



Minutes of a meeting of the Colwyn in Bloom Committee, held remotely, via Zoom, at 2pm on Tuesday 10th November 2020

PRESENT: Ingrid Lewis, Chairman (IL)
Cllrs: Hannah Fleet (HF), Chris Hughes (CH), Abdul Khan (AK),
Jeff Pearson(JP), Paul Richards (PR) and M Worth (MW).
Mags Richardson (MR), Vin Murtagh (VM),
Conwy CBC: Peter Barton-Price (PBP), Tom Gravett (TG), Helen Jackson(HJ)

OFFICERS: Roz Dudley, Secretary (RD)
Tina Earley, Town Clerk and Treasurer (TE)

127/20 **Welcome and Apologies:** The Chair welcomed all Committee Members. Apologies for absence were received from Gwenda Matthews and David Birtwistle.

128/20 **Minutes:**
Resolved to approve and sign the minutes of the last meeting, held on 30th June 2020.

129/20 **Matters arising from last Meeting:**

- a) **Min 519/19 - Plastic free/less Communities:** Copies of bi-lingual plastic free promotional materials used by Ynys Mon Council were circulated to members. RD had been asked to research if Ynys Mon were using a bilingual logo for its plastic free campaign material. It was noted that Ynys Mon were using an English logo but the text was bilingual, which the committee felt was adequate.
- b) **Min 452/19 (b) – Art Installations:** Copies of the grant application and award letter for funding were circulated to members. The Chair thanked TE and HJ for their work in preparing the application. HJ informed the Committee that the brief is being drafted ready to send out to the artist and that she is awaiting a conversation with Coleg Llandrillo. GWIL are also hoping to get involved by delivering work-shops. It was noted that the installations could also be linked to the Imagine Augmented Reality trail.
- c) **Min 452/19 (c) – Gateway Signs:** A copy of the branding brief was circulated to members. It was noted that the contract has now been awarded to a local company, View Creative, and their proposal was impressive. View Creative are attending the next meeting of the Community Plan Group on 30/11 and will present their vision board. HJ asked the Committee to let her know about any groups that might like to get involved in the engagement work. The new branding should be ready by March 2021. A response is awaited from Highways regarding the design/layout of the gateway signs.

d) **Min 519/19 – Community Green Pledges:**

- i. A copy of the actions report was circulated to members. It was noted how much work had already been done to progress the actions and thanks were expressed to RD/TE.
 - ii. **Facebook Campaign for plastic free/less communities:** The Secretary asked the Committee for ideas for content. PR advised RD that there were lots of resources on the internet and it was suggested that the content could be targeted at both businesses and individuals. HJ suggested that it could also be used to promote the sculpture trail.
 - iii. **Water Fountains:** PBP advised that water fountains were not practical in the current climate, due to risk of cross infections and any proposed locations would require access to available water feeds. If drinking water was being supplied, then it might need to be subject to a strict testing regime. HF said that asking businesses to join the Refill UK scheme would be a better option. ***RD will put information about the Refill UK scheme on the Facebook page once set up.***
 - iv. **Water Butts:** The Town Hall is currently having gutters replaced so this is a good time to obtain and fit the water butts. ***Resolved to ask RD to contact Stermat to buy two water butts (with stands) for the Town Hall. As it is a listed building, the Planning Department will also need to be consulted.***
- e) **Min 521/19 (d) – Kind Bay Initiative** – Copies of photographs of the planters which the group had planted in the Town Centre of Colwyn Bay were circulated to members. It was noted that the voluntary project finished in September. ***Resolved to send a letter of thanks to the group.***

130/20 **Colwyn in Bloom:**

RD informed the members that the Colwyn in Bloom Facebook page was getting lots of views and shares. RD would put a link on there to the Plastic free/less page once set up.

Resolved that RD contact PR to discuss the possibility of linking with the Friends of Colwyn in Bloom page.

