

Boosterstown Nature Reserve Community Mural Project



Project Background

Boooterstown Nature Reserve is in Boooterstown, County Dublin, between the coastal railway line and the Rock Road. It is the only brackish water marshland in south Dublin, and the only bird sanctuary, in south Dublin Bay. Managed by An Taisce Dun Laoghaire Association, the Nature Reserve is a pNational Heritage Area {pNHA} and an important waterfowl site for feeding, roosting, and resting area for birds of international significance. For this reason, it is designated a *Special Protection Area* under the European Birds Directive. It is included in the *UNESCO Dublin Bay Biosphere Reserve*. It is also home to the rare annual flowering Borrer's Saltmarsh Grass, *Puccinellia fasciculata*. It boasts three European designated *Annex 1* habitats; Salicornia Flats, Atlantic Salt Meadows and Mediterranean Salt Meadows. It is an internationally important feeding and roosting area for ducks, geese, and waders, and probably holds the highest concentration of wintering waterfowl of an Irish estuary. The important boundary trees provide shelter and soundproofing shielding them from the busy city world beyond. These are amongst the most photographed and recorded birds in the city, this wetland has been the subject of advanced academic study, school projects and the focus of amateur birders and botanists.

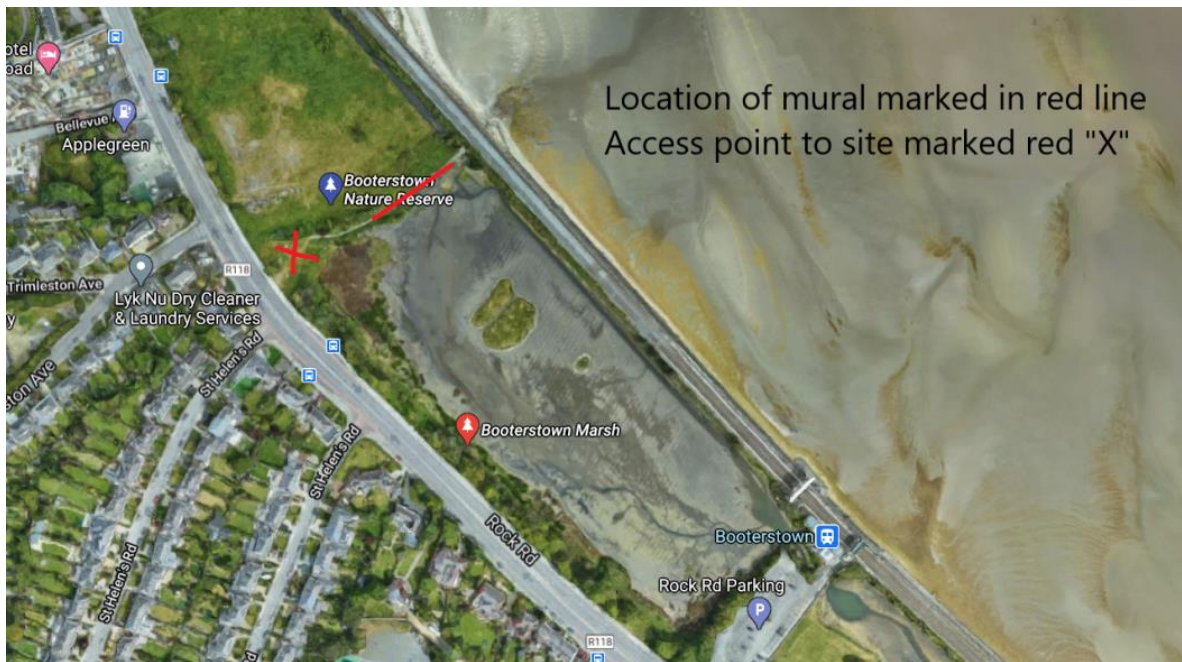
To promote awareness of the marsh An Taisce Dun Laoghaire Association approached Clean Coasts with the proposal of creating a community mural to highlight its environmental and societal importance of the site. See *Image 1*, for a visual of the wall where the mural is to be located and there also [drone footage](#) of the site.

Site Details

The site is located at the following GPS coordinates 53.311447, -6.200227, see *Map 1* below. The site can be reached by either public transport via Dart at Boooterstown station, Dublin Bus via the 4, 7, 7a, bike, walking or private car. The paintable length of the culvert is 88 metres approx. There is an additional 2 metre where logos are to be put. The ground is higher in those 2 metres. The depth is 1.10 metres for the base primer coat and lettering would be within that 1.10 metre depth. The site is a marsh and tidal so appropriate clothing, and equipment will be required, see images 1,2,3 and 4. At high tide parts of the mural site are not accessible.

Mural Guidelines

The mural must contain the following text "Boooterstown Nature Reserve" and "UNESCO Dublin Bay Biosphere" in a smaller scale, with some linking between text. The following logos must be included, Clean Coasts and Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. We appreciate and promote artistic expression & creative interpretations of the brief within the guidelines and budget.



Map 1: Site



Image 1: Mural Site



Image 2: Mural Site



Image 3: Terrain



Image 4: Terrain

Community Engagement

The project will encompass community engagement element to facilitate some input on the mural design. This will include workshops with two local schools, one primary and one secondary and input from An Taisce and Clean Coasts. Clean Coasts will provide the environmental aspects of the workshop. Due to covid-19 these workshops will have to take place online.

Information on the Partners

The Dun Laoghaire Association of An Taisce works to protect the built and natural heritage of the area. They host numerous public lectures and events, engage in school tree planting and local clean-ups. Booterstown Nature Reserve and Beach while In May we hold public Biodiversity Week events. They have managed and cared for the Booterstown Nature Reserve for over 50 years taking it from an oil polluted wetland to a European Natura Site of international importance as a Special Protection Area under the Birds Directive. The Association work is all done by volunteers.

Clean Coasts engages communities in the protection of Ireland's beaches, seas and marine life. The programme is operated by the Environmental Education Unit of An Taisce and is currently funded by the Department of the Housing, Local Government and Heritage, and Fáilte Ireland. The Clean Coasts volunteering effort engages communities in the protection and conservation of their local coastal environment. There are currently over 1,200 registered Clean

Coasts groups in Ireland and last year over 24,000 volunteers engaged with the programme, see more information at www.cleancoasts.org.

Funding

The project is being funded by Clean Coasts, the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and An Taisce Dun Laoghaire Association. The project budget is 3k-5k.

Proposal Guidelines

Following to be included within the proposal

- Details of the artists experience and past projects they worked on (please include photo)
- Breakdown of all costing of the project eg resources, labour etc
- Pre-Mural preparation, **priming** of the wall etc
- Delivery of two community workshops (online)

Due to the environmental sensitivity of the site extreme care must be taken in not to cause any negative impact, this should also be taken into consideration when selecting the resources to be used in the creation of mural.

Submission details

The deadline for submission is midnight on the 5th February with the successful proposal announced on the 12th February with project due for completion by the end of April 2021 (Subject to change due to C-19).

Please submit the proposals to the following email address rcurtin@eeu.antaisce.org. If you have questions you can email Richard on the above email address.