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**CLAVERLEY IN BLOOM (CIB)**

Minutes of Meeting held on 9th August, 2016

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

* Agreed

1. **Accounts**

* Account balance £4,078.38 (excluding £118.47 ring fenced as contingency for the Aston Land bank shrub planting campaign)
* Donations – Norah Glass £70, Village Hall £50, Anonymous donation £30.
* Cheques - expenses:
  + £90.00 to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize winners of the garden contest.
  + £20.00 to **RP** for the purchase of 5 penstemmon’s for the churchyard.

1. **Matters Arising**

School Field Footpath and Branch Clearance 25th May – 6.30pm

* **RP, PB, AC, BWD** strimmed the school/Plough footpath and cleared overhanging branches from the Community

Orchard area. The wildflowers **CIB** sowed in the orchard were in bloom so this area was left untouched.

Outdoor Classroom

* The logs currently in use will be replaced once the crop in the adjoining field has finished. **PP** has spoken to Richard Cotham who has suitable replacements. **PP** will contact the field user when the current crop has been harvested so new logs can be sited. The old logs will be left on site to promote insect life.
* 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.

**Action: PP – To contact Richard Cotham and Field user Sept/Oct.**

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

Summer Planting – 1st June 2pm – 4th June 9am

* **CIB** cleared the winter planting and compost from the Bullring and the outlining planters on the afternoon of 1st June. The plants were re-potted ready for the autumn planting and the compost replaced. CIB then replanted the Bullring and planters with summer bedding on the 4th June ready for the summer.
* It was agreed that any surplus plants should be used in the Village Hall planting beds. A number of plants were kept back in case of thefts. These were not needed this year and were placed into the small bed by the Crown pub.
* **CIB** wish to thank all who helped with this mammoth task

School Planting Beds – 15th June

* **JR** worked with a group of children on the beds weeding and clearing. There has been variable success in the beds but the children enjoyed the time spent and **JR** has some ideas on how we can improve this area. See Forthcoming Events 16/17 objectives for more information. Thanks go to **JR** for her time.

Flower Festival Tidy-Up 29th June – 6pm

* **CIB** had a general tidy-up of the bullring sweeping, weeding etc. and the surrounding street scene on the evening of the 29th June.
* **CIB** deadheaded the roses in the churchyard bed and weeded the bed and tidied up the general area. **CIB** planted 5 penstemmons in the gaps in the bed.

Strimming Session – 5th July

* **AC**, **PB**, **SA** and **RP** strimmed the overgrown area between the Plough carpark and the school together with the school field footpath and outdoor classroom area.

Tree Planting

* **RP** and **JR** planted a small oak in the green triangle at the end of the High Street and a purple beech in the Aston Lane bank opposite the school entrance on 30th June
* Children from Claverley School, assisted by **RP** & **JR**, planted an oak tree at the top end of the school field on 15th July. The was a replacement for a tree which had died.
* All trees were supplied free from stock grown by RP

We Love Yews

* **JR** has received Claverleys Yew whip**. CIB** felt that a good place to put the Yew was Aston Lane bank by the school and if possible involve a group of the children in the planting in late autumn early winter.

**Action: JR to speak to Jo Derrer. RP and PP to find a suitable site.**

Coffee Grounds

* **CIB** has been experimenting with coffee grounds in the Winchester Planters as a means of retaining moisture.Thisseems to be working**. JR** spoke to a contact who has been doing this who suggested mixing the grounds in with thecompost**. CIB** will go forward with this idea with the winter planting. **BWD** and **PP** will collect the grounds.

**Action: BWD and PP to collect coffee grounds.**

Village Garden Planting Competition – Judged 2nd August

* **JR** and **JC** and **RP** short listed 13 front gardens and planting from a list of 20 at the end of July. Doug Cockburn from New Barns Nurseries judged the competition on 3 criteria, plant quality, content and impact. The overall winner was Ms L Walker & Ms J Brain from 39 The Wold. A full list of gardens are shown on the attached schedule. **CIB** would like to thank Douglas for his time and expertise. The results of the competition will be placed in the parish magazine.
* **A** separate notice of thanks to all in the village who help to maintain and water and support Bloom activities will be placed in the October edition of the magazine .

**Action: RP to prepare notice of thanks for Halo magazine.**

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.**

Clover Heath & Griffiths Green Planting Beds

* **CIB** supplied surplus Salvias from the summer scheme to Elsie and Malcom Hinton for planting in the Griffiths Green bed. **CIB** also supplied plants to Scott and Tammy Lawrence for the Youth Club to plant in the Clover Heath bed.

