



**THE TOWN COUNCIL
OF
ROYAL LEAMINGTON SPA**
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ROBERT NASH ACIS DMS
Clerk to the Town Council

23rd May, 2013

Dear Councillor,

A meeting of the Cultural and Community Committee will be held in Meeting Room 5 at the Town Hall, Parade, Royal Leamington Spa on **THURSDAY 30th MAY 2013 commencing at 6.30 pm.**

The business will be as set out below.

Yours faithfully,

Clerk to the Town Council

To:- Councillors J. Clarke, R. Copping, G. Dulay, S. Ingleby, S. Lytton, Y. Moore, Mota Singh and A. Stevens.

Mr J. Mather (Leamington International Twinning Society)

(All other Members of the Town Council – Agenda for information only)

AGENDA

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
2. **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**
3. **ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**
4. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members are invited to declare any interest they may have in an item identified for discussion at the Meeting.

5. **PUBLIC FORUM**

To receive representations from Members of the public in accordance with Council Standing Orders

6. **TOWN TWINNING MATTERS**

(i) **Bruhl 40th Anniversary Celebrations**

To consider the attached Report (Report No 6)

(ii) Other Twinning matters

To consider other Twinning matters arising.

Members of Leamington Twinning Society are in attendance for these items.

7. MINUTES

To approve and sign as a correct record the Minutes of the Meeting of the Cultural and Community Committee held on 29th April 2013 (Report No. 7)

8. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

(i) Twining Exchanges and work placements (Minute 57)

(ii) Leamington In Bloom (Minute 63)

To consider the response of the Leamington in Bloom Committee at the meeting held on 13th May, 2013. (Report No. 8)

9. COMMUNITY GRANTS

(i) To note the timescales for submission of new grant applications:-

30th August, 2013

31st January, 2014

(ii) Community Grant – Monitoring 2012/13

To consider the following responses from grant recipients

Gardening around Leamington Spa

LCFD Organising Group

REPORT TO A MEETING OF THE CULTURAL AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEE TO BE HELD ON 30TH MAY 2013

TOWN TWINNING – BRUHL-LEAMINGTON 40TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS- 2ND-6TH OCTOBER 2013

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To advise the Committee on matters relating to preparations for the 40th Anniversary celebrations of the Twinning of Bruhl and Leamington and seek guidance for further action.

2. INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The Committee will be aware of the proposed celebrations at Bruhl to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the formal Twinning Agreement between Leamington and Bruhl in October 1973. The intention of Bruhl Twinning Society and Bruhl Council has always been to celebrate this occasion with a Conference and series of celebrations of the successes of Twinning and the integration that it fosters. The timetable for these celebrations has now been modified slightly to take account of the elections in Germany during early October. The Programme will now run over the period 2nd-6th October, 2013.
- 2.2 At the meeting of the Committee held on 8th January 2013, I reported that the application by Bruhl Twinning Society to the European Union for funding from the Europe for Citizens Programme., a bid of some £150,000 Euro, had been unsuccessful. This bid was reflective of not just the 40th Anniversary celebrations at Bruhl, but a further series of Conferences to be held throughout the four partner Towns of Bruhl, Leamington, Sceaux (France) and Kunice (Poland) over a two year period.
- 2.3 In view of the failure to obtain a successful funding outcome, a revised bid was made to the Programme in February and an award of 25,000 Euro has been made to assist with the costs of the Bruhl Conference specifically. This funding will be available to assist with meeting the costs of accommodation and subsistence of delegates. This means that the other Conferences initially planned for the other partner Towns, will not now take place.
- 2.4 In anticipation of a possible successful funding bid, the Council has set aside the sum of £3,000 to assist with costs associated with travelling to Bruhl.

3. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

- 3.1 In view of the successful outcome of the finding bid, a revised Conference Programme has been drawn up by Bruhl and is set out at Appendix 1. A copy of the formal letter of invitation is included at Appendix 2.
- 3.2 The Committee will note that there is a strong emphasis on the Partner Towns taking the opportunity to “showcase” aspects of life in the Town, particularly visitor attractions, local business, distinctive products etc. With this in mind, provision has been made in the Programme for Partnership stands presenting the twin towns and offering regional specialties and further attractions. (see Appendix 1 –page2)
- 3.3 This will require input from a variety of organisations and bodies within the Town to produce the requisite material and assist with resourcing the stands during the Conference Period. For example it is envisaged that local businesses and producers could be invited to provide samples of products to provide a “window” on Leamington. The views of the Committee are requested.
- 3.4 It will be evident that the Conference will place an emphasis on exploring key themes of interest in Europe. In particular much of the programme on Saturday 5th October is given over to a series of Group discussions at which it can be anticipated that input from professionals and persons of experience in a particular field would be advantageous. Clarification as to the number of Group discussions at which attendance of representatives from Leamington Spa will be expected has been sought and will be reported at the Meeting. The Committee’s views on this aspect of the arrangements are invited.
- 3.5 The Programme makes specific reference to the performance of the Orchestra from Myton School which has a long association with the Kunst- und Musikschule (Bruhl School of Music). It is unlikely that the pupils and their consorts will attend for the entire Conference period therefore a request for some funding assistance in connection with travel expenses can be anticipated.
- 3.6 In terms of the number of representatives anticipated from Leamington, the opportunity has been taken to clarify this with the organisers. The figures set out in Appendix 3, are indicative and final numbers will be dependent on the capacity of each Partner Town. For example, the number of Councillors and Officers of the Town Council is a gross over estimate and will be much reduced from the number quoted.

3.7 The Committee will recall that expressions of interest in attending Conferences overseas in connection with Twinning were invited from various local societies and voluntary groups. Nine local societies expressed varying degrees of interest therefore there is an opportunity to further explore the availability of these groups in terms of the revised programme content now available.

4. **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

4.1 The successful outcome of the bid by Bruhl to the European Union will ensure that representatives from the partner Towns will be assisted with the cost of accommodation and subsistence. Each partner Town will therefore be responsible for the cost of travel and any incidental expenses. Some expense will inevitably occur in procuring promotional items, unless these can be obtained through some external sponsorship arrangement.

4.2 The Town Council has set aside a total budget of £3,000 for this initiative. The estimated cost of coach hire for the period of the Conference is of the region of this figure therefore there is no flexibility in the budget to assist with other incidental costs or to assist local societies with their expenses. It is advisable that a budget be compiled for the anticipated costs of the Conference and any supplementary funding is requested from the Council.

5. **RECOMMENDATION**

5.1 The Council has previously resolved to support attendance at the 40th Anniversary celebrations at Bruhl. It is therefore opportune to develop its response in terms of the numbers of delegates who will attend and the level of support to be provided.

5.2 The Committee is recommended:-

- (i) To determine the options for display and marketing of Leamington via display stands over the Conference period;
- (ii) to determine the input required from representatives of external organisations to the Group discussions planned for the 5th October;
- (iii) in discussion with Leamington Twinning Society, determine which local Societies and Groups are to be invited to join the Conference and Anniversary celebrations; and
- (iv) through the Twinning Working Group, identify a budget for this event and recommend additional supplementary funding, as appropriate.


FÖRDERVEREIN BRÜHLER STÄDTEFREUNDSCHAFTEN

Bruhl, 5 May 2013

“40th anniversary of the Bruhl/Royal Leamington Spa partnership”

Festive programme on the occasion of the conference and partnership meeting

 Wednesday, 2nd October – Monday, 7th October 2013 in Bruhl

Wednesday, 2 nd October approx.. 18.00 hrs	Guests arrive at Comprehensive School, Otto-Wels-Str. 1, Bruhl-South.
18.00 hrs	“Is there a new European identity despite crisis?” Introductory presentation by Prof. Dr. jur. Ludwig Schmahl. Location: Comprehensive School, Otto-Wels-Str. 1
18.30 hrs	Welcoming address by Gregor Golland, Member of the Land Parliament, on the historical background of North Rhine-Westphalia which – with the help of the British government – emerged from the British occupation zone to become a federal state in 1948. Location: Comprehensive School, Otto-Wels-Str. 1
19.00 hrs	Discussion group for young people: Things in common and differences in Europe; with Mr. Sautmann. Location: Comprehensive School, Otto-Wels-Str. 1
Monday, 30 th September – Monday, 7 th October	1. Exhibition on Europe by the IPZ (Institute for European Partnerships and International Cooperation) for this period of time. 2. Presentation of Bruhl as a European town with two European schools and the European technical college of

