

An aerial photograph of the Hampden Park area in Eastbourne, overlaid with a white semi-transparent rectangle containing the title. The map shows various landmarks including 'Hydeneye', 'New Place', 'Fairlight', 'House', 'Co. Para. B'y.', 'Spot's Farm', 'Temperley', 'Mian. Chr.', and 'HAMPA'. A road labeled 'Brodrick Road' is visible at the top. The text 'HAMPDEN PARK GREEN FLAG MANAGEMENT PLAN' is centered in the white box in a bold, blue, sans-serif font.

HAMPDEN PARK GREEN FLAG MANAGEMENT PLAN



CONTENTS / SUMMARY

This management plan has been prepared to support Eastbourne Borough Council's application for Green Flag status for Hampden Park.

Section 1 of the report sets out the context of Hampden Park.

Section 2 of the report explains the background of the site including its history, aspects of ecology and bio-diversity, planning policy, legal definitions and other contextual information.

Section 3 describes a number of character areas within the park and identifies management objectives for all of these in the context of the eight Green Flag award criteria.

Section 4 looks at the Green Flag criteria in detail and describes achievements to date and actions to be undertaken to deliver against these criteria in Action Plan format.

Section 5 identifies a number of over-arching management objectives that will secure Green Flag status for the park.

The Management Plan is supported by data on management and maintenance specifications and financial planning contained within the Appendices.

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FOREWORD

by EXECUTIVE MEMBER

Hampden Park is one of Eastbourne's best loved public parks and since the Friends of the Hampden Park (FoHP) were formed in 2005, Eastbourne Borough Council has been working closely with this group to improve the park and its facilities. A successful partnership has developed and evolved with the Friends and there has been considerable investment to improve the priority areas that the local community identified including the desilting of Decoy Pond and the provision of a new skateboard facility.

Further, significant funding has been identified by Eastbourne Borough Council to invest in Hampden Park and there is the opportunity to introduce new features and landscaping to improve the popularity of this park.

The FoHP have also directly raised funding for the park and attended Cabinet and other Council meetings to put forward their proposals for improvements. There are still many further aspirations for Hampden Park. This management plan sets out how Hampden Park is currently managed and a vision for the future.

The aspiration is to establish a series of new objectives for Hampden Park so that its many users can continue to enjoy the many facilities on offer in the decades ahead.

Cllr Steve Wallis

Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Environment



Fig.1 - Hampden Park daffodil glade.

PARKS VISION STATEMENT

The Eastbourne Corporate Plan 2016-20 sets out a number of objectives for the Borough's public open spaces.

Eastbourne will have a high quality built and natural environment which highlights the cultural heritage and tourist offer of the Borough, surpassing other UK towns of a similar size.

Our public space will be distinctive, high quality, well preserved and create a sense of belonging.

Our open space will increase in quantity and quality, enabling the community to come together and enjoy its public spaces in a safe and secure way.

The Plan also sets out a number of objectives in terms of 'Pride of Place'.

The Eastbourne Local Strategic Partnership brings the public, private, community and voluntary sectors together to work to help improve the life of the residents of Eastbourne.

The vision for Eastbourne is that by 2026 Eastbourne will be a premier seaside destination within an enhanced green setting. To meet everyone's needs Eastbourne will be a safe, thriving, healthy and vibrant community with excellent housing, education and employment choices, actively responding to the effects of climate change.

Continued pressure on public finances has created a need to streamline council services. In order to maintain service levels and build in service resilience Eastbourne Borough Council is combining services with Lewes District Council under a Joint Transformation Programme (JTP). This will enable some economies of scale to be realized and make it easier to share expertise and resources whilst maintaining the independent sovereignty of each council. Part of the programme includes better utilization of new technology where it assists with service provision. It is anticipated that open space management may benefit from the JTP in future years. High level and local management structure charts are included as appendices 1 and 2.

