REPORT TO GENERAL PURPOSE COMMITTEE

HORTICULTURAL SHOW – MALTBY IN BLOOM

Report Reference	**Events-24-49**
Meeting Date	**17th April 2025**
Agenda Item	**142**
Prepared by	**Town Clerk**

1. Overview

During the General Purpose Meeting held on the 13th of February, a possible revival of the Horticultural Show was discussed. This would be a joint venture with the Events Committee.

This Committee resolved to recommend a Horticultural Show take place and that Maltby in Bloom be investigated.

The Horticultural Show will have a budget of £1000 for the 25/26 financial year.

It has been suggested that the event take place in late August to allow for all crops to be grown fully.

2. Previous Years

Maltby in Bloom - a flower festival which could tie in with the Horticultural Show.

This initiative, supported by Maltby Town Council through the possible provision of free flowers, could encourage residents to participate in creative and meaningful ways.

3. Advantages

Some advantages could be as follows:

- Enhancing community spirit.
- Transforming spaces to create a more colourful, attractive and vibrant environment.
- 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.

4. 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”, and “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.

5. Facilitating

There would be associated costs with an event such as this, which could 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.

- Grants/Free seeds
  - There are different grants we could apply for to cover the cost of buying seeds for example, “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, the Council 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.

- 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.

The Council could encourage local schools and care homes to get involved.