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	<p>higher education (EU FH), not to forget the many fellow citizens from foreign countries or with migration background, presented in an exhibition.</p> <p>3. Presentation of the European and international companies from Bruhl in separate exhibitions.</p> <p>4. Partnership stands presenting the twin towns and offering regional specialties and further attractions.</p> <p>Location: Town Hall, Uhstr. 3</p>
<p>Thursday, 3rd October (Day of German Unity)</p> <p>9.00 hrs</p>	<p>Ecumenical service at St. Margareta church , Kirchstr./Heinrich-Fetten-Platz.</p>
<p>10.00 hrs</p>	<p>Festive procession with the mayors of the partnership and friendship towns to the Town Hall.</p>
<p>10.30 hrs</p>	<p>Speeches delivered by Michael Kreuzberg, mayor of Bruhl, and the mayors of the partnership towns.</p> <p>Location: Chapter House of the Town Hall, Uhstr. 3</p>
<p>11.30 hrs</p>	<p>"The significance of the EU and of the right to vote for our citizens"; by Prof. Dr. jur. Schmahl.</p> <p>Location: Town Hall</p> <p>Subsequently, plenum with all mayors: Town twinnings and their meaning.</p> <p>Location: Council Hall, Uhstr. 3</p>
<p>beginning 12.00 hrs</p>	<p>In front of Town Hall, Uhstr.: Entertaining at the stands of the partnership towns with British, French, Polish and German specialties and attractions.</p>
<p>-- The stands will be occupied till 18.00 hrs --</p>	

13.30 hrs	<p>Europe on the spot.</p> <p>"The year 2013: Europe for citizens"; speech by Günter Verheugen (former EU Commissioner).</p> <p>Location: Council Hall, Uhlstr. 3</p>
15.00 hrs	<p>Sports meeting for handicapped and non-handicapped people, directed by the BTV (Bruhl Gymnastics Club).</p> <p>Location: Franziskanerhof</p> <p>Under bad weather conditions, this event will take place at the BTV sports hall, von-Wied-Str.</p> <p>"Sports as a new quality of life and how to get citizens involved"; speech by Mr. Stilz (schools, BTV, Sonderspaß e. V. (club offering leisure activities for handicapped children)).</p>
18.00 hrs	<p>International music festival of the partnership towns; with band/combo from the Bruhl School of Music and from Myton School, Leamington.</p> <p>Location: Gallery at Augustusburg Palace</p>
<p>Friday, 4th October</p> <p>11.00 hrs</p>	<p>Ceremony on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the Bruhl/Royal Leamington Spa partnership.</p> <p>Location: Max Ernst Museum in Bruhl, Comesstr. 42</p> <p>Participation of all regional EU delegates from Bruhl (Axel Voss, Member of the European Parliament), Sceaux, Royal Leamington Spa, Kunice and Chalkida.</p> <p>Ceremonial address by Mr. Axel Voss, member of the European Parliament: "Town twinning as a basis for active citizenries within the European Union"; with subsequent discussion.</p>

13.30 hrs	<p>Reception given by the mayor of Bruhl.</p> <p>Location: Senior Citizens' Home, Kölnstr. 74</p>
15.00 hrs	<p>Europe seen through artistic eyes – the European flag. Art and painting competition for young people; with Dr. Foulon.</p> <p>Location: Max Ernst Museum, Comesstr. 42</p>
17.00 hrs	<p>Summary: The future of our town partnerships – planning, promoting and supporting projects in the fields of education (schools), sports and music. Exchange of experience among partnership multipliers, and coming to know the ideas of young people; with, among others, the mayors of Bruhl, Royal Leamington Spa, Sceaux, Kunice and Chaldika as well as the chairmen of the twinning societies and the chairmen of local societies and clubs being present.</p> <p>Location: Council Hall, Uhlstr. 3</p>
<p>Saturday, 5th October</p> <p>10.00 hrs</p>	<p>All events will take place at the Comprehensive School, Otto-Wels-Str. 1.</p> <p>Meeting of the twinning society and club members for the open discussion groups.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discussion group: European cultural integration by town twinning – suggestions – implementation – Best Practice; with Mr. Tony Bass, LITS (GB), and Mr. H. G. Wilhelm, FBS (GE). 2. Discussion group: Integration activities in social projects and in an ageing European society; Mr. W. Hägele, FBS, and Mrs. Lilla Banach (PL). 3. First voters' discussion group on the EU elections in 2014; with Mr. Sautmann, Comprehensive School, Bruhl. 4. EU exhibition "We in Europe": Mrs. Anna Noddeland, IPZ director.

