



STB Newsletter

August 2019

Our top story today! ...

... as the newsreaders would put it; since our July update **the boardwalk's final extension has at last been completed** and the rutted dust path is now replaced! Meandering from the viewing deck, curving around to the picnic area and underpinned with robust galvanised steel - we hope you'll agree it looks amazing! In time for the summer holidays, the boardwalk is now fully open again and is ready to welcome you all. Our Facebook followers have reacted to recent pictures we've posted with enthusiasm:

- *"It looks fantastic and we can't wait to come down and see it next week. Well done all - it's great to see the community spirit alive and kicking!"*
- *"Much better surface especially in the wet."*

The hardcore exposed around the picnic area will be re-seeded to grass in September, when it's more likely to rain to give the seeds a chance 'to take.' When that seeding is done priority will be given to ensure that the picnic area, like the rest of the boardwalk, is accessible to all by retaining some hardcore.



You know how it is though; you fix one area up and it throws the spotlight on others that need a tidy! So during the first week in July the gang gave the rest of the boardwalk the attention it was needing. Recent fair weather and sporadic rain had meant that much overgrowth needed cutting back and our volunteers tackled the task with gusto. Overhanging branches and creeping weeds were dealt with. The way was cleared! It is of course a never-ending task; if you are able to volunteer some time to give us a hand please do email us to let us know - boardwalkgang@gmail.com; we are always appreciative of extra help.

While these activities have been visible around the boardwalk, behind the scenes other efforts continue. Whether it's those of our gang with financial 'house' who keep our books in order for the likes of the work we've talked of above, the creative writers and designers amongst us who ensure our materials reflect the area and also the admin' types who oversee fundraising. Enhancements to the boardwalk area over the last year or so, have meant that the current nature trail quiz leaflets, downloadable from our website and the information boards and signs, are missing references to a number of its new features ...

The Slashpond Boardwalk is an alternative attraction to our wonderful Seaside Award beach (the national standard for the best



beaches across the UK). At more than 350 metres, the boardwalk is a sheltered, non-slip, paw friendly decked walkway surrounding a serene pond in a habitat that supports a wildflower meadow, a picnic area, willow dens, bug houses and bat & bird nesting boxes.

Parking at Trafalgar Terrace car park (along the seafront, turn left at the Galleon Inn, ¼ mile on the left. Parking is free with a donation box at the entrance to help local community groups). Walk out of the car park, turn left, the walk entrance is 30 metres on the left. Sat Nav directions use SA62 3JU. Bring along a small net and enjoy the 'Dipping Deck' or test yourself with Nature Trail Quiz. The area offers a circular route of approximately ½ mile which is accessible to motobility scooters, wheelchairs and pushchairs.

... **A new contemporary leaflet design**, incorporating a fun quiz, pertinent information of the area and the boardwalk gang's activities, is ready to go to print ... we are in the process of applying for funds to action that. 'Watch this space.'

It's worth noting here that of course all of these on-going projects require funds. The recent final extension to the boardwalk was made possible thanks to a significant award from **Pembrokeshire County Council's Enhancing Pembrokeshire Fund**. It did however also need a sizeable injection of cash from funds raised by Support the Boardwalk. We are always very thankful for your support and help raising these monies. Now that we have completed that final extension and our cash reserves have taken a hit, we are applying to community funds for the new leaflets. If however, you are able to donate to boost those funds; you will find ways to do that on the [Fundraising & Donating](#) page of our website

A review of signs has also been conducted over recent months. Sign suppliers have been approached and funding applied for that too. As we go to press here, the good news is that we have just secured funding from **Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water** for that particular project. We are very appreciative of their **Community Fund award** which means that final touches can now be made to artwork for the signs and then we're good to go!

Managing and maintaining the boardwalk in these ways enables the Haven's locals and visitors to enjoy the habitat's flora and fauna. Don't forget; if you want to share the beauty of the boardwalk's birds, **illustrated note cards** are now on sale at The Beach Shop. Sold in biodegradable packaging they cost £4 for 8 cards, good value for a memento of your visit.

It's been a busy month!

Heritage of Slashpond

Have you a story to tell or photos from the past? If you have a story from the past relating to the Slashpond we would love you to share with us. Thank you to those of you who have already been in touch. Please note the corrected email address for sharing your memories - davidlmeanwell@gmail.com

Join Us - Next Meeting:

8pm, Monday 5th Aug in The Rafters - stairway to this meeting space is behind the Broad Haven village hall. (NB: Through 2019 - meetings are each even numbered month from Feb' ... Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec) It's a lovely community group with something for everyone and it's a bit of a social too! Please keep an eye on our facebook page; you'd be most welcome. If you're not on facebook please email us (boardwalkgang@gmail.com) and we'll send you its time/date. Have a think about it! Thx so much.

'Support the Boardwalk' – Fundraising to Preserve and to Enhance

WATCH THIS SPACE (for activity and meeting re-scheduling when necessary):

Facebook - [facebook.com/supporttheboardwalk](https://www.facebook.com/supporttheboardwalk)

Website - <http://www.supporttheboardwalk.co.uk>