

**SHREWSBURY IN BLOOM
MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 5th JULY 2022 AT 2.00PM
AT WEEPING CROSS DEPOT**

PRESENT

Keith Roberts (KR, Chairman), Gary Farmer (GF, Operations Manager), Jane Mackenzie (JM), Pam Moseley (PM), Kath Owen (KO) Margaret Thrower (MT) and Hilary Humphries (HH, Communications Officer)

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Helen Ball, Julian Dean, Kate Halliday and Alex Wagner.

40/22 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 7th JUNE 2022

Members discussed the minutes of the meeting held on 7th June 2022.

AGREED:

The Minutes of the meeting held on 7th June 2022 were agreed to be a true and accurate record.

41/22 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

42/22 UPDATE ON SPONSORSHIP OF TRAFFIC ISLANDS

With HB's absence, Members were not able to have an update on sponsorship of traffic islands and the position with SC.

Members were advised that Oswestry Town Council was not happy with SC's proposals and was awaiting a response to their comments.

ACTION:

- **HB to update Members when further information is available.**

43/22 CONFIRMATION OF THE ACTION PLAN FOR THE HEART OF ENGLAND IN BLOOM COMPETITION

43.1 Heart of England in Bloom – Small City Category

A - Start/Finishing Location

GF ran through the proposed route with Members, which will be 3½ hours:

- Meet & Greet at the Flaxmill – GF and SF transport judges to the Castle
- Start – at the Castle grounds with drinks and snacks, the presentation and press photo opportunity
- Walk through town via Castle Street, past M&S then to:
- St Mary's
- St Alkmunds – take a look at Pride Hill
- Take the car – or possibly the rickshaws – to Victoria Quay – walk to the Dingle, Grey Friars Bridge then to Coleham and St Barnabas Centre

- Comfort break at St Barnabas
- Spend 15 minutes at Abbey Gardens
- Then Monkmoor Road towards the Recreation Ground – include the Street Allotment Guy, if possible.
- Travel to Coseley Avenue to visit Monkmoor Meadows where Jim Goldsmith will take the judges around.
- End - Flaxmill

B - Route/Personnel

Once the route has been agreed, any decisions on locations, and who the judges will meet, can be finalised. There is also a need to agree whether to include the outside groups that Bloom/STC is working with.

C - Portfolios

The work on the three portfolios has been completed and sent through to Clear Design. The judges have confirmed that they would require an electronic version no later than Friday 22 July, details of which have been passed to Clear with that date easily achievable.

Members also discussed:

- Whether to contact Shropshire Cycle Hub in relation to the rickshaws
- Whether the judges would be popping in to see the Draper's Hall – MT has contact details if required.
- Sourcing a vehicle – members agreed that a people carrier would provide more space – GF confirmed that STC was unable to source an EV and therefore SF would approach Bayfield Motors for a suitable vehicle.
- Shrewsbury Ambassadors
- Goody bags for judges
- Refreshments at the Flaxmill. It was agreed that HB would contact Alan Mosley
- HH confirmed that the buttonholes have been organised with Barbara Evans, with KR to collect

ACTION:

- GF to work on the route and personnel.
- GF to obtain authorisation for the placing of three plant containers on Castle Street outside M&S.
- GF to liaise with Robert Milton at St Mary's Church in relation to flowers if the judging route takes them inside.
- GF to forward details of Quarry events to MT.
- GF to contact Shropshire Cycle Hub in relation to availability of the rickshaws on judging day.
- HH to confirm time of arrival with judges.
- HH to forward details of Art Trail to members.
- HH to forward contact details of the Street Allotment Guy to GF.
- HB to source vehicle – possibly electric.
- HB to liaise with Seb Slater at the BID to see if he is available for lunch on judging day.
- HB to liaise with Alan Mosley in relation to refreshments at the Flaxmill.
- KR to collect buttonholes on judging day.

43.2 Heart of England in Bloom Parks and Open Spaces Category

Members discussed these entries as part of the main route.

It was confirmed that a mini Portfolio would be required for each location.

43.3 Britain in Bloom - It's Your Neighbourhood

Members were advised that there are no known entries in this category.

44/22 FEEDBACK ON THE GREENHOUSE OPEN EVENING

Members discussed the various points from the Greenhouse Open Evening and the need to look at whether to utilise the guided tour for next year, have the same format where people went at their own pace or a combination of the two.

Members were agreed that the numbers needed to be increased for 2023 – HH confirmed that this can be done. Numbers were restricted this year to help keep people safe and reassure everyone that STC was doing its best to protect both visitors and staff.

Members felt that the event was successful and reported there were a number of new residents in the county who came along to the event and that feedback was positive.

There were no negative comments on the lack of drinks and nibbles, and members agreed that this would not feature in future years.

45/22 SHREWSBURY IN BLOOM'S INVOLVEMENT IN DEVELOPING PROJECTS FOR THE WELCOME BACK FUND

With HB's absence, Members were not able to have an update on how matters are progressing with the Welcome Back Fund.

46/22 UPDATE ON THE TOWN OF FLOWERS COMPETITION

The following judging dates were confirmed:

KR and HB judging the commercial premises category on 12 July.

MT and JM judging the front garden and floral container categories on 18 July.

HH confirmed that the lists would be sent to the judges ahead of their judging dates.

ACTION:

- HH to compile the lists of entries and forward to the judges.

47/22 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- MT has a quantity of spare purple crocus bulbs to donate for planting at a prominent location in the town. GF will

ACTION:

- GF to find suitable locations and advise MT accordingly.

48/22 NEXT MEETING

The following meetings are confirmed at Weeping Cross Centre:

Tuesday 19 July 2022 at 2pm

Tuesday 27 September 2022 at 2pm