13.00 hrs	<p>5. Discussion group: Can the European problem of demographic change be countered by voluntary work and the involvement of people over 60 years of age?; with Mr. Günter Falkenstein and Mr. Heinz Schmitz, Bruhl.</p> <p>6. Discussion group for young people: Financial crisis and youth unemployment in Europe; with Mr. Miron (GR), archpriest, and Mr. D. Freytag, Bruhl city treasurer.</p> <p>7. EU exhibition; with Ms. Anna Noddeland, IPZ director.</p>
18.00 hrs	<p>8. Results of the discussion groups and common final statement (Mr. Andreas Brandt, deputy assistant of Bruhl, and Mr. Robert Nash, town clerk of Royal Leamington Spa).</p> <p>Each twin town is to present in its respective town hall a point of contact responsible for "European communication". These activities are supported by the twinning societies of the respective towns.</p>
<p>Sunday, 6th October</p> <p>11.00 hrs</p>	<p>PowerPoint presentation by Mr. H. Wadehn: "What is the value of the world heritage sites for the European cultural integration?"</p> <p>Location: Max Ernst Museum, Comesstr. 42</p>
13.00 hrs	<p>Discussion with EU delegates: Europe of the citizens. The new European identity.</p> <p>Location: Max Ernst Museum, Comesstr. 42</p> <p>Subsequently, visit to the Max Ernst Museum as well as Falkenlust and Augustusburg Palaces with guided tours in English, French and Polish for our guests.</p>
18.00 hrs	<p>Music across borders; event directed by Karel Jokusch from Bruhl and ... from Leamington; with students from Myton School, Royal Leamington Spa, and the Bruhl School of Music;</p>

	Location: Rooms and staircase of the Bruhl School of Arts and Music, Liblarer Straße 12-14
20.00 hrs	Common closing event and festive dinner hosted by the Bruhl Twinning Society at the Senior Citizens' Home, Kölnstr. 74, Bruhl.
Monday, 7 th October approx. 9.30 h	Guests depart.

Subject to modifications!



**FÖRDERVEREIN
BRÜHLER
STÄDTEFREUNDSCHAFTEN e.V.**

Bruhl, 07. May, 2013

Mr. Robert Nash

Town Clerk

Parade

Royal Leamington Spa

**Ref.: Celebrations on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the Bruhl/Royal
Leamington Spa partnership and our EU application for funding**

Dear Mr. Town Clerk, Dear Robert,

Dear town twinning friends,

Even in times of increasing globalisation town twinings in Europe are still topical, for they make room for drawing closer, finding a common basis and experiencing a common culture. The town twinings and partnerships are of direct concern to our citizens. They make Europe tangible by bringing the European concept right to our doorstep and into our homes. Our partnership meetings provide the basis and are the core of European integration. They make Europe alive.

In order to strengthen the town twinings with regard to future, the FBS initiated a new partnership identity that is to give new impetus to tackle the problematic generation issue and to better integrate people with migration background.

We want to talk about the current situation of Europe and the town twinings and would like to move forward to a common tackling of the new challenges to our town twinings.

We want to develop a European identity feeling based on common values, history and culture. This initiative is to win new friends in Europe, to reduce prejudices and to find new solutions for current problems, e. g. integration and demographic change, far-right tendencies, as well as Europe as a community of values, the meaning of voluntary work and the European elections in 2014, social issues and active citizenship within the European Union.

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FÖRDERVEREIN

BRÜHLER

STÄDTEFREUNDSCHAFTEN e.V.

