

# KINGSBRIDGE IN BLOOM

## Minutes of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held on Wednesday 1 November 2017 at Age Concern at 7.00pm

**Present:** Graham Price (**GP**), Lis Smith (**LS**), Gill Matthews (**GM**), Anne Balkwill (**ABL**), Jan Alen (**JA**), Myra Harvey, Adrienne Benton (**AB**), Angela Taylor (**AT**), Grenville Taylor, Marie Price, Robin Griffin (**RG**), Brian Hill (**BH**), John Speed (**JS**)

**1. Apologies:** Dave & Aileen Dain, Jackie Case, Alan Purchase, Charles & Pauline Rollason

### **2. Previous Minutes:**

**Proposal to accept Minutes of 2016 AGM**

**Proposed by: Gill Matthews                      Seconded by: Robin Griffin**

Agreed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

**3. Adoption of amended Constitution** – The Chairman explained the reasoning behind the proposed changes to the current Constitution.

**Proposal to accept the amended Constitution**

**Proposed by: Robin Griffin                      Seconded by: Adrienne Benton**

All were in agreement and the document was signed by the Chairman and the Secretary.

### **4. Chairman's Report**

I am delighted to report another very successful year from the Bloom team in this our very special tenth year since the group was formed. Since we started, year on year we seem to produce better displays throughout the town and 2017 was no exception. We were well rewarded with another RHS gold and category winner with the SWTA trophy, also the discretionary award for the best SWIB website. Our IYN's received eight outstanding level 5, four level 4's and one level 2 result which is our best ever achievement and puts us in a great position for the future. I was also delighted that our determination this year to extend the RHS SWIB Children's painting competition worked well in that more schools participated and pupils from both Loddiswell and Kingsbridge Primary schools were successful. These achievements require a great deal of planning and dedication from everyone involved together with great support from our sponsors, the Town Council and our community here in Kingsbridge. Many congratulations to everyone.

Once again our campaign has not been easy and the effort that was put into maintaining the funding stream that we need to maintain and improve high quality displays seems to get more challenging, however I am confident that we can continue providing adequate funding for the foreseeable future. That said, I feel that we must control our finances in a more robust and structured way in order to achieve our aims.

Our plant choice and extra display features around the town this year has been very well received and is a credit to the whole team. It really does lift the spirit and promotes the feeling of wellbeing and pride in our lovely town as well as keeping it thriving.

Earlier in my report I mentioned that it has not been an easy year for us and there has been the lack of good communication between SHDC and ourselves, for the most part brought about by the change of working patterns and restructuring of their Ground Maintenance Team. In many cases this has led to confusion as to what the Council are prepared to do in terms of maintenance and planting and has not only proved to be frustrating and costly but it also means that programme managing an ever increasing workload for KIB is very difficult. A meeting between Kingsbridge Town Council, SHDC and DCC has now been setup for 14<sup>th</sup> November 2017 to address these issues which will be vital for our effective campaigns in Kingsbridge for the future.

I am very keen to see that as we move towards our 2018 campaign planning we really must involve the whole team in our display themes and planting ideas so that everyone in KIB can feel engaged in our decision making at all levels and the group does not become fragmented.

Finally, I would like to thank the current committee for their enthusiasm, support and hard work which has put us on a firm footing for our future and wish the new committee every success.

**5. Treasurer's Report – See attached**

**Proposal to accept Financial Statement and Accounts**

**Proposed by: Adrienne Benton      Seconded by: Robin Griffin**

Agreed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

**6. Proposal to accept the audited accounts:**

Proposed by: Grenville Taylor      Seconded by: Adrienne Benton

Graham Price thanked Alan Purchase and Tom Phillips for their contribution.

**7. Appointment of Auditor:**

Proposal to appoint Tom Phillips for 2017/18

Proposed by: Robin Griffin      Seconded by: Lis Smith

**8. Appointment of Committee members for 2017/18**

Richard Benton chaired this part of the meeting and highlighted the standards that KIB operates to and re-iterated that a huge amount of work goes on behind the scenes to maintain high standards and ensure good communication with sponsors and donors. RB then asked for a vote of thanks to the outgoing committee.

RB then advised that the roles of Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer would be voted on at the AGM but appointment to other roles would be discussed and agreed at the first meeting of the new Committee.

Nominations for the 2017/18 committee:

**Honorary Officers:**

Graham Price - Chairman

Lis Smith - Secretary

Alan Purchase – Treasurer

**Others from existing committee willing to stand for re-election:**

Jan Alen

Adrienne Benton

Robin Griffin

Anne Balkwill

Gill Matthews

**New nominations:**

Mary Rossiter

John Kinch

Philip Cole

All nominated people were elected unanimously.

**9. Date of first meeting of new committee:** Agreed as 8 November 2017 at 6.30 p.m.

**10. AOB**

RG confirmed that KTC had no knowledge of who had cut down the tree on Higher Union Road but were investigating the matter.

Mr J Gobbett, member of the public in attendance, offered his congratulations to KIB on their achievements. Mrs M Gobbett asked if KIB had plans to involve younger members of the community with our activities. GP confirmed that KIB is open to everyone within the community and we are always actively trying to recruit new members.

*Meeting finished at 7.40 p.m.*