

### Quarterly Progress Report



April – June 2020 Year 3 Quarter 1



TOGETHER FOR OUR LANDMARK



### Introduction: Dealing with the Coronavirus Restrictions

### Adapting our work

All staff in the LP team and partner organisations are now working from home, with the majority of meetings now being held on-line

All of our face-to-face group community engagement, learning and volunteering activity has stopped

Groundwork contractors have been able to continue carrying out site based work (where safe to do so) and this has enabled us to see the completion of the wall at Pendleside farm and the concessionary bridleway at Downham, together with the majority of the improvement works at Downham information barn.

Some community activity has been delivered on-line and will continue in this format for the next few months –for example we have held Pendle hill farmer network and Sense of Place training webinars (image below); Festival Bowland style talks and activity (bat talk, virtual meadows day, storytelling films, virtual Clarion Sunday bike ride) and the planned Digital Gatherings will take place in August



Our planned John Muir Award for families is going ahead as an online version in July, providing inspiration and support for families wanting to get outdoors during the summer holidays



Since 1<sup>st</sup> June the LP team have been able to carry out site visits to check on contractors, survey habitats and to meet partners to discuss site based activity

Some one-to-one and small group sessions re-started in late June as part of our People Enjoying Nature project, as lockdown has been lifted and guidelines have permitted small group gatherings to take place

We are actively researching, and planning for, how and when our volunteering and learning activity can restart and what additional risk assessments and procedures will need to be put in place. Our aim is to start as soon as we can work safely and have confirmed insurance cover from the county council; and we also want to ensure that the adaptations to work safely do not render the activity ineffective (in terms of staff and resources) or by making the session unattractive to participants.

#### **Supporting communities**

We produced a number of on line notices and requests to the public accessing the landscape during the early lockdown, and relating to new guidance as the restrictions have been lifted – eg 'stay at home' 'exercise locally' 'keep your distance and take litter home'

We were involved in a number of discussions and the creation of a poster for Pendleside villages, in partnership with the parish councils, encouraging good visitor behaviour ......



...and we created a new Countryside Code poster for the LP encouraging visitors to 'Respect, Protect, Enjoy'

We have set up a 'parish footpath repair fund' within the Pendle Hill Fund which will enable parishes to identify repairs and call upon the parish lengthsman to carry these out quickly and effectively

We will look to purchase extra hand tools and PPE to enable our volunteers to work more safely when they return

### The Environment

### **Restoring Traditional Boundaries**

The third phase of the **hedging restoration** work has gone out to tender and prices have been returned from contractors. These will be assessed and the contracts will be awarded in August, in time for work to take place in the Autumn and Winter. We plan to manage just over 1800m of hedgerow restoration on five holdings this year.

The second length of **wall** at Pendleside Farm has now been completed and signed off – a total of  $98m^2$  was restored at a cost to the project of £4100 with a contribution of £1250 from the farmer.



The next commissioned wall restoration- 392 m<sup>2</sup> at Meadow Bank farm - is due to begin in August. The banners brought to go along highly visible stretches of restoration – the wall at Pendleside and the hedge at Smithies Bridge - have now been put in place.



The **dry stone walling competition** planned for May 2020 had to be cancelled due to Covid-19 restrictions, but this will be re-scheduled for next year. All of the walling training for summer 2020 has also had to be postponed.

All the contract activity has been greatly helped by having Ian Hart contracted to work on the project checking progress and drawing up specifications and undertaking tender assessment, pre-start and progress meetings, and signing off completed work.

Preliminary meetings have taken place with the Environment Agency in relation to a forthcoming flood alleviation scheme around Padiham in the SW corner of the LP area. If successful, we are hoping that this scheme will offer the opportunity for additional traditional boundary restoration to be added to the project as part of EA's contribution to biodiversity net gain. Work within the development phase of the LP identified boundaries whose restoration would hold positive benefits for natural flood management (NFM) as well as to landscape and biodiversity. We will use this work to prioritise suitable restoration sites within the scope of the Padiham scheme. If successful we will be notified of funds (up to £25,000) in summer 2021, and the work would be delivered in Q3 and Q4 of 2021/2.

### **Restoring Wildlife and Priority Habitats**

Three of the four planned summer **public events** for Wild about Pendle were cancelled in April, and the fourth is still planned for September ('Waxcaps discovery walk') if restrictions allow.

