

- Copies of the Gold Award Certificate should be printed for display on the Town Council noticeboards.

HG

ii. *Fundraising suggestions:*

- Local plant nurseries and businesses should continue to be contacted with requests for specific projects, rather than for St Ives in Bloom generally;
- Both gardening and fundraising connections should be developed with diverse communities for different areas of the cemeteries;
- After agreement is reached with the Town Council on the details of the Ramsey Road cemetery project, funeral directors should be approached for sponsorship at the cemetery.

b) *Social media and the website:*

There was some discussion about the presentation of the website and of the St Ives in Bloom facebook page.

c) *Berman Park:*

Robin introduced the topic of Berman Park, and our plans to work with HDC and other community groups on improvements to the area, following a meeting we had with HDC in May 2021. Hattie explained that she and Phil had also attended a discussion day in September 2022, where Berman Park was identified as a priority project. However, HDC has not yet fully taken over the management of the park, Margaret will investigate. (The day after the meeting, Margaret received confirmation from Judith Arnold that Berman Park "will be managed by HDC when it is handed over from the developer".)

MK

In the meantime various plans and ideas were suggested, including:

- the St Ives Eco-faith group have already pinpointed an area where they would like to construct a Peace Garden;
- both Robin and Hattie are interested in involving the schools, and have raised this possibility at both the meetings with HDC;
- involvement of the local residents group;
- creation of a "Friends of Berman Park" group;
- daffodil planting at the top of the slope;
- provision of better and more benches.

All volunteers were asked to go on a walk round Berman Park in the next couple of weeks and to email Hattie any ideas and suggestions for its management or improvement, for discussion at the next Committee meeting. The committee can then respond to the consultation process on behalf of St Ives in Bloom.

ALL

## Appendix A

### CHAIR'S REPORT 2022

Thank you all for attending tonight.

Firstly a very special thank you to all our volunteers and committee members.

This year the weather has definitely challenged us, we have worked in scorching sun and torrential rain with no complaints. Receiving GOLD In Anglia in Bloom was the pinnacle of our year. I would like to thank everyone involved for their help and mammoth effort in helping us to achieve this. The feedback from the judges and their comments should make us all proud to be involved with St Ives in Bloom.

It was a lovely day that we all worked hard for, the bonus was the sun shining on us.

Our jubilee year has been productive, everything we had set out for this year came together, even though the hot weather made it challenging at times.

This year we have worked with many groups: shop keepers, Eco group, Norris Museum, Holt Island, Sponsors and the Council.

I would like, on behalf of the committee, to say a huge thank you to those who took on extra responsibilities throughout the year:

*Robin Bletsoe* - for the Park & Ride, wildflower & daffodil planting, Free Church planters and Allotments;

*Linda, Ann, Kerry and Phil* – for Kings Hedges;

*Bunty* – for the Post box garden;

*Moo, Helen & Lol* – for fundraising and anything else we ask of them, from weeding to serving food;

*Karen, Kerry and Phil, and Robin Hall* – for the Ramsey Rd cemetery;

*Phil* – for IT help (web page & security);

*Barbara and John* – for the Trefoil Guild Cabin/Guide Hut flowers;

*Sue* - for the portfolio front cover;

And not forgetting our very special secretary *Hattie* for her responsibilities too many to list, by doing far more above and beyond to make St Ives In Bloom the success it is. Her excellent portfolio for Anglia in Bloom was interesting and informative just what the judges were looking for.

Deep breaths and we'll start planning our 2023 visit from the judges in the New Year!

This following year we are concentrating on more sustainable planting, maintaining and improving our existing areas:

- *Park & Ride* - We are hoping to work with Mick George and our other sponsors to finish the last central avenue beds, when we are finally allowed back into the area.

## Appendix B

### ANGLIA IN BLOOM JUDGES REPORT TO ENTRANTS

#### JUDGES REPORT

Entrant – St. Ives

Category – Large Town

Date – 14<sup>th</sup> July 2022

We arrived to a wonderful reception at the Norris Museum. Hattie and her lovely team were clearly very passionate and knowledgeable about what has been achieved throughout the town. The tour was well planned, and the judges were shown some great projects and features of St. Ives. The way the community pulls together to achieve and maintain these projects is a credit to the town.

