

## PROJECT CLOSING REPORT - Crescent Planters

### 1. OVERVIEW

Fix planters to the Crescent site hoardings, and plant up the basins in the Turner Memorial.

### 2. DETAIL OF WHAT TOOK PLACE

Twelve cast iron manger style wall baskets were purchased and planted up with summer bedding plants, and hung off the hoardings between the Crescent construction site and The Slopes. They were spaced out, filling in the gaps between the information boards installed by the Buxton Crescent and Thermal Spa Co. The baskets remained in place through summer 2016, but towards the end of the period we had several instances where they were knocked off the hoarding and damaged, and one basket was lost permanently. The decision was therefore taken to remove them over the winter. The remaining 11 baskets were replanted and repositioned in spring 2017 and remained in place without incident throughout the summer.

Vinci agreed to keep the plants watered, and in general did so very effectively.

The basins of the Turner Memorial were planted up for the summer of 2016. This was not repeated in 2017 because we were hoping we could get the water supply restored instead - while some progress has been made towards this, it has still not been achieved.

### 3. ASSESSMENT AGAINST AIMS AND SUCCESS CRITERIA

The aims of the project were:

- To enhance the Crescent environment during the construction period.  
Largely achieved, though so far they have only been in place through the summer months.
- To contribute to the Buxton in Bloom project.  
Achieved, they provided floral displays along what would otherwise have been a rather dull narrow walkway.
- To promote the work of Buxton Town Team.  
Laminated notices were fixed on the hoardings in 2016, attributing the planters to Buxton Town Team and acknowledging the sponsors.

The measurable success criteria of the project were as follows:

- At least 12 trough planters are fixed in place.  
Twelve planters were provided and fixed initially; one went missing, but the remaining 11 have been in place both summers.
- Positive press coverage.  
The Buxton Advertiser included a short piece. Pure Buxton had a feature about the Town Team tidying up at the foot of The Slopes in readiness for hanging the planters.
- Positive feedback from local and visitors  
When hanging the planters, or when tending to them, we have had lots of positive comments from passers by. A Facebook post in July 2016 reached 834 people, attracting 47 Likes, 5 shares and 3 comments, all positive; a similar post in June 2017 reached 2,100 people with 51 Likes/Loves, 11 shares and one comment ('Looks lovely').
- The plants look good and continue to do so throughout the construction period.  
Apart from one instance when they were allowed to dry out, and took a while to recover, the planters have brightened up that area through two summers, from June to early October each year.

### 4. ANY FURTHER BENEFITS

Before installing the planters in June 2016, we undertook a general clean up of the bottom of the Slopes, and realised how badly the area had deteriorated. The Slopes Care Team project was set up as a direct result of this

## 5. COSTS

The original cost estimate was £500, with half of this contributed by Buxton Civic Association, giving a budget of £250 from Buxton Town Team. A further £100 was authorised in 2017 to cover the cost of replanting for summer 2017, giving a total budget of £350.

The actual costs were as follows:

EXPENDITURE	
Compost and plants and planters 2016	£374.34
Compost and plants 2017	£220.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£594.34</b>
<b>Net Expenditure</b>	<b>£344.34</b>

INCOME	
BCA contribution	250.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 250.00</b>

## 6. LEARNING POINTS FOR THE FUTURE

Good links established with Vinci re watering and advising us when the planters were vandalised, this has proved valuable and they have been co-operative on other issues.

Fixing to the hoardings - we devised a way to just hook the planters over the top of the hoarding so they are easy to lift on and off; the downside of this is that they are easy for vandals to knock off.

To deter vandalism, a more permanent fixing would be better - but there was no repeat of this problem in 2017.

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24<sup>th</sup> September 2017