

Bohemia Walled Garden Association

Action Plan for 2024

Each year the Bohemia Walled Garden Association (BWGA) plans activities for the coming year with references to the Charity's aims. These are aspirations and we work hard to achieve them but sometimes circumstances beyond our control mean that they are not completed.

The BWGA Charity Commission objects:

(1) To promote for the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment.

(2) To advance the education of the public in the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment.

(3) The provision of facilities for recreation and other leisure-time occupation in the interests of social welfare for the public at large with the object of improving their conditions of life.

Overall Aim:

To restore and put back into active use the Victorian walled garden within the nature conservation area of Summerfields Wood.

We will continue to try and do this through the aims below:

1. To provide plots to rent out for the growing of vegetables and fruits.

Plots will continue to be available with a waiting list closed at 10 people.

Plot fees will be collected in January and February at £1.50 per square metre

2. To maintain and keep the garden within the walls in good repair, safe and secure.

We will continue to maintain the garden through regular volunteering and Community Task Days. Plot inspections and health and safety reviews will also continue. We will keep in regular contact with Hastings Borough Council and raise any issues regarding the garden structures with them as needed. We also support their routine site inspections.

Progress getting alternative water sources into the garden as especially during the summer months water is scarce.

Investigate improving the members' tool shed to encourage better management of the space and tools.

3. Raising awareness of the site's historical, social and horticultural value, including the Bohemia Estate heritage area and Summerfields Wood (LNR).

Promotion continues through the booklet (HLF funded), website and social media.

We will aim to update the booklet with recent development (e.g., COVID) since it was published 3+ years ago.

4. Working with the community

We hope to continue the collaboration with Greener Futures, which means new groups of people are able to get involved and use the garden for learning and wellbeing.

We will continue to arrange public events which give the wider community an opportunity to enjoy the garden.

We will collaborate with other organisations when the opportunity arises.

5. Working with our members and volunteers

Attempt to encourage a sense of community within the walls through a mixture of social events and task days. Further develop the rota of opening up for Sunday's. Encourage ploholders to know their neighbours.

6. Education

We will continue to engage with groups and schools to ensure that the educational and community plots are well used.

7. Health and Safety

The BWGA insurance is renewed each July and completes risk assessments for activities at the garden.

8. To consider environmental issues

We continue to compost and recycle wherever possible, and avoid single use plastics at all our events.

We are maintaining the solar/wind powered Waterless Toilet.

We will continue to ask all plot-holders and volunteers not to use pesticide.

9. Lease requirements

BWGA continues to inform HBC as leaseholder of all relevant changes.

We promote and encourage members to participate in joint projects with the HBC Rangers in Summerfields Wood through the use of social media notifications and newsletters.

10. Charity Commission obligations

The charity trustees meet and record decisions, keep accurate and up to date accounts that are inspected annually, report to the Charity Commission as required annually, and report to the BWGA members at the annual AGM.

Approved by trustees

Date: Committee Meeting TBC