

## Winterton In Bloom

### Minutes from meeting: Friday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2017

#### 52 West Street, Winterton at 10.00 am

**Present:** Cllr Don Johnson (DJ), Cllr Roger Kimberley-Scott (RKS), Mrs Pam Moody (PM), Miss Lisa Newstead (LN), Mrs Ann Root (AR)

**Apologies:** Cllr Bob Bridge, Mr Roj Moody, Mr Gordon Leitch (GL)

**Welcome:** LN welcomed everyone to the meeting and provided an update from NLC. The Environment Committee at NLC have decided that inter-town verge cutting will be done just once a year. This is so the bees and different species of insects living in the verges will not be disturbed. DJ asked if the verges will still be cut for safety reasons but LN confirmed that this was not the intention. LN agreed to email to ask for the exact areas to be specifically identified.

The official invitation to attend this year's In Bloom results presentation has not yet been received but it is understood to be taking place on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September in the Boston area. LN said that once the invitation is received, she will contact the group members to decide who should attend.

The initial feedback from the judges on the day was highly complimentary. Judging in previous years has been very rigid and formal but this year was much more informal and relaxed. PM said that she had heard many compliments from visitors over the weekend of the Open Gardens. It was generally acknowledged by the group that this year had been a success. RKS said that he was disappointed that the presentations at the judging had not been simultaneous. It was agreed that LN and RKS need to work together in future to ensure that the slide show and verbal report run together. RKS said that this needs a lot of work which should be started in April in order to finish it for the judging in July.

#### **Report on key areas:**

##### a) Planting (Horticultural Development)

- i) This year's hanging baskets have been hit by poor weather, in particular the rain.
- ii) LN will shortly take some photos of beds in Central Park to use as ideas for next year
- iii) The judges had suggested that some beds should be filled with shrubs to provide all year round cover
- iv) After flowering, all beds and planters will be cleared and replanted for autumn
- v) The geraniums and some other plants could be kept if some storage could be sited somewhere in the town. In previous years, LN has transported the geraniums to Bottesford for over-wintering but there are too many now. Costs will be gathered for a polytunnel or greenhouse if a site at the allotments can be identified.
- vi) LN reported that, despite several attempts to contact Ongo with regard to having some more beds and planters on the Grangefield estate, nothing has been decided for this year due to their current increased workload following the

Grenfell disaster. It is hoped that we can work with them to ensure that this area is included for next year.

b) Community (Community Participation)

LN had contacted Anne Mulligan and been quoted £400 to buy a double sided page in the OAAIW magazine. LN has therefore requested funding via Kerrie Prouting from Winterton 2022 to pay for 4 issues. RKS asked who would put the articles together as he was aware that the organisers and printers were in the habit of changing layouts etc before publication. If he is to be involved in the preparations, he requested that a meeting be arranged with the printers for discussion on their exact requirements for publishing.

Groups such as the Gardening Club, Incredible Edible, the Allotments Group, the Junior School, the Open Gardens group, the Brownies, etc would all be invited to join and submit articles for inclusion.

LN is also hoping to apply to Winterton 2022 for funding to purchase some hanging basket trees to be used as a feature on Earlsgate and also for some more planters which would be sited on the Grangefield Estate.

LN informed the group about a new scheme being run by NLC, the Lincs Lotto. 60% of each £1 ticket purchased will go towards a local charity, fund or chosen good cause and can be selected by the purchaser. Community groups can register and apply for funding so LN intends to register the In Bloom group.

c) Environment (Environmental Responsibility)

Work on composting and the correct use of the water butts at the Cemetery is ongoing. RKS offered to assist with clearing the land at the back of the Pavilion when this commences.

**Sponsorship**

LN reported that Winterton 2022 had indicated that they would sponsor 2 flower beds at £50 each.

RKS suggested that we could offer the small boxes under the street signs free of charge to residents who were willing to look after and water them. A small decal could be purchased and attached. LN – In future years, a campaign could be run to promote this: 'Sponsor a Street Sign' or 'Adopt A Box'

**CPRE – Best Kept Village:**

Judging will take place between Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July and Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> August. LN will receive an email after the judge's visit to confirm that they have been.

### **Any Other Business:**

- LN reported that she is still awaiting response from ERNLLCA with regard to her query on advice for purchasing hi-vis jackets for use by volunteers.
- RKS asked if the volunteers could be invited to attend the In Bloom presentation. All present in favour.
- LN – regarding the presentation, the date has yet to be formally agreed but is pencilled in for 17/09. Once arrangements have been confirmed, all gardening related groups, volunteers, sponsors and Civic dignitaries will be invited to attend. It was also suggested that the likes of hedgehog, bat and recycling groups should be invited.
- PM reported that the new street signs around the town were much better than the old ones. LN said that WTC has established a good working relationship with that department at NLC and consequently they have supplied new signage against each request submitted.
- RKS reported that the left hand side of the entrance to the Roxby Road industrial estate remains a mess with someone just having cut a few overhanging branches and leaving them on site. LN said that WTC would apply for permission from the owners to sort it out. RKS said he has pointed it out to Mark Thornborough from NLC who had agreed to write to the owners.
- RKS proposed that the garden submitted for next year's Best Front Garden entry should be 114 North Street, the home of Don Johnson. LN pointed out that it will be judged on what can be seen from the road, ie the judges will not go down the side or back of the garden. 2<sup>nd</sup> PM. DJ accepted that proposal and said he was thankful he has a year to prepare!

**Date of next meeting:** Friday 25<sup>th</sup> August 2017 at 10.00 am at 52 West Street