

## Minutes Hopton in Bloom Wednesday January 20th 2016 at St John's Church

2. Minutes of last meeting Wednesday November 18th 2015 proposer Alison, seconded Sandra.

3. Matters arising.

4. Financial Report Alison presented her MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Gail thought the polyanthus were not as good as previous years. The ones at Hopton Drive and Avenue were disappointing. Red ones did not come and had to be sourced elsewhere. It was decided that we would recycle them and use them again for next winter. Kath thanked Alison for her report

5. Report Calendar 2016.

We sold 40 calendars at the Co-op mostly in the first couple of hours so perhaps next year we should just do Saturday morning or maybe a Friday instead.

Alison has produced a breakdown of income and expenditure for the calendars. Chris has written to Chris Smith Manager at the Co-op to thank him for allowing us to sell our calendars there and has enclosed a calendar.

Haigh's 20 calendars have been found and they have not sold any as they are so busy. We are to approach Haigh's to see if we could go there ourselves to sell them next year.

Kath has 39 left and all the sponsor money has been paid in

We are to consider expanding our remit to include Mirfield and to print less (300) as it was felt more people were using electronic diaries.

Next year John F will take up the design so that it will be cheaper if we only need them printing. We need a small group to take this forward.

Jeremy suggested that we print Christmas cards and while it is a good idea but there is not much profit in it

Another idea is to sell hessian bags or form a Friends of Hopton in Bloom

6. Date for Garden Trail 2016 is July 9<sup>th</sup> Format for next year.

Alison says we need new gardens to be on the trail e.g. Shirley, Kath and Dennis

And we also need more help on the day with a rota for refreshments. We need a garden trail committee to help Alison. 2 marquees are available for use at the garden trail

Church will be open and decorated as for a wedding

The charge per programme will be £4 as last year.

7. Planting for summer 2016.

Sue has made a list of suitable plants. We could still go with geranium or use others such as

Cosmos which are easy to grow, and they flower all summer and are good for bees. We could all grow some from seed ourselves.

Or Helenium as this flowers all summer,

Purple perpetual wallflowers would look nice with the Cosmos and Verbena

Hardy Fuchsias can be inexpensive and are another option

We all decided pink and white cosmos and verbena would be a great choice

Sue is to buy the seeds - some dwarf and ordinary.

We are still to use geraniums for the tubs.

8. New wooden custom made planters for Croft House. Ongoing project

9. Achievements Tablet in slate or wood (John is considering making an oak one).

It is a great idea but where would we site it.

10. Telephone box. Sandra and Anita have made a wonderful job of the decoration with birds and hens and Horticulture have loaned a bird table. Next Wednesday it will be freshened up and John will put a light in it

John says that the K6 Box will need work on it in summer and money spending on it. He will need three fine days. John is to buy the parts.

11. Round the Team. Sharing information and queries. Website and Face book is active and working well.

Dog fouling is getting worse all around the village and on North gate in particular Roger has bought three new signs

Sue informed us that Tricia and James are moving to Barkisland and it thought it appropriate to buy a gift of a personalised little trowel and fork with thanks from Hopton in Bloom

12. Preschool Planned Activities These will be set up next week. Any ideas of subjects for the children to work with us will be welcome. Margaret has the pots of bulbs the children planted in October and these can now be planted out around the village.

13. Entrance to Recreation Ground and proposed arch & gateway – Whilst Kirklees will not sanction the additional archway, they will support a wrought iron gateway set back approximately one metre from the road (Jackroyd Lane) They may also grant us some funding. Our proposal will be to install a metal fence and gate using the same manufacturer and design as that used for the disabled car park in front of Croft House. Note that the design which incorporates a Yorkshire Rose has also been used at Upper Hopton Cricket Club. Funding may be available.

Children's Playground

Rose Garden benches –the four benches need urgent repair and we propose to utilise the services of the "Payback Team".

Heritage funding for Rose Garden development – Following our discussions and the possible availability of Heritage funding, Hopton-in-Bloom will develop a landscaping scheme for the Rose Garden area. The scheme will incorporate wider perennial flower beds and be submitted to Kirklees for advice regarding possible Heritage funding.

Funding for Heritage Exhibition July 2016 – Upper Hopton Community Association will supply outlines of the intended Heritage Exhibition and supply to Kirklees for advice.

Insurance – We will supply details of our liability insurance at a later date.

14. Community Payback Team to help with seats and recreation ground

15. Report on Christmas Fuddle at the Club. We all enjoyed it and we will do it again next year.

16. AOB we could do with some forest bark and steel edging for the paths to car park

**Date of next meeting will be Wednesday February 17th at 11.15 in St John's**