Similarly habitat surveys, community recording and habitat management works at Clarion House wildlife discovery site have been postponed; and activity at Barley woodlands and Worsaw Hill is delayed. However, we are in discussion with the landowner and tenant at Worsaw about a new agri-environment scheme application which will support good management of the grassland into the future.



Meadow surveying at the foot of Pendle, and the increasing diversity now found at Cockshotts

We have been working on a **meadow restoration** project at Cockshotts Farm in Sabden since the summer of 2018. Since then we have made two seed additions as well as planting plug plants in early 2019. The meadow is progressing well, and will be re-surveyed in Q2.

#### Quarterly Report

During Q1 Sarah has been making use of our Pendle Hill Farmer Network contacts to identify more meadows which are suitable for enhancement work. These are meadows that already have a moderate level of plant species diversity and are already managed with a late cut. The field survey began in June and will run until the middle of July. Once complete, an assessment will be made of which species we can add into each meadow, and this work will take place at the end of the summer, with seed being added to specific sites by farmers, staff and volunteers if possible.

Sarah has also been working with Dom to identify **Biological Heritage Sites** (of county importance) on Pendle Hill Farmer Network farms and on sites owned by United Utilities. This has resulted in a short list of BHS sites where we already have good relations with the farmers/owners and this will be developed later this year with site visits and discussions around management actions which will improve and conserve the wildlife at these sites.

There are 13 BHS sites within/partly within the network farms, and they range in size from small grassland sites of just over a hectare, through complex mosaic sites along rivers and streams crossing several farms, to Pendle Hill BHS itself, which includes grazing land owned or rented by four of our farmer members.

At Mearley Moor, we continued to advise Ribble Rivers Trust on the **peat restoration works**, which we hope will resume and complete in September.

Sarah has also recently carried out a number of visits to assess damage to the peatland restoration works on the Summit and has drawn up a 'peat resilience plan' which has been submitted for contingency funding totalling £20,000. This will allow us to repair and replace 'blown' peat dams, installed two years ago but overwhelmed by the February storm,s with more resilient timber dams. We will also look to add more lime, seed and fertiliser to areas of bare peat that did not take well in 2018; and cover freshly eroded gully slopes with geo-jute or heather brash to encourage regrowth of vegetation which will stabilise the slopes and contain the peat loss.





Successful revegetation of the 'peat edge' on the summit (Summer 2020), and a 'blown' dam in the gullied area

### **Creating and Managing Woodlands**

This has been a difficult quarter for **management of INNS**, given that we have had to postpone volunteer events this summer. In the mean time we have been focussing our efforts on social media to encourage followers to conduct their own INNS control when out and about on their walks. We hope to restart volunteer days soon and have a number of management and INNS control activities lined up.

Our work on **woodlands** has not been so disrupted because the tree planting work had already been largely completed for this year.

We have now completed fencing works at Twiston, where we still have to complete water supply works, but the contractor has commenced this final element of the project. This will complete he Twiston Beck site.

We are currently identifying new woodlands for the winter planting season. We have a contract signed with Hollins Farm in Rimington and are due to visit Laneside and Schofield Farms in mid-July to identify and hopefully secure sites there.

Due to some of the difficulties faced by having to suspend INNS work this summer and in gaining landowner permission for new woodlands, the Pendle WINNS project has been extended into year 4 to ensure that all targets and planned expenditure will be met. This is with no net increase in project costs, and only a slight redistribution of capital to staffing costs (c£5000).

### The Economy

### Enhancing Visitor Gateways and key routes to Access Heritage

The **Downham to Chatburn Bridleway** is now finished and complete with all conditions discharged from the planning application. Not a bad effort when staff have been working from home and contractors have had to work in a different way with the challenges of limited materials. Good job we have forward thinking contractors who were well prepared before lock down.



The completed bridleway, showing the newly planted hedge and seat for walkers and riders

Working from home has given us time to review and reflect on the project: routes that have been thought about have been more thoroughly investigated ready for exploration when lockdown was lifted. We now have a full walking description for a new Promoted Route around Gisburn, but again Covid\_19 has had a little influence as land owners are reluctant to have walkers wandering unannounced through farm yards.

One of the great challenges has been that at first a lot of temporary signage appeared telling people they could not use footpaths: which is an untruth. Working with LCC PROW we have been able to keep up to date information about any obstructions or misleading signage appearing, and to advise landowners, and walkers, on what that can legally do in these strange and challenging times.

