

Angmering community sculpture - The sunflower dog and rainbow bench



Students from The Angmering School, working in collaboration with Artswork and sculptor Tim Ward, produced designs for a new sculptural bench to be enjoyed by the community. The students' designs were then presented to the public and the villagers of Angmering were given the opportunity to vote for their favourite.

The sunflower dog and rainbow bench was voted the overall winner, and Tim Ward, along with engineers from local Littlehampton firm SI Protech, began work on bringing the students' design to life. The project began in March 2020 but suffered delays due to the pandemic, and after a long wait the sculpture was finally revealed during November 2021 with a grand opening ceremony.

The winning design was created by Lily, Ruby and Safiya, and the girls were given the honour of cutting the ribbon alongside Tim Ward, in front of a gathering of local residents, Parish and District Councillors, representatives from Artswork, SI Protech engineers, as well as family and friends.

All the students involved in the project received certificates presented by Arun District Councillor Andy Cooper, and their designs are also featured on the back of the rainbow sculpture.

Beccy East, from Artswork said: "This project is a really important part of our work in the district as it places young people's creativity visibly at the heart of their community. The rainbow is a symbol of hope and a reminder of what we've valued over the past year and with the dog to ward off loneliness, this is a unique and optimistic take on the world and the village."

Simon Liley, headteacher at The Angmering School, said: "This will sit in the heart of our local community for many, many years to come and will remind the students of their input, remind us all

of the key messages which it represents and will provide a place for people to sit and take a moment, and ponder and reflect on all the positive things in life.”

The sunflower dog and rainbow bench is outside the Angmering Community Centre, and is accessible to all on level ground with a path running all the way around the sculpture as the students wishes were for all our local residents to be able to enjoy it for many years to come.



