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**CLAVERLEY IN BLOOM (CIB)**

Minutes of Meeting held on 15th November, 2016

1. **Present:**  Rod Parr (Chair), Andy Crackle, Janet Ryan, Jacqui Cooper, Brent Walker-Drew, Paul Pickerill, Peter Barby
2. **Apologies:**
3. **Minutes of Last Meeting:**

* Agreed

1. **Accounts**

* Account balance £4,238.48 (excluding £118.47 ring fenced as contingency for the Aston Land bank shrub planting campaign)
* Donations – Schneider £100, Anonymous donation £26.
* Cheques - expenses:
  + £475.00 Gedney Bulbs Daffodils to **RP**.
  + £12.50 to **RP** for the purchase of ivy for winter planting from New Barns Nursery.
  + £39.90 Quiz expenses to **JC** for Tickets, Raffle Tickets and David Austin voucher.

1. **Matters Arising**

Church Street – Welcome to Claverley Bed – 14th August

* **RP, JR** and **JC** removed the grasses, skimmia’s and plants at the Church Street planting bed and installed 3 hydrangeas and re planted some of the shrubs. This has improved the look of the bed. Julia Holden from an adjoining property offered to keep the planter watered. Some of the shrubs will be used elsewhere but nothing is really suitable for the telephone box planters.

Telephone Box Planting Area – 15th August – Clearance

* **RP, AC, JC** and **JR** attempted to prepare the bed to the side of the telephone box. The bed has a thin layer of topsoil under which is a large slab of concrete. CIB was concerned about damage to nearby cabling and decided discretion was the better part of valour. A solution maybe, to install planking to create a raised bed which would match the planting trough which Brian Ryan has made. Subsequently to the site meeting Brian has agreed to build and install the structure and invoice CIB for the materials. The bed and trough will need to be filled with compost and planted up as soon as possible.

**Action: RP submitted a proposal to the Parish Council which was agreed.**

**RP had a site meeting with Brian Ryan during Sept.**

**BR to build and install and invoice CIB.**

**Fill and plant the troughs – All – Date to be agreed.**

Summer Quiz – 21st September – The Plough

* **RP** thanked Keith and Karen Horton and all The Plough staff for organising the event. Around 50 people attended which generated £250 for CIB funds. A bottle of whiskey was donated to the raffle prizes along with a bottle of wine from Keith.

Winter Planting – 15th October – 9am Bullring

* The majority of the winter planting comprised of shrub material retained from the 15/16 winter scheme. **CIB** purchased ivy’s and chrysanthemums to top up the existing stock.  **CIB** installed the new scheme on the 8th October having cleared the summer bedding in the preceding days before.

**Action: See 2016/17 for further information.**

Daffodil planting – Sunday 6th November 9.30 a.m.

* In cold conditions a hardy band of volunteers and CIB committee members planted 5,000 bulbs on Aston Lane bank and the small bank area on the opposite side of the road. CIB donated 250 bulbs to Claverley Youth Club for planting in the Griffiths Green area. The remaining 250 will be planted in the small green triangle at the end of the High Street to compliment the oak planted this year**.** A new supplier was used this year as the price from our usual supplier had increased substantially.

**Action: RP, JC to plant last 250 bulbs.**

Outdoor Classroom – Tree Pruning - Undergrowth Strimming - December 16/January 2017

* The logs currently in use will be replaced once the crop in the adjoining field has finished. **PP and PB** have spoken to Richard Cotham who has suitable replacements. The old logs will be left on site to promote insect life. A date is still to be agreed.
* The children have planted willow stems which now need to be trained to form an arch. CIB will do this in conjunction with the log replacement.
* A working party will prune trees in the outdoor classroom, orchard and school field area as well as clearing the undergrowth. RP will speak to Colin Smithyman about skip hire. Plus clearing the brambles from the Boundary Close hedge.

**Action: PP/PB – To maintain contact with Richard Cotham and Field user.**

**All - Working party to form outdoor classroom willow arch.**

**RP – Contact Mr Smithyman regarding skip hire.**

**All – Date to be agreed for pruning etc.**

We Love Yews

* **CIB** felt that a good place to put the heritage Yew was Aston Lane bank opposite the school and if possible involve a group of the children in the planting, possibly with signage denoting the special relevance of the Yew specimen. We also have a certificate which explains the relevance of this tree. See school entry for further details.

**Action: PP to look into a suitable plaque.**

Coffee Grounds

* **CIB** wil**l** include coffee grounds in summer 2017 planting.

**Action: BWD and PP to collect coffee grounds during run up to Summer Planting 2017.**

Award Certificates

* **CIB** have accumulated a large number of award certificates**. JC** has purchased a folder so that the village awards and press cuttings could be placed on public view perhaps in the church. **RP** will confirm with Garry Ward.