#### Section A. Horticultural Achievement.

There is lots of colourful planting on display, with efforts made to have all year-round interest. All the displays were well maintained with healthy plants and a good mix of perennials and annuals. Many of the town businesses had floral displays, which made the areas very attractive.

##### \*Areas of Achievement:

- The Waits riverside display was a colourful display of planting, and a good mix of varieties there was also wonderful knitting (Yarn Bombing) display on all of the railings.
- The Post box garden looked wonderful with its colourful all year-round planting theme.
- The Chestnut Road community bed was another colourful and sustainable planting display.
- The Kings Hedges shopping area had some lovely planters and seating, the drought tolerant planted bicycle racks were especially ingenious.
- Bridge street had masses of colourful hanging baskets and planters lining the street.

##### \*Suggestions and Comments:

- Along the Judging route, the kerb lines were in need of being swept and tidied.
- There were a few weeds along the route needing attention.
- Street furniture needed cleaning and Graffiti needed removing.
- Attention to detail – Please remember we judge everything we see on our judging route, so attention to small details is vital for the very top marks.

Standard Achieved in Section A = Gold

#### Section B. Environmental Responsibility

A great deal of work has been done to improve the environmental surroundings of St Ives. There are lots of areas that have been improved to attract local flora and fauna. Holt Island is an amazing place to explore. Throughout the tour we were shown lots of projects that help the environment, from tree planting and wildflower swathes, to recycling bottles to make a green house for the children to grow produce in.

##### \*Areas of Achievement

- Holt Island is wildlife haven in the centre of ~~the town~~ <sup>St Ives</sup> for everybody to use. Whether you want to help the team, learn or just observe the Flora and Fauna, it caters for everybody.
- The wildflower swathes looked very impressive with a wide range of flowers looking very colourful and full of insects.
- Bird and bat boxes were used to great effect especially on the Holt Island, with sightings recorded and monitored with help from the B.T.O. (British Trust for Ornithology).
- Ramsey road cemetery is another great area to see wildlife. It is well maintained again by volunteers thinking about the environment.

- *Ramsey Rd Cemetery* - We are working with the Islamic community to design and plant a quiet contemplation area near the Islamic graves. We also plan to finish the planting at the main gates, and daffodil planting on the verge outside the gates.
- *Daffodil Planting* – This autumn will be at Oxford Road/Broad Leas, Ramsey Rd Cemetery and Warren Rd/Parkway.
- We are also hoping to work with Broad Leas Court in helping the residents maintain their garden.

We are now working closely with the council having regular meetings to voice our concerns and work together on future projects.

If anyone has any ideas for future projects, please speak to one of the committee members we are constantly open to new ideas.

Our 2022 committee members were:

*Carole Parker:* Chair  
*Hattie Grimwade:* Secretary  
*Sarah Banks:* Treasurer  
*Margaret King:* Council Link  
*Angie Dickinson:* Council Link  
*Phil Davies:* Resident  
*Moreen Wells:* Resident  
*Linda Croucher:* Resident

Angie retired from the Committee in May, and Moreen is retiring because of ill health. We would like to welcome two new members – *Karen Jarratt* and *Lisa Valla* – who have offered to join our committee for the coming year.

We are always looking for new committee members so if you feel you could stand and help make a difference, again speak to a member of the committee.

The committee would like to thank Sarah for preparing this year's accounts, which she will now present to you.

Carole Parker  
 Chair  
 St Ives In Bloom

## Appendix B (cont)

- Wheatfields school outdoor/garden area is a wonderful place for the children to learn about the environment from growing crops to learning about wildlife and even recycling materials from compost and old tyres to a plastic bottle green house.

### \*Suggestions and Comments

- Street furniture could be cleaned or washed down, there were lots of cobwebs and bird mess on them. There was also some Graffiti in a few areas
- More could be made of your recycling green matter from all of your community beds and re use of the compost.
- Possible solar panels on the roof of the information centre on Holt Island for use in the centre for school lessons.