In order to achieve these aims, we will conduct events and offer discussion/working groups. We would like to celebrate the European culture together, to promote honorary work and to celebrate the decades of town twinnings. Furthermore, exhibitions on Europe and the participation of members of the European Parliament and of other politicians are to enrich the programme of events. By the diversity of subjects we hope to arouse the citizens' interest in joining these activities and the democratic life of the European Union.

It is in that sense that we have drawn up a programme of events for the period of 2 October to 6 October (see enclosure).

The European Union has granted appropriate funding for the events mentioned in the programme.

We would like to invite you to celebrate these days in October and to conduct the programme together with us.

Let us bring together people and friends from Europe to exchange and make common use of experiences, opinions and values, to learn from history and to design future.

Our meetings are to encourage exchange and dialogue among European citizens from different countries by a variety of means.

We wish you and us a lot of success and much pleasure.

The executive committee of the FBS

Hans-Georg Wilhelm, First Chairman

Enclosure: Programme

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Following the planned number of persons attending the anniversary and the partnership meeting from 2 October to 7 October 2013!

Festive event and festival week in Bruhl

“40th anniversary of the Bruhl/Royal Leamington Spa partnership”

40 + 20 = 60 persons from Royal Leamington Spa, including young people from Great Britain

30 + 15 = 45 persons from Sceaux, including young people from France

15 + 10 = 25 persons from Kunice, including young people from Poland

60 + 45 = 100 persons from Bruhl, including young people from Germany

plus 4 members of the European Parliament

30 members of the town council and the administrative body of Leamington

5 members of the town council and the administrative body of Sceaux

70 members of the town council and the administrative body of Bruhl

30 guests of honour

Total: approx.. 300 persons and 45 (90) young people

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CULTURAL AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEE HELD
ON 29th APRIL 2013**

Present: Councillors J. Clarke (Chairman), R. Copping, S. Ingleby, S Lytton, Y Moore, M Singh and A. Stevens.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor G. Dulay.

Also present: Mr and Mrs J Mather (Leamington International Twinning Society)

54. PUBLIC FORUM

There was one member of the public present.

55. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Clarke, Copping, Singh and Stevens declared a non pecuniary interest in Agenda item 5 as Members of Leamington International Twinning Society.

56. COMMUNITY GRANTS – PUSH PROJECTS

The meeting was attended by Mr Daniel Brown of Push Projects who gave an appraisal on the progress of Push Projects which had received a grant of £1,000 from the Town Council in 2012.

Mr Brown explained the rationale behind the project which had come about due to a gap in service provision and an identified need for young people within the Warwick and Leamington area. Since the launch of the project there had been a significant increase in the numbers of young people seeking information and support, and a trebling of the membership of the group to 6 members.

In answer to questions Mr Brown confirmed that, at present, £700 of the grant remained unspent and it was planned for this to be incurred on additional promotions and activities for the group over the next twelve months. He also confirmed that in view of the target group of young people, contact had been made with secondary schools in the area and considerable interest had been shown by both North Leamington and Trinity Schools. In addition, Mr Brown confirmed that those persons undertaking counselling of young people had undergone appropriate CRB checks.

The Committee thanked Mr Brown for his presentation and wished him well with the project for the future, following which he left the meeting.

57. TOWN TWINNING

(i) Twining Exchanges and Work Placements

Mr Mather referred to the recent request from a student in Bruhl for an exchange and work placement during July/August this year. This was providing extremely difficult and whilst an approach had been made to Warwick District Council and to schools in the Leamington area, no arrangements had yet been confirmed.

Mr Mather suggested that it would be beneficial to develop a consistent approach to requests for these placements and to identify potential hosts and individuals who would be interested in making return visits to the twin towns.

The Town Clerk emphasised that strenuous attempts had been made on previous occasions to engage with local schools in this matter.

RESOLVED that an invitation to host a student from Bruhl during July/August this year be made to the Head of Languages at Kenilworth School and Warwick School.

(ii) **Other Twinning Matters**

Mr Mather reported on the recent visit of a delegation from Leamington to Heemstede (Nederlands) which had been attended by the Mayor and members of LITS. Whilst the delegation consisted of only 9 people, it was important to maintain contact with Heemstede particularly in view of the current difficulties in terms of a civic input from the City Council. He asked the Committee to note the situation and confirmed that LITS would be continuing to work with its opposite number in the Nederlands to improve arrangements in the future.

