



Minutes of a meeting of the Colwyn in Bloom Committee, held remotely, via Zoom, at 2pm on Wednesday 19th May 2021.

PRESENT: Chairman: Ingrid Lewis
Cllrs: Chris Hughes (CH), Abdul Khan (AK), Jeff Pearson(JP) ,Paul Richards (PR)
Community Reps: Mags Richardson (MR), Chris Hemmings (CHe)
Conwy CBC: Peter Barton-Price (PBP), Helen Jackson(HJ), David Birtwistle (DB)

OFFICERS: Mrs C Earley, Town Clerk & Treasurer
R Dudley, Assistant Clerk & Secretary

12/21 Welcome and Apologies for Absence

- a) Ingrid Lewis welcomed all members. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr H Fleet, M Worth, Gwenda Matthews and Tom Gravett.
- b) As this was the first meeting since the Annual Meeting of the Town Council, the Committee was required to appoint a Chair and Vice-Chair.
Resolved that Ingrid Lewis and Cllr Paul Richards be re-appointed as Chair and Vice-Chair of the Committee.
- c) Members noted the resignation of Bill Macmillan and that a letter of thanks for all his work and support that had been sent by the Secretary. Members of the Colwyn Bay Environment Federation said that Bill was happy to still be involved with the Federation.
- d) The Clerk informed the Committee that Cllr S Ryder had expressed an interest in joining the Committee.
Resolved to recommend to Council that a change be made to the Terms of Reference to allow the Committee to appoint Cllr S Ryder.

13/21 Minutes:

Resolved to approve and sign, as a correct record, the Minutes of the last meeting, held on 24th March 2021.

14/21 Matters Arising from Minutes:

- a) **Min. 303/20(a) – Art Installations:**
 - i) HJ updated the Committee regarding the recent site visit that had taken place with members of Small World Theatre (SWT) and other interested parties. All three locations had been visited: Old Colwyn, Colwyn Bay (including the waterfront) and Rhos on Sea. The visit had started at TAPE with a screening of the Augmented Reality Trail. SWT had held an initial session with college students for their concepts. Workshops were planned with Ysgol Nant y Groes.

Crest was also being approached to access any recycled materials to use for the sculptures. HJ said she will circulate the feedback from the site visit to members.

- ii) An email was submitted regarding the cost of repairing the Willow Sculpture Fisherman in Combermere Gardens. HJ said that SWT had mentioned a Willow firm that they work with and would send RD the details.

Resolved to seek a further quotation for maintenance of the Fisherman Willow Sculpture.

b) Min 303/20(b) – Branding & Gateway Signs:

HJ gave a brief update. View Creative Agency (VCA) had now provided two further branding options which were shared with members for their consideration. Members felt the designs were simplistic, but noted this was important for recognition and VCA intend to do further work to embed this. HJ said that the timescale was getting tight for achieving the physical signage. VCA were planning on running an online session for feedback. The Community Plan Team were considering the branding next week and an update will be reported to the next CIB Meeting. HJ was asked to share the link with members and members were asked to email RD with any suggestions/ideas that could be passed onto the Community Plan Team.

The Chair thanked HJ for both her reports.

15/21 Colwyn in Bloom:

- a) Copies of WIB Risk Assessments were shared with members PBP informed the committee that Wales in Bloom had updated the Risk assessments (after the Welsh Government's announcements on easing restrictions) and he would email them to RD. Members were asked to volunteer to act as judges for the competition. MR & CH said that they were happy to do the judging and RD said she would send any previous judging criteria/guidance to the newly appointed judges.

Resolved to adopt the updated WinB Risk Assessments for use in the Colwyn in Bloom Gardening Competition.

- b) RD gave an update on the uptake of the Hanging Basket (BOGOF) scheme. Uptake has been slow but there had been a lot of publicity this week, including a promotional video, so hopefully more orders will come in this week. Closing date is Friday for orders.

c) Art Competitions:

- i) Members noted the information for the competition had been sent to all schools. HJ said the winning butterflies could be incorporated into the Augmented Reality Trail. A suggestion was made to reward all entrants with badges and it was suggested a theme of the CIB logo with a butterfly.

Resolved that RD/TE seek three quotes for designed badges.

- ii) RD gave an update on the Adult Art Competition. Bay Gallery had kindly offered to sponsor the Painting Competition with prize money for the first 3 and also would display the winning entries at the Gallery. Cllr Worth had kindly offered to match the prize money for the photography part of the competition, using his ward allowance. He was also paying for the Trophy which would have to be purchased for the Photography competition. The winning photography entries would be displayed in Oriel Gallery in Theatr Colwyn.