Standard Achieved in Section B = Gold

### Section C: Community Participation

The St Ives in Bloom team are clearly passionate about the local environment and have recruited lots of volunteers for the many great projects. The portfolio has an impressive calendar of work and photos showing how work is carried out all year round. Volunteers do various fund-raising events and several local businesses have helped with donations or supplies.

### \*Areas of Achievement

- Holt Island clearly has a dedicated and knowledgeable community that maintain and manage the area and, plan for the future.
- The community herb garden planted with academy students and maintained by the community has lots of good information on the uses of herbs.
- Kings Hedge community space is clearly maintained by passionate local people who take great pride in this busy area.
- The bus station planting has several different groups involved with its maintenance.
- The new contemplation garden in the cemetery is all looked after with volunteers.
- The knitting (Yarn Bombing) projects shows any body can participate in improving the area.
- The Norris Museum and gardens is another great community space well used and maintained. The great mural shows the timeline of all the people and groups who have helped on various projects around the area.

### \*Suggestions and comments

- Put together a presentation for the local council to ask for support.
- Consider applying for grants to help with planned works.

Standard Achieved in Section C = Gold

Very well done! A very dedicated group of people with great enthusiasm and some great ideas. St Ives should be very proud of all your efforts.

AWARD: Gold

Signed

Judge 1

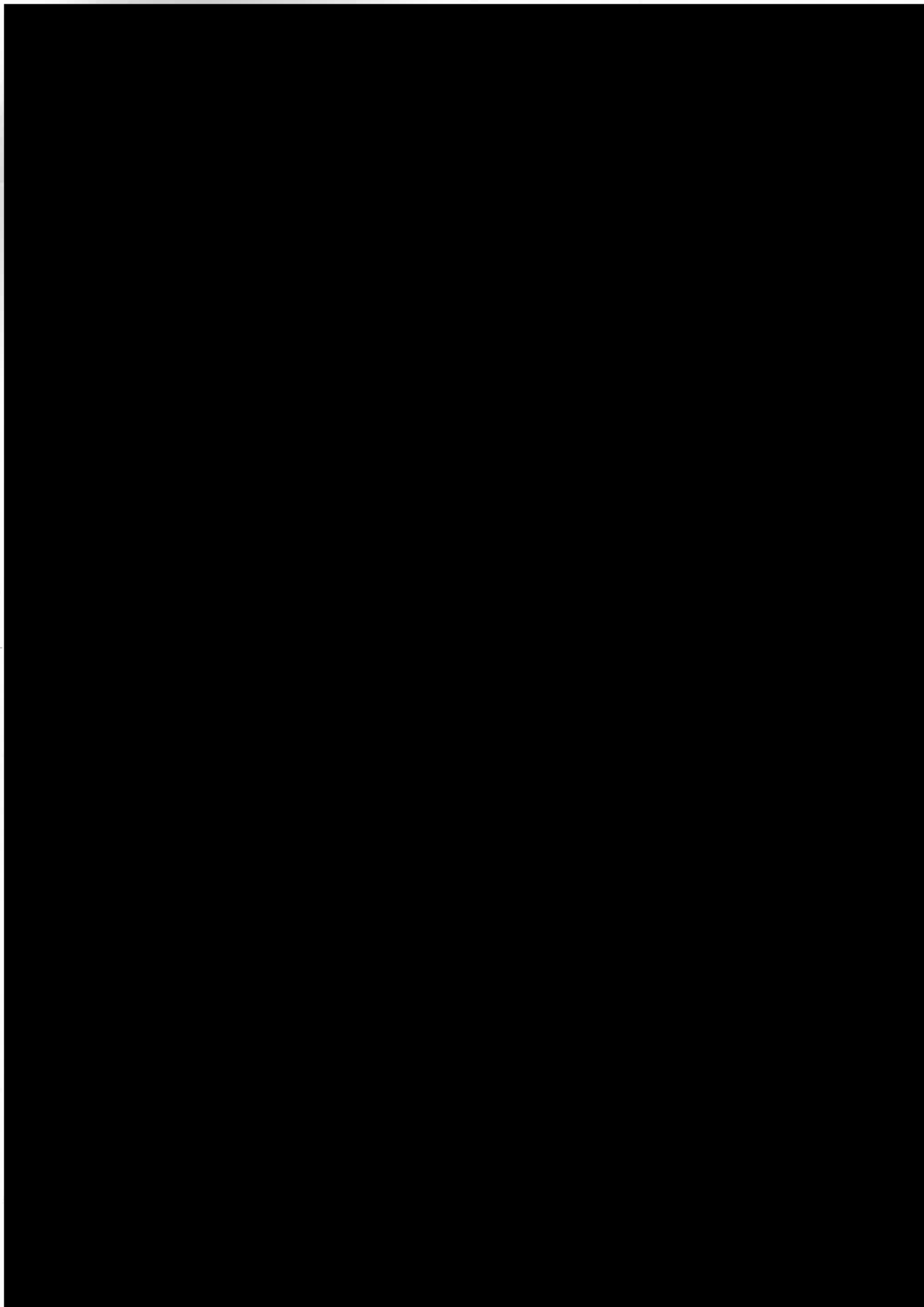
Judge2

## Appendix C

### PROJECTS for 2022/23

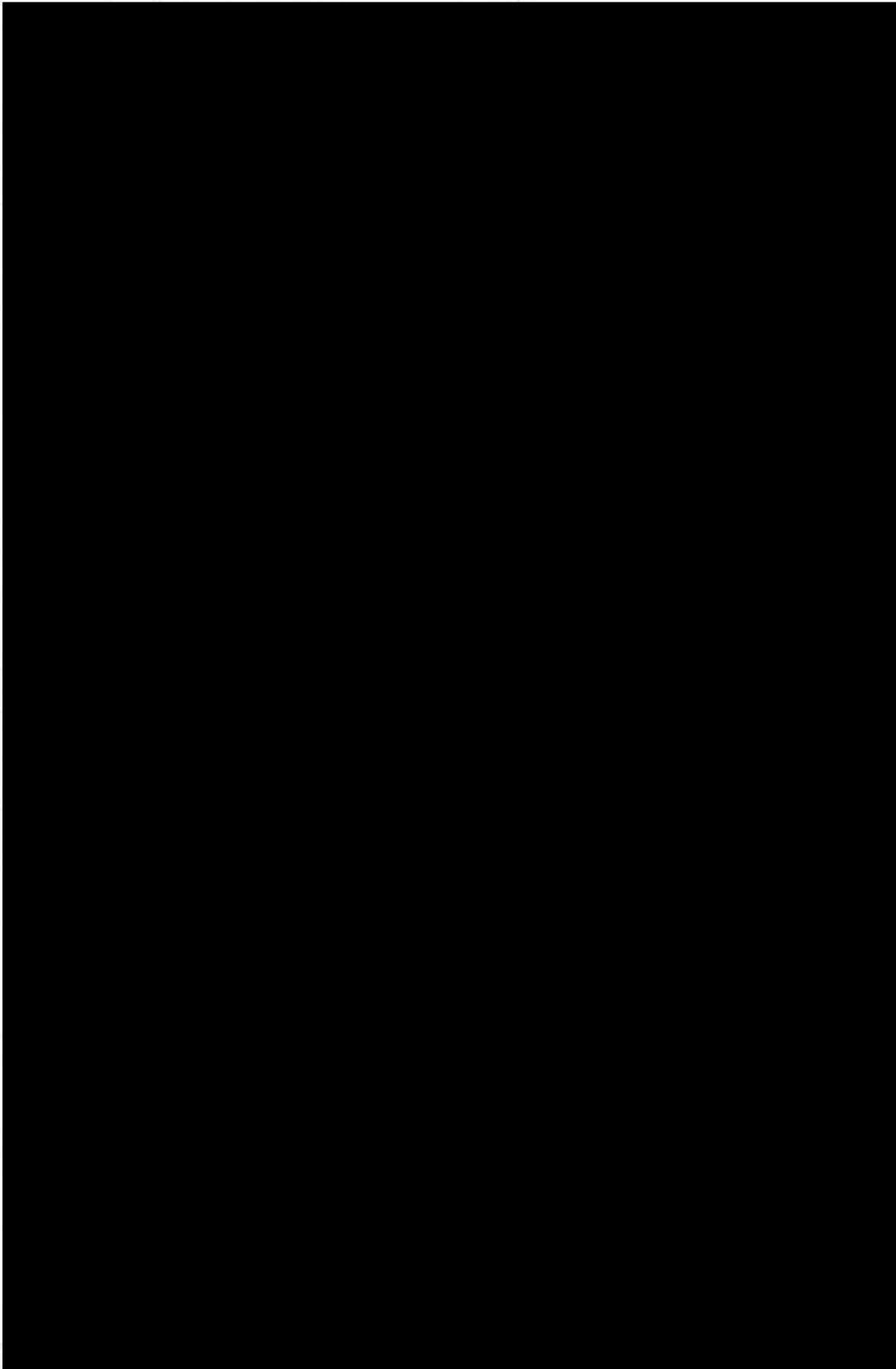
ONGOING PROJECTS		PRESENT PROJECT LEADER(S)	Notes
1.	RAMSEY ROAD CEMETERY		Ongoing but with possible new garden in planning stage
2.	KINGS HEDGES community space PLANTERS		Ongoing
3.	STATION ROAD VERGE and SHOP PLANTERS		Ongoing
4.	PARK AND RIDE		Depending on success of sponsorship for 3 new beds
5.	FREE CHURCH PLANTERS		Ongoing
6.	HOUGHTON RD PLANTER		Ongoing with the Rotary Club
