

**Minutes of the meeting of South Molton In Bloom at
The Garden Room, Amory Centre at 11am on 11th October 2021.**

PRESENT

Kirstie Halls
Margaret Chester
Julie Vaughan
Darrelyn Gunzburg
Helen Waller
Jane Lucas (Secretary)
Sue Harrison (Coordinator)
Dawn Wellstood
Anne Beagley
Mary McMonnies (Treasurer)
Elaine Symons
Bridget Simmons
Will Lock
Andy Brookes
Gail McLeod

APOLOGIES

From everyone else.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE 7TH SEPTEMBER

Minutes circulated after the last meeting, unanimous approval.

MEMBERS LIST

Ann Dockerty has left. Ann was thanked for her knowledge and contribution to the group.
Kirstie has rejoined.

MATTERS ARISING

Refused lottery grant

Margaret and Sue S have chased reply from councillors and Andrew re gutters etc

Not done suggested leaflet by Gail yet as was awaiting result of In Bloom. Design of leaflet to have the gold award mentioned on it and also the new logo.

South Molton Floral Art Group to be on the stall in the Market on the 16th of December.

Agreed extra land at the livestock market by the sheep pens, rented by Stags, also top of Sheep Pen car park behind library gardens. Land off South Street opposite Market Vets being chased by David Worden as responsibility does not lie with South Molton. Permission refused for land around the tree at the bottom of Sheep Pen car park, because of Health & Safety concerns. **ACTION** : To investigate Health and safety training (Chapter 8) with Andrew and David and also high vis vests **SH**

Town Clerk has agreed to hire a rotavator for new land & Steve to do rotovating for us
ACTION: SH.

SH & KH & BS to meet with Mike Jones this Wednesday at Liverot Walk to discuss the placing of water butt, land, wild flowers and other issues

Fire Brigade agreed to fill water butts for us.

Thanks go to Keith & Julie Vaughan for installing water butts. To also discuss with Andrew the possibility of installing water butt from Elaine's order at the back of the Swimming pool.

ACTION: SH

SH unable to find who owns the sentry box in Library Gdns **ACTION:** To ask Glenys and Andrew **SH**

YFC & Vintage Clubs have been contacted for old artefacts but no response up to now. No response from posters around the town either.

Charity status of the group a possibility. A discussion followed, could be advantage for grant applications etc.but accountants may be needed. To investigate possibilities of accountants doing our books as a donation to the group. ? Non-incorporated group ?? To also ask Kingskerswell group as they are a charity **ACTION: JL, ES & SH**

Men's Shed are to be given cakes & food for next few weeks by Sue & Elaine to thank them . Sponsors tea for new and old to be held in Spring with warmer weather.

Gardens Competition: Julie & Gail looking at mid July for the judging.

Councillor Matt Bushell to go ahead with plans for planting an arboretum as part of the Queen's Platinum Celebration next year in the Gateway Estate off Station Road. Our group will help towards the end, so it will be part of our project fro next year.

The Woodland Trust is giving away trees to Community groups. Dawn is to see if we can egt some. **ACTION: DW**

What about New Build areas for trees? To discuss with Andrew. **ACTION: SH**

Rotary Club offering purple crocuses for groups to plant. To ask Andrew about other green areas for bulbs. **ACTION: ES and SH**

Gift for Lady Arran, Cupcake Bouquet **ACTION: SH**

Weeding on the Enhancement/ East Street / New Rd on Friday 15th October at 10am

ACTION: ALL AVAILABLE HELP PLEASE!

Bulb Planting also planned for 1 & 2nd of November everywhere **ACTION: ALL AVAILABLE HELP PLEASE!**

Xmas dinner all reserved and booked for 15th December.

COORDINATOR'S REPORT.

New format for meetings outlined i.e. no AOB, to agenda items a week before the meetings so they are included, to try and stick to one and a half hours for all meetings, to allow people to present and then ask questions.

The Ayres Cup – polished up as best as possible and framed certificates and the South West in Bloom 'Gold' flag were on show for the Group to see. SH congratulated everyone on their hard work and emphasised how working as a team helped. 2022 will be a challenge as we are now in The Champions of Champions Group !! The next meeting in November will be for the group to bring ideas together for the next year. The points given by the judge to be circulated amongst the group with the minutes. Sue went over some of the points to be considered and has starred them in the comments. Mentioned that recycling and upcycling needs to be a bigger focus .. KH suggested we make wire containers for rubbish eg fish .. so maybe sheep. To be discussed at next meeting.

