

Project Outcomes from SLA

BOSTON BIG LOCAL

Project:		Public Realm Improvements	
Lead delivery partner:		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		
Cost Code	2.2.1		
<p>Project outcomes from SLA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhancing horticultural displays in Town Centre and along the Haven Bridge corridor. • Enhancing and developing riverside and waterway walks within the BBL including the Fishermen's Memorial and Witham side beds. • Continue enhancing the new Mayflower bed, around the new park buoy and the Art Deco garden.. Improve the wild flower Meadow Haven Bridge • Encourage resident participation. • Prepare to move Five Lamps 			
Reporting period dates:	January to March 2023	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>AIMS: Enhancing horticultural displays in Town Centre and along the Haven Bridge corridor. Enhancing and developing riverside and waterway walks within the BBL area. Move the Five Lamps into Central Park, over two years.</p> <p>DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY</p> <p>The Partnership's over-riding aim is to promote a cleaner and greener town which appeals to both residents and visitors. There is therefore a strong alignment to BBL Theme 2: Creating a more attractive environment.</p> <p>Our focus is on completing quality projects which have a lasting impact, rather than spreading capacity and resources thinly to complete smaller scale, temporary interventions. We therefore propose to concentrate the BBL funding offered in years 1 and 2 on the following high impact activities:-</p>			

Activity 1: Enhancing Central Park through landscaping and public realm improvements

Parts of Central Park still look worn and require revitalisation We will continue our work on the long beds, we will enhance the Art Deco Garden.
Bringing in the Five Lamps

Activity 2: Corridor improvements

Activity will be focused on the following enhancements:-

Buoys Project

The navigation buoys will be in place from the 3rd July 2021. Continue to work in these areas.

Activities undertaken during reporting period

https://youtu.be/_afMBsdz5f0

<https://inspiringcity.com/2021/07/06/boston-buoys-art-trail-opens-in-lincolnshire/>



The start of the new year, and some early snowdrops were out. The news reached us that 11 young trees were cut down in Witham Country Park. We investigated getting trees from the Woodland Trust to replace them but decided in the end that what ever we planted then would be attacked too, so we will wait until the moment is right.

Good news was that two new volunteers joined us, and enjoyed their first weeks with us. They started in the park and we cleared the long beds and planted fritillaries for the spring season. We discovered that fritilleries are very smelly bulbs but very pretty.



The weather got progressively colder and put an end to gardening both in the park, the police beds and all the planters.

We were able to tidy our Narrow Bargate planters that have been so successful, filled with perennials. We noted that in the Market Place and at the Ingram Memorial the planters have not fared so well, pansies are either attacked by pigeons or get botrytis and die off, so there are better planting solutions. We will discuss with Trev at the Borough who plants some of them.



This was the third day we couldn't work because of the cold, the planters were frozen solid on Custom House Quay, but we did try.





February proved a better month for us, as there was much catching up to do. We had a couple of sessions in the park, still much too cold to plant but good for clearing up. There is far less litter in the park now and the skate park is well used by the young.

Last year's daffs planted by us, really pleased to see them in February.



We moved much of the compost we were given last year and spread it on the beds to try to lighten the rather heavy soil.



We are still asked if we are paid and work for the council, we say we do it as we have pride in our town.

The Railway Station planter is looking good, and the station adopters work on the planters We are waiting for the start of the building work but we have no information yet. We supplied some succulents from our Jubilee bed for them to plant in the station canopy planters. It has been a difficult area as it is so shaded, we hope these will take.

We then turned our attention to the long Police beds, dug our creeping buttercup and two volunteers planted it in the wild flower meadow on Haven Bridge. We are thinking of the Fishermen's Memorial beds as now Levelling up funds have been received by the Borough it will be an area where there will be big changes. We hope to save as many of the plants as we can. We were unable to work there when there was a Police incident. We hope to work with police cadets in one or two problem areas highlighted by the Police. We will do what we can to help with the residents in these central town places.



We have done a lot of work in this area in March, the pollinators beds look lovely and are much admired by passers by. We have ordered our plants for these beds and for the park. All sustainable perennial pollinators.



And lastly we were in the Stump on Saturday celebrating Boston and meeting residents who wanted our monkey puzzle seeds and plants. Lots more work to do in the next quarter. Thanks Big Local!

