

## Notes of Environment Working Party meeting on 11 April 2016

**Present:** Chair: Frank Coulsey, Keith Vickers, Anne Clark, Jean Mason, David Witter, Wendy Witter, Neil Jacques, Andrew Robinson, Carol Thornton, John Oxley.

**Apologies:** Janet Oxley, Martin d'Alessandro, John French.

- 1) Public seating in King Street has been approved by NLC who have agreed to supply and fit. Wayne Hill to be chased up by Neil Jacques.
- 2) Need further suggestions for reliable contractors. BTC-owned seat on Humber Bank is in a dangerous insecure condition.
- 3) Aid to Parishes grant application was turned down because the Town Council has too much in reserves. The Humber Bank seats to be considered by the next BTC Finance meeting to see if they can be bought from reserves. Two possible sponsors have come forward. This is a unique opportunity to sponsor a seat in such a popular place – Ann Clark proposed Hutesons be notified in case anyone wants a memorial seat.
- 4) Civic Society signage survey and “Grot Spots” – no response received from NLC yet.
- 5) Clean for the Queen was very successful. Letter of thanks proposed to all organisations who helped. Serious litter problem reported on the approach to the Humber Bridge.
  - a. John Oxley reported that NLC are supplying the Beacon for the Queen’s birthday and an advert will be in the Scunthorpe Telegraph this Thursday. Old wood for the beacon would be gratefully received: contact John Oxley.
- 6) Dog Fouling: NLC are prepared to stick leaflets on bins. Laminated posters are also available. Both the Cemetery and the Park are reported to have a problem with owners letting their dogs run loose. Anyone seeing a dog being allowed to foul a public place should report it with as much evidence as possible to NLC.
- 7) Planters/baskets: Agreed to recommend acceptance of the quote. The planter for the corner of Far Ings Road and Humber Road is to be chased up. There is a chickweed problem in planters at present as many plants died over winter. Andrew Robinson to replant.
  - a. The Pagoda is really unsafe as young people have been swinging on it and the aluminium wasn’t strong enough. NLC are trying to find someone with the appropriate skills to repair it.
- 8) Community Planting: Only a one-year contract on offer. Agreed to recommend acceptance.
  - a. Keith Vickers reported that the old, out of date and damaged ‘Barton’ signs are to be removed.
- 9) Best Kept Garden and Hanging Basket competition: Frank Coulsey to finalise arrangements.
- 10) Bulb Planting: £300 was made available by BTC. Prices are not yet available as bulbs are not on sale. A price will be forthcoming later in the season. Many sites around town looked superb this year thanks to the bulbs; further sites proposed for future planting.
- 11) Assets of Community Value: F&GP to discuss at April meeting.

- 12) Weeds in cracks of Humber Bank – seems to be Environment Agency responsibility, and the trees, brambles, etc have been reported to them.
  - a. The crash barrier under the Humber Bridge which was damaged is the responsibility of the Humber Bridge Board.
- 13) Any other business: David Witter pointed out that the town has grown exponentially over the past 40 years, and Baysgarth Park is no longer big enough for all those who want to exercise their dogs to do so safely. It is also used by children, so problems are waiting to happen. Another solution is needed.
- 14) The proposal for the Civic Society to install two benches from The Beck into the top end of Baysgarth Park was thought to be a Good Idea, and I think the Civic Society are happy to take that forward.
- 15) The Gumdrop Bin has an opening offer of a free trial, so the committee thought it would be useful to arrange that and see how it goes.
- 16) Date of next meeting: left pending decision on committee status.