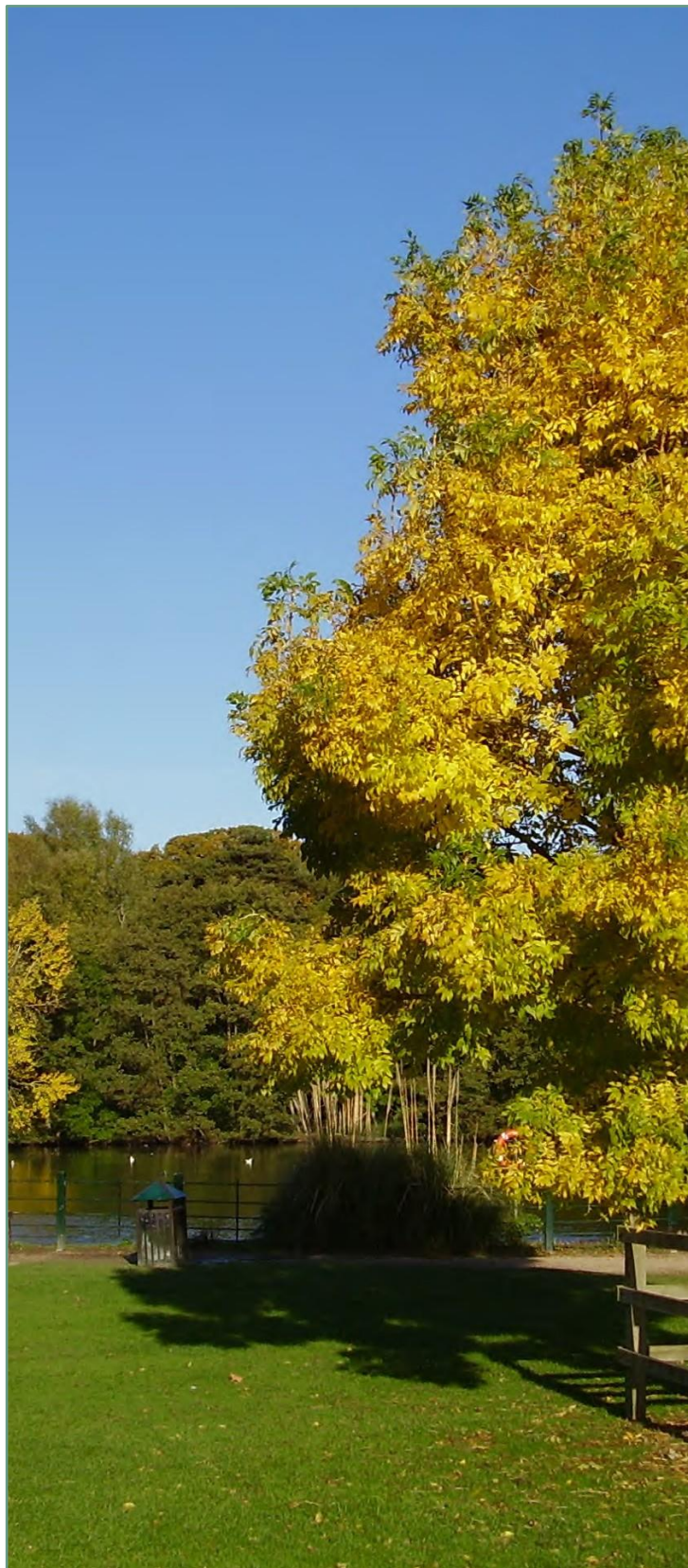


Fig.2 - Hampden Park in the Autumn.

1. INTRODUCTION


Hampden Park is situated within the Hampden Park area of Eastbourne, approximately 3.25 kilometres from the town centre. Hampden Park is a suburban residential area and moderately densely populated.

The 38 hectare park is laid out on an east-west axis and is a key public open space for the surrounding area. Given the variety of offers within the park, it is also a destination park for residents of Eastbourne and for people living further afield.

Hampden Park provides a significant range of leisure opportunities including formal sports (tennis, indoor and outdoor bowls, rugby and football), children's play, a skatepark, dog walking and passive recreation. The woodland and nature conservation areas are popular with walkers and people wanting to enjoy greater access to nature. The substantial pond is popular with bird watchers and parents and the popular park café acts as an activity hub for the whole park.

In recognition of the importance of Hampden Park, Eastbourne Borough Council has made a significant and on-going commitment to upgrading the park's facilities, including most recently, works to de-silt and re-plant the lake and to provide a new skateboarding facility.

Hampden Park has a long-established and active 'Friends' group which organises volunteering and other activities in partnership with the Council.



“...Love the variety of trees, and would love a view of the water from all the benches ...”

