted accordingly and asked to provide sponsorship for individual plant containers and assist with the maintenance and watering of the plants in the future. It was agreed that this particular project will be carried out in one area of Hailsham initially and, if successful, rolled out to other parts of the town.

### **New Hailsham In Bloom Projects For 2012/2013**

- 53.1 The Chairman outlined the various project proposals for the 2013 South & South East in Bloom entry, as detailed below. The list, however, is only provisional and will be subject to necessary funding where applicable.
- 53.2 **•Spring Bulb Planting**  
Planting of over 11,000 tulips, crocus and anemone bulbs at various points throughout the town.

- 53.3      **•Dennis King Memorial Sensory Garden Maintenance**  
Planting of spring bulbs; refurbishment of beds with fresh compost; removal of existing bedding plants and replacement; clearing of perimeter boundary to create a woodland area; general tidying of the garden.
- 53.4      **•Diamond Jubilee Community Rose Garden Maintenance**  
Removal of existing bedding plants and replacement; completion of post and rope boundary; general tidying of the garden.
- 53.5      **•Town Centre Planting and Floral Displays**  
Winter planting of the pedestrian guard rail planters, plant beds, floral fountains and other planters in the town centre; planting of seeds for summer planting.
- 53.6      **•Improvements to the Hailsham In Bloom Plant Nursery Site**  
Repair to barn guttering and replacement of missing roof tiles; installation of water retaining containers to store grey water; installation of toilet, hand washing area, small kitchen and other facilities on site for use by Hailsham In Bloom volunteers. It is estimated that this work will be completed by spring 2013.
- 53.7      **•Reconstruction and Replanting of the Town Gateway Markers**  
Redesign and construction of town gateway markers; planting and maintenance.
- 53.8      **•Creation of New Woodland Area in Hailsham**  
Planting of British tree species and the creation of a new woodland area to commemorate the London 2012 Olympics, at a site in Hailsham yet to be determined
- 53.9      **•Installation and Planting of ‘Plot To Plate’ Beds at Plant Nursery Site**  
Construction of approximately ten plant beds on site and adjoining gravel pathway(s) for use by young people to plant and maintain their own vegetable plots. Costings will be obtained in the immediate future and funding sought.
- 53.10     **•Redesign and Repainting of Recycling Murals in Hailsham**  
Repainting and installation of recycling point murals at the Hailsham East, Victoria Road, North Street and Waitrose sites, in partnership with various community/youth organisations.
- 53.11     **•Creation and Promotion of a Wildlife Trail in Hailsham**  
Establishment and promotion of a new Hailsham Wildlife Trail to include the Common Pond, Hailsham Parish Church grounds and other sites across the town.
- 53.12     **•Development of Arboretum at Hailsham Common Pond**  
Survey of existing arboretum at the Common Pond and planting of additional trees with interpretive signage.
- 53.13     **•Hailsham In Bloom Local Competitions**  
Continuation and promotion of the Best Kept Front Garden, Best Kept Allotment, Best Business Premises, Best Public House Display and Hailsham Heritage Award competitions.
- 53.14     **•Volunteer Recruitment Drive/Campaign**

To recruit additional Hailsham In Bloom volunteers for various community projects.

**Questions/Information Forum (at the Chairman's discretion)**

54

The Chairman advised that Hailsham In Bloom will enter additional (smaller) categories in the South & South East In Bloom competition in 2013, including Best Country Park, Best School Grounds, Best Sensory Garden and Best Neighbourhood.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.35pm.

CHAIRMAN

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