7.	NORRIS MUSEUM PLANTERS		New display planned
8.	PARISH CHURCH PLANTERS		Request for replacement planters
9.	TOWN BUS STATION PLANTERS		Ongoing only if the problem of watering can be resolved
10.	THE WAITS, corner garden		Ongoing
11.	ELM ROAD/CHESTNUT RD		Ongoing
12.	BROAD LEAS CEMETERY		Ongoing
13.	WESTWOOD RD CHURCHYARD		Problems with this project to be discussed in committee
14.	TREFOIL GUILD CABIN		Ongoing
15.	BULB PLANTING		Ongoing
16.	WILDFLOWER PLANTING		Completed in October If committee agree to fund crocuses (recently requested)
17.	LITTER PICKING		Ongoing if committee agrees
NEW/CHANGED PROJECTS			Notes
A.	PROJECT with NORRIS MUSEUM/SPRING COMMON		The Waits herb garden, to be planned with the Norris Museum
B.	PROJECTS with SCHOOLS		a) In planning stage with Berman Park (see Project E below) b) To be arranged with schools
C.	PROJECTS with CARE HOME		In planning with Broad Leas
D.	LOCAL COMPETITIONS a) Gardens and Retail b) Allotments		The garden competition may run this year if a second judge can be found for gardens and retail.
E.	BERMAN'S PARK		Planning stage in consultation with GOVT, HDC, Eco-Action

