

Cyngor Tref Treffynnon Holywell Town Council

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NOTE: The following meeting will be a hybrid meeting. Members of the public and press can attend in person. If members of the public or press wish to attend remotely, they should email the Clerk town.clerk@holywell.wales for further guidance.

1st November 2022

To: Development Committee

Mayor (ex-officio) and Councillors C. Argent, R. Dolphin, P.A. Johnson, M. Lewis-Jones, S. Rush, B. Scragg, M. Sprake, and D. Thomas.

Dear Councillors,

Notice is given that a hybrid meeting of the **DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE** will be held in the **Council Chamber, Bank Place Offices, Holywell** on **THURSDAY 10th NOVEMBER 2022 at 11.00am** to transact the business specified in the Agenda set out below.

Yours faithfully

Jason Baker
Town Clerk and Financial Officer

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members are reminded that they must declare the existence and nature of their declared personal interests.

3. GREENFIELD RAILWAY STATION

Members to review the latest updates and determine the reasons for the Council's preferred choice for station location.

4. ACTIVE TRAVEL

Members to receive an update from the Chair, following a briefing session with Flintshire County Council.

5. WALES IN BLOOM REPORT – 2022 CAMPAIGN

Members to review the attached Judge's report and consider any opportunities for improvement for next year's campaign.

6. ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY (RHS) GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

The RHS has launched two new grants - the RHS Connected Communities Grant and the RHS Sustainable Futures Grant - that are open exclusively to Britain in Bloom and It's Your Neighbourhood groups. Further details about each grant can be found below and full information via the relevant links. Applications opened Wednesday 12th October and close at **5.00pm Friday 18th November 2022.**

RHS Connected Communities Grant – £2,500

Gardening is a great way to reach out and build new connections in your community. Whether you are promoting new volunteer and skill-sharing opportunities, creating spaces to socialise in, or helping people discover their green-fingers, we want to support your Britain in Bloom or It's Your Neighbourhood group with a grant of £2,500. We are looking for projects which use any kind of growing or gardening to engage groups of people they haven't worked with before. In particular, we are interested in applications for work to adapt or create new projects with the needs of the new group in mind, and address any barriers they may face to getting involved (e.g., transport, cost or language). Projects should aim for long term engagement and impact, rather than one-off interactions. We would also like to see projects which offer an opportunity for learning and sharing knowledge. We will prioritise projects which are aiming to work with a group that is traditionally underrepresented in community gardening.

RHS Sustainable Futures Grant - £2,500

In a fast-changing world, community gardeners have to adapt to ensure their gardens, groups and work stays relevant and sustainable. Facing the impact of extreme weather, growing your volunteer base and support for gardening activities, or tackling the loss of essential skills – these challenges can all effect the level of work your group can achieve. We're offering grants of £2,500 to support registered Britain in Bloom and It's Your Neighbourhood groups (and RHS Campaign for School Gardening schools) who have a project which proposes a solution to a specific challenge, issue, threat or weakness

that will impact the group or school, their work or their local community. Projects should have potential for long-term positive impact and a way of sharing this, ideally in a way which can be used for learning with groups facing similar challenges. We welcome applications from projects which are trying something new or approaches that are tackling issues in an inventive way and that could be replicated by others.

7. ITEMS FROM COUNCILLOR P.A. JOHNSON

- 7.1. Review North Flintshire Transport Study. (previously circulated by the Clerk).
- 7.2. Wales Coastal Path/Flintshire Coastal Park.
- 7.3. Lluesty Woodland. Members to consider a phased maintenance programme, biodiversity and future plans.

8. ITEMS FROM COUNCILLOR D. THOMAS

- 8.1. Community Allotment
- 8.2. Community Book Exchange Units.

	Name of Entry Holywell									
	Name of Entry – Holywell Town Council									
	Judges Sue – Marie Roberts									
	Date of Assessment Wednesday 6th July 2022									
Standard Marking Sheet										
Category	Village / Large Village / Small Town / Town / Large Town / Small City / City / Small Coastal / Large Coastal (Indicate appropriate category)									
MAXIMUM OF 10 POINTS PER SUB SECTION										
A Horticulture 40%	A1	7	A2	7	A3	8	A4	7	Total Marks 29	
B Environment 30%	B1	8	B2	7	B3	9				24
C Community 30%	C1	8	C2	8	C3	7				23
Total Score out of 100		76 /100		Medal Awarded				SILVER GILT		
Gold, Excellent 85-100 Points Silver Gilt, Very Good 75-84 Points Silver, Good 60-74 Points Bronze, Satisfactory 50-59 Points										
Introduction and Overall Impression:										
It was a real pleasure to return to Holywell a town I attended school as a child before moving away. It was a trip down memory lane indeed as an educational visit of how the town has developed it streetscape over the years. I am pleased to award Holywell a SILVER GILT, but I would hastily add that this is a GOOD SILVER GILT – with only 9 more marks needed now to achieve a gold. Well done!										

Judges Feedback Section A – Horticulture:

The standard of the seasonal floral hanging baskets on the Council Office frontage was indeed very good. It was evident that the basic requirements for success – basket size and type; good compost; good plant choices; and good maintenance thereafter had been achieved. Well done!

Similarly I was impressed both by the number of hanging baskets and troughs in the town centre, and by their consistency in both size, plant quality, and floral impact.

The standard of maintenance in both the Memorial Garden and Fron Park was exceptional – The gardeners deserve praise. In some pretty extreme weather it was just a little disappointing that the bedding hadn't quite got to the flowering stage yet but all were in fine condition and cared to a very high standard.

The residents of Pantton Place are to be congratulated. The standard of their floral displays was indeed consistently good, and I was pleased to see the use of hanging baskets and planter sizes that were in scale with the street setting and every space possible had been utilised

The new community based seasonal floral displays at Greenfield Road, Pen y Maes Shops, and Strand Park were all very good, and I was pleased to hear that local residents and shop owners are volunteering to maintain them and is a scheme that will consistently grow with the community and enhance their street scene.

Judges Feedback Section B – Environment:

The new gateway signage certainly strengthens local identity and assist in marketing Holywell as a destination.

The Greenfield Valley Heritage Park Active Travel scheme clearly offers an opportunity for all to either walk or cycle whilst enjoying the natural environment and wildlife. It was good to see the ongoing development of this scheme.

The Heritage Park itself offers numerous opportunities for both residents and visitors to learn about the local heritage. It was very interesting to hear about the ongoing restoration of the wire mill and the plans for future events. It was great to see that the community voluntary groups are renovating some of the areas that became wild within lockdown, and an excellent standard to the medieval gardens at the park.

The wildflower roundabout scheme had produced a very good display. And it was great to see abundant and connective pollinator corridor planting within and around the down through its approach from Carmel and the Coast Road

The fish sculpture project is certainly a novel deal to promote recycling, and I look forward to seeing the development of this project.

The one area in this section where you did lose marks was the accumulation of roadside litter that was present at the Holywell High School meadow project and at the lake car park of Greenfield valley. Whilst accepting that much of this was probably either windblown or thrown from car windows, there was a considerable amount present near the lake consistent of a gathering as there were many beer cans and bottles as well as other litter in these areas. Would it be possible to arrange for a litter sweep prior to judging?

Judges Feedback Section C – Community:

I was impressed by the Jubilee celebrations and as a town you should be proud of the strong community support as should the council be proud of how you serve the community

The Basinwerk Community Garden has the potential to offer so much more if more volunteers can be found to help and support Roberta Owen. The garden contains both many interesting trees and shrubs, as well as a good range of fruit trees. The framework is certainly there to build on...

The contribution made towards Holywell in Bloom by the schools is recognised, and I look forward to them being able to contribute fully to your judging route in future years. And the use of their paintings to fill empty shop windows will only be beneficial to the town.

Similarly the use of both the website and social media by the Council is recognised.

		Gold 10-9	Silver Gilt 8	Silver 7-6	Bronze 5
A1	<u>Overall Impression</u> Are the overall design and materials used within the entry appropriate to the location and do they generate a positive image?	High impact with excellent attention to detail delivering the desired results in a most consistent and appropriate manner.	Most areas have high impact and very good attention to detail though a few are not compatible. The entry is generally very good.	Good overall effect although not always balanced. Some areas make an impact others need to be more vibrant and embrace better design.	Although satisfactory more attention to detail is required in order to create more impact and a more consistent design.
A2	<u>Maintenance of Planted Areas</u> Are areas maintained to an appropriate standard including cultivation, weeding, feeding, pruning, grass maintenance, tree management and maintenance?	Excellent standards of cultivation. Very consistent throughout. Horticultural maintenance and general care is outstanding in all areas.	Standards are very good with few exceptions. Horticultural maintenance is managed very well and the results are very consistent.	Standards of horticultural maintenance are good and fairly consistent. There are a few exceptions where further attention is required.	Standards of horticultural maintenance are generally satisfactory . However, the maintenance programme requires further attention to detail in some areas.

