

Derry Avenue
South Ockendon, Essex
 Willmott Dixon Housing Ltd

BIG Challenge 2015 submission category: Temporary

Project overview

A number of planters were constructed around the site welfare at Derry Avenue and filled them with flowers and plants from the local market.

The site team built the planters from the leftover and redundant pallets and plywood on site

What were the biodiversity conditions on site, prior to the enhancement?

The site was a car park before with limited biodiversity. There were some trees to the rear of the site from the adjoining properties.

Were there any specific conditions that led to you carrying out this work?

The group Environmental Manager had commented on the lack of biodiversity around the site and made the suggestion of introducing some plants.

It was decided to introduce some planters we could provide both habitat for insects and pollinators as well as improve the site welfare appearance to make the area more aesthetically pleasing to people passing



Photo: Planter

the entrance and for operatives using the welfare area.

What were the biodiversity measures taken?

During the time of working in the Industry, I don't recall the sites that I have worked on making planters, so I believe it is a small but innovative idea.

So far feedback has been positive from the subcontractors, visiting office staff, visitors and the client. All pallets and any timber are sent to waste at the Community Wood recycling and so decided to use the pallets and shuttering plywood to build

the planters, we used approximately 4 pallets and plywood to construct.

A number of butterflies and bees have been spotted in the area and its hopeful this is due to plants and creating a slight pollinator

How would you best describe the project?

An enhancement.

Further information

A small foundation was poured with waste concrete left over from a concrete pour.

Old pallets were recycled to construct the planter which was lined with off cuts of

polythene from the dryliner.
Topsoil was purchased from
a local supplier.

Plants were purchased from
a local market within 100
yards of site. All works were
completed by local labour
working on the project.

**What was your personal
motivation for carrying out
the enhancement?**

Personal motivation was
trying to introduce some
type of biodiversity into site
project and enhancing the
aesthetically.

An article in the paper once
discussed how to introduce
butterflies and bumble bees
and other flying insects into
garden and the plan centred
around introducing these
insects to the planters and
help contribute towards the
declining bee population.



Photo: Derry Avenue site