

## HOLYWELL TOWN COUNCIL

### CYNGOR TREF TREFFYNNON

Minutes of the meeting of the **Wales in Bloom Sub-Committee** held in the Council Chamber, Bank Place Offices, Holywell on Wednesday 1 May 2019 at 11.00am.

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PRESENT: Councillor J.M. Johnson (Chair).

Councillors: M. Brooke and S. Johnson.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Councillors K. Davies, R. Dolphin and E.B. Palmer.

IN ATTENDANCE: J. Baker (Clerk), C.S. Lowry (Support Officer).

#### WIB9. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – MEMBERS’ CODE OF CONDUCT

None.

#### WIB10. THE 2018 COMPETITIONS

Members reviewed the judges report for last year. The Clerk referred to the Town Council’s Silver award (148 points) in last year’s campaign.

Members referred to the judge’s comments in both the Areas of Achievement and Areas for Improvement, and noted the enhancements made which included the extra competitions, extension of the baskets and further displays in the town centre.

#### RESOLVED:

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

#### WIB11. OPERATIONAL AND FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

##### 11.1. Financial Position

Members had before them a schedule which detailed the financial position for 2018/19 together with, for comparison, the corresponding position for the previous year, as follows:

	<b>2017/18</b>	<b>2018/19</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Entry Fee	0	150
Pottles Premier Plants Ltd - floral displays	2,007	1,988
Hartleys – floral displays including Tower Gardens	0	450
Erection/removal of baskets	500	500
Watering of plants	1,500	1,500
Plant feed	0	70
Brackets safety checks/maintenance	240	360
Maintenance/repairs - watering equipment	189	193
3 tiered units in Tower Gardens & New Baskets/Brackets	0	1,209
Schools competition	200	200
Dinner/awards ceremony	60	30
Presentation shields/prizes	12	93
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>4,708</b>	<b>6,743</b>
<b>Less Contributions</b>		
Town Centre Traders	0	302
Flintshire County Council (Watering at Panton Place)	257	0
<b>Grand Total (* Net Cost of Scheme)</b>	<b>4,451</b>	<b>6,441</b>

\*excluding Members' travel costs in attending awards ceremony, covered under separate budget headings.

The budget for 2018/19 was £6,000; the budget for 2019/20 was set at £6,140.

**RESOLVED:**

That the Schedule is received, and the Clerk thanked for the information provided.

**11.2. Supply and Watering of Displays 2019**

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.

The Clerk confirmed that the basket displays were scheduled to be delivered and erected in the town centre by the middle of June.

The previous contractor involved with the watering duties and installation of the baskets had now indicated they would no longer be available to continue with the role.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the action taken in renewing and accepting the standstill quotation from Pottles Premier Plants of Gorsedd for the supply of refilled (plastic) hanging baskets, troughs/planters and lamppost baskets with plants, at 2015 prices, be approved.
- (2) That for the 2020 programme the Clerk will undertake a tendering exercise to ensure continued value for money with the basket displays.
- (3) That Hartleys of Holywell are requested once again to assist with the planting of baskets in outlying areas, and also with the council planters in the town centre areas.
- (4) That the Clerk prepares an advert for a Wales in Bloom Operative, to assist with the installation/removal of baskets and the watering activity. This was to be advertised locally with a view to an appointment being made by the end of May 2019.
- (5) That the Clerk sends a letter to all town centre traders requesting a contribution towards the basket displays.

11.3. Action Plan For 2019

Members appreciated that much work had been completed in support of the Council's entry, considering last year's comments by the Judges.

Several enhancements had already been planned for this year's entry, including further competitions and further 'barrel' planters in the town centre.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That attendance at the Awards Ceremony in September is considered by the Chairman in due course.
- (2) 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 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 and social media.
- During presentation tour with the Wales in Bloom National Judge, refer to the Basingwerk Community Garden Project (now well established) / Community Garden at the corner of Crossroads and at the Holywell Community Hospital, as well as the workings of Flintshire County Council’s Streetscene initiative, the Town Council’s Schools Project Competition and meet up with some of those involved en route.
- Refer to the recent enhancements approved by members such as the extra basket displays and the three-tier planter units, and the competitions this year such as the best private garden and the best town centre planter.
- Town Centre Regeneration Scheme including the High Street, link to Greenfield Valley, cycle paths
- Continue close working arrangements with the County Council in respect of matters arising from the Judges' 2018 reports.
- Highlight additional displays for example those private ones outside The Market Cross on the High Street.
- Tidy up areas adjoining Tesco and Lidl.
- Control of Dogs measures including new legislation.
- Town Centre Free Events and Walkers are Welcome.
- Arrangements to maintain annual contribution from Flintshire CC towards watering of floral displays at Panton Place and support from local business community with the planters on the high street.
- Additional items at Fron Park - 50th Anniversary of Wales in Bloom commemorated with a small 'golden display' and plaque.
- Reference the new active travel route in Greenfield Valley connecting the town centre to the Greenfield Docks/Coastal Path.
- Reference to the Welsh Day and Penguin Bins be included in the portfolio.
- Approach horticultural market traders to attend in the town centre if appropriate.

#### WIB12. REVIEW & FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

Members discussed the arrangements for the Judge’s visit which was scheduled for July 2019. As in previous years the Clerk reviewed with members the items to be included in the judge’s portfolio.

A number of other suggestions were discussed by members to enhance this year’s competition including allotment provision, bunting in the town centre, bug hotels, further competitions, additional wales in bloom entries, estate clean ups, etc.

The Clerk stated that a community volunteer request had been received from the Royal Horticultural Society.

RESOLVED:

That the following are researched and if appropriate added into this year's entry:

- 1) Provision of a suitable allotment site. Cllr M. Brooke to ascertain interest among the community.
- 2) 2 no. bug hotels be sourced from an appropriate supplier to be installed in suitable locations.
- 3) A new competition be launched – Best School Bug Hotel.
- 4) That the Clerk arrange entries into the following additional categories:
  - a. It's Your Neighbourhood – Panton Place.
  - b. School Entry – 2018 winners Ysgol Maes-y-Felin.
- 5) Bunting to be sourced and installed in Tower Gardens, Panton Place and the Mews areas.
- 6) Organised estate clean-up/litter pick days across the estates in the Holywell community.
- 7) That the Clerk makes contact with the Community Volunteer, to establish what assistance would be available potentially with promotional activity, to support maintenance of the Crossroads garden in the first instance.
- 8) That the Clerk makes arrangements for the order of 2 no. barrel planters, to be located at Panton Place and the Mews in the town centre, to enhance the town centre displays for 2019.

WIB13. CLOSE OF MEETING

The Chairman closed the meeting at 12.30pm.

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Chairman