



Elsenham Parish Council
Minutes of Flowerbeds Committee Meeting
held on Monday 11 July 2022 at 3.45pm
in the Memorial Hall

Present: Mrs. M Jackson (Chair MJ), Mrs. B Donald (BD), Mr. A Hathaway (AH), Dr. Graham Mott (GM), Mrs. S Waite (SW)

In the absence of the Parish Clerk the minutes were taken by GM

1. Apologies for absence: None.

2. Declarations of Interest: None.

3. Open to the public
None present

4. Approval of Minutes from 13 June 2022

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 June 2022 were agreed by the committee as a true record and signed by MJ.

5. Matters arising
Notice Board

Some of the ivy has been cleared, and MJ will give instructions for the clearance of the remainder.

GM reported that the Parish Clerk had been stung when a yellow bug dropped from the ivy onto her hand.

6. Parish Council meeting, 4 July 2022

It was noted that two queries had been raised at the meeting of the Parish Council.

The cost of the geraniums given their small size

The geraniums in the memorial gardens are indeed smaller than before. However, they will grow (it's what flowers do). Also, some do not survive. The benefit of sourcing by the contractors is that they replace free of charge. In addition, they charged less than in previous years, because the geraniums were small.

The left-hand side of the back of the Memorial Gardens

The border here brings in the bees. The greenery was cut back that day. Bulbs have not been seen in this bed for many years.

7. Budget

The Flowerbed budget is currently at £1,718.40, the only item that has been debited was for the geraniums and manure £181.60.

8. Summer Planting 2022

The contractors did a great job.

Thanks go to village volunteers Gloria Easton and Lynda Jolly.

9. Maintenance

The timber is starting to deteriorate in various flowerbeds, the worst being Robin Hood Road. AH offered to obtain prices for replacing with recycled plastic

The roses in the diamond beds need to be replaced. They have been there at least ten years. The soil would need to be treated, since new roses cannot be planted where old roses were previously established. The approximate cost would be £15 X 4 X 3 = c. £200. The old ones should be recycled, possibly to the top of the playing field - some are already dead. The contractors would move them. Either they or MJ would source the new ones. They should be red and white, with Platinum Jubilee as a possibility.

The end of the hose has been replaced, and has been left alone by children until now.

The right-hand side of the memorial garden is coming along nicely as wilder than the rest.

The bee house is to face south - but it is double-drilled, so will also face north. No doubt the bees will make their own arrangements.

The bug boxes have been installed - thanks to AH.

10. Five-Year Plan

MJ shared various ideas, as below;

Within existing budget

Roses in the diamond beds need replacing (see above)

Yew tree hedging needs continual maintenance – the contractors take cuttings and bring on new plants so there is no cost in this.

Develop the wildlife area (on the right)

Nurture the bed on the left

Funding required

Hanging baskets for the Pump

Suitable watering implement for above

Hanging baskets sited Memorial Garden metal fence/ Ambrose Corner

Replacing/repairing flowerbeds

Ongoing maintenance of above

Flowerbed planting

Completely new style of planting – Pros and cons

Projects

Sponsorship of beds both existing and new

Developers to be asked to contribute (possible S106 item)

Re-siting of Village Signs – direct approach for replacement planters

11. Any Other Business

It was noted that the Terms of Reference for the Committee refer to the Memorial Garden and the flowerbeds in the village. If the Committee is to take on other responsibilities, a proposal will need to be put to the Parish Council.

The possibility of water meters adjacent to flower beds should be considered.

12. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 22 August, 3:45 pm. Memorial Hall

The meeting finished at 5.05pm