1.1 PURPOSE OF THE MANAGEMENT PLAN

The purpose of the management and maintenance plan is:

- To demonstrate that the management of Hampden Park is informed by a co-ordinated and fully resourced plan; ensuring continued management and maintenance of the park for a five year period from January 2015 to December 2020;
- To identify how the various areas of responsibility within Eastbourne Borough Council are co-ordinated in support of high quality management and maintenance, and to identify who is ultimately responsible for each aspect of management;
- To identify, discuss and resolve issues relating to conflicts of interest between user groups or between expectations and available resources;
- To provide a reference document for those managing and maintaining the park and for other people who have an interest in the park;
- The Management and Maintenance plan and its appendices will act as the central reference document relating to the management of Hampden Park. This document will be reviewed and updated on an annual basis; and
- The Management and Maintenance plan; prepared in December 2014, will provide the benchmark at which delivery and performance will be measured.

1.2 GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION

Hampden Park lies in the north of the Borough of Eastbourne and approximately 3 kilometres from the city centre. The park is at the northern end of a spine of greenspace extending from Eastbourne District General Hospital and including open space around Sussex Downs College. To the east and south are the Willingdon, Langley and Eastbourne levels composed of recent alluvial drift upon which Eastbourne is built. To the north-west lies the Willingdon Down SSSI.

The park is orientated on an approximate east-west axis and is demarcated by Decoy Drive to the north, the Decoy Stream to the east, and part of the Hampden Park Drive and Kings Drive to the west. The playing fields are part of Hampden Park and stretch from Kings Drive in the west to Sussex Downs boundary, the sports park boundary to the West plus Cross Levels Way and St Wilfrid's. The eastern boundary also incorporates Elm Grove Field and then the boundary is the Rosebery Ave entrance to the park and back to Decoy Drive.

- Entrances: Decoy Drive, Rosebery Avenue. Pedestrian access into the park is available through the woods and the park can also be accessed from the Sports Park and Rugby Fields.
- Bus Services: 1a, 56, & The Loop
- Parking: Parking is available along Hampden Park Drive and in the streets surrounding the park. There is a car park adjacent to the Indoor Bowls Club, another at the Sports Centre (for use by the college during term time) and there is a carpark at the Rugby Club which is only available during off season.