Cycling routes are now to be included in a separate section of the PHLP website along with some new countryside code signage. It seems that Covid\_19 has brought a different type of visitor to the countryside and the new signage is aimed at helping local communities who are trying to welcome those who aren't sure what to expect when they venture out.

Planning for **Heys Lane** is coming on, with the contract awarded to Conserve for and subsequent site visits held to plan for construction to begin in August. Landowners have met the contractors and have agreed machinery storage and material drop off which will be a great help. The Parish Council have been informed

of the appointment of the contractor and have been liaising with local residents to keep them informed of the plans. Unfortunately local opposition to these proposals has developed, and at the time of writing this report (mid-July) we have agreed to suspend operations for now in order to carry out further consultation with residents and users.

Planning for **Spring Wood Information Centre** building improvements has progressed with some further alterations to the building plans taking place since March. LCC design and construction team are now carrying out an audit of the building which means that they are involving themselves in the project and therefore the building's longevity. At time of writing, instructions are being issued to architects Sunderland Peacock to submit the planning application for the improvement work, which we hope to secure by September.

The Lancashire Environment Fund has acknowledged receipt of a grant application from PHLP however there is no current date for appraisal of applications and therefore no decision date. It is hoped that this will be established in the coming weeks to tie in the planning approval.

Construction in **Downham Information Centre** has been completed, including installation of bike racks and maintenance station. Information boards are in place and all that remains is for the installation of the community glass fronted notice board. COVID19 might have had an impact on many things but thankfully plans for Downham have not been affected and are now being enjoyed by the emerging visitors on a voyage of new discovery.



A visitor admires the new interpretation and bench, and the extra window with bike pump and maintenance kit

Work on the path at **Mearley Moor** was stopped at the start of the pandemic. We hope that it will be finished in September when the contractors can get back onto the hill after the bird nesting season.

### **Offering Apprenticeships**

We now have two apprentices in post, and a further two in the pipeline to start employment in the next few weeks at Pendle Heritage Centre. This, combined with our plans to recruit graduate trainees to both Ribble Rivers Trust and In-Situ this autumn, will mean the project will be supporting 13 young people through placements and apprenticeships in the heritage sector, exceeding our target of 10. The project will not meet its match funding target, however we hope to cover this with increased match funds brought into other projects. Once all the trainees are in post we plan to run a few team days to share ideas, undertake training and to develop some collaborative activity.

### Sense of Place and Sustainable Tourism

The Sense of Place Toolkit has now been produced and printed for use by tourism businesses along with accompanying online resources and image gallery. <u>https://pendlehillproject.com/sense-place-toolkit</u>

Two online workshops were delivered to businesses. They were delivered by the AONB sustainable tourism officer and the consultant who produced the content for Sense of Place. The workshops each ran for 1.5 hours and included a combination of presentation and discussion. The workshop was timely as it was delivered before many hospitality businesses began to open post COVID-19, and provided them with some useful information and resources to support them as they re-established themselves.

Workshop 1 – attended by 4 businesses and Workshop 2 – attended by 5 businesses.



Sense of Place training webinar – in 2020 lockdown 'zoom style'

# Commissioning Research into the value the landscape offers to the economy and community services

The **72 Seasons health and wellbeing** project continues to thrive and has been a great success during lockdown with many participants reporting their increased interest and connections to nature benefitting their wellbeing.



The Days Are Long

Whilst the lockdown restrictions have meant we have been unable to attract as many new participants or specific mental health issue groups to engage as we had hoped, we have been looking at how we could extend the project next Spring with one or two target groups, for example BAME residents or young people.



Facebook post from a 72Seasons contributor – typical of the kind of information the group shares and enjoys

The **farm-scale natural capital** project consultants have produced their interim report, and draft reports to the three farms involved in the study. They hope to have a final report drafted in August and to present their findings to the Northern Real Farming conference and our own Farmer Network in September.

### Everyone

### **Running a Community Grant Scheme**

Originally, the Year 3 application window for Pendle Hill Fund was due to open in April, but this was postponed due to Covid 19. The application window is now set to open on 3<sup>rd</sup> August for 6 weeks. There has been interest from a few potential applicants, but we expect the application rate to be lower than usual. If that is the case, there is scope to hold a second application window early in 2021 (again depending on the situation at the time).

