

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:	July – September 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)		COMPLETED NOVEMBER 2017	
Pollinator-friendly border, overlooking the river near Haven Bank		COMPLETED JUNE 2018	
Boston Buoys project	<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	<p>The progression of the project was interrupted for a number of months due to management and governance changes to Transported. These have been resolved and the project is being progressed with a bid to Arts Council England (ACE) being developed currently. The University of Lincoln, who now are the accountable body for Transported, will be submitting the bid and payment of match by BBL will be directly to them. It was agreed in the Public Realm meeting of 8th October 2018 that if we are successful in gaining ACE funding that anticipated consultative activity by April 2019 and</p>

			preparation of the full programme, the delivery of which would implement post April 2019, will satisfy BBL requirements on match payment.
Additional funding and support secured	Potential Environment Agency funding for another buoy as part of Boston Barrier project		Subject to receiving formal confirmation, the Environment Agency has indicated that they would like to be a partner in the project and that they could contribute to the project which will enable an additional buoy being added to the scheme. The additional buoy will most likely be located on the promontory opposite Black Sluice on London Road. We are awaiting written confirmation of this.
Use of local companies			
Additional information:-			
<p>An extract from the report prepared by the EMIB judge – Peter Benham when he visited Boston in July for Boston in Bloom included :- “The support you receive from various grants and financial help from Boston Big Local and efforts from volunteers has helped you deliver many of the key projects.” The judge suggested the use of more perennial planting.</p>			
Plans for next reporting period			
<p>The next reporting period will incorporate ongoing updates on live projects and additionally be informed by projects that are developed to be delivered in partnership, in the next planning phase of Boston Big Local.</p>			