**Action: JC assemble folder.**

**RP confirm with Garry Ward and run off copies of certificates.**

Britain in Bloom Gold Award Signage

* The black and gold signs will be worded as follows: ‘Britain in Bloom Gold Award Winner’. These will be placed onto the front of the planting boxes**.**

**Action: RP order signs as previously agreed by PC.**

1. **Forthcoming Events/Projects**

Outdoor Classroom – Tree Pruning – Undergrowth and Hedge Clearing - December 16/ January 2017

* **See matters arising.**

School Liaison Meeting – December/January 2017

* PP will contact Jo Derrer to arrange a meeting regarding activities for the coming year. CIB hope to include planting of the Yew tree, gardening club, raised beds for the planting areas, the outdoor classroom, Shropshire Wildlife Trust visit and the spring litter pick.

**Action: JR to liaise with Jo Derrer regarding raised beds and gardening club.**

**PP to organize meeting with Jo Derrer, RP, PP and JR to attend.**

Winter Quiz 1st February – The Plough

* Karen and Keith Horton will be hosting the **CIB** winter quiz on Wednesday 1st February 2017. Ticket price remains the same. **CIB** will provide raffle prizes. Tickets and posters to be with Karen and Keith by the beginning of January. Tickets will be available from the Plough from the beginning of January.

**Action: JC purchase tickets and prepare posters.**

**RP, JC to organize the raffle.**

**JC organize paper and pens for the event and liaise with Karen and Keith.**

**AC organize float for the raffle.**

Telephone Box – Aston Lane

* BTis proposing removal of the village public telephone box as it has so little use, (four times in the last year).
* The meeting agreed that removal the box would enable the existing planting area to be expanded. A CIB notice board could also be sited there.
* It would be useful to know when the box will be removed and if this will also include the concrete base to enable easy expansion of the adjoining planting bed

**Action: RP - Ask Gill Price (PC Clerk) to check with BT as above**

Danesbrook Tree and Shrub Planting

* PP intends to plant a limited number of trees and shrubs at Danesbrook. PP has prepared a flyer to canvas the residents for help and ideas for the green area there.

**Action: PP deliver flyers to residents.**

Tree Planting - autumn/winter 2016/17

Aston Lane Bank

* CIB will plant more trees and shrubs in the Aston Lane bank this autumn/early winter and will also clear the dead branches on the bank.
* Schneider had donated £100 to provide trees for the bank and the surrounding area. PP has applied to the Woodland Trust and Shropshire Free Tree scheme for free trees but is still awaiting numbers.

**Action: RP/PP to research suitable specimens.**

Winchester X Roads – High St

* CIB would like to explore the possibility of planting an avenue of trees alongside the stretch of road from Winchester X Roads to the top of High St. This could not be done without the support of the adjoining land owner.

**Action: PP to approach landowner as above**

Summer Planting

* CIB agreed that the summer planting colour scheme will be red, white and blue in 2017. Using the red and white illumination begonias which are so effective with silver blue salvias.

**Action: RP to order summer bedding.**

1. **2016/17 Issues**

Plant Theft from Heathton Planter and Winchester Crossroads

* Once again the planting has been hit by theft. The chrysanthemums which have given the planters some much needed colour have been taken. Two from Winchester Crossroads and three from Heathton. After much discussion CIB will clear the Heathton trough and move the remaining plants into the spaces at Winchester. We will also put a notice onto the Heathton planter explaining why this is now empty. We will try again in the summer.

**Action: RP to prepare notice and remove plants.**

Dog Poo

* There is a problem with dog poo left on the footpath area and many other sites. A new bin is being provided for the footpath. But Keep Britain Tidy have A4 posters which are quite amusing but make the point (the Dog Poo Fairy) and a Day-Glo “We’re Watching You” sign, which is quite expensive at £25.00 each. Tina Woodward our local councillor has taken up the issue with Shropshire Council to see if they can help with signs.

**Action: RP to inform CIB of Tina Woodward progress with Shropshire Council.**

Wildflowers

* In the spring **CIB** will endeavour to create a small wildflower area on Aston Lane Bank using seed donated by a local supporter.

CIB Christmas Meal

* A get together at The Feathers at Neenton on the 13th January 2017**.**.

**Action: PB to book.**

Flower Festival 2017 – September 16 Meeting

* **RP** and **JC** attended a meeting in the church called to discuss the future of the Flower Festival. The meeting broadly agreed that the format needed change to stop the slow decline in revenue. Options were discussed for implementation in 2018. Meanwhile the 2017 event will return to its usual mid-July slot but staged over three days**.**

Heart of England in Bloom Campaign

* The increasingly dilapidated state of the village centre does not bode well for entry into the 2017 campaign. However, a decision does not have to be made until the application deadline next April. CIB will also consider entry into the HEIB churchyard sub-category at the same time.

1. **Halo Magazine**

December Entry

* Plant Theft
* Quiz
* Tree Planting
* Daffodil Planting

**Action: RP – Prepare entry**

1. **Date of Next Meeting**

* To be arranged.