

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BLOOM ORGANISATION GROUP HELD TUESDAY 5 FEBRUARY 2019 AT 7.00pm AT ST JOHN'S CHAPEL.

PRESENT: Councillor John Nelson, Belper Town Council (BTC) (Chairman) Olwen Boe and Paula Duddles (Gardening Club); Stephanie Hardwick (Guides), John Weaver (Milford); Richard Bett (Belper Goes Green/Transition/Crich Gardens and Topiary); Gerry Stewart (Allotments); Adrian Farmer (DVMWHS); James Kerry and Andrew Huskinson (St Peters Garden).

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received from: Kathy Fairweather (Open Gardens), Chris Beale (AVBC), Anne Clark (woollen woods and St Peters), Kate Pudney (railway Gardeners) and Alex Morley (Derbyshire WT)

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 27 November 2018

The minutes were taken as read and accepted.

3. TO DISCUSS THE JUDGES COMMENTS FROM THE 2018 COMPETITION

The Meeting discussed the amended Judges' report and AGREED to accept the amended report.

4. TO DISCUSS THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE 2019 COMPETITION

- Theme - AGREED –America/Pawtucket/Twinning – to celebrate the 25 years of twinning between Belper and Pawtucket
- BTC beds – designed and plants ordered. Discussed new Planters – agreed 3 tier planter on triangle – possible second in Milford – EP agree position/options with John Weaver. Cannot put on corner – due to difficulty pulling on pavement to water – suggested in recess between new café and bus shelter.
- WW1 peace celebrations – memorial erected in Market place and Sacrifice should be in place.
- Open Gardens - Kathy Fairweather has confirmed going ahead – 29 and 30 June. Guides will do teas.
- Belper Goes Green – Confirmed on – 30 May, 1 and 2 June 2019
- **Schools Involvement** –High School has put forward 2 young people to assist. Group suggested – creating a video/publicity/Voxpop or similar for Bloom. EP to contact them to see what they fancy doing. No planting needed!!! High school will support as usual.
- **Scouts/Guides Involvement** -The Guides are to help with refreshments during the Open Gardens event. The Brownies and Rainbows will do planted and decorated buckets again and will do on the Market Place during the Monthly Market in June. Scouts want to plant up allotment bed on the Memorial Gardens. Guides still looking after Becksitch Corner – have planted lots of bulbs. SH to ensure photos taken of garden when bulbs flowering.

- **Gardening Club** – Will do Calders Corner and triangle again. Willing to assist with anything else. Will do dry garden at Calders. Will check if post box has been painted. Want to paint ferns etc on Electric Sub-station building – EP to try to get consent. Will plant more perennials – BTC to cover costs from Bloom budget.
- **Well Dressings** - Sue Smith is organising. Whilst Pawtucket delegation are here. Will be in the Memorial Gardens.
- **Railway** – Featured on updated Bloom leaflet. Concerned re railway station. BTC to meet with AVBC and Coop – owners to discuss improvements. AF conformed might be grant money available and JW confirmed that Derwent Valley Railway would want to be involved.
- **River Gardens** – Not on route – likely to have building work – will include in Portfolio – Larks events moving to Memorial Gardens
- **Allotments** - Include in Portfolio – will invite Gerry to the Memorial Gardens on Judging Day. Include some produce? EP to get aerial photo of the allotments. BTC looking at acquiring further allotment space. GS to plant up a vacant space on allotment as a flower meadow – might consider bee hive.
- **Rain Garden at Strutts** – EP to check with Janet Honey – that ok to include on Route again – all maintained well
- **Topiary and Festival Gardens** – Festival Gardens unlikely to be on Route. Discussed new topiary site – possible on the Butts – EP to pursue Cultivation Licence from AVBC and possible hedges at Morrisons – EP to contact.
- **St Peters Church** - To include in Portfolio. AH confirmed work on going – taken ivy from wall, planted up wild flowers, given willow branches for sculpture.
- **Milford** – Work done by BTC outdoor staff and Milford in Bloom to tidy up triangle. Possible sponsorship of Triangle bed by Morrisons – EP to chase.
- **It's Your Neighbourhood** - Milford sites x 2. Form on website.
- **Litter Picks** – Usual by Rotary Club and Morrisons will also assist – possible hot spot litter pick – EP to liaise with LG to organise/promote. Agreed 30 March as litter pick date. EP to ask High School volunteers to organise it at the High School.
- **Song for Belper** -This has been well received by the judges and will happen as before.
- **Street Furniture** – In light of Judges Comments – Outdoor staff conducted an Inventory – bins need cleaning and benches painting. One bench required maintenance – referred to AVBC. Need to renew stickers on bins.
- **Bunting -Skills Group** - EP to find out where it is – Skills Group can revamp for this year
- **Competitions** – As previous years – EP to ask winners of last years competition whether they are happy for the Group to nominate them for EM in Bloom competition.
- **Sponsorship** – Morrisons – possible sponsorship
- **Publicity/Press** – EP to organise
- **PORTFOLIO** – AP agreed to do

- **Mr Potato Head** – Needs renovating – suggest getting De Bradelei involved – last up court year
- **Judging Date** – EP to request date that coincides with Twinning Delegation
- **Morrisons** – LG was welcomed to the Group – happy to help – possible sponsorship/litter picks. Can advertise on the Community Notice board in Morrisons

5 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

5.30pm on 26 March 2019

Litter pick on Saturday 30 March 2019