

BOSTON BIG LOCAL

Project:		Public Realm Improvements	
Lead delivery partner:		Boston Borough Council/Boston in Bloom	
Theme:	Creating a more attractive environment	Priority:	2
Activity:	Enhancement of town centre horticultural displays and improvement of the waterway environment through high quality public realm interventions		
<p>Project outcomes (from SLA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 high quality public realm improvements • Improved habitat for wildlife, particularly pollinating insects • Improvement in civic pride through the celebration of Boston's history and community engagement • Broadening of the skills and ambition of local artists through participation in the Buoys project • Enhancement of the visitor offer and experience, making Boston more appealing as a destination 			
Reporting period dates:	Jan – Mar 2018	Number and age of people benefiting from the project during the reporting period:	Wide benefit – significant impact on both residents and visitors
<p>Introduction</p> <p>Aim: -</p> <p>For 2017-19 the focus is on improving the public realm by working with Transported, the Boston and South Holland arts organisation, the Port of Boston and community groups.</p> <p>The main focus is on the Tawney Street entrance to Central Park and improvements to the waterways which celebrate the history of the town. Community and business engagement is a central feature of the projects, which will provide a lasting legacy for the future.</p>			

Activities undertaken during reporting period

	Activities completed	Contract target April 2017– March 2019	Comments
Art Deco style garden (to mark forthcoming centenary of purchase of Central Park by the Corporation)	<p>Art Deco style Garden completed at Tawney Street entrance. Central sculpture designed and installed by Jeni Cairns, award winning RHS garden designer. Four multi-stemmed birches planted by Parks team.</p> <p>Official opening held on 10 November 2017</p>	<p>Completion of garden</p> <p>COMPLETED NOVEMBER 2017</p>	<p>‘Dancing Seagulls’ sculpture entirely funded by The Coaching Inn Group (previously reported). Total project cost £15,000.</p> <p>Publicised in Boston Standard and on Boston Borough Council website</p> <p>Attended by representatives of BBL, Transported, Borough Council, Boston in Bloom, project sponsors and community volunteers</p>
Pollinator-friendly border, overlooking the river near Haven Bank	<p>Remainder of beds cleared during March. More skimmia and hellebores have been planted to provide winter colour.</p> <p>Spring and summer plants on order to complete the project</p>	<p>Completion of pollinator-friendly planting scheme</p>	<p>Project delayed by adverse weather conditions</p>
Boston Buoys project	<p>Redundant navigation buoys</p>	<p>Deliver Boston Buoys project</p>	

	<p>secured and stored safely at the Port</p> <p>Arts Council funding application underway</p> <p>Artist Brief for the Buoys project completed</p> <p>Crane hire and transport costs obtained</p>		<p>Short-listing of artists completed in February 2018</p>
Additional funding and support secured			
Use of local companies	<p>Johnsons Garden Centre</p> <p>Hillydyke Nurseries (Boston Market)</p>	Not specified	Plants on order
<p>Additional information:-</p> <p>Agreed that the finished Art Deco Garden and pollinator-friendly raised beds will feature on 2018 Boston in Bloom judging route.</p> <p>It has been decided not to proceed with the use of a liner. There are concerns that this can look untidy and also restrict phased planting. A thick bark mulch will be added to retain moisture and reduce weed growth.</p>			
<p>Plans for next reporting period</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With the help of volunteers complete planting of pollinator-friendly border • Complete Arts Council funding application for Boston Buoys project (format changed) • Presentation of Stage 2 Buoys proposals to panel in mid-April 			