

# Minutes of meeting of Friends of the Rose Garden held on 29<sup>th</sup> August 2018

## 1. Meeting at Haworth Park

8 members of the Friends of the Rose Garden met at Haworth Park to look at the planting schemes in Haworth Park. Everyone was impressed by the informal planting schemes (two photos are included at the end of this document). The planting schemes included zebra grass, cedums, rubeckia lavender, spreading geraniums, crocosima and small buddleia (as well as several other "unidentified" plants). The planting scheme looked to have plenty of colour and interest. It also looked as if the plants, once established, would be relatively low maintenance.

Following the look round the park the group continued the meeting in a nearby pub.

## 2. Water Supply

Janet reported that she had been in touch with Yorkshire Water about a quote for supplying water to the Rose Garden. They would require a payment of £155 for a surveyor to come to site and provide a quote for laying on a water supply. It is likely that the cost will be over £1,500 and there will be ongoing costs for the water used.

The group felt that there would only be limited requirement for water in the Rose Garden and decided not to ask for a quote from Yorkshire Water.

## 3. Wall Repairs

It was suggested that Bradford Council be asked to repair the walls before the Parish Council takes over responsibility for the Rose Garden. Ken Eastwood stated that the Group could certainly ask, but he thought it would be highly unlikely that Bradford Council would want to undertake any work.

Ken and Roger Smales stated they were happy to undertake the repair work on the walls in the future, if necessary.

## 4. Bulbs

It was felt that planting bulbs round the edges of the Rose Garden would be a good idea. Karen Faulkner said she had promises of £150 worth of donations from nurseries and also a promise that bulbs could be bought at trade prices. Roger said it would be good to have a mix of bulbs. It was queried how many bulbs would be needed.

Note – After the meeting the following information was obtained from one Internet site, which recommended the following number of bulbs per square metre:

Snowdrops	150
Crocus	150
Daffodils	60
Tulips	60

Roger said he would work out a planting scheme and provide a costing to Janet by 5<sup>th</sup> September so that the expenditure could be authorised at the Parish Council meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> September.

It was also suggested that it would be good to have rhododendrons and azaleas round the outside on three sides of the Garden. Andy Allan said these would provide good colour and should also be easy to maintain. Ken, Roger and Karen to look into this in further detail.

## 5. Future Plans

It was suggested that it could be a good idea to plant potatoes in the bed at the top of the Garden in March next year to help improve the soil. However part of the bed still needs double digging.

Roger suggested that future plans could include reshaping the central beds. Ken suggested this could be done easily, perhaps preparing the beds and planting grass seed in advance of the planting with plants in the Spring.

Ken said that Harden Parish Council had used a landscape gardener to design a low maintenance planting scheme and agreed to circulate further details in due course. This had been expensive but the Parish Council had saved money in the long term as the beds were much less labour intensive. They had used ground cover roses. He said the survey about the Garden had produced feedback that roses should be included in Oxenhope. He suggested that ground cover roses might be one way of providing roses, without the work required to maintain traditional tea roses.

A question was then asked about the central conifers. Ken said there would be a need to do something with the large tree at some point as it had more than doubled in size in seven years. Janet was asked to contact Keighley Trees to see what they would recommend in terms of lopping and shaping.

Ken passed on apologies from Helen who was unable to attend the meeting. She has propagated some of the herb seeds Ken had purchased, including the rosemary, which was doing well.

Dates for further work on the Garden were agreed as:

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> September from 1.00 to continue the work digging the top bed

Signed.....

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> October Bulb planting day

Janet was asked to get indicative quotes from Green Thumb and Lawn and Order for maintaining the lawn to allow comparison. Once recommended frequency of cuts and costs were known, the group would be able to take a view on whether grass cutting should be outsourced or whether equipment could be purchased for use by volunteers.

Janet was also asked to chase up Bradford Council about when the asset transfer was likely to go ahead.

Stuart Taylor asked about approaching local firms for a donation (the amount of £25 was mentioned) to help with the work in the Garden. It was suggested that if this was to be done, the best time might be once the planting scheme for the spring beds was agreed and costed.

The meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.

*Janet Foster*  
*Clerk Oxenhope Parish Council*  
*Tel: 07972 717058*

Signed.....