RESOLVED that the report is noted.

58. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Cultural and Community Committee held on 7th March 2013 are confirmed and signed as a correct record.

59. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

60. UNVEILING OF THE DEFIBRILLATOR

The Town Clerk reported that the defibrillator, paid for by the Leamington Round Table, had been unveiled on the 24 April 2013 by the Mayor and representatives of the Round Table. The event had been attended by the press and details were now available on the Town Council website.

Councillor Copping thanked the Committee for proceeding with this matter and allocating officer time to it.

RESOLVED that the report is noted.

61. BLUE PLAQUES

The Town Clerk reported that following a recent meeting of the Blue Plaque group, the priority candidates for Blue Plaques in 2013 were John Hitchman (sponsored by the Town Council); Henry Peach Robinson (sponsored by CLARA); and Frank Whittle (sponsored by the Leamington Society). In terms of the Hitchman plaque, the Town Clerk reported that Boots the Chemist had agreed to erect the plaque on its store on the Parade and he would be meeting with the Manager shortly to agree a precise siting.

It was hoped that these plaques would be unveiled in the early autumn.

RESOLVED that the report is noted.

62. FAIRTRADE DIRECTORY AND LAUNCH

The Town Clerk reported on the launch of the Fairtrade Directory to coincide with World Fairtrade Day on 11 May 2013 at All Saints Church.

RESOLVED that the report is noted.

63. LEAMINGTON IN BLOOM

Consideration was given to a report concerning arrangements for this year's Heart of England in Bloom competition and wider organisational matters. A copy of the report was circulated prior to the meeting and a copy is attached to the signed Minutes.

The Committee noted that due to the increase in the size of the electoral population, Leamington would probably be ineligible to continue to participate in the Large Town category of the Heart of England in Bloom competition in 2014. This would mean that it would be competing in future against towns such as Shrewsbury, Tamworth and Rugby. It was therefore appropriate to consider the present arrangements for supporting Leamington in Bloom and the financial resources allocated to the Leamington in Bloom Committee and dispersed to Warwick District Council.

It was suggested that one option might be to concentrate solely on local activities in 2014 in order to prepare for a revised competition entry in the larger category in 2015. The Committee concurred that it was prudent to review progress but wished to do so after receiving a presentation from the Chairman of the Leamington in Bloom Committee who would be encouraged to attend a future meeting.

RESOLVED

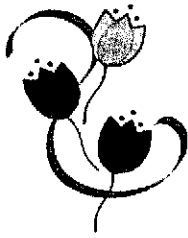
- (i) that the Chairman of the Leamington in Bloom Committee be invited to attend a future meeting of this Committee to consider the implications of the town's future participation in the Heart of England in Bloom competition; and
- (ii) that the disbursement of funding between the Leamington in Bloom Committee and Warwick District Council is considered following the presentation.

64. LEAMINGTON MUSIC FESTIVAL

The Town Clerk circulated details of the Leamington Music Festival from 3-7 May 2013, and a letter from the Music Director, a copy of which had been circulated with the Agenda.

RESOLVED that the arrangements are noted.

The meeting commenced at 6.30 pm and ended at 8.05 pm.



Leamington in Bloom

LEAMINGTON IN BLOOM COMMITTEE 2013

Notes of the Meeting held on Monday 13 May 2013

Present: Enid Simms (Chair), Peter Bailey, Jim Dean, June Douall, George Dunkley, Cllr Simon Lytton, Jackie Parker, Gordon Simms, Chris Walton, Jackie Webb (RLSTC), Simon Wheeler