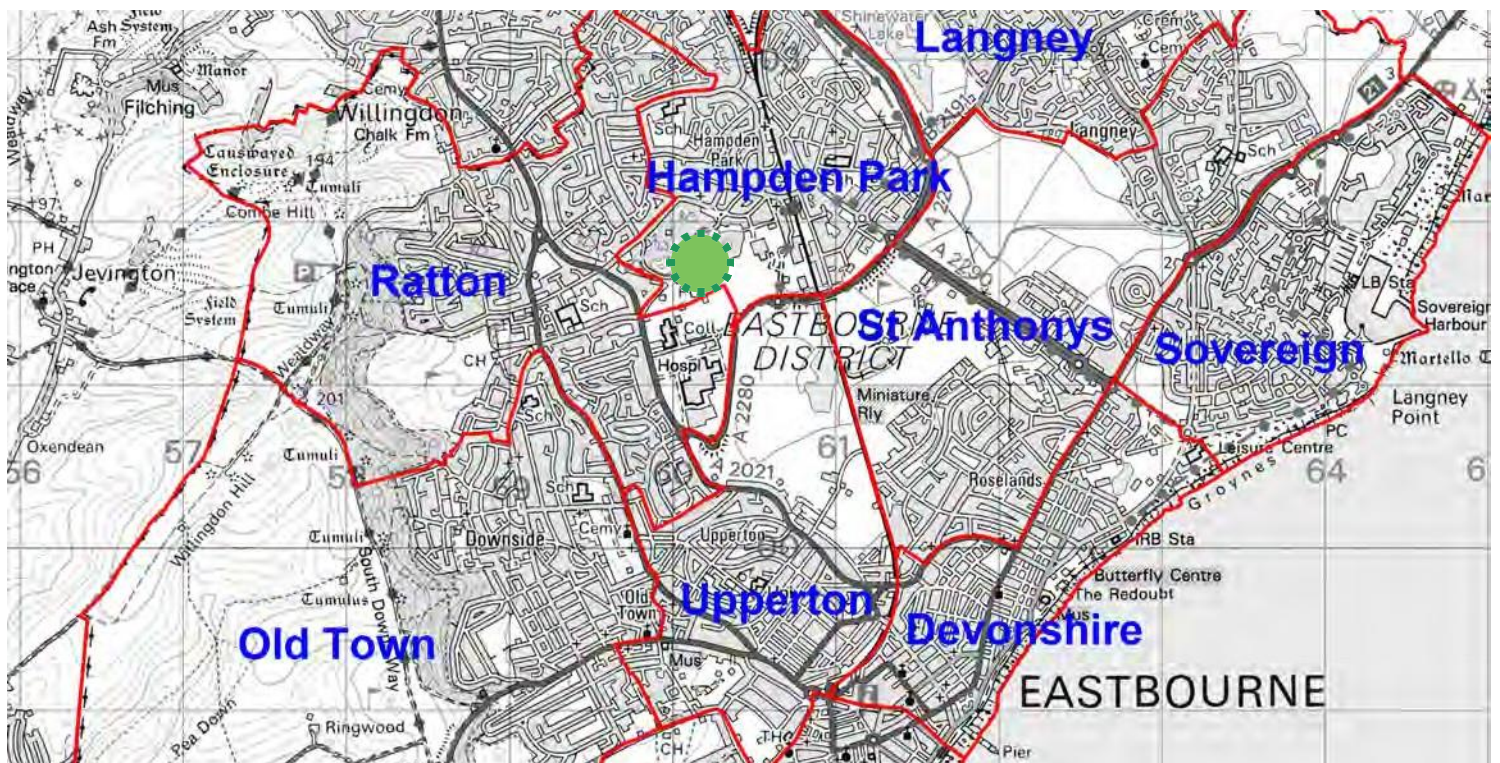


Fig.3 - Hampden Park location plan.



BACKGROUND

2.1 HISTORY OF THE SITE

Prior to 1901 the land now called Hampden Park was part of the Ratton Estate owned by Lord Willingdon. The Ratton Estate goes back to Saxon times and is mentioned in the Domesday survey of 1087. The 1775 Ratton Estate map shows the pond and woodland within the estate boundary.

In the 19th century, the Willingdon Tithe Commissioners were charged with converting the tithe system of payment in kind to a new monetary value. Every plot of land in the county was surveyed Parish by Parish. The 1842 Willingdon Tithe Commissioners map listed the owner, occupier, name, description and state of cultivation of each parcel of land. A number of land plots are identified within the area of which Hampden Park now consists.

Plot number 238 was described as owned and occupied by Inigo Tomas and described as 'sedge plantation. Plot number 239 was described as the Decoy Pond. Plot number 246 was described as 'Ham Shaw' and listed as woodland.

By the end of the 19th century, however, the lake had probably fallen into disuse as a "consequence of the drainage of the neighbouring levels and the great falling off in the number of wildfowl captured, it was given up about forty years ago"

(i.e.: around 1896). Freeman Freeman-Thomas, (later Lord Willingdon of Ratton) offered the Corporation of Eastbourne 44 acres in 1898. The Corporation bought 82 acres of land from Lord Willingdon for £3,000 on condition that a new road (King's Drive) was constructed to join Eastbourne to Willingdon. The Corporation invested a further £7,018 in creating the public park.

Hampden Park, named after Lord Willingdon's grandfather, Viscount Hampden, was opened by Lord Rosebery on the 12th August 1902 and was the first Corporation-owned park in Eastbourne.

Hampden Park did not originally lie within the Borough boundary but was fully incorporated in 1911.

Freeman Thomas was a Liberal Member of Parliament from 1900 to 1910; when he became Baron Willingdon, he moved to the House of Lords.

Baron Willingdon was Governor General of Canada from 1926 to 1931 and Viceroy of India 1931 to 1936. He died in 1941 and was survived by Lady Willingdon who died in 1960.

Hampden Park has developed over time with the addition of a range of facilities.



Fig.4 - The opening of Hampden Park on 12th August 1902.

The park has a variety of sports facilities including tennis courts, football and rugby fields, indoor and outdoor bowls. The Eastbourne and District Bowls Club was founded in 1979, the Hampden Park Bowling Club 1912 and Hampden Park Ladies Bowling Club in 1928. The Hampden Park Bowling Association was formed in 1988 when control of the clubhouse and greens was handed to the Association by the local authority. The park also offers a recently refurbished playground, a 1930's toilet block and a café built in the 1970's.

A new £170k skatepark was constructed and opened in 2014. Forthcoming investment plans include the refurbishment of the toilet block (£40k), the re-surfacing of the tennis courts (£190k) and the provision of a new BMX track (£46k).

2.2 BIO-DIVERSITY AND NATURAL HERITAGE

Hampden Park is designated as a Site of Nature Conservation Importance in Eastbourne Borough Council's Core Strategy of 2013 (Policy NE20).