Existing projects have suffered some delays due to the pandemic:

- PHF1\_001 -Higham Interpretation Panel (Year 1) this project is now finished, and the interpretation board has been installed. The Parish Council plan to do more of an opening and press when it is safer to do so.
- PHF2\_002 Kids Away 2020 (Rotary Club) activity week has been postponed from summer 2020, possibly considering October half term week 2020.
- PHF2\_003 Traditional Boundary Training (Clitheroe Young Farmers) most of the activity already complete, but presentation night has been postponed.
- PHF2\_004 Rimington Oral Heritage (Rimington Institute) able to continue with website developments through phone call tuition, however all face to face interviews have been postponed.
- PHF2\_005 Martholme Greenway most of work has already been carried out, but the rest has been delayed.
- PHF2\_006 Fingerpost renovation (Roughlee PC) renovation work has started
- PHF2\_009 Access and pond renovation work (Friends of Spring Wood) practical works nearly complete but currently discussing potential changes with some plans.



Fingerpost at Pendleton before and after renovation work, supported by the Pendle Hill Fund

We have also ring fenced £6000 from the Pendle Hill Fund specifically for improvement and repairs to PROW furniture. This has been identified due to the recent increase in footfall locally, and some routes

being walked far more than they ever have before. The money will be spent as fairly as possible geographically, but it will also be used to help spread the footfall of walkers across the Pendle Hill LP area. The funds will be managed via the Pendle Lengthsman scheme, and work will be carried out by the lengthsman (even for those parishes who aren't in the lengthsman scheme). Parish Councils have been asked to develop a list of potential works by 1<sup>st</sup> September. This list will then be looked at by members of the PHLP team and the lengthsman co-ordinator, and decisions will be made about where the money will be spent. If this is a success and more monies needed, then this will be considered at a later date.

### Providing Supported Activity Sessions for people dealing with mental health issues and social isolation

PEN sessions were supposed to restart at the beginning of April, however due to the Covid 19 situation, sessions were cancelled for the foreseeable future. Nick Alderson, part of the NHS CPET team who we partner with on this project, was redeployed from end of March to end of May. This created early problems with attempts to contact any participants because Nick holds that contact information. So earlier on, time was spent planning and developing resources for a potential restart and future PEN sessions.

We started up with 3 online PEN sessions from 2pm – 3pm on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> June. These sessions were virtually attended by 4 – 6 regular PEN participants. It wasn't something which we advertised, and some of our regular participants weren't able to access due to lack of internet or online skills. However, for those that did attend, plus Jayne, it was a great way to catch up with each other, have some discussions and share photos of local wildlife, creative projects or art sketches. Lots of the discussion did focus on local nature and the wider countryside, as well as current issues.

We decided that w/b 22<sup>nd</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> June and 6<sup>th</sup> July would focus on meeting participants 1 to 1 or in small groups (no more than 4 including staff) for walks local to where participants live. This provided the PEN participant a chance to catch up with someone that they haven't seen for a while, and to have a conversation with someone different (other than family/friends who they may have been living with/looking after). Many participants have continued to get out walking locally throughout lockdown, however for those that haven't we were able to offer them the support to go on a short local walk.



Walking near Foulridge: a new view of Pendle

Over these 3 weeks, Jayne was involved in 7 different walks or visits to meet current PEN participants. These walks were all 1 – 2 hours long, with social distancing observed throughout. Some visits involved just 1 other

person, whereas others involved 2 or 3. Jayne travelled to the local towns, close to where participants live to remove any need to use public transport. This also meant that participants were happy to take her for a walk, and show her the area which they live in, which was really great for Jayne and also a great success to see some individuals very proud of where they live and confident to lead a walk.

Looking forward, PEN won't be able to be delivered as usual for a while. The Little Green Bus Company is not yet back up and running, and even when it does there will be a certain element of social distancing in place, so groups numbers will be reduced. Many PEN participants use public transport, rather than private vehicles and so many of the usual activity sites are currently out of the question. So from early August we hope to be able to offer more of a structured schedule, with a meeting point in a central place in each of the towns. Numbers will be monitored and not exceed the limit in the government guidance, and social distancing measures will be used throughout. Activity will mainly include short walks, with some other activity potential in local parks (where tools/equipment/resources do not have to be shared).