131/20 **Wales in Bloom:**

- a) PBP, Chair of Wales in Bloom (WIB) gave a brief verbal report to the members. He said that WIB along with the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) were meeting every 3 weeks. No decision has been made yet regarding the 2021 Campaign. WIB are aiming to get the applications out by Christmas and the decision will be made early in the New Year. The 'It's Your Neighbourhood' (IYN) will definitely go ahead next year but it will be on a smaller scale. The Chair thanked PBP for his report.
- b) A letter and Certificate of Recognition from WIB was circulated to members. ***RD was asked to display it on the Facebook page.***

- c) An email regarding experimental planting at Porth Eirias was circulated to members. PBP was asked what was the best way to proceed with this. PBP said that there was no budget for the maintenance of the plants at that site. TE said that the area is a high profile area and should be showcased, but Colwyn in Bloom cannot take responsibility for the maintenance costs.

Resolved to write to Sarah Ecob, Head of Service, Conwy CBC and copy in Jane Richardson, Strategic Director, Conwy CBC to request that the plants/grasses in this high profile area be maintained. County Councillors Chris Hughes and Abdul Khan would also write to the Officers.

- d) An Email from David Birtwistle (DB) was circulated to members.

RD was asked to contact DB to ask how many brackets were left so PBP could see if they had any space to store them for us.

PBP was asked his opinion on planting for the 2021 campaign. PBP said any planting should be sustainable. Herbaceous plants should be considered. Conwy CBC would be planting similar colours to last year.

Resolved that bright colours should be used. RD to contact DB for options and for his advice on choices.

132/20 Britain in Bloom:

Members were reminded that Colwyn Bay will be automatically be re-entered if the competition goes ahead in 2021. PBP said that BIB had tighter deadlines than WIB and usually launch their campaign in January, so an announcement about the 2021 competition will be imminent. TE & MR also showed members the certificates of recognition received for Colwyn Bay and Parkway.

RD was asked to display them on the Facebook page and IL said she would issue a press release.

133/20 Transport for Wales:

- a) An email asking for any comments/suggestions for improvements that can be made at Colwyn Bay Station was circulated to members. The Station was looking much cleaner and brighter, but there were still improvements that could be made.

Resolved that CH, AK, PR & MW would arrange a site visit to the Station, before arranging for a meeting with Caroline, and report back to the Committee.

- b) An email request for a local voluntary group to formally adopt the railway planters was circulated to the members. MW & PR plant and maintain the planters at the railway station so it was suggested that the Colwyn Bay Conservation and Environment Federation would adopt the planters. This would mean any volunteers would be covered under the group's Public Liability Insurance.

Resolved that RD inform Transport for Wales that the Colwyn Bay Conservation and Environment Federation would adopt the planters at the railway station.

134/20 Sponsorship Opportunity:

An email regarding an offer of sponsorship was circulated to members from CGI IT UK Ltd.

RD was asked to contact the company for more information about the types of sponsorship they offer.

135/20 Fields in Trust:

Information regarding the Green Spaces for Good Programme was circulated to members. PBP informed the Committee that placing an area in trust does not stop any developments being built on that area. It's nice to have but its mainly a certification exercise. CH suggested that Wynn Gardens would be a good candidate. ***Resolved to send the information to the Friends of Wynn Gardens group for their consideration.***

136/20 Tree Charter Festival Day:

Information regarding a virtual event to be held on 28th November was noted by members.

137/20 Finance Report:

- a) The Financial Report for 2020/21 was noted by members.
- b) Budget requirements were considered for the next financial year 2021/22. As this had been a quiet year, there had been an underspend and TE asked for the Committee to support asking the Town Council to carry forward the underspend. ***Resolved to ask the Town Council to carry forward any underspend from 2020/21 to next year's Colwyn in Bloom budget.***

138/20 News:

Committee Members were reminded to continue to submit any news/press items or to report on any activities which they have been involved in since the last meeting to the Secretary, for compilation for the Facebook page and the next portfolio.

139/20 A.O.B:

An email from ERF, Conwy CBC regarding the authority being awarded a Local Places for Nature preparatory grant from the Welsh Government was circulated to members. TG said their focus would be on Colwyn Bay and asked for support from the Colwyn in Bloom Committee and the Town Council. The Committee congratulated Conwy CBC.

Resolved to support the project and to complete the questions asked in the email.

140/20 Next Meeting Date: Members will be informed as soon as a meeting date is agreed.

The meeting closed at 3.45 p.m.

..... Chairman