1. MINUTES

1.1 The Minutes of the meeting held on 22 April 2013 were agreed.

2. MATTERS ARISING

Geranium Train

- 2.1 The Committee decided that the schools should be advised that the collection of Geraniums by Committee Members would take place in week commencing 24th June. Simon W offered the use of his garden to store the geraniums prior to planting up in the trains. As in previous years, the plants would then be transferred by WDC's contractor The Landscape Group to their depot of Stratford Road, Warwick.
- 2.2 This transfer would take place on Thursday 27th June (pm) and the trains would then be planted up on Friday 28th June. Following the planting, the trains would be delivered to Jephson Gardens and the Railway Station on Monday 1st July ready for the launch with the participating schools on Tuesday 2nd July. **However this has still to be confirmed by WDC and their Contractor (despite several reminders)**
- 2.3 Prior to the collection of plants, Members of the Committee (Simon W, Enid, Gordon and Chris) are meeting on at 10.00am on Friday 21st June to look at the trains to ensure that all is in order and any maintenance work is carried out. The presumption is that the trains are still stored at Oaks Road, Cemetery, Kenilworth. **However despite several requests to WDC Officers no response has been forthcoming on their location or how they can be accessed.**
- 2.4 Jackie W has been requested to contact WDC again to try and obtain confirmation that the information requested and the arrangements detailed in paras 2.1-2.3 are provided and agreed by all concerned.

Working in Partnership with WDC

- 2.5 With reference to the comment at para. 3.1.5 (Mins of 22/4/13) regarding the non-attendance of WDC Officers at meetings and their lack of response to queries raised by e-mails Jackie W reported that she had written to Robert Hoof, WDC Contract Services Manager, on 1st May as set out below:

It would be helpful to the Committee in discussing projects and sponsorship if an officer from WDC could attend the next meeting to advise and discuss what further

projects the Committee could become involved with and how current projects are progressing. Also, how the Committee, the Town Council, WDC and Contractors can work effectively together to maintain our current 'Gold' status and more importantly to move forward to the benefit of local residents and visitors alike. I look forward to hearing from you and seeing 'someone' at the next meeting'.

She had received the following response from Robert Hoof:

'I was concerned to read in the minutes that WDC officers are not attending meetings or responding to emails. I have spoken to Jonathan Huxley who has assured me that he will make himself available for future meetings, or arrange for someone else to attend in his place'.

- 2.6 **Members noted that there was no representative from WDC at this meeting and that no communication had been received either in apology or in response to the specific items detailed above.**
- 2.7 Members expressed concern that there appeared to be a lack of partnership working with WDC which, the Committee felt, was impacting on the development and the scope of the Leamington in Bloom annual campaigns. The inability to get together with WDC officers and their Contractor and discuss ideas for new and continuing projects was creating a barrier to making a bigger impact on the local Community and the Town in general.

2013 In Bloom Campaign

- 2.8 Jackie W reported that she had written, on behalf of the Committee, as requested, to Morrisons to see if they would be interested in getting involved with Leamington in Bloom. No response has been received. Jackie P offered to go and talk to the Manager directly to see if she could generate any interest.

H of E Competition Entry

- 2.9 The Town Council's Cultural and Community Committee considered a report on 29th April on the implications for funding and resource of competing in future H of E In Bloom Competitions.
- 2.10 The Committee noted that due to the increase in the size of the electoral population, Leamington would probably be ineligible to continue to participate in the Large Town category of the Heart of England in Bloom competition in 2014. This would mean that it would be competing in future against towns such as Shrewsbury, Tamworth and Rugby. It was therefore appropriate to consider the present arrangements for supporting Leamington in Bloom and the financial resources allocated to the Leamington in Bloom Committee and disbursed to Warwick District Council.

It was suggested that one option might be to concentrate solely on local activities in 2014 in order to prepare for a revised competition entry in the larger category in 2015. The Committee concurred that it was prudent to review progress but wished to do so after receiving a presentation from the Chairman of the Leamington in Bloom Committee who would be encouraged to attend a future meeting.

- 2.11 A copy of the report and decision was circulated to Members. Cllr. Simon Lytton , who is a Member of the Cultural & Community Committee confirmed that the work and success of the In Bloom Committee was fully supported by the Town Council.

However there was concern expressed regarding the impact of a move up to the 'small city class' and also how the funding is currently utilised, particularly with regard to the subsidy to WDC.

