

ST IVES IN BLOOM MEETING MINUTES

Morrison's Community Room

7:00pm on June 19th, 2025

Attendees: Phil Davies, Sarah Banks-Crang, Karen Jarratt, Carole Parker, Kerry Maguire, Margaret King, Yvonne Davies, Sue Street.

Apologies: Hattie Grimwade, Beccy Chapman.

1. PREVIOUS MINUTES

MATTERS ARISING: (Phil) from meeting April 24th re; Blue Diamond contact. Still no response to funding request.

Re: Item 3 on May minutes AiB; no date for judging yet. (P) to chase and, Holt Island will be judged on July 2nd. Kerry will attend as supportive SIIB representative.

Minutes Agreed.

2. FINANCE UPDATE (Sarah)

Holt Island have now reimbursed their entry fee for AiB to SIIB. Beyond that and a small payment to Carole for compost, the finances remain much the same as reported at the previous meeting. Sarah will resend budget sheet.

Sarah asks that everyone who need expenses refunding please send in receipts by the end of August, thank you!

Phil noted some plants in the mausoleum beds at Ramsey rd cemetery need replacing as they have perished in the hot weather and so he and Kerry will purchase on Monday.

3. ANGLIA IN BLOOM (Kerry)

(P) the route will be much the same as last year and since Holt Island is in a different category, this year the time that would've been spent visiting there offers some flexibility through the days other sites timings. Ex-mayor Pasco will be the designated driver on the day.

3.1 In Your Neighbourhood

(K) The allotments certificates are on display at their site for the judges to see. Graeme from Warren rd has emailed and his area is now entered as an IYN. There are now a total of 4 entries in this category which is a good response!

3.2 Special entry category

Bob Amos, volunteer gardener at the Norris Museum is happy for the garden to be entered for "best floral display" but will need physical help as he has injured his back. (P) will ask for volunteers from SIIB to help as necessary.

3.3 Virtual entries category

(P) not yet sorted the flyer for distribution to pubs but will do so in the next few days. (K) reminded all that entry deadline is end of June. (P) at least 2 pubs are keen to enter and (K) SIIB have paid for 2 entries so that's fine.

3.4 Norris Museum recycling bed

(C)The students from Spring Common cannot make any dates in July to visit St Ives so Susan at the museum will get 'photos of the students that can appear in publicity.

3.5 Wheatfields School

The school felt they have not done enough, but they have! May walk the judges via Burleigh Hill community Centre to view the planters done by the children as part of Green Week

4. CARBON LITERACY COURSE FEEDBACK (S)

The full day course was attended by Sarah, Hattie and Margaret. It was an interesting day. All wrote a short essay and will receive a certificate. Overall, the feeling was that SIIB are already doing much of the actions suggested, such as using peat-free compost and getting areas of wildflowers planted in public spaces.

5. FEEDBACK FROM GREEN WEEK (P)

The town stall was in a good position, was useful for networking and passers-by were interested in our work, however we did not gain any new volunteers! Weds 11/6 at Burleigh Hill; refilled the planters with a soil/compost mix. Many passers-by came over to look and ask about what was going on. Folks generally made very positive comments and remarked on the difference having the new planters made to the area. Hattie worked with the children from Wheatfields school who all seemed to thoroughly enjoy their task.

Thursday meeting review of Green Week (from Hattie's email) concluded that Green Week was a very successful event. A comprehensive summary has been compiled and circulated by Hattie (attached to these minutes). (P) It was clearly very successful, and the group would now benefit from setting up its own email address separate from SIIB going forwards. (S) agreed; SIIB are not primarily an eco-focussed group.

6. UPDATES ON PROJECTS

(P) suggested to concentrate on projects along the judging route in the order they will be visited:

