

SHREWSBURY TOWN COUNCIL
SHREWSBURY IN BLOOM COMMITTEE
HELD AT WEEPING CROSS DEPOT
27 MARCH 2025

Present

Councillor Elisabeth Addams, Pam Moseley, & Kath Owen

IN ATTENDANCE

Helen Ball (Town Clerk), Danny Powell & Stuart Farmer (Operations Managers), Max Ball (Communications Officer), Amy Jones and Darren Woods (Logistics Team).

APOLOGIES

Pete Jenks (Amenity Space Assistant Team Leader – plant production), Mark Bowen (Amenity Space Team Leader), Michelle Farmer (Committee Officer), Councillor Mary Davies, Councillor David Vasmer, & Margaret Thrower

17/24 NOTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The notes of the Shrewsbury in Bloom Meeting held on 20 February had been circulated prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED: That the notes of the Shrewsbury in Bloom Meeting held on 20 February 2025 be approved and signed as a correct record.

18/24 DRAFT BLOOM ROUTE

Danny Powell & Stuart Farmer gave an provide an update on the Bloom Route to cater for both the Heart of England in Bloom and Britain in Bloom Competitions.

- Love 2 Stay is the starting point with **Tom Poutney** hosting the welcome
- Weeping Cross
- Oteley Road Developments that are due for adoption
- Limetree Care Home – Mayoral Tree
- **Meole Residents Association** Stanley Lane Recreation Ground
- **Stanley Lane Allotments**
- Nobold Pool – **Shrewsbury Town Fisheries**
- Priory School/Meole School – STC maintain
- Cemetery/Longden Road Island
- Radbrook Playing Field – mark a pitch with marker. Introduce **SAHA**
- Copthorne Park – **Countryside Volunteers**

- Shrewsbury School – View over town
- **Barnabas Centre**
- House Coffee – sponsorship of tubs by Greyfriars Bridge
- Walk over the bridge into the Quarry - **Rickshaws**
- Dingle
- Bee Hive in WWI bed – Beekeepers giving a talk – Amy to contact **Shrop Beekeepers**
- Wildflower mix on the Long Boarder
- Two floral trees at the top of the Quarry
- Walk down St Johns Hill
- Square – schools competition planters, **Stalls – Dancers, Mobile Youth,**
- Golden Cross Passage
- Old St Chads Church
- **The Hive**
- Milk Street/Fish Street
- St Alkmund's Church/St Mary's Church
- Castle
- Railway Gyratory
- Mens' Sheds – West Mids Showground – Old Greenhouse (Margaret Thrower)
- Who do we invite at the end

19/24 HEART OF ENGLAND IN BLOOM JUDGING ARRANGEMENTS – 22 JULY 2025

Danny Powell & Stuart Farmer gave update to Members on preparations for judging day taking into account RHS Britain in Bloom

20/24 RHS BRITAIN IN BLOOM JUDGING ARRANGEMENTS - City & Small City Category

Danny Powell & Stuart Farmer gave update to Members on preparations for judging day which has now been confirmed as Thursday 31 July 2025 09.00 – 4.5 Hours

Judges will be coming the night before and staying in the night before. We have to pick them up and take them out for dinner the night before. We have to pick them up the morning and drop them off at the Railway Station the night before

21/24 BLOOM PORTFOLIO

Max Ball updated members on preparations for the Bloom Portfolio. Deadline for the portfolio is the 29th of June. RHS has provided details on format and how it needs to be submitted. Max & Michelle are collating information. Staff will be judging the photo competition within the next week to choose front and back page.

22/24 POTENTIAL BLOOM PROJECT

Heen Ball gave an update on a potential project at The Hive Garden. The Hive have some grant funding to help pay for infrastructure. They were keen to be involved in developing a show garden which would be replanted in their courtyard.

23/24 COMMUNICATIONS

- (i) **New members of Shrewsbury in Bloom** – Tom Poutney keen to be involved but wants to know what is expected of him;
- (ii) **Community groups to follow** – Max has started a spreadsheet of community groups;
- (iii) **General bloom communications** – Max has profiled a number of communications including the Greenhouse Open Day which is receiving interest;
- (iv) **Hanging Basket Booking Process** – This was being taken over by the Town Council from the BID. This is being looked at with the Webmaster;
- (v) **Schools Competition** – This was going well. Max would send details to Councillors who were Governors in schools.

24/24 WEEPING CROSS OPEN EVENING – 21 MAY 2025

Plan is to have various information stations around the greenhouse for the public to follow a trail. It is hoped that other community groups will be involved in the event.

Publicity is now out and the public are filling in the time slots.

Max will contact the Shropshire Horticultural Society to send an invitation to all SHS Members to attend

25/24 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (i) **Floral arrangements for other Town & Parish Councils** – Wem, Ellesmere, Whitchurch, Pontesbury & Minsterley, Craven Arms, and Bayston Hill are having a multitude of bedding plants, hanging baskets, and pole top planters.
- (ii) **School Visit** – Danny and Amy are hosting a visit from Longden School to the Dingle the following year.

- (iii) **Allotments Meeting** – The Allotment Competition was discussed. This would involve photo entries and the next Allotments Committee meeting would judge the winner.
- (iv) **Town of Flowers Competition** – Max & Danny would look at how they could publicity the Competition better. Any judging would have to be done by mid-July. A possible prize was considered.
- (v) **Wooden Posts in the Town Centre** – There needs to be a review of the posts to determine whether and repairs are needed and whether and new posts would fit existing planters
- (vi) **Infrastructure Review** – There is a need to review the overall floral infrastructure as some is wearing out. This would need to be done at the planting close season.
- (vii) **Green wall** – Consideration was made about installing a green wall. There is a new green wall established at Shrewsbury School. Danny would make enquiries with Shrewsbury School about costing and maintenance
- (viii) **Town Centre Planters** – have been replanted and are weathering in the Greenhouse. Shropshire Council has ordered new planters for the Chester Street Gyrotory for Town Council staff to plant up and install on site.

26/24 FUTURE MEETING DATES

- Thursday 24 April – 2.00pm
- Thursday 22 May – 2.00pm
- Thursday 19 June – 2.00pm
- Thursday 3 July – 2.00pm
- Thursday 17 July – 2.00pm