

HALLS, CEMETERIES & ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE

Date: Monday, 16 January 2023

Title: Langdale Hall - Witney Horticultural Society Sign Request

Contact Officer: Communications & Community Engagement Officer - Polly Inness

Background

Witney Horticultural Society have successfully created a community garden as part of the Council's In Bloom initiative in the flower bed that joins Langdale Hall to Langdale Court. The bed is popular with passers-by and enjoyed by residents and visitors alike.

The group is keen to use notices to identify plants, describe their projects and highlight their group and the work they are doing.

Current Situation

The subject of laminated posters came up on the In Bloom Judging day in July and following this, the secretary of Witney Horticultural Society made a request to the In Bloom lead officer via email on 6th September to install a more permanent noticeboard on the wall of Langdale Hall.

The In Bloom officer has requested details of the sort of noticeboard – size and materials etc. She advised that as the Langdale Hall is currently being run by The Ice Centre, that they be notified and asked for any concerns about a noticeboard being sited there as a courtesy, but that as owners of the building, ultimately, the Town Council would need to give permission.

The Ice Centre were consulted by the Horticultural Society, and this was confirmed in an email dated 12 Dec 22.

'Hi Polly. We have now found a cheaper option for our notice board. ICE centre are happy. Can we go ahead please?'

Diana

The In Bloom Officer mentioned the request in a Stronger Communities report and it was agreed in principle, but it was suggested that it should go through as a Halls, Cemeteries and allotments agenda item too.

Pictures of the type of board and the proposed location wall are in Appendix 1

Environmental impact

Having declared a Climate Change Emergency at its Council meeting on 26 June 2019 – with this in mind Councillors should have due regard to the environmental impact of any decisions they make with regard to its facilities and services it operates.

The fact that the noticeboard will negate the use of laminated signs which do not decompose and add damaging plastic to the environment would support the argument to give permission for the noticeboard to be installed.

Risk

In decision making Councillors should give consideration to any risks to the Council and any action it can take to limit or negate its liability.

Financial implications

There is no financial implication for the council as the Horticultural Society are planning to purchase the noticeboard themselves

Recommendations

Members are invited to note the report and consider the following:

1. That the committee agree to permit the placing of an A2 size noticeboard on the wall of Langdale Hall.