The site is not designated as a Bio-Diversity Opportunity area in the Sussex Bio-Diversity Action Plan but does lie adjacent to the Eastbourne Marshes Bio-Diversity Opportunity Area identified within the plan. The Decoy Stream drains into the Marsh drainage system and Hampden Park and particularly its watercourses function as a wildlife corridor across the central area of Eastbourne.

The Eastbourne Marshes Bio-Diversity Opportunity Area identifies a number of species that could benefit from habitat management at Hampden Park including the Slow Worm (*Anguis fragilis*), Dusky Brocade (*Apamea remissa*), Scaup (*Aythya marila*), Common Toad (*Bufo bufo*), True Fox Sedge (*Carex vulpina*), Cuckoo (*Cuculus canorus*) Spotted flycatcher (*Muscicapa striata*) House sparrow (*Passer domesticus*), Shining Ramshorn Snail (*Segmentina nitida*), Buff ermine (*Spilosoma*

luteum) and the Common lizard (*Zootoca vivipara*).

The restoration of Decoy Pond in 2011 has reinforced the capacity of this habitat to support bio-diversity outcomes; the pond and its margins are now actively managed for wildlife.

The Council followed up the restoration process in 2013/14 by commissioning a survey of Decoy Pond over a 12-month period by Phlorum Ltd. This study assessed:

- The presence of nesting habitat for breeding birds, including mature trees and dense scrub and shrubs and direct evidence of bird nesting including bird song and old nests;
- Habitats considered suitable to support badger (*Meles meles*) setts, and evidence in the form of hair, pathways and latrines;
- The presence of features in, and on trees, including knot and rot holes, and loose bark which provide potential for roosting bats (*Chiroptera*) and secondary evidence including staining, droppings and feeding remains;
- On-site ponds offering potential breeding opportunities for amphibians including great crested newt (*Triturus cristatus*) and the presence of suitable terrestrial habitat including hedgerows and rough grassland; and
- Habitat considered suitable to support widespread reptile species including areas with a scrub/grassland mosaic and potential hibernation sites.
- Water quality in the Decoy Pond and the adjacent water courses.

The report concluded that the Decoy Pond and its associated habitats should be advantageous for protected species and supports a range of amphibians, reptiles and bats. A number of breeding birds species were observed. The results of the aquatic sampling indicated that the ponds do provide a healthy aquatic environment.

2.3 PUBLIC ACCESS AND RECREATION

The park is well used for formal and informal recreation, providing the opportunity for people who live and work nearby to enjoy the haven of green space.

The park is popular with local residents and is a destination park for a broader group of residents and users from Eastbourne and further afield.

The diverse range of sports facilities at Hampden Park attract participants of formal sports, while the varied quality of the landscape and amenities ensures there is something for everybody.

A user opinion survey carried out in 2014 (Appendix 4) has revealed a wide variety of ages and ethnicities amongst typical users as well as a wide variety of interests including: dog walking, cycling, passive recreation, jogging and wildlife spotting. The refurbished play area and the expanse of open grassland provide ample space for informal ball games and play activities.

The café is the central hub of the park and an important resting and meeting place.

Events held at the park provide many more opportunities for public access and recreation. The FoTHP website identifies a number of events that they arrange throughout the year. In addition to this the Council organises an annual "Race for Life" in Hampden Park.

2.4 OWNERSHIP

Hampden Park is owned and managed by Eastbourne Borough Council.

2.5 LEASES AND COVENANTS

Land Ownership and administration:

A charter was granted to the Borough of Eastbourne in 1883. The Borough gained county borough status in 1911, under the Eastbourne Corporation Act 1910, with its boundary extended to take in part of Willingdon. The County Borough Council assumed the functions of the Burial Board in 1912 and of the Board of Guardians in 1930. It was abolished in 1974 and succeeded, with an enlarged territory, by Eastbourne Borough Council, a district within the Administrative County of East Sussex.

The freehold of Hampden Park was transferred to the Borough of Eastbourne through sale of land in 1901. The rights to land at Willingdon transferred to Eastbourne Borough Council upon its creation in 1974.

Lease arrangements are in place within Hampden Park for the Café, Indoors Bowls Club, Rugby Club, and Tennis Club.

The Council entered into a 10-year lease with the cafe licensee in December 2007.

The Council entered into a lease with the Trustees of the Hampden Park Bowling Association in March 2006 for the lease of the bowling greens and pavilions at Hampden Park. Similar lease arrangements are in place with the Rugby Club, Indoor Bowls and Tennis clubs.

