

Lucy Stone Fund

All,

I Have not written a paper to Council before so please forgive me if this is not in the correct format or indeed does not answer all your questions.

As I understand it we have £18,000 plus set aside from the Lucy Stone Fund and this is to be used for the benefit of the Village.

As the Councillor who looks after the Traders I do have a proposition in association with the Ringmer Flower association.

I would like to create a truly amazing area around your local shops in Ringmer with the support of the local traders. I would like to use this very generous legacy to plant up the extremely large paved area outside the shops from Grace – Ringmer Café, around the side of Grace shop, down to the pet shop and around the clock tower. In addition to this create more seating in the triangle grass area along North Road where the wildflowers were this year. We would name that area the Lucy Stone wild garden (or similar) and of course have Lucy Stone remembered around the shops.

From a budget perspective we could spend anything from £5k - £50k so, if in principle, Council were minded to support this request then the next steps would be to engage with the likes of Staverton Nurseries and come back with exactly what can be delivered within a budget.

I would anticipate using £12,000 for the set up with the balance held back for maintenance and ongoing replanting. The local shops are enjoyed by many, many residents and it would be a lovely investment for you to make.

It goes without saying that anything installed or planted would meet any guidance and health and safety regulations and we would utilise local gardeners for their views and voluntary assistance.

In summary I am asking for your support to utilise such a lovely legacy to turn Ringmer shops and the surrounding area into a thoughtful, colourful and beautiful place to shop and relax in.

Gavin