16/21 Wales in Bloom:

- a) PBP gave a brief verbal report. He was happy to report that as Covid-19 restrictions had been eased, the Competition would be running. Meetings were being held this week to allocate groups/entries. The judging period would be the whole of July (date to follow soon). The Chair thanked PBP for his update.
Resolved to delegate authority to the Chair/Clerk to prepare the judging route which would be circulated to members.
- b) DB gave a verbal update regarding the town centre planters and baskets. They should be finished by next week. In answer to a question, PBP confirmed that the spring bedding would be replaced with summer bedding soon. IL asked for contact details, as our previous contact for the town planting/gardens was now the Nursery Foreperson at Tan Lan Nursery. PBP agreed to email details to RD.
- c) An email was circulated to members regarding the prices for watering the Town Centre flowers. It was noted that Daniel Pipkin (of AD Window Cleaning) was initially awarded the contract in 2017 and as prices had only increased marginally since then and members had been happy with the level of service, the contract has been renewed by the Committee each year. However, in order to comply with the Town Council's financial regulations, three quotations are usually required for all contracts in excess of £5,000. It was noted that it has not been possible to find any alternative contractors to provide quotations this year, however, further effort will need to be made to try to secure alternative quotations next year.

The Incredible Edibles planters on Station Steps would need to be added to the contract this year, but clarity was needed over the planters on Station Road and who was responsible for planting/watering them. PBP said Conwy CBC plant them and they would be planted with sustainable plants this year. Herbs were suggested and PBP said that they will try and balance sustainability with colour/vibrancy.

Resolved to accept this year's watering quotation, but request that three quotations be sought before (re)appointing a contractor in 2022, in order to comply with the Town Council's financial regulations.

17/21 Britain in Bloom:

Consideration was given to the entry for this year. Presentation slides and FAQ were circulated from the recent Webinar/Q&A. There were two possible projects which we could enter both involving tree planting. The two could be entered in the Green Solutions category under the title of tree planting solution projects. The deadline for entries is 25th July 2021 and it was suggested that a small working group could be appointed with delegated powers to submit the entry.

Resolved that a working group be appointed to submit the entry comprising of IL, TE, RD, JP (representing the Rhos Planting project) and Colwyn Bay Federation members (representing the Eirias Park Orchard project).

Cllr A Khan & Cllr P Richards left the meeting at this juncture.

18/21 Draft Biodiversity Action Plan:

Copies of the draft plan were circulated to members.

Resolved to recommend that the draft Biodiversity Action Plan be approved by the Town Council.

19/21 Incredible Edible Raised Beds:

An email proposal was submitted to members and CHe gave a report about the project. CHe was planning to work with volunteers to co-ordinate the re-planting of Station Steps raised beds with edible plants. A budget would be needed for plants and CHe asked if the beds could be included in the CIB watering contract. CHe said he was arranging for volunteers (including KBI/GWIL) to meet weekly. CH had also been in touch with Crest/NWAMI. Permission would have to be sought from Conwy CBC to plant edibles (instead of the normal planting), but Conwy CBC had been very supportable of Incredible Edible projects in other areas. PBP said that Conwy CBC may be able to help finding funding and orders could be made through their suppliers. CHe thanked the Committee for their support and said he would work out the budget/requirements and contact the Clerk if any support was needed from the Colwyn in Bloom budget.

Resolved to delegate authority to the Clerk/Chair to reimburse the cost of any additional plants needed for the raised planters, within the budget set aside for additional planting costs for 2021.

PBP left the meeting at this juncture.

20/21 Rhos on Sea Woodland:

Information was submitted, regarding Llais y Goedwig, which was noted by members. CHe is a member and is hoping to get a representative to visit Colwyn Bay in the future and get them on board with the Eirias Park project as well.

CHe left the meeting at this juncture.

21/21 RHS Grown Social 2021:

Information was submitted regarding the RHS Grow Social Campaign 2021, which was noted by members.

22/21 Trees at Rugby Club, Rhos on Sea:

Information was submitted regarding the poplar trees at the Rugby Club, which was noted by members.

23/21 Free Compost for Local Organisations:

Information was submitted regarding free compost for local organisations, which was noted by members.

24/21 Finance Report:

TE submitted the report and updated the Committee.

25/21 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.

26/21 A.O.B:

- a) TE submitted an email from Town Councillor S Ryder (SR) regarding common community garden areas to help with well-being and mental health. CH said that he thinks GWIL are doing something similar to this and will put SR in touch with them. The committee thought this was a good idea, but suggested any further discussion be deferred to the next meeting as SR may then be a committee member.
- b) DB asked if we wanted Planters/Hanging Baskets at the Town Hall this year. DB was instructed to proceed with the usual display and to contact RD when they are ready for delivery.

27/21 Date of next meeting: Members will be informed as soon as a meeting date is agreed and an outlook diary entry will be sent.

The meeting closed at 4.15 p.m.

..... Chairman