

Report from Mary Turner on behalf of Bures Station Adopters for Parish Council meetings 19th and 22nd July 2021

We have had some very successful working parties at the station garden. All the bulbs have been lifted, dried out and are currently being stored in the Transition Allotment shed. New plants and shrubs have been both purchased, donated and planted and the tubs and beds are looking very colourful. It continues to be a work in progress, watering, deadheading, removing dead growth and planting new.

On Thursday 8th, a group of us met at the station with Alan Neville and Jayne Sumner who introduced Tracey Vickers who has been appointed Head of Sustainable Transport.

On Friday 9th, a group of us met with the team of three volunteers from The Bee Friendly Trust who came from Soho and erected 2 large oak planters which are situated on the platform alongside the wildlife area. They were filled with topsoil, compost and bark and some bee friendly shrubs were planted, all funded by The Bee Friendly Trust and Essex and South Suffolk Community Rail Partnership. Below are photos of the planters and Luke Dixon who heads up the Trust. He spoke about other activities the Trust are involved with including his group of professional waggle dancers (who replicate the waggle dance of the bees!) He is willing to get involved with them if we have any activities taking place on the common or recreation ground in the future. Luke who is also a theatre director has some very creative ideas! He would also be happy to promote the activities of his Trust by erecting a stall.

Ferriers Barn were absolutely delighted being asked to paint a dragon which the members thoroughly enjoyed painting and it will be fixed on the long rectangular space above the notice board behind the train timetable. Jayne Sumner has taken it to the printers to scan it on to dibond.

Greater Anglia have also asked Ferriers Barn to paint 20 pictures of Wildflowers, Sunny, Insect, Bees and Flowers and the work has already begun! These pictures on A3 will be scanned on to dibond and put up at various stations around the area. I have also asked if they could make us a bug hotel. Again, Ferriers Barn are absolutely delighted to be asked and their woodwork group have already started on building one which will be approximately 4ft high and will be placed on the platform between the bee friendly planters. They want to donate it and contribute to the community.

The idea for a mural on the wall of the car park is making very slow progress and Greater Anglia lease the wall from Network Rail and have informed that they will only allow their workforce to render the wall so we will not be allowed to use any local builders.

I have been in touch with Bill Sargeant who is a well known pargetter for Essex and Suffolk and he is willing to meet to discuss pargetting the wall which could feature for example an image of St Stephens Chapel, the dragon and sheaves of corn. I plan to ask him details of what surface would be needed to be prepared by Greater Anglia in the hope that they will be willing to comply and give their agreement to pargetting.

Our station adopters have been invited to a Thankyou event by Greater Anglia at Chappel Station on Thursday 5th August.

We plan to host the next station adopters coffee morning in the barn on the common when we get the go ahead.

