



Tiverton Town Council

Town Hall, St Andrew Street, Tiverton, Devon EX16 6PG

Town Clerk: J.F. Vanderwolfe Chartered MCIPD

Email:townclerk@tivertontowncouncil.gov.uk

Phone: 01884 253404 Fax: 01884 258550

Minutes of the Tiverton in Bloom Committee held on Monday 7th December 2020 at 5.30pm via Zoom Meeting.

Present: Cllr's W Burke, (Chair) S Griggs, (Vice Chair), C Harrower and D Knowles.

In attendance: Mr John Vanderwolfe (Town Clerk) and Mrs J Hubbard (Assistant to the Town Clerk).

133	Apologies Apologies received from Mrs P Grainger (personal), Cllr N Davey (Work) All agreed to accept apologies.
134	Declaration of Interest under the Code of Conduct There were no Declarations under the Code of Conduct declared at this stage of the meeting.
135	Minutes The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 13 th January 2020 were adopted as a true record.
136	Matters arising that are not an agenda item. Cllr S Griggs raised the matter of the town centre trees sited in Fore Street which were losing their concrete barriers due to movement and cracking. She asked who were responsible for the trees. Cllr W Burke said it would be Devon County Council who would be responsible for them. Cllr S Griggs mentioned the new trees which had been planted at the top of Bampton Street. She said that the area around the base of the trees was currently full of weeds and looked unsightly and asked who was responsible for these. Cllr W Burke said it would be a good idea to contact Mid Devon District Council to find out who is responsible. Cllr S Griggs mentioned the tiered flower planter sited in Westexe South which was in need of clearing of dead plants. Cllr W Burke said that he was going to deal with this planter as it needed to be cleared before being transported to West Somerset and Taunton Nursery. He would contact Mr J Hewitt to organise the transportation of the planter. Cllr W Burke said that he would like to discuss colour schemes for Tiverton in Bloom 2021. He said that he would like to have the apricot begonia that did so well in the 2018 scheme, along with a dark maroon Seraphina. Cllr S Griggs said that the scheme for 2021 needed to be colourful and vibrant. Cllr D Knowles agreed that the scheme should be bright and cheerful. Cllr C Harrower said that it would be a good idea to add some red as the third colour to the scheme. It was agreed to opt for an apricot, maroon/purple and orange/red scheme for 2021.

<p>137</p>	<p>Budget for 2021/22</p> <p>The Town Clerk informed the committee that the drafting of the council budget this year had been difficult.</p> <p>The Covid-19 pandemic had impacted upon the town council's income resulting a large amount of lost revenue for the hire of the Town Hall and the New Hall.</p> <p>Therefore an amount of £20,000 had been allocated for Tiverton in Bloom 2021.</p> <p>Cllr W Burke asked if there could be a small increase on this amount and suggested the figure of £24,000.</p> <p>Cllr D Knowles pointed out that Tiverton in Bloom 2021 offered good value for money as the season lasted on average 4 months.</p> <p>The Town Clerk said he would look at the budget again to see if he could accommodate this.</p>
<p>138</p>	<p>To resolve to move to Part B under the Admission to Meetings Act, 1960, and that the public, including the press be excluded because of the confidential nature of the business to be discussed.</p> <p>All resolved to move to Part B.</p>
<p>139</p>	<p>Grass Cutting Contract 2021</p> <p>The Town Clerk informed the committee that he had set aside the amount of £14,500 as the council's contribution for the grass cutting.</p> <p>There were some concerns that Mid Devon District Council who currently carry out these works did not offer best value in terms of their costs and charges.</p> <p>It was agreed to seek quotations from outside contractors for these works as a comparison.</p>
<p>140</p>	<p>Flower Bed Contract 2021</p> <p>The committee considered three quotations for the supply of flowers for Tiverton in Bloom 2021. West Somerset and Taunton Nursery provided the best value option both in terms of price and quality of plants.</p> <p>It was agreed to award the contract for the supply of flowers to West Somerset and Taunton Nursery.</p> <p>Cllr W Burke said there would be a need to obtain a price for plants for the Angel Hill flower bed and for the two flower beds near to Heathcoat Fabrics as these had not been included in any of the quotations.</p> <p>Cllr S Griggs asked if Heathcoat Fabrics could be approached and asked if they could help to fund the plants in the flower beds close to them.</p> <p>Cllr S Griggs said that she would like to see the use of perennials and shrubs for the Angel Hill flower bed as this would be more sustainable and would save money as there would be no need to remove plants.</p> <p>Cllr C Harrower agreed with the use of shrubs and perennials but suggested that foliage plants could be incorporated, as many were both hardy and vibrant in their tones of green.</p> <p>Cllr D Knowles said that the Angel Hill flower bed needed to be colourful as it was in a prime location in the town centre, he questioned whether the use of shrubs would be vibrant enough. He said that maintenance costs would have to be factored in if shrubs were used as they needed regular attention to keep them looking their best.</p> <p>Cllr W Burke said that a combination of the two could be used, which could involve annual planting being planted around the outside of shrubs/perennials.</p> <p>Cllr S Griggs expressed her concern that any annuals planted on the outside of the Angel Hill flowerbed would be trampled or driven over.</p> <p>Cllr W Burke said that a smaller flower bed could be designed and bark chipping could be used to surround the outside of the bed.</p>

	<p>Cllr W Burke said that he had cleared some of the beds of the summer geraniums and had re-potted some of them with a view to re-using these to plant up some of the areas that had not been planted this year such as the wall bordering the Burma Star memorial garden.</p> <p>Cllr W Burke informed the committee that the charge for the preparation of the flower beds, the planting up of plants and the maintenance of them by Mid Devon District Council was too high.</p> <p>He said that he could complete the preparation of the beds and with some volunteers could get the beds planted up thereby saving costs.</p> <p>The Assistant to the Town Clerk Mrs J Hubbard said that she had received a favourable quotation from a local contractor to prepare the beds and plant them up too.</p>
141	<p>Hanging Basket provision and Watering 2021</p> <p>The Town Clerk explained to the members that a number of local traders who had paid to sponsor a hanging basket in 2020 had agreed for their payment to be deferred to 2021. This meant that there was an obligation to provide these traders at the price paid in 2020 despite the costs having risen. He suggested that due to Covid-19 the committee did not push the sponsorship of baskets for 2021 but instead concentrated on providing a colourful display to bring some cheer to the town.</p> <p>The Town Clerk said in his opinion the town centre had still looked very attractive with half the number of the usual baskets in place.</p> <p>Cllr D Knowles also expressed his concern that many traders would not be able to sponsor a hanging basket as they had done so before due to the economic impact of Covid-19.</p> <p>The committee considered two quotations for the watering of flower beds and hanging baskets for 2021.</p> <p>It was agreed to award Mr J Hewitt the contract for 2021.</p>
142	<p>Cost of Hanging Basket 2021</p> <p>All members agreed with Cllr D Knowles suggestion and decided not to push the sponsorship of hanging baskets for 2021.</p> <p>It was agreed for the town council to supply some additional baskets in other areas of the town.</p>
143	<p>Date of next meeting: January 2021, date and time to be confirmed.</p>