Setting up a more structured schedule will also hopefully mean we can advertise wider again to more people in the surrounding area e.g. in a 2 week period we may have 1 session meeting in Burnley, 1 session meeting in Nelson, 1 session meeting in Colne, 1 session meeting in Clitheroe.

### Creatively Engaging People in our Radical History

In response to the coronavirus pandemic, MPA's team have been working reduced hours from home. Some planned public events were cancelled or postponed, including two separate projects intended to focus attention on Clarion House. Work on the Radicals Trail site interpretation has also been held up.

However, below this still surface, much work has continued throughout, on virtual activity and/or working towards future outcomes.

For the **Radicals Trail**, although we have not been able to fabricate or install the site interpretation panels, we have meanwhile been working on the supporting website, which is looking very good. This is now almost ready for public launch, but we will hold it back until we can use it to encourage visitors to explore the six sites and surrounding areas. Design work continues on further supporting materials - an education pack and digital downloads.

**Radicals volunteers** have been working on developing a suite of themed walks to link in to the Trail, and this group have had a particularly productive quarter. With Pendle Walking Festival now called off, our walks volunteers are working towards an autumn launch event for their first featured walk, the Two Toms, celebrating Tom Criddle Stephenson and the Rev TA Leonard. Contributor Nick Burton will also explore this subject matter, of democratised access to the countryside, in a webinar talk for the Pendle Hill online events series, planned for August.

Jennifer Reid's Lancashire Dialect Reading Group, **inspired by Paul Graney**, has been converted into an online group. Jennifer is circulating monthly packages of study materials to the dozen participants.

Although frustrated in our aspirations to support and promote **Clarion House**, currently closed, (a weekend residency by Rosie's Plaques on Tour, and the historic Clarion Sunday event were both called off for this year) we were able to launch a digital project by artist Alan Ward with the Clarion cycling community across the north of England. On the day of the cancelled event, Alan circulated a fly-through film of a 40 mile cycle ride to Clarion House. <u>https://vimeo.com/427702191</u> This kicked off a data-driven project that will culminate on Clarion Sunday next June, with an estimated 100 plus two-wheeled participants.

**Banner Culture publication** – we are currently preparing content for assembly by our designer during August and September. Book printing is scheduled for early October, so we plan a launch event, distanced or virtual, in late October or early November, to mark the anniversary of the exhibition and the Textile Biennial.

Two short films are close to completion, one with our borough councils from Tracy Chevalier's trek over the hill last year '**In the Footsteps of George Fox'**. The other documents the punk project **Sick of Being Normal**, and will be launched via an online 'watch party' in the near future.

We had the opportunity in June to contribute to Super Slow Way's digital publication, and to focus in particular on Pendle Radicals: <u>http://peopleplacetimespace.superslowway.org.uk/project/a-view-from-up-</u> there?fbclid=IwARId TjP6FGdBH8eUVePGfkncnfyM00tpiYZlieT9LyvSNjEUKdB4ISxfGU

New blog posts this quarter from Nick Burton, Boff Whalley and Alan Ward: https://pendleradicals.wordpress.com/2020/04/08/songbook/ https://pendleradicals.wordpress.com/2020/04/21/pendle-punk/ https://pendleradicals.wordpress.com/2020/06/16/clarion-sunday/

# Delivering Community Archaeology sessions and related training

All Community Archaeology training sessions and volunteering projects have been postponed for the foreseeable future. Our Community Archaeology Co-ordinator from NAA Rebecca Cadbury-Simmons was also furloughed from mid-May (although we do still have contact with NAA if we need it).

We have been having more conversation with **Pendle Archaeology Group** around future projects, and we issued a joint press release in late June. This has already had positive feedback and new volunteers have made contact with us and that group.

Current project planning is focused around **Roman Roads** research in the area, as well as a **community test pit project**. Hopefully the roman roads research work can begin this autumn/winter with non-invasive walk over surveys, and the test pit project will be planned for next spring/summer.

Early on in lockdown we were able to offer research ideas and resources to the Community Archaeology mailing list, and in line with restarting volunteering, we will look as to when we can restart some element of Community Archaeology volunteering.

Over the past 3 months we have been able to look into further research of the topics we are hoping to cover with the community projects. This has included looking at plans for an excavation at **Portfield camp**. Because of the current situation we have decided that it would be better for ourselves and for UCLan if this activity could take place in spring/summer 2022 (provided we are offered the proposed extension to the PHLP).

