

Station Adopters report July 2023

The work at the station has now been completed and we were given £400 towards replacement of plants shrubs and hose that were damaged. We needed to purchase many bags of compost as we found a lot of concrete rubble buried in the flower beds which had to be removed before replanting.

Wiring has been buried in the wildlife area near to the fence, and despite there being a sign indicating it was a wildlife garden, the sign has been lost. There is now a wide gap between the fence and the ticket machine and we are concerned that members of the public will be able to gain access which will disturb the slow worms and hedgehogs. Greater Anglia have refused to fund a gate so we are looking at having one made locally. Greater Anglia have agreed to provide us with a new sign.

I approached the school about displaying children's artwork on the subjects of wildlife and climate change. June and Jayne have selected pictures and are scanning them on to dibond and we will soon be displaying them on the fence with a sign indicating they are from Bures schoolchildren.

We remain concerned about the central access that people use to get to the platform from the car park which is very muddy when wet and could pose a health and safety issue to people using it. Greater Anglia are not in agreement with it being blocked off. We remain in discussion but we have made it clear that our concerns have been raised.

We have several new planters which we have sited on the metal lids that access the wiring and can easily be removed and these have now been planted up.

Access to water remains an issue for us at the moment as Phil who provides us with free water, has a leak in a pipe so we are limited to filling up plastic bottles as currently the hose can not be used.

Last year an ecologist from Essex Wildlife Trust assessed the station garden and as a result we have been awarded a Wildlife Friendly Stations Accreditation and have been presented with an award and will continue to focus on making the garden wildlife friendly.

Mary Turner Lead Station Adopter