**St Ives in Bloom Income & Expenditure Report 2021 - 2022**

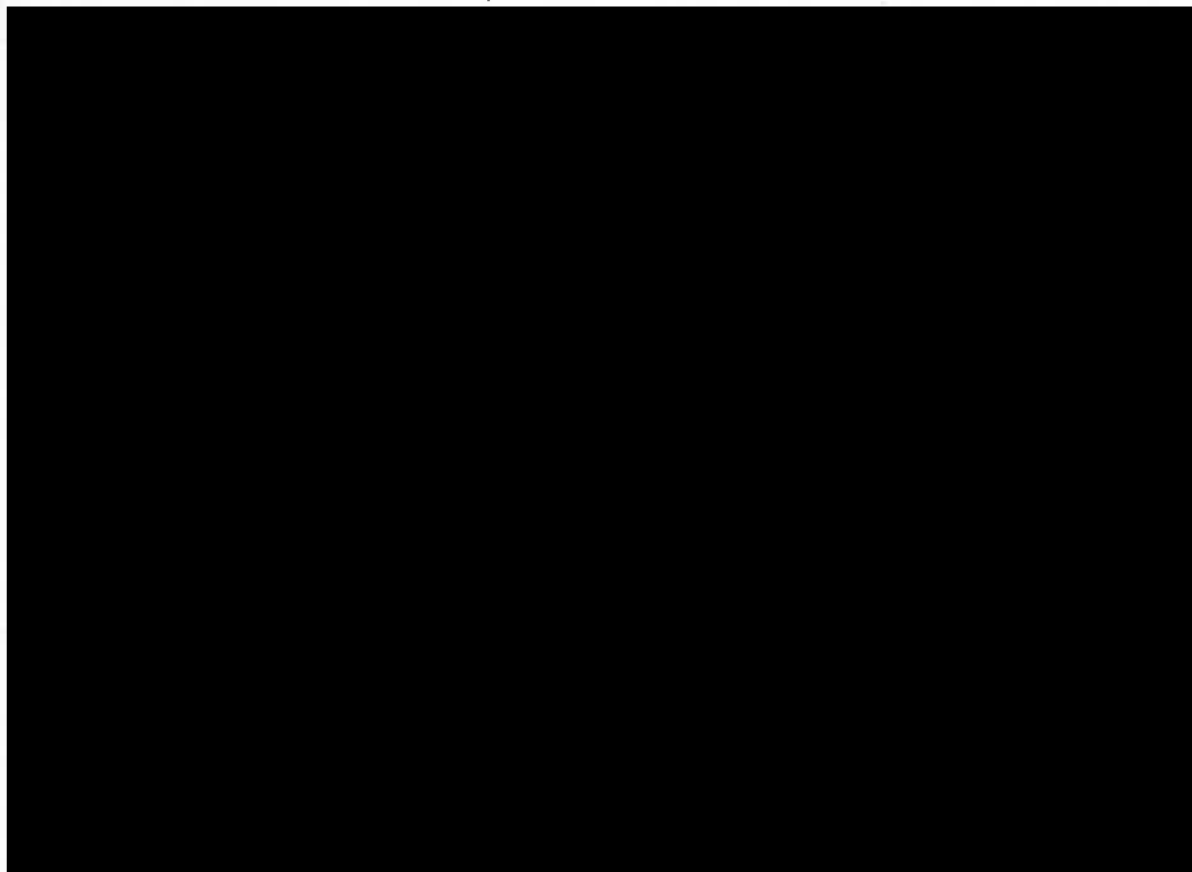


## ***Appendix D (cont)***

### **Budget Comparison FY22**



***Appendix D (cont)***





## **SAFEGUARDING Policy for St Ives in Bloom October 2021**

The Committee and volunteers of St Ives in Bloom have limited contact with children or vulnerable adults. This would mainly be within a group context and/or in a public space, taking part in activities with minimal physical contact, and never left alone or unsupervised.

The responsible person for Safeguarding Children and Adults at Risk is the Secretary. Volunteers should approach her regarding any concerns for an individual, and she will take responsibility to ensure that appropriate bodies are informed, should this be required.

When work parties are planned in a setting where either vulnerable adults or children may be present on a regular basis (e.g. a care home or a school), then further advice and training would be sought from the participating setting. Staff at the school or care home would always be present along with the volunteers. The responsible person will monitor contact with children or adults at risk to ensure that the frequency and intensity of contact is consistent with the DBS threshold levels; and volunteers may be required to undertake a DBS check. (The primary role of the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) is to prevent unsuitable people from working with vulnerable groups including children.)

Date of ratification of policy: 18<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Date that next review is due: October 2023



## **Health and Safety Policy for St Ives in Bloom**

**October 2021** (\*amendment to nominated Committee member, 31 Jan 2023)

### **Introduction**

The St Ives in Bloom Committee has overall responsibility for health and safety in the organisation, and for ensuring that it fulfils all its legal responsibilities. It recognises that it is the duty of committee members and volunteers to uphold this policy and to provide the necessary funds and resources to put it into practice. The St Ives in Bloom Committee is committed to ensuring that all its activities are safe, and it will do whatever it can to provide for the health, safety and welfare of all volunteers and passing members of the public, ensuring that risks are minimised at all times. It will observe the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 ("HASAWA") and all relevant regulations and codes of practice made under it. This policy will be reviewed annually by the management committee.

