

## **Update on Action Plan of the Business Plan for the Bohemia Walled Garden Association**

**Date March 2015**

- 1. To form a fund-raising sub-committee to explore ways of raising enough funds to carry out projects in objective 1.**

We have formed a fund-raising sub-committee and we have met several times to discuss and explore ways of raising funds to complete objective 1.

We are in the process of applying for Lottery Heritage funding of up to £100,000 to carry out the necessary repairs to the damaged area of the eastern boundary wall to restore the garden to its original state and to make the entrance to the garden accessible to all.

We have carried out necessary maintenance repairs during the year to ensure that the structure of the walled garden and immediate surrounding area is kept in good repair. This has been achieved with the help of the Ranger – Guy Loder. In addition we have maintained the interior of the garden, including paths, buildings and communal areas.

We have obtained enough money through grants and fund raising events (£10,000 grant) to install a Accessible, waterless toilet within the walled garden and this is in situ and proving invaluable. Also we have bought a large marquee for the garden from a grant and fund raising.

- 2. To ensure income is secured annually from plot holders and possibly members to maintain and keep in good repair both the structure of the walled garden and surrounding areas as well as maintaining the interior of the garden as outlined in objective 1.**

Income has been secured from all plot holders to enable us to carry out maintenance and upkeep of the garden and immediate surrounding area.

- 3. To increase the number of fund-raising events and to ensure donations are actively requested at all fund-raising events to put towards the Save the Wall Fund.**

We have increased the number of fund-raising events to include:-

- Bush craft event in February and April July and August
- Easter event in April
- Open Day in June
- Herb talk in July
- Heritage Open Day in September
- Afrikaba Event in October
- Pumpkin Event in October
- Christmas celebration of acquisition of marquee for BWG
- Donations have been collected at all events that have been organised.

In total 17 events have taken place to include: - 11 public events, 3 outreach, 3 private events, 3bushcraft sessions and a celebratory event at the end of the year. Footfall has exceeded 1000.

- 4. To encourage plot holders and members alike through the website and other social media to become active in achieving all the objectives as well as feeling a part of the BWGA and benefitting from being part of the community.**

Members have been encouraged through the website and other social media to participate in the walled garden and events associated with the garden and there has been an increase in members/plot holders engaging with events, fund-raising and generally helping out when needed.

- 5. To continue to open the garden for a minimum of two open days a year, to include the Heritage Open Day, and to increase the numbers of other horticultural, cultural and artists events on offer during the year, in keeping with the ethos of the garden.**

This has been achieved and new activities and events have been added to the programme of events this year.

- 6. To encourage members and plot holders and interested volunteers in participating in ongoing maintenance work within the garden, as well as becoming involved in joint projects in the wood environment.**

Ongoing maintenance work has been undertaken within the garden and work on the immediate area surrounding area has been carried out in conjunction with the Ranger – Guy Loder.

- 7. To plan and carry out maintenance days, actively encouraging new volunteers to participate.**

This is an area that needs to be improved in terms of having a regular date when people can be encouraged to participate specifically on communal tasks.

- 8. To organise events, both in the garden and in the local community to enable plot holders and members to socialise and get to know each other as well as raising funds for the “Save the Wall” project.**

Two events have been organised this year to encourage members to socialise – Pumpkin Day and Christmas Celebration. The organisation of other social events has not taken place due to time take up with organising garden events.

#### **Finances**

- 1. To use the income from plot holders and possible members to ensure the day to day running costs of the operation of the garden. This includes maintenance of the garden, insurance costs, hire of hall for AGM, stationary and expenses incurred by the committee members in day to day running of the garden.**

This has been achieved.

- 2. Monies raised from fund-raising events (minus costs) to be transferred into a savings account to be used for the fund-raising projects in objective 1.**

This has been carried out.

- 3. Grants to be applied for to assist in the provision of the waterless toilet as well as accessibility at entrance of garden and the Save the Wall Project.**

£10,000 was received from Big Lottery towards the provision of the waterless toilet and the other funds raised from the fund-raising events. £1,000 was received from Sussex Garden’s Trust which enabled us to purchase a large marquee for the garden. Heritage Lottery Funding is currently being applied for to carry out the repair of the eastern wall and to make the entrance to the garden accessible to all.

- 4. At a later date funds to be sought to provide workshops and support and training for volunteers and others in the community.**

Funding to provide workshops on heritage, horticultural activities and involvement of local people and volunteers is also being applied for under the Heritage Lottery Funding.

**This updated Action Plan for the Business was presented at the 2015 AGM  
As part of the Management Committee report for 2015**

**Signed as accepted by Chair and Secretary 30 05 15**

