

MARLBOROUGH in BLOOM CONSTITUTION APRIL 2015

1) VISION STATEMENT

The Marlborough in Bloom Committee seek to enhance and improve the visual impact of the town through encouraging a sense of community with pride, which will also positively impact on local people and visitors to Marlborough, whilst increasing the chance of success in the South West in Bloom competition.

2) AIMS

- a) To develop a sense of community and a pride in the town by using volunteers from the residential and business communities together with local organisations to achieve a cleaner, greener town.
- b) To improve the environment by encouraging recycling, reducing litter, improving green spaces and ensuring sustainable practices to achieve a cleaner, greener town.

3) PURPOSE

In order to achieve these aims, the committee will work closely with local groups and implement activities identified through local consultation. This will be achieved by

- a) Ensuring effective, good communication with all those who live and work within Marlborough town and surrounding parishes.
- b) Inviting local retailers to transform the High Street and frontages using hanging baskets, window boxes and planters filled with sustainable planting and bedding plants.
- c) Building relationships with Marlborough Town Council and Wiltshire Council.
- d) MiB will work within all legal regulations, including Health and Safety, and the Data Protection Act and will sign up to working within the spirit of the Wiltshire Compact.

4) DESCRIPTION OF THE COMMUNITY AREA

The town of Marlborough (population 8,395) lies in the Kennet Valley, within the North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The town has remained unspoilt, retaining its historic charm as the Gateway to the West. In Summer, its partly cobbled streets and quirky alleyways are thronged with tourists and visitors from all over the world.

5) PRINCIPLES

- a) To ensure that it is effective, representative and able to play a leading role in the local community.
- b) To be a stand alone independent organisation which can seek advice and support from businesses, statutory bodies or other organisations as appropriate.
- c) Actively to promote improvements, services and facilities that are to the general benefit of residents and businesses or will increase visitor footfall.
- d) Present an Annual Report at an Annual General Meeting to be held post the South West in Bloom Awards Ceremony.

6) MAIN TASKS

- a) Prepare and actively maintain a robust Plan for Marlborough in Bloom as defined by the judging criteria for South West in Bloom.
- b) Fundraise to assist with the delivery of community projects linked to the Marlborough in Bloom Plan.
- c) Provide the organisation and framework to deliver the Plan.

7) MEMBERSHIP

Marlborough in Bloom comprises the whole community, anyone living or working within the Marlborough area.

8) ORGANISATION OF MARLBOROUGH IN BLOOM

The steering committee will have the following structure:

- a) Chairman and Vice-Chairman and other officers will be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting and will represent MiB at Area Board Meetings and South West in Bloom seminars and presentations. Three years is the maximum consecutive period of time that a chairman can be in office.
- b) Secretary to arrange meetings, produce reports, write letters and take minutes of meetings.

- c) Treasurer responsible for keeping the accounts. The Treasurer will present the annual accounts at the AGM.
- d) To have one representative from Marlborough Town Council sitting on the committee who will keep councillors updated.
- e) To work closely with the Town Clerk and Grounds & Estates Manager of Marlborough Town Council.

9) OPERATING AND MEETING ARRANGEMENTS

- a) MiB committee will meet at least four times a year, with consideration to the dates of South West in Bloom meetings. At least one meeting will be held in October which will be the Annual General Meeting.
- b) Notice of the time and place of the meeting shall be given at least seven working days before the meeting or, if the meeting is convened at shorter notice, then at the time it is convened. The exception being the AGM which needs 21 days public notice.
- c) Meetings will be quorate if 25% of voting members are present at a meeting.
- d) Resolutions shall be decided by a simple majority of members present. If tied, the Chairman shall have a second (casting) vote.
- e) Members should not act in such a way as to bring MiB into disrepute.
- f) MiB will not pay travelling and subsistence expenses incurred by its members within Marlborough.

10) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

An Annual General Meeting will be held in October. Members of the public will be welcomed to attend and the following matters will comprise the agenda:

- a) The retiring Chairman will give a report on the year's activities.
- b) The Chairman, Vice Chairman and Treasurer will be elected at this meeting.
- c) A financial report will be presented.
- d) There will be a presentation of the work of MiB .
- e) Public Forum: questions and comments from the public.
- f) Any other business.

The agenda for the AGM will be circulated to members of the committee, emailed to the Town Clerk and displayed in public places a minimum of 21 working days prior to the meeting.

Expressions of interest from those wishing to stand for Chairman and Vice-Chairman will be invited from eligible members before the AGM. Each candidate will have the opportunity to present a short report at the AGM in support of their application.

Minutes of the meeting will be made available to the public within 28 days.

11) LINKS AND RELATIONSHIP WITH WILTSHIRE COUNCIL & MARLBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL

- a) MiB is a Partnership, which is recognised by the Wiltshire Council and Marlborough Town Council.
- b) Partnership working will be developed between MiB and Marlborough Town Council and the Area Board.
- c) It will have appropriate Insurance Cover as approved through Marlborough Town Council.

12) DISSOLUTION

The Partnership may be dissolved at any time by a resolution passed by at least 50% of the voting members of the Partnership at an AGM or a Special Annual General Meeting of the Partnership. At least 14 working days notice of such a meeting shall be given. Any monies and assets remaining shall be paid back to the Area Board or the body that provided that funding.

13) STATUS OF THIS CONSTITUTION

This Constitution was ratified at the AGM of Marlborough in Bloom on 7th October 2015.

Signed:

Dated: