

HOLYWELL TOWN COUNCIL

CYNGOR TREF TREFFYNNON

Minutes of the meeting of the Wales in Bloom Sub-Committee held in the Council Chamber (Ground Floor), Bank Place Offices, Holywell on Tuesday, 31 May 2016 at 5.45p.m.

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PRESENT: Councillor E.B. Palmer (Chairman – see minute No. WIB1).  
Councillors: Mrs. K. Davies (who presided for minute WIB1) and D.W. Jones.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Councillors J. Griffiths and J.M. Johnson (Mayor).

IN ATTENDANCE: D.C. Pierce (Clerk).

WIB1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN 2016/17

RESOLVED:

That Councillor E.B. Palmer be elected Chairman of the Wales in Bloom Sub-Committee for 2016/17.

WIB2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN 2016/17

RESOLVED:

That Councillor D.W. Jones be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Wales in Bloom Sub-Committee for 2016/17.

WIB3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – MEMBERS’ CODE OF CONDUCT

None.

WIB4. THE 2015 COMPETITIONS

The Chairman referred to the Town Council’s second placings in both the Wales in Bloom and the Flintshire Best Kept Communities Competitions. He thanked everyone for all the good work put in during the 2015 campaigns.

In his report, this year’s Wales in Bloom judge, said that much had been achieved since his last visit three years ago. The regeneration of the town centre, with what he considered to be one of the finest pieces of public art in Wales, had clearly revitalised the businesses. The Council had a strong entry in a strongly contested class.

The County Council's judges reported continued improved in this year's entry for the town centre.

The several comments in the various categories in both Areas of Achievement and Areas for Improvement were noted.

**RESOLVED:**

That the Judges' Reports be received and noted and that these be considered as part of the ongoing partnership work with the County Council and other organisations to complement the Town Council's future competition entries.

**WIB5. OPERATIONAL AND FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS**

**5.1. Financial Position**

Members had before them a Schedule detailing the financial position in respect of 2015 together with, for comparison, the corresponding position for the previous year, as follows:

	(2014)	2015
	£	£
Pottles Premier Plants Ltd – supply of new baskets	-	2,914.00
-floral displays	2,696.00	2,189.70
Erection/Removal of baskets etc	450.00	500.00
Extra troughs	-	-
Watering of plants	1,300.00	2,000.00
Plant feed	-	-
Brackets safety checks/maintenance etc	255.44	225.37
Maintenance/repairs – watering equipment	30.00	72.00
Wales in Bloom Foundation	110.00	140.00
Photographs – awards ceremony	-	-
Schools competition (Council donations)	250.00	250.00
Presentation Shield/Engraving of shield for Schools competition	9.90	10.45
Commemorative Slate Plaque (50 <sup>th</sup> anniversary Wales in Bloom) Fron Park	350.00	-
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	5,451.34	8,301.52
<b>Less</b> Contribution by traders etc	570.00	602.00
Contribution by Flintshire CC (watering at Panton Place)	<u>200.00</u>	<u>255.00</u>
Net cost of scheme*	4,681.34*	7,444.52*

\*excluding Members' travel etc costs in attending awards ceremony and County Environmental Awards income, covered under separate budget headings.

The allocation of expenditure and income was noted, particularly the small increase in the contribution by traders.

The budget for the current financial year had been set at £6,000.

RESOLVED:

That the Schedule be received and the Clerk thanked for the information provided.

5.2. 2016 Scheme : Supply of Displays – Acceptance of Quotation/Arrangements for Works

The Clerk reported on the arrangements to invite quotations for the supply of hanging baskets, troughs/planters and lamppost baskets, as well as on the situation regarding the erection/removal of displays and for the regular watering of the displays as required.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the action taken in inviting quotations and in accepting the quotation from Pottles Premier Plants of Gorsedd for the supply of replacement (plastic) hanging baskets, troughs/planters and lamppost baskets with plants, at 2015 prices, be approved.
- (2) That Tom Butler of Holywell be appointed, with assistance to be arranged, to carry out the erection and removal of displays this year in the total sum of £500 (no change to 2015 rate).
- (3) That Tom Butler of Holywell be appointed to water the displays for the sum of £500 per month (no change to 2015 rate) with assistance to be arranged in particular to cover holidays.
- (4) That the cost of hanging baskets and troughs/planters to traders etc be set at existing rates as follows:

	£
Baskets filled with plants	18.00
Troughs filled with plants	16.00

WIB6. ACTION PLAN FOR 2016 – WALES IN BLOOM AND FLINTSHIRE'S BEST KEPT COMMUNITIES COMPETITIONS

Consideration was given to ways and means whereby the impact of this year's entry in each competition could be maximised.

The Clerk also reported on this year's community project initiative by Tesco Stores, Holywell that had a positive environmental impact, viz the Greenfield Valley Clean-up Day.

Members appreciated that much continued to be done in support of the Council's entry, taking into account last year's comments by the Judges. A discussion took place with suggestions put forward that embraced the wider remit of the competitions.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the following actions/issues be again endorsed for inclusion, as appropriate, in the Council's entries, in addition to places such as St. Winefride's Well, the Art & Craft Mill (and adjoining Tea Rooms), the Recycling Centre (including soil conditioner collection service) and the "flagship" Fron Park which are referred to annually as standard items.
  - Ensure that appropriate publicity arrangements are continued including via the Town Council's website.
  - During presentation tour with National Judge, refer to the Basingwerk Community Garden Project (now well established)/Community Gardens at Crossroads and at Holywell Hospital, as well as the workings of Flintshire County Council's Streetscene initiative, the Town Council's School's Project Competition, and meet up with some of those involved en route.
  - Town Centre Streetscape Project with European grant funding/statue/heritage trail.
  - Inform the County Council and the Greenfield Valley Heritage Park in respect of matters arising from last year's reports from the Judges.
  - Highlight additional displays for example those private ones outside The Market Cross on the High Street and if possible in and around The Stamford Gate area, Halkyn Road, Holywell.
  - Continuation of local litter-picks as required with the assistance of the Holywell Air Cadets and Transition Holywell (eg 'Stop the Drop' clean up) Tidy up areas adjoining Tesco and Lidl and aim to have the underpass from the Tesco car park jet washed or similar.
  - Control of Dogs measures.
  - Town Centre Events Programmes and the Holywell & Halkyn Walking Festival.
  - Arrangements to maintain the annual contribution from Flintshire County Council towards watering of floral displays at Panton Place and support from the local business community with the costs of the displays.
  - Additional item at Fron Park - Skatepark.
- (2) That Members forward any additional ideas direct to the Clerk.

- (3) That, following on from the floral and environmental competitions and with the completion of the planned electrical and fencing work at the site of the Christmas tree off Tower Gardens, local schools be asked if they wish to make/provide an item for display around the tree during the festive period.

WIB7. CLOSE OF MEETING

The Chairman closed the meeting at 6.15pm.

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Chairman