### Threads

### Supporting Volunteering and Learning opportunities across the scheme

**Get into Volunteering** sessions have not been able to go ahead recently, however, links have been made with a local women's group – Women's Vision Collective. Plans have been put in place for this group to start some GiV sessions hopefully before the end of the summer.

**Volunteering** has not been able to take place at all this quarter, however we have been working together with the AONB team to develop plans and documents for a potential restart of volunteering, and have taken advice from other AONBs and the Visitor Safety Group.

We are no developing and sending out a restart survey to all our volunteers. Questions on this survey have attempted to gauge how many volunteers are ready to return to volunteering under new ways of working, and if not when they would like to return. This will hopefully give us a better idea of the numbers that will be interested to restart, and plan accordingly. Initial reactions show a 75% level of support to re-start.

We have developed new COVID 19 Risk Assessments for practical activities and walks, and have been involved in providing more information to LCC regarding our regular volunteers so that a corporate decision can be made on whether we allow clinically vulnerable or/and clinically extremely vulnerable individuals (and those in bubble with) return to volunteering if they wish.

Both **Family Nature Events and Little Saplings** have been suspended this quarter. Research and planning into which activities would be suitable and safe for a potential restart in August has been developed, plus we are identifying the additional resources which might need to be purchased to comply with the new guidelines and allow social distancing to take place. Online resources have also been shared to keep families busy at home: <u>https://www.forestofbowland.com/family-fun-covid-19</u>

For the last few weeks we have been preparing to put our planned **John Muir Discovery Award** challenge on line. Initially aimed at 'hard-to-reach' families we decided to open it up to all local families and we have had over 60 registrations for the award so far for the 2020 summer holiday period.

All sessions with **schools** have been cancelled. The Outdoor Learning Officer, with support through ECT, has made the decision now not to work with schools until September. Schools were informed and some sessions have been moved to September and October, pending guidance and feasibility nearer the time. Three schools are currently booking for sessions in the autumn term and revised lesson plans, RA and procedures are being created for them.

Lesson plans, resources and 'how to' guides have been updated and developed for primary school trips taking place within 2020. All of these will eventually sit on the PHLP website.

Secondary school lesson plans are in development stage, but this work is currently paused due to the consultation on proposed changes to the assessment of GCSEs, AS and A levels in 2021 and the possible removal of fieldwork as a requirement for some exams.

The Outdoor Learning Officer has been producing videos and 'how to' guides for Action for Conservation's WildWEB project, in a volunteer role. This new project has been developed to maintain the WildED aims, but shared digitally across the UK. As Alison, our Outdoor Learning Officer is employed by Ernest Cook Trust they furloughed her along with many other staff, but only for 3 weeks during May, and she is now back in full time work with us. Alison has also been contributing to a number of ECT strategic and policy documents whilst most of their education team have been unable to deliver practical sessions.

With a lack of face-to-face events happening across the PHLP and wider AONB, the Community Engagement Officer and AONB Project Officer have been working together to create a schedule of online events. Currently we have held 4 events, with the help of other staff and external partners, via Zoom. The events aim to cover a range of Bowland and Pendle based topics. So far they have been focused on archaeology, bats, woodlands and National Meadows Day.

Online events have worked really well in this way, and whilst we can't see our audience face-to-face and get out on site it has actually attracted larger audiences than similar 'real life' events would have normally. These events have generated some great feedback.

Feedback from National Meadows day on line:
Dean Dean : thankyou so much for the answers and videos Et Al been fantastic
11:56:19 From Philippa Stewart : thank you all for a really informative and well run
session
11:56:26 From jenny : Thank you so much that was fascinating.
11:56:28 From rachellocke : Thank you :)
11:56:29 From Steve Tomlin Crafts : thanks everyone. i really enjoyed this and
thought it worked brilliantly
11:56:35 From rob.foster : That was a great morning, thanks ever so much!
11:56:36 From Philippa Stewart : please keep online sessions going
11:56:41 From Chloé Henri : Thank you so much !
11:56:41 From FIona FInch : many thanksinspiring!
11:56:49 From iPhone : thank you so informative
11:57:49 From Sheila Donnelly : Thank you to all very enjoyable.

### Holding the Gatherings and annual events to engage new audiences

We have endeavored to continue to develop our programmes as much as possible during this time and prepare for the future as outlined below.

