

Bayston Hill Parish Council

Sensory Garden Report 15.2.2021.

The BHPC Sensory Garden looked in good order and was being enjoyed by walkers and young families. It appeared that regular maintenance work had been carried out.

Fences

Fences were in good repair.

Map

Faded and broken, lectern style display is fine but the map needs replacing.



Map of Sensory Garden site on BHPC website and small paper copies available from BHPC office.



The Orchard

The fruit trees had been pruned and looked a much better shape than when previously seen, bark around the base of the trees and the grass recently mowed. Trees need labelling



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Paths

There was a clear pathway through the site which varied in surface.

Around two of the sensory beds there was a good cover of gravel in different textures.

Most of the paths had embedded gravel which prevented the path from being muddy. In a few places a thin layer of bark had been placed on the path, again preventing a slippery surface. In some places the path was very muddy and slippery.

Pond

The pond was full and brimming over its original size. The wooden walkway and jetty was in very good order with the exception of a few very small areas of chicken wire that covers the wooden surface which was in need of repair.

Recycling Bins

Sited next to the bin by the entrance.



Seating

The seat in memory of a resident, directly in front of the sound bed, is rotting and therefore needs replacing but still retaining the resident's plaque.

A few more log benches



and picnic tables needed.



Sensory Beds

The Sound Bed is mostly made up of a wall of bamboo but little else in the way of natural sound. Mulch needed to prevent weeds. In the Sound Bed are several 'Bug Hotels' made by local children which are admirable and to be greatly valued. It may be that the 'Bug Hotels' should have an area dedicated to them or they are re-positioned around the sensory garden so that they are more evenly spaced to provide a home for bugs around the site.

The Touch Bed has a few plants that have different textures. These plants need to be checked for risk of allergies etc if people are being encouraged to touch. It maybe that specialist advice is sought and/or a warning sign placed in the bed. The edge is damaged and rotten. Mulch needed to prevent weeds.

The Taste Bed needs restocking and mulch to prevent weeds. The edge is damaged and rotten. Labels needed.



Set of 10 Slate Plant Labels & Chalk | Gard
Plant Markers | Herb Labels | Greenhouse
Accessories | Garden Stakes | Outdoor
Chalkboard | M&W

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£13.99

SEEKI

There is another Bed where it is unclear what it is. In this Bed is a very large Flax with very sharp leaves with spikes on. It could be used as the Sight Bed but would need re planting in some places. Edge damaged and rotten. Mulch needed to prevent weeds.

There is not a Smell Bed so one would need creating and planting with suitable plants topsoil and mulch.

Signage

None around the site. Signposts needed to direct to sites and signs by individual sites. Identification labels for trees and Danger - warning sign by the pond. (lifebelt ???)

Trees

The majority of trees looked in good order but many off shoots are appearing which are filling the spaces between the original trees. In the future this could prevent the original trees from thriving. Some specimen trees need labels for identification. In the future larger trees will needed pruning and some areas may need thinning out. Specialist advice may be required.



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Wildlife

Re-site 'Bug Hotels' and hang bird boxes. Children's activity to build more bird boxes.



**Overtime pay may be needed for BHPC staff*

Area	Action	Planned Date of Action	Cost	Date of Completion
Fences	General maintenance	Ongoing	Labour - BHPC own staff. Materials as required.	Annually
Map	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need replacement • Map of BHPC Sensory Garden on BHPC website • Small paper copy maps available from BHPC office 	Summer 2021	???	Summer 2021
Orchard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minor pruning 	Late Autumn 2021	Labour - BHPC own staff. Specialist advice occasionally	Early Spring 2022 Then annually
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Labels 	Autumn 2021	2 sets of slate labels =£27.98	Autumn 2021
Paths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate surfaces 	Summer 2021	Labour - BHPC own staff. Materials as required.	Autumn 2021
Pond	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chicken wire surface, minor repairs. 	Spring 2021	Labour - BHPC own staff. Materials as required.	Spring 2021
Plants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spring Bulbs • British Wildflower meadow 	Autumn 2021	Labour - BHPC own staff. Materials as required.	Autumn 2021
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hedgerow 	Next year	Spring bulbs = £100	Next year

			RHS British wildflower seeds = £49.90	
Recycling Bins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recycling bins 	Summer 2021	???	Summer 2021
Seating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replace memorial bench • More log benches • Picnic table 	Summer 2021	£150 £300.00	Summer 2021
Sensory Garden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Taste Bed 	Summer 2021	Labour - Voluntary CC & DC Plants and Mulch- £75	Autumn 2021
Signage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signposts around the site • Site identification signs • Pond - Beware deep water sign • Lifebelt ??? 	Summer 2021		Autumn 2021
Trees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove off shoots • Labels 	Late Autumn 2021	Labour - BHPC own staff. £33.24	Early Spring 2022
Wildlife	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-site 'Bug Hotels' and hang bird boxes. 	Summer 2021	Labour - BHPC own staff. Materials as required. Bird boxes Amazon set of 8 Bird boxes approximately £30.00	Autumn 2021

BHPC Sensory Garden 2021

Chronology

	Area	Action	Facilitator	Start	Completion
	Fences	General maintenance	BHPC Staff	Ongoing	Annually
1	Map	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need replacement Map of BHPC Sensory Garden on BHPC website Small paper copy maps available from BHPC office	CC & SJ	Spring 2021	Summer 2021
10	Orchard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minor pruning Tree Labels 	BHPC Staff Voluntary CC & DC	Late Autumn 2021 Autumn	Early Spring 2022 Then annually
8	Paths	Appropriate surfaces	BHPC Staff	Summer 2021	Autumn 2021
2	Pond	Chicken wire surface, minor repairs.	BHPC Staff	Spring 2021	Spring 2021
9	Plants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spring Bulbs British Wildflower meadow Hedgerow	BHPC Staff	Autumn 2021 Next year	Autumn 2021 Next year
3	Recycling Bins	Recycling bins	CC & SJ	Summer 2021	Summer 2021
6	Seating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replace memorial bench More log benches Picnic tables	BHPC Staff	Summer 2021	Summer 2021
4	Sensory Garden	The Taste Bed	Voluntary CC & DC	Summer 2021	Autumn 2021
5	Signage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identification labels for trees Signposts around the site Site identification signs Pond - Beware deep water sign Lifebelt ??? 	Voluntary CC/DC - Tree Labels BHPC Staff	Summer 2021	Autumn 2021
11	Trees	Remove off shoots	BHPC Staff	Late Autumn 2021	Early Spring 2022
7	Wildlife	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Re-site 'Bug Hotels' and hang bird boxes. 	BHPC Staff	Summer 2021	Autumn 2021