### **1. The St Ives in Bloom Committee Responsibilities**

The Secretary is responsible for the implementation and monitoring of health and safety policies and recommending changes where necessary. All accidents or unsafe incidents will be investigated by the \*nominated Committee member (Phil Davies, 2022 – 23) on behalf of the Committee as soon as possible and then be reported to the Committee at the next available meeting.

#### ***The Committee is responsible for:***

- Assessing the risk to the health and safety of volunteers and passing members of the public at working party locations, and identifying what measures are needed to comply with its health and safety obligations;
- Ensuring that locations are safe and without risk to health;
- Ensuring that any St Ives in Bloom owned equipment is well maintained;
- Ensuring that St Ives in Bloom activities are covered by insurance (at present RHS 'In Bloom' insurance policy of up to £5 million public liability);
- Providing information to volunteers as to safe working methods and procedures as required;
- Encouraging volunteers and members to co-operate in ensuring safe and healthy conditions and systems by effective joint consultation;
- Establishing emergency procedures as required, including:
  - a) the work party leader having a mobile phone with them;
  - b) the work party leader providing drinking water and encouraging rest periods on hot days;
  - c) making sure there are toilets and washing facilities nearby where working parties/activities are over 2 hours long.

### **2. Volunteer Responsibilities**

#### ***All St Ives in Bloom volunteers will ensure that:***

- They are aware of the contents of this safety policy;
- They comply with this policy;

- They make sure that the gardening equipment that they bring from home is safe to use, and that they are fit to use it;
- They take care of themselves and others who may be affected by their actions or omissions;
- They will report all accidents, or unsafe situations, and any near misses (things which could have led to an accident), to the Secretary or other committee member at once;
- If they identify anything which they think could be in any way unsafe, they will report it.

### **3. Risk Assessments**

The Secretary will ensure that all working party locations and tasks are assessed. Assessments will be repeated when there is any reason which makes the original assessment not valid (e.g. change of tasks or change of volunteer group).

### **4. Training**

To promote the health, safety and welfare of volunteers, health and safety reminders will be provided as follows:

- during the volunteers' first session,
- when changes are made to work party locations,
- when training needs are identified during risk assessments.

### **5. Resolving health and safety problems**

Any volunteer with a health and safety concern must first tell the Secretary. If, after investigation, the problem is not corrected in a reasonable time, or the responsible committee member decides that no action is required but the volunteer is not satisfied with this, the volunteer may then refer the matter to the St Ives in Bloom Committee Chairperson. This must be in writing. If the volunteer is still dissatisfied, the matter will be entered on the agenda for the next meeting of the Management Committee.

Date of ratification of policy: 18<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Date that next review is due: October 2023



**EQUALITY STATEMENT for St Ives in Bloom**  
**October 2021**

The Committee of St Ives in Bloom is committed to providing opportunities for volunteering to all potential volunteers without discrimination on grounds of age, disability, gender, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation or other characteristics.

Date of ratification of statement: *18<sup>th</sup> October 2021*

Date that next review is due: *October 2023*



## **Addendum to St Ives in Bloom Grant Application 2024**

Since the grant application to the Town Council was submitted, the results for Anglia in Bloom have been announced and St Ives won Gold for 2023. Following this, the Anglia in Bloom Judges have selected St Ives to represent Anglia in the national 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, RHS, Britain in Bloom competition in the category of large town. St Ives will be competing with the best large towns from each of 16 regions across Britain. This is a wonderful opportunity to showcase St Ives and everything it has to offer.