2.6 HYDROLOGY AND SOILS

The South Downs dominate Eastbourne and can be seen from most of the town. These were originally chalk deposits laid down under the sea during the Late Cretaceous, and were later lifted by the same tectonic plate movements that formed the European Alps, during the middle Tertiary period. The chalk can be clearly seen along the eroded coastline to the west of the

town, in the area known as Beachy Head and the Seven Sisters, where continuous erosion keeps the cliff edge vertical and white.

The town area is built on geologically recent alluvial drift, the result of the silting up of a bay. On the east side of Hampden Park, the Levels is an open, expansive landscape of grazed wet meadows, criss-crossed by reed filled ditches. This windswept landscape of wide skies with few trees and hedges is framed in the south-west against the dramatic and distinctive backdrop of the South Downs. The open character of the Levels is softened by the extensive woodland areas within Hampden Park itself.

Willingdon nestles at the foot of the South Downs and is a site that drops away from the lower slopes of farm and wooded land. The ground is largely chalk with a number of spring lines from which emanate a number of water courses. The Ordnance Survey map has a spring marked at Willingdon Village, North-west of Hampden Park (OS 58 02). This spring is the source of the Decoy Stream that flows into Decoy Pond.

Decoy Pond was formed by the damming up of Decoy Stream for the purpose of attracting wildfowl that could provide for the needs of the former estate. The pond became heavily silted over a century. The Council de-silted and restored the lake in 2011, deploying resources secured by The Friends of the Hampden Park from the Big Lottery Fund. This project was also supported through additional budget from the Council's capital funds.

From its eastern end, Decoy Pond continues to flow in an easterly direction, discharging into the complex drainage system of the Eastbourne levels

Within the park, a new spillway feeds the stream. This was designed as an overflow to the pond, to prevent the erosion of paths leading to the sensory garden and is a structure approved by the Environment Agency, for flood management purposes. In times of heavy or persistent rainfall,

the spillway directs a strong flow of water out of the pond and down the stream bed, preventing water overflowing the dam. A condition of the EA's Land Drainage Consent of the 10th March 2011 was that vegetation clearance will be kept to a minimum to maintain existing wildlife corridors within the park and links to areas downstream including Ham Shaw SNCI (Site of Nature Conservation Importance).

2.7 TOPOGRAPHY

Hampden Park lies on gently undulating land approximately on the 20m contour. The park is fundamentally a flat space, shelving gently into the valley occupied by the Decoy Stream and Decoy Pond.

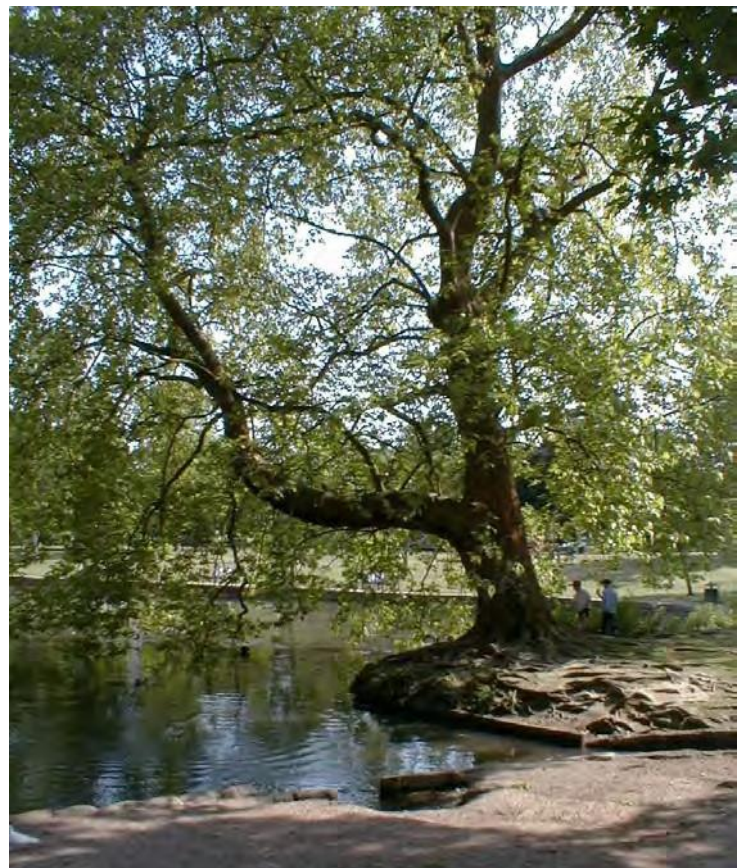


Fig.5 - Mature tree in the pond edge.

