

## BOSTON BIG LOCAL

<b>Project:</b>		Public Realm Improvements	
<b>Lead delivery partner:</b>		Boston Borough Council/Boston in Bloom	
<b>Theme:</b>	Creating a more attractive environment	<b>Priority:</b>	2
<b>Activity:</b>	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"> <li>• 3 high quality public realm improvements</li> <li>• Improved habitat for wildlife, particularly pollinating insects</li> <li>• Improvement in civic pride through the celebration of Boston's history and community engagement</li> <li>• Broadening of the skills and ambition of local artists through participation in the Buoys project</li> <li>• Enhancement of the visitor offer and experience, making Boston more appealing as a destination</li> </ul>			
<b>Reporting period dates:</b>	April – June 2018	<b>Number and age of people benefiting from the project during the reporting period:</b>	Wide benefit – significant impact on both residents and visitors
<p><b>Introduction</b></p> <p><b>Aim: -</b></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**

	<b>Activities completed</b>	<b>Contract target April 2017– March 2019</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Art Deco style garden (to mark forthcoming centenary of purchase of Central Park by the Corporation)</b>	<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><b>COMPLETED NOVEMBER 2017</b></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>
<b>Pollinator-friendly border, overlooking the river near Haven Bank</b>	<p>A variety of pollinator-friendly plants have been used to complete the planting of the border during May and June. Now in flower.</p> <p>Thick layer of bark added to reduce weeds and maintain moisture</p>	<p>Completion of pollinator-friendly planting scheme.</p> <p><b>COMPLETED JUNE 2018</b></p>	<p>First phase of planting near St. Botolph’s footbridge proved popular with photographers during flowering of alliums and foxgloves.</p> <p>Many complementary remarks received from passers-by while the new planting was taking place</p>

<b>Boston Buoys project</b>	<p>Redundant navigation buoys secured and stored safely at the Port</p> <p>3 high profile artists selected for the Buoys commission</p> <p>Work underway with the Environment Agency to seek funding for a sixth customized buoy in the vicinity of the Port.</p>	Deliver Boston Buoys project	Arts Council funding bid delayed due to clarification required over Transported Programme, now resolved.
<b>Additional funding and support secured</b>	Potential Environment Agency funding for another buoy as part of Boston Barrier project		
<b>Use of local companies</b>	<p>Johnsons Garden Centre</p> <p>HMP North Sea Camp supplied free plants from their Farm Nursery – Cosmos used at the raised beds</p> <p>John Sterma</p>	Not specified	<p>Plants order</p> <p>Free plants</p> <p>Trailer load of bark chippings</p>

**Additional information:-**

The completed Art Deco style garden and pollinator-friendly raised beds will feature on the 2018 Boston in Bloom judging route, judging takes place on 10 July.

Boston in Bloom volunteers, Thistles, the Town Area Maintenance Team and HMP North Sea working parties have all assisted with planting and weeding the raised beds.

In the 'Your Say' column of the Boston Standard Gillian Holloway Botha nominated the footbridge area. She supplied a photograph saying the flowers "bring a smile to all our faces". A huge shout out to the lovely flowers at the footbridge."

**Plans for next reporting period**

- Complete Arts Council funding application for Boston Buoys project
- Continue discussions with the Environment Agency landscape architect regarding potential sixth buoy