The theme of Britain in Bloom this year is friendship. So, this will mean the engagement with the community and everything that St Ives in Bloom does with its volunteers will have a great impact. "In Bloom" is not just about horticultural merit, it includes community engagement and strongly supports improving the environment. It is about making St Ives a place that people want to visit and where everyone wants to share experiences and time together. However, we very much want to compete strongly in the final of the competition and for this it is important that the feedback from 2023 is taken on board. In most cases it means doing what we did in 2023 to a higher standard of excellence. Several areas such as The Waits with its excellent and diverse planting and the Holt island reserve were commented on very favourably. The new garden at Ramsey Road cemetery will be showcased as a large project and the Italian garden there also. Both will need significant further sustainable planting. We also want to continue to maintain and improve sites like the area next to Kings Hedges, the Postbox garden and Station road area in the town to an even higher standard than this year. The Britain in Bloom judging will be in summer 2024 and we want to town to be at its best from June into August. I will certainly share the dates as soon as I have them.

Our volunteers will provide over 5000 hours of expert work around the various sites we manage in the town. There are also many generous donations of plant from our team and others around St Ives. Furthermore, we are already planning to engage with other groups in the town and making plans to use everyone's skills to ensure we are successful. To do this it is more than ever important that we receive the assistance of the Town Council, both in terms of assistance from the team, working with them to ensure success, but also to receive the full grant from the Town Council that enables us to fund the planting we need to do across the whole of St Ives.

## PLANNED PROJECTS for 2023/24

ONGOING PROJECTS		PROJECT LEADER(S)	Notes
1.	<b>RAMSEY ROAD CEMETERY</b> , mausoleum bed, roses' shrubbery, entrance flowerbeds, shelter planter	██████████ ██████████	Ongoing with new planting for the mausoleum bed
2.	<b>RAMSEY ROAD CEMETERY</b> , connected communities garden and adjacent flowerbeds	██████████	Ongoing with spring planting already planned and more work on the flowerbeds
3.	<b>STATION ROAD VERGE</b>	████	New drought tolerant planting
4.	<b>PARK AND RIDE</b>	██████████	Depending on solar panels, reinstating and reinvigorating the work already done once the hording comes down
5.	<b>THE WAITS</b> , corner postbox garden	████	Ongoing
6.	<b>THE WAITS</b> , riverside corner	████	Ongoing friendship theme
7.	<b>NORRIS MUSEUM PLANTERS</b>	██████	Ongoing with new display
8.	<b>KINGS HEDGES</b> community space	██████████	Ongoing and refreshing sustainable planters
9.	<b>ELM ROAD/CHESTNUT RD</b>	Local residents	Ongoing focus on impact and hot colours
10.	<b>HOUGHTON RD PLANTER</b>	██████████	Ongoing
11.	<b>BULB PLANTING</b>	██████	Ongoing 3 new sites with 1000 bulbs per site
12.	<b>BROAD LEAS CEMETERY</b>	Group Project	Ongoing
13.	<b>WESTWOOD RD CHURCHYARD</b>	Group Project	Ongoing
14.	<b>FREE CHURCH PLANTERS</b>	██████	Ongoing
15.	<b>PARISH CHURCH PLANTERS</b>	██████████	Ongoing
16.	<b>BUS STATION PLANTERS</b>	██████	Ongoing
17.	<b>GROVE MEDICAL CENTRE</b>	████	Ongoing
18.	<b>CROWN WALK</b>	████	Ongoing with HDC
19.	<b>TREFOIL GUILD CABIN</b>	██████	Ongoing
20.	PROJECT with <b>BROAD LEAS</b> <b>INDEPENDENT LIVING</b>	██████	Ongoing with Broad Leas residents
21.	<b>LITTER PICKING</b>	████	Ongoing with Eco-action
NEW PROJECTS		Notes	
A.	<b>PLANTERS</b> outside shops	team	Planning for more displays in the town centre this year?
B.	<b>GARDEN</b> outside <b>NORRIS</b> <b>MUSEUM</b> on The Waits	██████████	Planning garden on the theme of 'Friendship' with Museum
C.	PROJECTS with <b>SCHOOLS</b> The Ivo; b) Primary Schools	██████████	The Ivo is planned for Feb/Mar
E.	<b>BERMAN'S PARK</b>	██████████ ██████	In consultation with HDC where SIIB can contribute