2.8 ECOLOGY

Hampden Park consists of the following ecological areas:

- Extensive areas of close mown amenity grassland and sports turf;
- Broadleaf deciduous woodland;
- Individual broadleaf and coniferous trees set in open grassland;
- Stream valley and adjoining land subject to periodic inundation;
- A lake supporting marginal and aquatic planting, wildfowl populations, fish and water-based invertebrates; and
- Ornamental shrubberies and decorative planting areas (including hedges).

The broadleaf woodland, stream valley and pond areas have been identified as the most promising areas in terms of the development of ecological potential.

Eastbourne Borough Council has commissioned a year-long assessment of the ecological and bio-diversity value of the Decoy Pond pond-life. The biodiversity study was undertaken in order to evidence the success of improvements to the pond and its findings will be incorporated into the future management and maintenance of the park, with a specific focus on promoting management for habitat and bio-diversity. Initial surveys have been carried out in April, July and October 2014.

Initial findings suggest that the Decoy Pond provides important habitats for protected species with a range of aquatic and adjacent terrestrial habitats supporting breeding birds, amphibians, bats and reptiles. The assessment concludes that the restoration of the pond has been successful with vegetation establishing successfully and water quality providing a healthy aquatic environment.

2.9 TREE STOCK

Hampden Park has extensive tree cover falling into two categories.

- Dense predominantly native broadleaf woodland with understorey herb layers typical of lowland oak woodland.
- Parkland tree planting with a mix of native and decorative non-native mature tree planting set in short or long grass or in association with decorative amenity shrub planting.

The woodland area is predominantly one of oak with ash either self-seeded or planted at a later date. An understorey of ash seedling, field maple hawthorn and blackthorn has developed.

Eastbourne Borough Council adopted a 'Trees and Woodland' strategy for 2010-15 that informs the management of trees in Hampden Park. The strategy identifies the need to manage and to 'maintain the rich bio-diversity of the area whilst not compromising the safety of the park users'. The strategy identifies the cyclical maintenance of trees as a principal management tool.



Fig.6 - Sensory garden.

2.10 PLANNING POLICY

Hampden Park is defined and protected by a number of planning designations contained within Eastbourne Borough Council's Core Strategy of February 2013.

The Core Strategy develops a number of key Spatial Objectives, including:

Key Spatial Objective 7: Green Space and Biodiversity

To designate a network of green spaces linking the South Downs, Eastbourne Park and Pevensey Levels, to protect the diverse character and local distinctiveness encourage biodiversity and provide access to additional leisure opportunities.

Policy B2 details the steps the Council will take through its planning policies to support the creation of sustainable communities, including the need to:

- *Create an attractive, safe and clean built environment with a sense of place that is distinctive and reflects local character; and*
- *Respect the natural environment by adapting to climate change and reducing potential negative environmental impacts.*

Policy D9 of the Core Strategy elaborates the ways in which the Council will support the natural environment by:

- *Producing a Green Network Plan and creating environmental interpretive focal points in Eastbourne's parks and gardens and natural areas. Improved infrastructure will encourage walking and cycling as a means of accessing and connecting the green network and countryside;*
- *Identifying a network of strategically and locally important green space areas. Development will only be permitted where it does not cause fragmentation of these existing habitats or landscapes or exceptionally where there is an overriding need for the development which cannot be met on alternative land; and*

- *Requiring development proposals to improve the quality and quantity of green spaces and address local deficiencies in accessible green space where appropriate.*

This policy goes on to discuss how to promote effective conservation and enhancement of Eastbourne's wildlife by:

- *Producing Biodiversity Action Plans (BAPS) to identify measures to preserve and enhance the geology, habitats and species of importance in Eastbourne;*
- *Safeguarding local, national and international protected sites for nature conservation from inappropriate development;*
- *Ensuring that development seeks to enhance biodiversity through the inclusion of wildlife needs in design, and ensuring any unavoidable impacts are appropriately mitigated for; and*
- *All developments over 500m² or 5 dwellings will be required to produce a Biodiversity Survey to ensure development does not impact on species of importance. The Survey must also include proposals to show how any impacts will be addressed by enhancement and mitigation measures.*

Policy D210 proposes ways in which natural and build heritage will be protected through planning policy. Specifically:

Designated Historic Parks, Gardens and Open Space as well as those of importance will be protected from development that would adversely affect their character and historic interest. Views into and from these sites will be protected. Sites should not be subdivided.

