

## **General update 18<sup>th</sup> December 2019**

### **Activities since last board meeting (5.9.19)**

- Our 2019 walking festival was a great success with 50 walks attracting 1000 walkers and excellent feedback received from participants and volunteer walk leaders, planning has started for 2020
- The wildflower seed harvested by NT back in the summer was used by our volunteer work parties to seed two sites (Innox Park in Twerton and the plateau of Solsbury Hill). We seeded eight small trial patches of Kensington Meadows as a community event in the walking festival and distributed leftover seed to community representatives at Alice Park Wildlife Area and Bathampton angling club for a field at Midford
- Bathscape received several mentions during September's Therapeutic City events, with several partners involved at various talks and discussions
- We ran another popular Wild Day in Pennyquick Park on Halloween, with the local community group, the Connecting Families team took the families they support for an evening event outside Midford and the CAN volunteers have been going out regularly in South West Bath
- Our website, including a film shot over the walking festival funded by Grant Associates, went live. We are still tweaking the website and so have yet to promote it
- We are currently advertising a brief for our access project works which will tie in the circular path, radial routes and 'cure' walks. The successful contractor will test, consult, categorise and enhance the routes with community and volunteer involvement and lead some walks. The deadline for applications is 19<sup>th</sup> December.
- A University of Bath Assistant Professor from the Department for Health has successfully bid internally to get money to trial video trails which they will do using our routes, bolting on to our access works
- We've been working with Snow Hill residents on planning improvements to green spaces around the flats and met with burgeoning 'friends of' style groups at Whiteway Green and Southlands in Weston
- We involved Bath Spa Media students in creating short Instagram films at our Carr's Wood Community Day and Pennyquick Park Wild Day in Twerton
- We started our oral history project works, with recordings made at Manor Farm in Langridge where we have a trio of owners going back to the 1950s
- We presented to Natural England staff at their national specialist staff meeting
- We met with Combe Grove Manor, Newton Park Farm, 3SG, the diabetes team, Bristol and Bath Parks foundation, Roundhill Primary School, B&NES Public Rights of Way team, the other major Bath NLHF funded projects, Bath Record Office, Youth Connect, Curo, various university departments and Bath Festivals, and attended Systems Thinking Approach to tackling obesity workshops and AWT's AGM
- Our habitat advisory officers (AWT, FWAG and the Forest of Avon Trust) have been visiting landowners across the area while our volunteer work parties (NT and AWT) have been running two events each week throughout the autumn and ran a festive thank you event for the volunteers in December
- We produced a document for Bath Spa University course leaders outlining 2019 collaborations and opportunities for collaborating in 2020 and have had subsequent meetings with several staff
- Our twitter followers have risen from 865 to 1003, Instagram followers are now at 436
- We produced posters encouraging people to explore the Bathscape which are displayed at each P&R site.

### **Upcoming activities**

- We are looking to recruit a one year student placement to work on assessing our Landscape on Prescription and wider audience engagement works with Wessex Water funding the placement
- Julia Kennaby will return in the new year from maternity leave as our Volunteer Co-ordinator and Administrative Support Officer
- We have our National Lottery Mentor visiting us on the 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan for a general catch up as she is in Bath that day seeing Sydney Gardens Project
- We have staff from 'Our Picturesque Landscape', a landscape partnership scheme based around the Dee Valley and Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal World Heritage Site, visiting on the 12<sup>th</sup> February
- Our next board meeting will be 13<sup>th</sup> February