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 during the winter planting exercise**.**

**Action: RP – Order signs as previously agreed by the PC**

Telephone Box Planting Area

* **RP** outlined **CIB** plans for this area to the PC meeting in June. Councillors were in full agreement that a makeover of this area was needed. **RP** liaised with Brian & Janet Ryan and agreed the specifications for the planting troughs which Brian has made. The trough has been placed at the base of the electricity station wall facing the telephone box.  **CIB** wish to thank Brian for making the troughs for this area.

1. **Forthcoming Events/Projects**

Church Street – Welcome to Claverley Bed – 14th August

* **RP, JR and JC** take out/move the grasses and 2 or 3 shrubs from this bed (the shrubs will be used in the in planters by the telephone box) and plant 3 Hydrangea bushes to inject some colour into this area.

**Action; RP, JR, JC meet at 9.30am at the planting bed.**

Telephone Box Planting Area – 15th August – Clearance – Planting end of August.

* **RP, AC, BWD, PP** will take a look at the planting bed by the telephone box. There is a good deal of concrete and rubble in this area**. CIB** will check if this area is viable and that no services run underneath. If it is possible, this will be cleared ready for planting and the installation of the new trough and screening material at the end of August. **RP** to decide on plant selection.

**Action: RP, AC, BWD, PP to meet evening of the 15th. Planting date to be agreed RP to select plants.**

Summer Quiz – 21st September – The Plough

* Karen and Keith Horton will be hosting the **CIB** summer quiz on Wednesday 21st September. Ticket price remains the same. **CIB** will provide raffle prizes. Tickets and posters to be with Karen and Keith by the end of August. Tickets will be available from the Plough from the end of August.

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

**RP, JC to organize plant and David Austin voucher for the raffle plus wine.**

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

**AC organize float for the raffle.**

Winter Planting – 8th October – 9am Bullring

* **CIB** agreed that the majority of the winter planting would comprise of the shrub material retained from the 15/16 winter scheme. **CIB** may have to purchase a small amount of material to top up the existing stock.  **CIB** will clear the summer bedding and install the new scheme on the 8th October.
* **CIB** will also fork into the troughs coffee grounds which we hope will improve water retention and discourage snails and slugs.

**Action: RP to assess if any new plant material needs to be purchased.**

**Action: 8th October - 9am all available.**

**Action: BWD and PP to provide the coffee grounds.**

Daffodil planting – Sunday 6th November 9.30am

* **CIB** will hold the annual daffodil planting session on the 6th November. We will concentrate on the Aston Lane bank and the school bank which has areas which need to be filled.

**Action: All meet in Aston Lane 9.30am.**

**RP to purchase daffodils.**

School Planting Beds – Autumn term

* Although **JR** and **RP** dug the school beds during April and replanted and tided, the beds have very poor soil and are full of tree roots. Jo Derrer has suggested to JR that the school would like to organise a gardening club. To facilitate this CIB felt that maybe the answer to the poor quality beds would be raised beds with troughs similar to those Brian has made for the telephone box bed. They would be filled with compost which would improve growth quality and be easier for the children to manage. The first step is to see if the school would be happy with this.

**Action: JR to liaise with Jo Derrer concerning this issue during the autumn term.**

Outdoor Classroom

* **See matters arising above**.

Churchyard Naturalization Project

* **CIB** would be willing to fund a further half day visit by a qualified wildlife officer from the Shropshire Wildlife Trust.

**Action: Jo Derrer to contact SWT**

Tree Planting – end Aug/Sept

* PP, BWD intend to plant a limited number of trees at Danesbrook.

**Action: PP, BWD action late Aug/Sept.**

1. **2016/17 Issues**

Tree Planting

* **PP** will apply to the free tree scheme again this year. The free trees are planted in conjunction with Claverley School. **CIB** will also undertake during the winter months to prune the trees planted on the school field.

**Action: PP to apply for trees.**

Tree Planting – Aston Lane Bank – autumn 2016

* 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.

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

Wildflowers

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

Fundraising Concert

* The successful 2015 “Proms in the Church” concert had, immediately after the event, prompted a local CIB supporter to offer sponsorship for a similar concert in the future. The meeting agreed that this was worth following up for 2017. The possibility of using the church as a venue for alternative musical performances should also be considered.

**Action: RP – Discuss above issues with Garry Ward**

1. **Halo Magazine**

September Entry (from)

* Garden Comp results
* Quiz
* Winter Planting
* Daffodil Planting
* Aston Lane Bank

**Action: RP – Prepare entry**

1. **Date of Next Meeting**

* November to be arranged.