

Meeting Notes, 'ST IVES IN BLOOM'

held at Morrisons Community Room

7.00pm on 25th June 2024

Present:

Phil Davies
Hattie Grimwade
Sarah Banks

Sarah Banks
Kerry Maguire
Margaret King

1. APOLOGIES and MINUTES

Apologies have been received from Caroline, Dawne and Beccy.
The May minutes were approved.

2. BUDGET

Sarah reported that the fundraising had gone well and that the increased expenditure had been covered by additional donations. She has received £600 in cash and cash donations and £700 through just giving. Hattie will provide her with an estimate of costs for hospitality for the judging day.

HG

3. ANGLIA in BLOOM VISIT, 8th July:

i) Cleaning and tidying in town – dates

Dates of 2nd and 4th July have been set for cleaning and tidying in town, with additional publicity through the Gardening Club and the Rotary Club, and 7th July for The Waits and Ramsey Road Cemetery. Extra attention will be paid to the south side of Station Road, Foundry Walk, Bridge Street by the old Post Office and The Quay. Margaret explained that during the litter pick last week she and Beccy had found that there was a lot of debris in front of the shops, and Hattie will write to Waitrose to ask them to sweep the pavements by their shop and arrange distribution of flyers to let all shops on the route know that the dates for judging.

HG

ii) Route for judges with Special Awards

The route for the judges was reviewed and agreed (*Appendix A*). Phil has booked the boat and is arranging the other transport for the day.

PD

iii) Itinerary and administration for the day

Phil and Kerry are arranging welcome notices for the judges and the Town Council Facilities Manager has offered to provide any help for getting ready for the day. Phil is looking into provision of graffiti remover and the possibility of the TC painting the bench in Bridge Street.

PD/KM
PD

The Norris Museum community room is not available on the day, but they will arrange for us to host the coffee and introduction there at 10am. The Methodist Church room and kitchen is booked from 12. Hattie is inviting volunteers, council staff and councillors to the lunch. She has ordered savoury food and fruit from Morrisons. Carole and Margaret will be there to set out the lunch. It was agreed that offers of cakes etc. will be accepted from volunteers.

HG

CP/MK

Karen and Margaret will litter pick the Ramsey Road part of the route that morning and Hattie will arrange for volunteers to litter pick in town, along The Waits and along Meadow Lane and the Park and Ride.

KJ/MK

HG

4. Any other MATTERS ARISING from MAY MEETING:

a) Update on Ramsey Road Cemetery

Phil will repair the fence this week. Hattie will contact Shariqa, Mehraj and Robin Hall about the time of the judges' visit, to see if they can be there. The Town Council staff have tidied the first car park dumping area and tidied what was the shrubbery.

PD

HG

b) Update on The Waits – Riverside and Postbox garden

The Postbox garden has been planted up and Bunty will try to be there to meet the judges.

c) Update on planters and garden by Norris Museum

The Bridge of Friendship is completed, and the students have been invited to attend on judging day.

d) Update on Park and Ride

Phil will clean the pavements in the Park and Ride next week and Robin Bletsoe will meet the judges to talk about the planting.

PD

e) Update on Station Rd

Phil will meet with Pat to cut back the verge on Station Road and Pat is watering the new plants. Hattie will write to Waitrose to ask them to sweep round the shop on the cleaning day of 4th July.

PD

HG

f) Update on Kings Hedges, Elm Drive, Houghton Rd

Hattie and Karen have had to replace some of the begonias in Kings Hedges - Phil and Kerry will check all the plants and pavement there next week. Elm Drive and Houghton Rd have been completed with some additional white stones.

KM/PD

g) Planters in Station Rd, town centre and Slepe Hall Field

All the planters are in place and Slepe Hall Field has been planted up. Phil has attached the explanatory notices and Kerry will make sure it is weeded.

KM

h) Other diary dates for July

Dates for cleaning and tidying in town ready for Britain in Bloom were agreed.

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- i. Margaret let us know that the Facilities Committee (previously Amenities Committee) of the Town Council has been merged with the Properties Committee to make a new Estates Committee. She does not yet know who the new Chair will be.