A1	<u>Plant Selection</u> Are the plants used in the planting schemes suited to their growing conditions and location and is there year round interest (where appropriate)?	Excellent plant selection with extensive year round interest, and almost no exceptions.	Plant selection is very good overall with only a few exceptions and ample year round interest.	Plant selection is generally good . There is room for improvement in some areas in order to extend year round interest.	Plant selection is satisfactory however it requires further consideration in order to extend the season and maintain interest.
A2	<u>Plant Quality</u> Are the plants vibrant and grown to their full potential? Are they free of all pests and diseases?	Plant quality is excellent and grown to full potential with no evidence of pests and diseases.	Plant quality is very good with few exceptions. There are minimal signs of pests and disease present.	Generally plant quality is good but not consistent. Pest and diseases are present in a few locations. Lack of vigour in some areas.	Plant health and vigour could be improved but are generally satisfactory . Pests and diseases are present in certain areas.
B1	<u>Local Identity</u> Is there a sense of place, with appropriate sense of heritage, art in the landscape, signage and interpretation?	Extensive evidence of efforts to highlight/enhance local identity. An excellent impression made about what makes the area unique.	Considerable evidence of efforts to highlight/enhance local identity. A very good impression made about what makes the area unique.	Some evidence of efforts to highlight/enhance local identity. A good impression made about what makes the area unique.	Little evidence of efforts to highlight/enhance local identity. A satisfactory impression made about what makes the area unique.
B2	<u>Natural Environment</u> Biodiversity including the protection and conservation of the natural environment and wildlife habitat. The provision of appropriate wildflower areas, aquatic and if applicable marine conservation sites, bat and bird boxes as well as insect hotels.	The natural environment is managed to an excellent standard supporting a wide range of flora and fauna, with little improvement required.	The natural environment is managed to a very good standard supporting a wide range of flora and fauna; very little effort would lift it to excellent.	The natural environment is managed to a good standard supporting a wide range of flora and fauna. Requires further work to improve it in places.	The natural environment is managed to a satisfactory standard supporting a wide range of flora and fauna. Needs significant improvement in places.
			Silver Gilt 8	Silver 7-6	Bronze 5

B3	Hard Surfaces and Open Grass Areas (Including streets, open spaces and beaches if appropriate). To include cleanliness, absence of litter, street weeds, graffiti, flyposting and chewing gum, water conservation and recycling initiatives, hard landscape, open spaces and street furniture maintenance and effective dog fouling control measures.	All areas are cleaned to an excellent standard. Street furniture including litter bins and seating is in excellent condition. There is effective control of street weeds, no graffiti and flyposting. Excellent evidence of recycling initiatives.	All areas are cleaned to a very good standard. Street furniture including litter bins and seating is in very good condition. There is very good control of street weeds, very little graffiti and flyposting. Very good evidence of recycling initiatives.	All areas are cleaned to a good standard. Street furniture including litter bins and seating is in good condition. There is generally good control of street weeds, but evidence of some graffiti and flyposting. Reasonable evidence of recycling initiatives.	All areas are cleaned to a satisfactory standard. Street furniture including litter bins and seating is in variable condition. There is a lack of control of street weeds, and evidence of considerable graffiti and flyposting. Little evidence of recycling initiatives.	

C1	Year Round Activity and On-Going Planning Evidence of forward planning and year round activity highlighting any events that makes this entry unique and demonstrates the present strengths of the entry.	Gold 10-9 Excellent evidence of all activity taking place throughout the year and of advanced planning. The annual programme of activity is exceptional.	Silver Gilt 8 Very good evidence of all activity taking place throughout the year and of advanced planning giving this entry a real strength.	Silver 7-6 Good evidence of all activity taking place throughout the year and of advanced planning.	Bronze 5 Satisfactory evidence of all activity taking place throughout the year and of advanced planning.	
C2	Communication and Awareness Within the immediate area through local and regional marketing, involving all sections	Communication extremely well covered. Community involvement and public awareness is excellent.	Communication very well covered. Very good community involvement leading to very good public awareness.	Communications good. Community involvement leading to public awareness of a good standard. A few missed opportunities.	Communications and public awareness is satisfactory. Community involvement is limited. Overall there is room for improvement	

	of the community. Communication and media involvement evidenced. Use of suitable interpretation, enabling learning and a greater understanding.					
C3	<u>Funding and Support</u> Fundraising and on-going support from a range of businesses and organisations appropriate to the size of the entry making it viable and able to continue moving forward.	Excellent level of funding of the entry into the future. Support in all areas is outstanding and a real strength to the entry.	Very good level of funding that ensures the viability of the entry. Support in all areas is very good and will be sustainable over time.	Good level of funding that ensures the viability of the entry and sustains present projects. Support in all areas is good and, with effort, will be sustainable over time.	Satisfactory level of funding that ensures the viability of the entry and sustains present projects. Support in all areas is satisfactory and fairly sustainable over time.	