- 2.12 Following a discussion as to how the Committee could move forward, it was decided that it would be appropriate to discuss this at a later date.
- 2.13 The Town Clerk, Robert Nash, has written to Enid inviting her to attend a future meeting. It was considered that, in view of the current involvement with the 2013 campaign, a report back to the Town Council's Cultural and Community Committee in October would be appropriate. The decision would then be known on how successful the 2013 campaign had been. Jackie W will advise the Town Clerk.

3. LEAMINGTON IN BLOOM 2013

Domestic Garden Competition

- 3.1 Jackie W reported that she had sent copies out to previous years' entrants with a note to explain the change in the rules regarding entry into the competition.
- 3.2 Enid reported that she had received a phone call from a previous year's entrant regarding the decision not to include a special class for an individual 'hanging basket'. This was noted but the Committee stood by its decision.

Commercial Competition

- 3.3 Jackie W said that she is still waiting for information from H of E in Bloom for their 'pubs and clubs' competition. In the meantime she has produced a competition entry form which she proposed to send with a covering letter to the Leamington Bid manager Stephanie Kerr, Town Centre Manager David Butler and both the Leamington Chamber of Trade and the Old Town Traders Association to see if they would be interested in supporting this competition and informing their Members accordingly. The entry form would be available on the Town Council's web site.

Open Gardens

- 3.4 Enid has contacted those who opened their gardens last year to see if they would be willing to open them again this year on August 4th. Currently nine householders are willing to open their gardens this year.

Projects

- 3.5 Jackie W said that the project at **Garway Close/Belmont Drive** (suggested by Peter Bailey) was being investigated by Jon Huxley (**still awaiting a response**).

Christchurch Gardens/Beauchamp Square – WDC are to start refurbishment work on the paths.

Rugby Road Shopping Precinct – WDC are considering planting the bed, which has been cleared except for two trees, with lavender. This is an opportunity for the Committee to sponsor a sustainable planting scheme. **To be discussed with Jon Holmes WDC**

The Toilets – Hamilton Terrace – Edible Planting Project is underway and Derrick Knight (Sparks & Leamington Transition Town) has planted various fruit bushes and plants around the toilets for the public to taste when ready. Customers of Bromford Housing Trust are participating in this project and Jackie W helped them to plant

seeds from a mix of Herbs which will eventually be planted out in the 'Convenience' Garden. Leamington in Bloom has supplied the pots and compost to get them started.

Crown Way Central reservation – WDC propose to re-grass it but this is not sustainable and soon looks tatty. Awaiting more info – not yet received. Suggested tidy up of roundabout at junction with Valley Road – trimming and shaping the pyracantha particularly around the rocks.

Bee friendly Garden – outside the Glass House in Jephson Gardens. Jon Holmes is running workshops in conjunction with the Garden. This is the type of project that Leamington in Bloom could have funded if asked.

Awards Evening

- 3.6. This has been set for 27th September currently at the Town Hall but other venues may be considered depending on cost. This will be discussed in more detail at a later meeting.

4. HEART OF ENGLAND IN BLOOM

Judging day

- 4.1 Enid distributed a copy of the revised proposed route for comments (copy attached). She and Gordon had driven round the route which had taken just over an hour leaving 1^{1/2} hrs to show the judges several stops in more detail.
- 4.2 The proposed route was agreed.
- 4.3 At the last meeting it was agreed that providing they could accommodate us, the judging would start and finish at Newbold Comyn Arms. Enid provided details of what they could provide for food (cost £9.50p per head) and confirmed that they would be prepared to open at 9.00am for coffee/tea and biscuits at a cost of £1.50p per head. The likely numbers for early morning tea/coffee would be a max of 15 including the Mayor who would meet and greet the judges, and for lunch around 25. The Chairman, together with the Mayor and officers of WDC will also be invited.
- 4.4 As in previous years the Mayor's Car and Chauffeur will take the judges around the route.

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Dragon Field

- 5.1 Jim reported that an 'open day' will be held on 19 May. Julia Bradley, the organiser of Friends of Dragon Field will be setting up a number of activities for visitors to participate in.

Foundry Wood

- 5.2 The organisers are holding a Community Woodland Fair on Saturday 22 June from 11.00am until 5.00pm. All are welcome.

Dates of next meeting

- 5.3 The next meeting will be held on **10 June 2013 at 6.15pm** at the Town Hall.