Extension of Raleigh Park bed to be discussed with MJ next week.

The Sponsor signs to be varnished and enhanced next Spring.

ACTION: SH & KH

Schools and business awards to be investigated and encouraged for 2022.
In Your Neighbourhood Award of 'Outstanding' given to the Community Gardens.

A PowerPoint presentation before the judging next year.

Website to be upgraded for 2022 **ACTION SH, ES & AB**

Tiaras & willies to be the theme for 2022. Colour scheme of white, platinum and purple. Judge advised against red, white and blue. Discussion ensued re us wearing wellies and tiaras next judging day !

3 tier, self watering planters hopefully to be bought by the Town Council for the Enhancement to replace the three tiered planters. Cost of £737 plus carriage of £51 and VAT Also signage as winners of Gold award for South Molton being looked at by the Town Council, following discussion with Andrew. **ACTION: AC**

Quiz to raise funds in the Molton News and in the Community News, closing date 30th of November. Also leaflet dropped Elan Estate. Posters around town. ? to leaflet drop more estates if successful.

SH also showed group Glenys' gardening article in South Molton News

Discussion about banner for Day Lewis frontage and also in The Pannier Market Also to think about vests with SMIB on **ACTION:SH to contact sign shops, Paul H and Maritime Motifs**

TREASURER'S REPORT

As per attached.

SH pointed out that Mary had watered all summer out of her own money and is metered. Water butt at the medical centre only installed at the end of the summer. Mary has agreed if she leaves the group, she will either return the butt or pay for it.

RESPONSIBILITIES FOR AREAS

Helen – Gateway estate

Julie – Central Park

Gail - Lorry Wash and Pannier Market Beds

Kirsty and Bridget– Liverot Walk

Enhancement, North Rd, East Street & New Road – Jane, Mary & Sue.

Courtyard Garden- Margaret

Church Walk- Dawn

Squires Court- Christine and all of us !

SMIB LOGO

Helen showed the group the logos that were selected from the last meeting with small additions and an extra one as suggested by DG.

Everyone had an opportunity to see and then voted.

The winning vote was announced and Helen will distribute ...***however since the meeting Margaret has raised a concern which probably needs attention and comments from all. Her email has been distributed and comments from all are asked for. I am sure though Helen, with her expertise, can sort something out.***

Thanks went to Helen for her work on the Logo and SH stressed how lucky we are to have her on the group.

WOMBLES

Will Lock suggested 'Town Clean Up Days' starting on the 2nd Saturday of each month beginning on the 13th of November

The 3 schools to be contacted and students encouraged to help.

Will is also making investigations as to using any pictures of The Wombles.

Litter picking equipment to be transferred to Will's house from SH and AB to pick some litter picking gear up from Sue

ACTION:WL

Elaine asked if extra bins had been placed in the park and discussion followed about whether it would be good if they were positioned at the entrance and exit? **ACTION: SH to ask AC**

FUND RAISING

MARKET STALLS now on Nov 11th and Dec 16th

Darrellyn suggested bric a brac for the November Stall in the market and a Tombola.

Requests for bric a brac & bottles went round the room. ***Anyone not at the meeting, please can they look out for bric a brac and bottles for prizes and contact DG GM or SH asap***

Workshop: Rag Wreath making at Gail's home next Monday at 10am. 33, Ash Drive. Bring needles, & sharp scissors.

Waxed cloths making soon...

Calendar – photos and recipes discussed. Helen to meet with Gail and Darrelyn to discuss. Anne and Kirstie offered printing and laminating services.

Remembering Animal Friends photos to be hung in the Pannier Mkt for 12 months at a cost of £5 each. To advertise in all magazines.

A form of advent calendar discussed and then adjusted to a map to find treasure amongst the beds.

Sue Sewell to be asked about the choir singing flower songs at the December stall **ACTION:**
SH

SH thanked GM and DG for a fantastic start to the fundraising.

NEXT MEETINGS

MONDAY NOV 8th 11AM

MONDAY DEC 6th 11AM

MONDAY JAN 10th 11AM

MONDAY FEB 14th 11AM AGM