



**The Hangleton
& Knoll Project**
Working for a better community

Carbon Reduction Fund Grant Evaluation **October 2021**



Carbon Reduction Resilience Fund 2020/2021

The Youth Team were awarded £4,700 in February 2021 to deliver a 'grow your own' community eco-friendly space in Knoll Park. We have been running weekly activities with young people concentrating on topics including environmental and biodiversity awareness, recycling and re-purposing, cookery and food waste reduction, planting and growing, litter picking, and thinking about how we can create habitats that encourage breeding and improve wildlife connectivity.



Information on what the grant enabled and the lasting impact this funding has made

The grant enabled us to start to develop the vision of a 'grow your own' community eco-friendly space in Knoll Park through the delivery of weekly youth sessions at Knoll Pavilion. The sessions were delivered over 6 months April to September 2021. This is having a lasting impact as the opportunities the grant enabled us to provide has cemented young members as a friendship group giving them a sense of belonging and ownership of their space. As a result of the opportunities the young people have joined in wider community activities such as litter picking, got involved in social action with the newly constituted group 'Friends of Knoll Park' and formed a positive relationship with Hangleton Bowls Club to help out with future seasonal gardening projects. The Carbon reduction fund that we were awarded has broadened young people's horizons to further get involved in Youth Wise and to host event with Climate Change as the theme they chose to be explored.

A summary of outputs, and how you met the outcomes you outlined in your application

'Grow Your Own' Outputs summary

Sessions delivered	Date	Topics explored and activities delivered	Numbers attending
1	1/4/2021	Healthy cooking – Food waste – how it works	17
2	9/4/2021	Healthy cooking – Food waste - how it works	14
3	16/4/2021	Healthy cooking – Food waste – how it works	13
4	20/4/2021	Healthy cooking – Food waste – how it works	13
5	27/4/2021	Healthy cooking – Food waste – how it works	16
6	4/5/2021	Litter picking – Recycling	13
7	11/5/2021	Litter picking – Recycling	4
8	18/5/2021	Planting - Litter picking – Recycling	13
9	25/5/2021	Planting - Litter picking – Recycling	21
10	3/6/2021	Carbon foot prints – biodegrading	16
11	8/6/2021	Carbon foot prints – biodegrading	10
12	15/6/2021	Herbs grow – cook - eat	11
13	22/6/2021	Herbs grow – cook - eat	23
14	29/6/2021	Herbs grow – cook - eat	14
15	6/7/2021	Volunteering	13
16	7/7/2021	Volunteering	10
17	8/7/2021	Volunteering	10
18	3/8/2021	Looking after the park and enjoying the environment	21
19	10/8/2021	Looking after the park and enjoying the environment	23
20	17/8/2021	Looking after the park and enjoying the environment	20
21	24/8/2021	Looking after the park and enjoying the environment	25
22	14/9/2021	Friends of Knoll Park Surveys and future planning	14
23	21/9/2021	Friends of Knoll Park Surveys and future planning	13
24	29/9/2021	Climate Change Youth Wise Event Planning	20

Total Sessions delivered 24

Total number of topics explored 14

Total footfall of YP 367

Delivering the project during COVID pandemic

Working under the National Youth Agency and following the government's road map guidelines we had good attendance and engagement with young people in the project as outlined in the outputs table below. COVID did impact on many young people who had to isolate at various weeks of the delivery timeframe. All data is recorded on ASPIRE. At the sessions young people chose a topic of interest they wanted to explore and took part in fun activities including gardening, cooking, litter picking, recycling and small workshops; herb identification and tasting; a 'how long does it take activity' and 'how it works' magazine chat sessions. Young people got the chance to notice and observe wildlife in the park and were thrilled when they even came close to a pheasant one day!

Litter Picking Knoll Park

We kicked off our project with the purchase of litter pickers and high viz vests for our 'Community Crew' of young volunteers to do regular litter picks around the park during youth sessions. The young people were surprised at the amount of litter they discovered scattered around the play area and patio outside the pavilion building.



"People really should use the bins or take their litter home"

"It's good to help look after the park by clearing up the litter but sad that people don't use the bin"

"It's made me think more about plastic and packets and how they blow into the bushes and are left there"

Trying healthier food choices



We supported young people to make their own healthy smoothies experimenting with different fresh ingredients; teaching them how to prepare the fruit safely and use the blender. "First time I tried a freshly made banana and raspberry smoothie and it was so filling!"



How long until it's gone?

We took part in an activity to learn about how long it takes for things to disappear from the planet by researching on our phones. It was shocking to discover how long it takes for materials like plastic to be gone. "I feel bad for buying things like plastic bottles from the corner shop now"



Discovering new things



- Herb discovery workshop
- Guess the herb
 - Taste the herb
 - Say what food it goes with

Learning to grow

The Youth Workers helped us to plant herbs to see if they would grow.



