

Hunstanton Heritage Gardens update



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The £1.3m project to refurbish and repair the areas of the Greens, Esplanade Gardens and structures along the cliff top continues, with completion across certain parts of the project area.

This project is supported by the National Lottery through the Heritage Lottery Fund and Big Lottery Fund and will be complete during July 2017.

Works will continue on the Victorian shelters on cliff parade and Butterfly Shelters.

The new Time and Tide Garden can be seen taking shape as the focal point of the main gardens and will be completed in early July 2017.

Completed elements in this latest phase of the project include;

- Surfacing works to the paths
- South Shelter on the Green
- Edwardian Pavilion
- New Rose Garden in the former play area
- New Crazy Golf area
- Town Sign - restoration complete and installed back on the upper Green this week.
- Play Area - opened on Friday 23 June to coincide with the Carnival. Members of the community have undertaken a horticultural training day and are leading the planting of the central flower bed within the play area on the 30 June 2017.
- Henry Styleman Le Strange statue installed and officially unveiled on Friday 16 June
- New fencing installed in the Esplanade Gardens.



Clockwise from top left: *Play Area*: Opened on 23 June in readiness for Hunstanton Carnival. *Henry Styleman Le Strange Statue*: Installed 16 June

Next steps and Key Dates

Next phase to be completed and opened (anticipated week ending 7th July);

- Time & Tide garden - this will include seating, information boards and a new photographic time-line of events related to the sea in Hunstanton's history. The photographs have been compiled and selected with the assistance of the Hunstanton Civic Society. The garden is intended to provide visitors with space for quiet contemplation and reflection
- The Lookout - improved sloped access and a widened walkway, and a new decked area which provides a larger viewing area. A new telescope has been installed so visitors can enjoy views of the famous cliffs, and the Wash.
- Fountain - new perimeter wall constructed and planting laid. Next stage to complete this will be to install the new fountain liner.

Remaining works to complete the project:

- Masonry repair works at St Edmunds Chapel
- Town Cross repairs
- Butterfly Shelters - this was originally due to take 20 weeks to complete but has experienced delays with the specialist subcontractors required to undertake particular elements of the restoration. The installation of the new zinc roof is underway and due to complete in the next 2 weeks. The hard landscaping underneath the shelters has been completed as far as possible. The remaining landscape works under the shelters will be completed when the roof and shelter panelling is complete.
- Victorian Shelters on the Clifftop - as with the Butterfly shelters, this is behind schedule but works are now progressing. Additional restoration works have been identified by the Conservation Architect and Structural Engineer to ensure the longevity of the refurbished shelters.

Installation of the interpretation package for the gardens will follow post completion of the works. This is an integral element of the overall scheme to provide visitors and residents an opportunity to learn about the different periods and events of Hunstanton's history. We have been working with members of the Civic Society during a very intensive period of research to compile and sort the extensive historical information for the interpretation. This is currently being designed and will then require a period of thorough checking and approval to ensure accuracy.