During this quarter we have continued to develop **The Summit** (formerly Young Radicals) project. This has included:

- Posting a call out for artist applications for the project, for which we received 25 applications, our highest number of applications for artist opportunities to date.
- Shortlisting 5 applicants for interview, which we have postponed until Mid-September

- Continuing to hold weekly sessions for young people through our 'Yes, And' programme (from which we hope to recruit young people for The Summit project). Unfortunately we have struggled to maintain engagement running the sessions online and after mid-June have now postponed our 'Yes, And' program.
- Unfortunately, due to the situation with Covid 19, our application for an ACE Awards for All grant was rejected.

Zoya who co-ordinates the Summit project has been furloughed by In-Situ for June-August. In-Situ, as a National Portfolio Organisation supported by ACE, has had its grant extended for a full 12 months from April 2022 in order to deal with the disruption caused by the pandemic and lockdown.

In this quarter we have continued conversations with Kerry Morrison as part of her **Deep Peat residency**. The Peat Pie had been due to launch across local eateries in June however due to the ongoing pandemic and closure of eateries we have had to postpone the project. We have maintained our relationship with local pie producer *Piemezzanine* who we hope will still be able to produce the pies once the lockdown restrictions have been lifted. During this quarter Kerry has developed a series of responsive critical writing pieces which we are sharing across our digital platforms.

https://www.in-situ.org.uk/post/eat-your-greens https://www.in-situ.org.uk/post/p-eat-pie-and-queen-of-puds

We have had to postpone Isabella Martin's artist residency for the '**Traditional Boundaries'** strand due to the current pandemic and her being in Copenhagen. We have remained in contact with Isabella and will continue to assess the situation as global travel and our ability to hold public activity develops. In the meantime Isabella will take part in our Digital Gathering, presenting her work and enabling collective research and learning.

We have finalised our job description for a **graduate trainee**, however we have chosen to postpone putting out a call for applications in this quarter. Our current plans are to put a call out for applications in August, with the hope to interview candidates in person at The Garage in September.

We have successfully moved some of In-Situ's programmes on-line and some of these activities have been able to be linked to the PHLP programme through **Talking Society** exploring, physical and mental Health and access to the environment, here are links to youtube to see the two conversations:

https://www.facebook.com/insitupendle/videos/695068501306439/

https://www.facebook.com/insitupendle/videos/581371162377978/

### **Co-ordinating Interpretation and Publicity**

The majority of interpretation panels have now been installed in the information centre in Downham (see Access report and photos above)

We have a produced an online infographic and an outputs map to highlight the achievements of the Scheme for Year 2. The Outputs map now provides useful information about developments across all projects by location for both years, and will continue to be developed in years 3 and 4. https://pendlehillproject.com/pendle-map?field\_projects\_value=All&field\_year\_select\_value=2



We have produced some outdoor signage to highlight the Countryside Code messages in a visually appealing format, including some COVID-19 social distancing messages. Smaller versions of the posters were also produced to share via social media.

We are developing a new '**Explore**' page for the LP website which will house all the resources we are creating during the programme including toolkits, learning materials, digital downloads of walking and cycling routes and creative work. We are also developing plans to create a **Hidden Heritage** interpretation project to replace the digital app we had intended to produce. This will consist of small plaques on sites where heritage is less visible or signage is too obtrusive, linking to a webpage of further information which may include film or audio clips, mapping, images, text and data. Initial sites we are researching include Fox's Well, the archaeology found at Downham bridleway, and the Wildlife Discovery sites.

### **Staffing and Programme Management**

It's been a difficult few months with all the team working individually at home. We meet up on zoom once a week and one or two members have met up outdoors to check sites and contractors. Everyone has adapted really well and as you can see we have remained productive.

We have hosted Simon Lees of Countryside Training to carry out a mid term review of the partnership and he has provided us with a glowing report, both of our delivery and our practice. There are a few recommendations which we need to put in place, and our next big challenge is to look at our legacy. The report can be seen here: <u>https://pendlehillproject.com/reports-and-downloads</u>

We have had a number of meetings with National Lottery Heritage Fund and they are also happy with our response to the pandemic and the impact it has had on normal delivery. They are happy to receive a request from us for a 6 month extension of the programme to make up for lost time, although no extra funding can be provided. We will produce this report for the next LP Board in September.