- 6.1 Norris museum: gardens looking good. (C)recycling eds may need a few more plants. (P) to weed bed the day ahead of judging as weeds there grow fast! Carole asked if the beds will be watered. Phil explained yes council will water twice weekly henceforth. (K) hanging pots may need more frequent watering.
- *General note to all projects to be judged to let Phil know if any projects are not being watered and he will deal with it.
- 6.2 The Waits: Have only just been planted up but should be watered twice weekly.
- 6.3 The Quay area: Is on the route as is access route to the boat trip. Margaret noted the stonework on parts of the quay needs attention and is crumbling. Asked whose responsibility. (P) is environment agency as it is a flood wall. He will talk to Libby at the council. The judges will travel by boat from here past Holt Island.
- 6.4 Postbox Garden and corner bed opposite: (K) corner bed looking good. Carole noted posts on Facebook have mentioned the poor state of the bench right in the corner, and the tree overhanging it needs cutting back. (P) tree is on private property. Bench will be pressure-washed and painted in July.
- Postbox garden: Linda is back and will be shopping for more plants soon.
- 6.5 Kings Hedges: (P) the tiered planters are being watered by two people who are happy to continue to do so. (K) needs help planting up the large pots by the chip shop with succulents. Not need many putting in. (Y) offered to help. She and Kerry will go on Monday.
- 6.6 Ramsey rd cemetery: (P) looking very good. Upcoming task 28/6. Mausoleum beds need a bit of replanting. Also need an on-going plan for maintenance of the Contemplative Garden. (K) that and the section behind it the roses area needs weeding as it gets missed when there is a task up there.
- 6.7 Allotments: (P) has spoken to Pul and will let him know when the judging is due as soon as we know it!
- 6.8 Park + Ride: Still needs some work. (Y) weeded this morning but some newly planted plants have succumbed to the heat. Robin has weeded the semi-circular beds today. (K) next task there is 30/6.
- 6.9 Station Road: Looking good. Hattie said that at the next session there (24/6) when weeding, Pat asks in respect of the wallflowers, please only deadhead them, do not cut them down.

- 6.10 Town (Planters, Courtyard, The Bridge, the Grove, Elm Drive): (C)Planters outside shops were tended to a few weeks ago and businesses are looking after them now. Courtyard: (C) Need to let man in charge know judging date as he is keen to get that area looking good. (P) weeding and sweeping needed on the Bridge as we learned from last year, the judges would like to see bridge and the chapel. Will pass the Grove in the car. Generally, the Grove looks good and was watered on Sunday (P+K) Elm drive; Sheila is managing this very well.

7. UPCOMING DIARY DATES

- 7.1 The venue for the AGM is Burleigh Hill community centre on October 14th at 7pm for 7.30pm start.

- 7.2 ****STOP PRESS** The date for judging** has just been announced: judges Heather and John plus one another judge will visit St Ives on **Weds July 23rd for a 10am start.**

8. AOB:

- 8.1 Busway landscaping: (H)to deal with this.
- 8.2 Bus Station Green Wall: Hattie has had contact from Cath Gleadow at HDC asking of SIIB can maintain the green wall at the bus station. Town Council will water. General discussion ensued. Health and Safety issues re: height of upper tiers of wall, but as Hattie says Robin has offered to do these parts. (P)Feeling that volunteers are overstretched now, and this would be too big a commitment (K) especially without Colin to keep chickweed down, will be more pressure on volunteers to keep on top of it. Concern if vandalised again who would be expected to replace plants. (P) is time issue. (Sue) not that prominent a feature. (M) will clarify ownership issues with Cath G and Julie K. (P+K) noted that the central area of the Waits tends to get passed over in favour of either end.
- 8.3 Awards Day: SIIB have been asked to host this year's ceremony. It will not mean any work for us. It will be held at the Burgess Hall on September 4th. SIIB will be in AiBs publicity as hosting, but we are not required to do anything other than that.
- 8.4 (K) AOB from last meeting; Review of policies and procedures: (P) usually go to the AGM to review if nobody takes the task on beforehand. Hattie suggests rewording "secretary" to "volunteer coordinator" in the responsibilities but wording will read "responsible person" not secretary.
- 8.5 (P) to invite Rotary and Gardening clubs to assist with weeding and sweeping ahead of judging on July 23rd.
- 8.6 Sue has completed the cover artwork for our portfolio. It depicts the recycling bed at the Norris Museum with Carole and Pat at work there along with a few Spring Common students. Excellent!

8.7 Sarah has some 'photos that could be added to the "children's involvement in projects" section of the portfolio. Esme's nursery has been growing nasturtiums. (K) can go in with pictures from the Ivo, Spring Common and Wheatfields school. (K) hopes to have the portfolio finished in the next few days. (S) will send photos to Kerry asap.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Due to the judging date being July 23rd, date of next meeting will be **7pm on Tuesday July 8th in Morrisons Community Room.**