Information on any additional outcomes that may have resulted from the funded activity

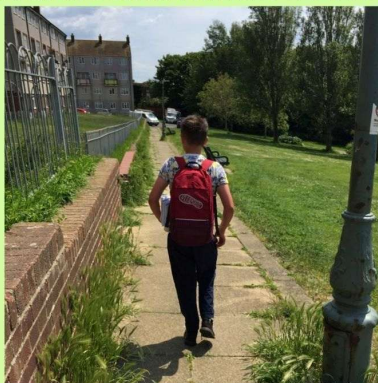
We had some very good news that the Lottery have agreed to funding for the Climate Action Fund Project on Food Use Places with Brighton and Hove Food Partnership that we are a partner in. This development funding will work with several community-based projects (community venues and food projects), surplus food projects and schools on less food and packaging waste reduction projects including food waste audits, cookery sessions, community events and compost tumblers. The partners funded work will start from April 2022 with set up from Jan - March next year. The development funding from the Lottery is to test ideas around a partnership of well rooted local organisations working at a community level on food and packaging waste reduction and composting and sharing ideas and support by working as a network. There will be an option to apply for further support from the Lottery if the model proves to be successful. We are very pleased to be a part of this project so we can continue with the work we have already started with the Carbon Reduction funding and all part of our bigger plans to support our City in its efforts to be carbon neutral by 2030.

We are also delighted to report that we are part of the Funding success for the Changing Chalk partnership which has been successful in securing a £2.2 million grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) to deliver a 4-year programme of activity across the eastern South Downs. The official start of delivery is January 2022 but most activity will begin after project officers have been recruited from April 2022 onwards. For more information about Changing Chalk and what the partnership will deliver, please visit the web page: <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/projects/the-changing-chalk-partnership> This means that young people will have more opportunities to engage in 2 x Easter holiday activities and 4 x summer holiday activities, providing an educational and aspirational experience.

- Easter 2022 April Day 1: Bug Hunt & Butterfly Spotting with Buglife
- Easter 2022 April Day 2: Tour of Ghost Towns near Saddlescombe
- Summer 2022 June Day 1: The Big Dig- hands-on archaeology dig/ Walk to Waterhall
- Summer 2022 June Day 2: Pollinator identification & Wart-biter spotting
- Summer 2022 July Day 3: Visit to Writing Our Legacy Summer exhibition and creative writing workshop
- Summer 2022 July Day 4: Foraging & Wild Cooking (feedback session)
- August 2022: Legacy planning day following feedback, including introduction to SDNP Youth Ambassadors and taster of volunteering activity.

Exploring our community

Through the project we have been able to explore our community and learn more about the environment we live in.



Information on what went well and less well and any learning as a result

As we embarked on this journey of participation and activities with young people we observed their interest grow in climate change issues and they got really involved in planning Youth Wise a meeting of young people, youth workers, councillors and council officers to discuss and contribute to decisions about youth services in Brighton and Hove choosing climate change as the theme. Young people got involved in volunteering as a result of the activities, had chances to try new things through informal learning opportunities and gain a digital badge and develop their own space – grow your own! The main challenges along the way were mainly COVID related where we were limited in being able to organise some trips and often young people missed out due to having to isolate. We are pleased to report as a direct result of our activities in Knoll Park that the community have become more engaged and interested in our work and a new group has formed of which young people are members called 'Friends of Knoll Park'. The group have already completed a fantastic community consultation with over 200 residents involved and working together to make the park a place for future activities concentrating on topics including environmental and biodiversity awareness, recycling and re-purposing, cookery and food waste reduction, planting and growing, litter picking, and creating habitats that encourage breeding and improve wildlife connectivity.

Feedback and quotes from your beneficiaries/members



Quotes from young people that attended sessions:

"That's mad I didn't know it took so much water to make one burger and I didn't know there were different gasses to do with climate change before." -KO age 17.

"My family eat meat every night, it's good to talk about other options for when you're older." - JS age 16

"I have real enjoyed coming to the drop ins they are so welcoming, I recently joined friends of knoll park and I have been enjoying that" MG age 11

Fun activities, good for spending free time, an area to hang out if you have nowhere to go, meet new people and learn new things. Ben aged 15

The Hangleton and Knoll Project is a great space to relax, chill out, eat food and make new friends and I look forward to coming here after school and doing all the activities. Damian Aged 13

"It educates us about plastic and how long it lasts for. I was unaware how long these things stay around for (on earth) like the masks I used and used a lot of them in the beginning of COVID. Now I have a reusable one" Fin aged 13

