

KINGSBRIDGE IN BLOOM

Minutes of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held on Wednesday 9 November 2016 at The Council Chamber, Quay House 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, Mary Rossiter, Chris Barnwell, Denise Bates, Jan Thomas-Gourd, Alan Purchase

2. Previous Minutes:

Proposal to accept Minutes of 2015 AGM

Proposed by: Adrienne Benton Seconded by: Robin Griffin

Agreed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

3. Chairman's Report

I will keep my report relatively short and in the time given to me I cannot possibly mention every one of the team and our many supporters who do an amazing job and give us the drive to continue with our work. 2016 has been another successful and rewarding year for the group and I must thank our hard working and dedicated team for their efforts to keep Kingsbridge thriving and attractive.

Although we have had a great year, it has not been easy having to deal with many set-backs and a fair amount of bureaucracy. Thanks must go out to our many supporters and sponsors as well as the 'It's your Neighbourhood' (IYN) Groups who have played a major role in supporting their localities and our main RHS entry.

On behalf of the group, I must also thank the Kingsbridge Town Council for their continued support and enthusiasm to help keep Kingsbridge in Bloom viable and I know that every member of the Council really appreciates the attractiveness that we bring to Kingsbridge and that feel good factor into our community.

It is fair to judge our success by the very many expressions of support and appreciation whilst we are out working which really helps drive us on and brings much satisfaction for our efforts. This year we were entered into the South West in Bloom Champions of Champions competition, which is for the very best towns and cities in our region and we were very proud to have won Gold with all of our IYN's winning top accolades for their work. We also won the trophy for the best community effort which is just reward for the group.

This year our displays were stunning with wonderful colour combinations and attractive well planted beds which was well received by our community and our many visitors. Our top judge this year, on his first ever visit to Kingsbridge was very complementary on our presentation and displays and was most impressed by our thriving town. We have noted his comments and have many suggestions for moving forward next year with confidence.

We have a growing team of helpers and a fantastic committee who work so hard and I am confident that we can continue the momentum and support one another in moving forward for the future. Thank you all once again

4. Treasurer's Report – See attached

Grenville Taylor stated that the 100 Club as noted in the Accounts should be known as the 'Monthly Draw'. This needs to be amended. Anne Balkwill proposed that KIB needs a buffer of £1,000.

5. 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.

6. Appointment of Auditor:

Proposal to appoint Tom Phillips for 2016/17

Proposed by: Robin Griffin Seconded by: Lis Smith

7. Appointment of Committee members for 2016/17

Graham Price suggested that the roles of Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer should be agreed at the AGM but appointment to other roles should be discussed and agreed at the first meeting of the new Committee.

Lis Smith read out the nominations for the 2016/17 committee:

Graham Price
Lis Smith
Alan Purchase
Jan Alen
Adrienne Benton
Angela Taylor
Robin Griffin
Brian Hill
Anne Balkwill
Gill Matthews
Dave Dain

All nominated people were elected by majority vote. Honorary Roles were agreed as: Graham Price, Chairman, Alan Purchase, Treasurer, Lis Smith, Secretary.

8. Date of first meeting of new committee: Agreed as 17 November 2016 at 3.00 p.m.

9. AOB

Graham Price read out a letter from John Speed confirming his retirement from the Committee. Graham re-iterated his personal thanks to John for all his hard work supporting KIB.

Myra Harvey advised the meeting that Kingsbridge Information Centre has received many positive comments from visitors regarding our floral displays.

Anne Balkwill raised the issue of the cost of water provided via the Quay House water meter. The additional cost could be as much as £300. The Town Council is monitoring the issue. Brian Hill stated that he had seen people other than KIB members using the tap. Anne Balkwill stated that she would discuss this with Martin Johnson, Town Clerk.

Angela Taylor stated that she had spoken to Stokenham Gardeners Club who sent their congratulations to KIB.

Graham Price informed the meeting that South Hams District Council have suggested removing two of the trees on the Town Square. SHDC have also advised that they will no longer be picking up the grass when mowing as it costs £4,000 per year. Graham stated that he felt that SHDC do not fully recognise the contribution that KIB makes. Anne Balkwill stated that Kingsbridge Town Council will monitor the situation for the time being although a quote received from a private contractor to carry out the mowing was higher than the SHDC cost.

Meeting finished at 7.40 p.m.