**CLAVERLEY IN BLOOM (CIB)**

Meeting Notes 6th May 2014

**Present:**  Rod Parr (Chair), Andy Crackle, Peter Barby, Paul Pickerill, Mick Thorrington

1. **Apologies: JC**
2. **Minutes of Last Meeting:**
	* Agreed
3. **Accounts**
* Account balance £2281.94 (excluding below and £118.47 ring fenced as contingency for the Aston Land bank shrub planting campaign).
* Cheques
	+ Claim from RP £50.53 iro HOEB 2014 campaign entry + postage costs.
1. **Matters Arising**

Aston Lane Bank

* RP had sown the wildflower/grass seed mixture on 17th April. Additional poppy seed had been added to the mix to tie in with the 2014 WW1 centenary commemorations.
* The shrubs planted in 2013 and 2014 would need to be watered during the summer months. In the absence of any other volunteer help Tom Pickerill would be asked to do the work on the same basis as last year i.e. £15 per session
* The meeting noted that the hedge against the rear gardens of the new housing development was still infested with weeds. The dead trees originally planted by the developers as bare root specimens between the hedge and the rear fence of the houses, had still not been replaced. The strip of land is owned by SSHA so CIB would be unable to plant any new stock there.

 **Action: PP – Arrange watering with TP**

Tree Planting

* PP planned to take advantage of this year’s free tree scheme being run by the Woodland Trust. Up to 420 trees are on offer including hedging material. The closing date for applications is 4th September. Planting sites need to be identified. Caroline Kempsey from Sutton Farm had expressed an interest in hosting a tree planting event involving children from Claverley School.

**Action: PP – Identify suitable planting locations/liaise with Woodland Trust as appropriate**

 **RP – Liaise with Caroline Kempsey as above**

 CIB Summer Quiz 20th August

* RP had confirmed the event with Keith Horton and a preliminary notice had already been placed on the Claverley Parish website

Gold Award Signage

* RP would give trough measurements to PP asap

**Action: RP – Measure troughs and notify dimensions to PP**

 **PP – Obtain estimate for signs from sign manufacturer**

Hairdressers Planting Troughs

* The meeting assumed that the troughs could stay in place during the summer planting season. However PB would confirm the situation with Linda Sage.

**Action: PB – Liaise with LS as above**

RHS “Growing for Gold Pollinators”

* The free sunflowers supplied by the RHS as part of the promotion had been received and RP would deliver them to the school later in the week. The school head, Jo Derrer, had expressed enthusiastic support for the initiative and was in the process of deciding what form it might take. RP had offered to purchase some additional seed packets of other appropriate species if the school could make effective use of them.

**Action: RP – Discuss further with JD**

Spring Clean 10th April

* Three non-committee volunteers turned up on the evening so it was possible to carry out some work on the churchyard rose beds as well as the more routine tidying up the central village area. Several bags of (mainly) winter leaf debris was collected
* Colin Smithyman had supplied a skip on the Plough car park for green waste. JC had attached posters to the skip offering community use over the weekend 12/13th April. MT & PB had filled the skip at least 2/3 full with dead and overgrown material removed from the Aston Lane bank and the main approach routes to the village.

**Action: RP – Thank CS for skip supply**

Clover Heath Planting Project

* Scott Lawrence had been making enquiries about used 14ft long packing cases which had the potential to be converted to planting troughs. SL hoped to supply a progress report to RP within the next few days. In the meantime SL had found a local resident who was keen to become actively involved in the project

**Action: RP – Continue liaison with SL**

Theft of Plants

* About a dozen plants had been stolen from the Winchester planting troughs on the evening of 17th April. Some of the plants were larger specimens saved and grown on from previous plantings. These were more valuable and difficult to replace.
* The meeting agreed that the theft should be reported to the police and that the press should be informed.
* It was agreed at the April meeting up to £50 should be spent on plants to brighten up the existing winter planting scheme. RP had been searching for suitable material when news of the thefts emerged and did not pursue further as additional plantings would have been even more at risk.

**Action: RP – Contact police and BJ as above**

Summer Planting Scheme

* All troughs to be planted up on Saturday 7th June subject to weather conditions and plant readiness.

**Action: RP – Liaise with Nick Bromley re plant availability and update CIB members**

1. **Campaign Issues**

HOEB Campaign Entry 2014

* RP had submitted the application form for this year’s campaign and had asked to be judged on 14th July. Judge Robin Russell had already been asked to pencil this into his diary but formal confirmation was still awaited.

**Action: RP – confirm judging date with RR**

Judgement Day Arrangements

* It was agreed that the judging tour should follow the same route as last year. However it may not be appropriate to feature Clover Heath depending on the status of the proposed planting project
* It was also agreed that the arrangements for receiving the judges within the Claverley Memories exhibition at the village hall should remain the same subject to the agreement of Sue Burns

**Action: RP – Approach SB re judges reception arrangements**

Pre Flower Festival Tidy Up

* To be carried out on Thursday 10th July from 6pm

Ongoing Publicity

* RP reported that it had become increasingly difficult to secure publicity for CIB events etc. via the Bridgnorth Journal. RP had submitted several photographs and storylines over recent weeks but without success. However after recent discussions with the BJ reporter and editor RP was hopeful of better coverage in future.

**Action: RP – Continue regular contact with BJ**

Winchester X Roads

* A new volunteer, Brent Walker-Drew from High St, had kindly volunteered to help maintain the X roads and after a site meeting with RP on 24th April had strimmed of the grass verges over the following weekend.

Churchyard

* RP reported that the subject of the state of churchyard was raised by parishioners at the Claverley PC annual meeting on Monday 28th April. A comment was made that CIB could devote more attention to the churchyard as it occupies such a dominant position in the village. RP gave a brief history to the PC meeting of CIB’s involvement in the churchyard and the more recent efforts to offer support for the churchyard wildflower project.
* RP said that, coincidentally, he had bumped into Garry Ward on 30th April and asked him to get in touch if he wanted to discuss the wildflower project further.
1. **Newsletter**

June entry – subjects from

* Aston Lane bank
* Growing for Gold Pollinators
* Summer Quiz
* Spring Clean
* Theft of plants
* Pre Flower Festival Tidy Up

 **Action: RP – compile entry**

1. **AOB**

1. **Date of Next Meeting**
* 19.30 on Tuesday 10th June @ Kings Arms (to be confirmed with members closer to the date)