REPORT TO GENERAL PURPOSE COMMITTEE

HORTICULTURAL SHOW – Maltby in Bloom

Report Reference	**GP-24-44**
Meeting Date	**20th February 2025**
Agenda Item	**121**
Prepared by	**Deputy Clerk**

1. Overview

With Maltby being a town rich in community sprit and potential, I thought of the suggestion of hosting some sort of flower festival, which could tie in with the Horticultural Show.

The idea was Maltby in Bloom, which would bring beauty, pride, and engagement to the area while fostering a sense of unity. This initiative, supported by Maltby Town Council through the possible provision of free flowers, could celebrate the town's charm and encourage residents to participate in creative and meaningful ways.

2. Advantages

Some advantages could be as follows:

- Enhancing community spirit
- Transforming spaces to create a more colourful, attractive and vibrant environment
- Teaching young people (and everyone else) the joys of growing flowers
- Enhancing local biodiversity, improving air quality and more environmental benefits
- It could be linked to a community clean up day to have a big push for Maltby to look better
- It is something everyone in Maltby could regardless of age, gender or anything else
- It could bring more people to Maltby if done right, and possibly become an yearly event like some villages "scarecrow competitions"

3. Possible Features

- Distribution of free flowers
  - Maltby Town Council could provide seeds, plants, or flowers to residents and businesses, ensuring everyone can participate.
- Competition categories
  - These could include "Best front garden", "Best Business Display", "Most Creative Use of Space". They could also include "Best Flower Arrangement", "Most Unique Flower", or "Best Upcycled Planter".
- Possible Workshop and Demonstrations
  - Leaflets could be made offering advice, as well as possibly working with local gardeners to provide workshops.

4. Facilitating

There would be associated costs with an event such as this which could possibly be as follows:

- Seeds
- Compost/Soil
- Prizes
- Workshop costs
- Refreshments

There are many ways that these costs could be covered, such as:

- Maltby Town Council has a £1000 Horticultural Show budget, as well as £2000 in the event contingency budget, or £76,598 in the Amenities & Recreation EMR which could be used to cover the costs. It may also be possible to cover these costs with CIL money, however more research would need to be done into this to fully confirm.
- Local businesses as prize donators. This would not only help with prizes, but would feed back into Maltby's economy by encouraging people to shop locally, and use local businesses.
- Grants/Free seeds
  - There are different grants we could apply for to cover the cost of buying seeds like "Kew Community Grow" (but a community group would have to apply), and I am still looking for others.
  - Instead of MTC giving out the seeds we could point people in the right direction of where to get free seeds such as "just free stuff", "budget seeds", and "free stuff".
  - Councillor Kirk suggested that he may be able to get some seeds from NAS.
  - It was suggested that we could possibly get some donations from local businesses to cover the cost.
- Small participation fees for competitions. It would seem in the past the Horticultural Show had a small fee to enter which could cover this as well.

Some more things to think about is that we could get the local schools and care homes involved, instead of buying pre made packets of seeds we could buy a big bag and make our own, and we could contact Flux or the Ward Councillors. to see if they could help in anyway.