

Wild Edges Project

Barracks Lane Community Garden is excited to announce that we have been awarded a grant supported by the Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment (TOE) with funding from Grundon Waste Management Ltd to carry out our Wild Edges Project.

The Wild Edges Project will see us replace the pillars that currently form the structure of the raised beds in the centre of the garden with pillars made from recycled plastic and allow Ruth, our Gardener, to develop a new planting scheme, focusing on pollinator friendly plants, with advice from Roselle Chapman at Wild Oxfordshire.

Jenny Creese, Chair of Trustee said "We have been delighted to have been awarded this grant and thank TOE and Grundon Waste Management for their support. We are excited to be using plastic pillars in the new raised beds as this supports initiatives that reduce the amount of plastic sent to landfill".

Fiona Danks, Director of TOE, said "Everyone at TOE is delighted we've been able to support such a worthwhile project which will benefit both people and wildlife. Spending time outside in gardens brings health and well-being benefits to us all and Barracks Lane Community Garden is a valued local resource for education on garden wildlife and gardening and a range of other community activities in a part of Oxford without much accessible green space. The raised beds are an important part of the attractiveness of the garden to its many users from across society including families, young people, the disabled, and asylum seekers. We wish the team every success completing the make-over during lock-down and look forward to admiring the results of their hard work in the summer."

As the garden is currently closed to visitors, we are hoping to get the work done over the next few months so it is ready for you to see once we reopen again.

Thank you TOE and Grundon Waste Management.

Unexpected donation

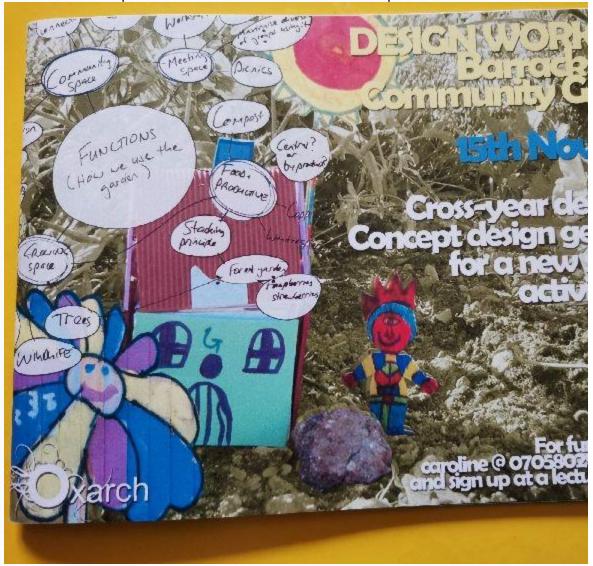
The garden would like to say a big THANK YOU to Twiglets. Twiglets are one of the groups that had been using the garden on a regular basis. They have made a donation to us and the Oxford Food Bank which will come in very handy over the next few months.

The Garden's Archives

Just before lockdown the garden was donated archive paperwork from 2008 relating to the Community Garden Workshops. It has been really interesting looking back on what the garden was doing over a decade ago! During June, July and August the garden ran workshops and events on:

- Planting to attract wildlife
- Celebrating our first anniversary
- Building outdoor shelters: how to make a geodesic dome
- Summer fun day

A big thank you to Jenny Stanton for keeping this information and passing it over. Here is an photo of one of the booklets that was produced.



Looking forward

We didn't want to write a newsletter without acknowledging that we are in unprecedented times. Normally we would be writing to you at this time to let you know about our Seed Swap event and plans for the coming year. Sadly, all this has been put on hold, but as you can see from the below, growth in the garden isn't on hold! Our Caretaker Roger and the Trustees have been doing a fantastic job of keeping the garden tidy so that as soon as restrictions are lifted we will be able to welcome you back. Behind the scenes we are also working on a project that we hope to be able to tell you about in more detail next time!

Till then, stay safe and stay well.

Best wishes
Barracks Lane Community Garden









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