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| ii. | The title for the facebook page was discussed and Sarah was able to amend it and will set a new photograph of the judges after their visit. | SB |
| iii. | The Carnival and Music Committee has offered to take down their banner hanging on the barriers on The Waits for the judging day. It was felt that the banners showed a thriving community, and that local and in-date posters should be left up. Hattie will let them know. | HG |
| iv. | A request has come in from the Darby and Joan Club for someone to talk about St Ives in Bloom, and Phil has agreed to do this. | PD |
| v. | Kerry let the committee know that she has been training as a judge for Anglia in Bloom, and will be judging Sawtry, Downham Market and Brandon. The Committee congratulated her and asked her to bring us any tips! | KM |

6. DATE and TIME of NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will start at **7pm** at
Morrisons Community Room on Tuesday 23rd June

Appendix A

The Anglia in Bloom itinerary for 8th July is overleaf.

Time	Location	Notes
10.00	The Norris Museum   (15 mins)	Meet members of the Committee. Chair, <i>Phil Davies</i> , to introduce what have been our main projects this year. <i>Phil Davies</i> and <i>Kerry Maguire</i> to accompany tour.
10.15	The Norris Museum garden: "Best garden for special needs" and Friendship planters: "Best young peoples' project, aged 12 – 18 yrs"	In the museum garden, meet <i>Bob Amos</i> , volunteer gardener and the students of <i>Spring Common Academy</i> , their teacher <i>Veena</i> and the <i>Community Education officer Susan Bate</i> . On The Waits look at the students' design for the Friendship planters and garden project.
10.40	The Waits (riverside): "Best public floral display by a LA" The Waits postbox garden: "Best public floral display by community"	Walk along The Waits flower display, hear about this year's biodiversity focus and the 6 th April community education event. Meet <i>Bunty Rawlings</i> , Project Leader of the Postbox Garden, to hear about her design and work with volunteers. Walk past Parish Church .
10.50	Holt Island: "Best Conservation or Biodiversity Project"	Meet <i>Jill Burt</i> and members of <i>Friends of Holt Island</i> to hear about the wildlife, flora, conservation management and education provision on Holt Island.
11.10	 Car to drive out of Town Centre	Drive up Ramsey Rd past perennial displays (HDC), Britain in Bloom display (TC), crocuses (Rotary/School)
11.15	Westfield School: "Best young people's project, under 12"	Meet <i>Eco-Club</i> and year 3s with <i>Deputy Head Teacher Chris Fryer-Bovair</i> and teacher <i>Caroline Carder</i> . Visit outdoor area to look at the children's planting.
11.30	Drive past Elm Drive, Kings Hedges	Discuss input in residential areas by the community
12.00	Drive to Ramsey Road Cemetery: "Best Community Project"	Look at the entrance and mausoleum flowerbeds, see new work on the rose beds and shrubbery, and meet <i>Sharika Mokbu</i> , Councillor and <i>Pasco Hussain</i> , Mayor, to hear about the Connected Communities project
12.15	Drive to Hill Rise Allotments: "Best Grow your own project"	Meet <i>Kate Campbell</i> , Chair <i>Hill Rise Allotments Association</i> and members of the Committee. Hear about new community ventures at the allotments.
12.30	Drive through residential streets to the Park and Ride: "Best sustainable planting"	Drive past river of wildflowers (The Pound), the mosque and Meadow Lane to the P&R. Meet <i>Robin Bletsoe</i> to hear about the sustainable drought-tolerant planting.
12.50	Drive round The Quadrant and Market Rd to Station Road behind Waitrose	Look at Grove Medical Centre planting as we pass, barrier baskets display . Leave car at Station Rd.
	Station Road, The Courtyard, Town Centre: "Best Commercial Area"	Meet <i>Pat Synan</i> and <i>Hattie Grimwade</i> to hear about support from volunteers and business sponsorship.
1.00	Walk along Sheepmarket, Market Hill, Bridge Street to The Quay.	Walk through the town centre, past the new sponsored planters, Free Church tubs, displays by pubs, shops and restaurants and the Cromwell statue .
1.15	 Boat to look at meadows.	Go on the river with the <i>St Ives Electric Boat Company</i> to view the Chapel on the Bridge , the meadows and Holt Island reedbeds , returning to The Waits.
1.30	Walk to meet Town Councillors   at the Methodist Church.	Meet with the Mayor, members of the Town Council and staff and St Ives in Bloom volunteers for lunch.