Section 3.8 of the Core Strategy describes a number of planning policies in place within the Hampden Park area of Eastbourne, embodied in an overall vision for the area:

2.10 PLANNING POLICY (cont.)

Hampden Park will increase its levels of sustainability and reduce the levels of deprivation in the neighbourhood whilst assisting in the delivery of housing and employment opportunities for the town.

Policy C7 proposes that this vision will be supported through:

- *'Protecting important greenspaces such as Hampden Park.'*
- *'Increasing provision for facilities for children and young people'*

East Sussex' Sustainable Communities Strategy sets out a number of aspirations for the County including 'protecting our natural and built environments and adapting and responding to climate change' and 'enabling people to enjoy culture, sports and leisure'.

2.11 BY-LAWS

A full review of the by-laws will be programmed for 2017 with a view to adoption of new by-laws in 2018.



Fig.7 - Decoy pond re-opening day, 27th June 2011.

2.12 USES AND EVENTS

Hampden Park is extremely popular, consistently attracting a high number of visitors because of the distinctive quality of its spaces and the variety of its amenities. The Council has not formally quantified the number of visits the park supports every year but this is likely to exceed half a million.

Eastbourne Borough Council undertook a visitor survey during the summer of 2014. The results appear as Appendix 4. The survey reveals that the majority of visits are made by people who live locally but that a significant number of users are drawn from a wider catchment. The survey also reveals the wide variety of leisure attractors that are drawing people into the park. These include:

- The café (run by a concessionaire);
- The playground;
- Ten football pitches - 7 Senior, 3 Junior
- Three Rugby pitches ;
- Six public tennis courts (plus additional courts available through club membership)
- Outdoor bowling greens;
- Indoor bowls facilities;
- The skateboard park;
- The lake and stream (popular with families with young children who wish to feed birds);
- The arboretum / history garden; and
- The toilets.

The park also offers numerous other opportunities for passive and informal leisure and sports activities including dog walking, jogging, walking, occasional volunteering for those interested in nature conservation.

2.13 RECENT PROJECTS

The FoTHP carry out regular volunteer projects and other events in Hampden Park including, amongst others, the Great Garden Birdwatch (with the RSPB), 'walks and talks' and school sessions. EBC rules do not allow for regular unsupervised volunteer participation.

Events:

- Race for Life;
- Annual Rugby Club event; and
- Friends Annual Remembrance Service.
- Friends community Funday
- International hot air balloon festival July 2017
- RSPB bird count

Eastbourne Borough Council has developed and implemented a number of successful projects in Hampden Park over the past 6 years. These include:

- Decoy de-silting and refurbishment; £160k, completed 2011;
- Hampden Park Skate Park - £170k, completed October 2014;
- Hampden Park toilet refurbishment – £40k; on site February 2015; and
- Tennis courts refurbishments – £190k; completion March 2015.
- Creation of a path to connect Ham Shaw wood to the newly build skate park path (£25K) 2015
- Replacement of the large multi-unit in the play area (£50K) 2015
- Improvements to park entrances including vegetation thinning and road rumble strips 2016
- Renewal of road markings 2016
- Renovation of sections of railing 2016
- Improvements to drainage in liaison with Southern Water 2016
- Additional donated seating and tree planting

The 'Action Plans' (see Section 4) identify a number of projects planned for the future development of Hampden Park. These projects are all subject to successful applications for internal and/or external funding over the next 5 years.

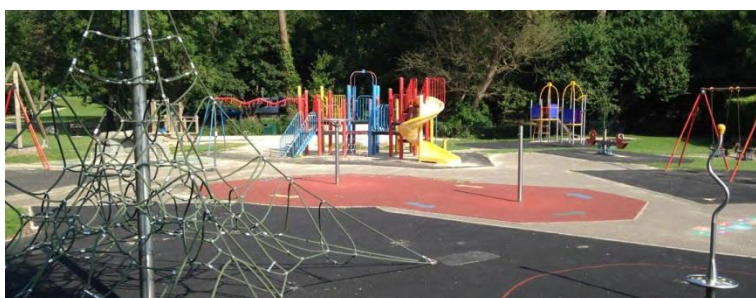
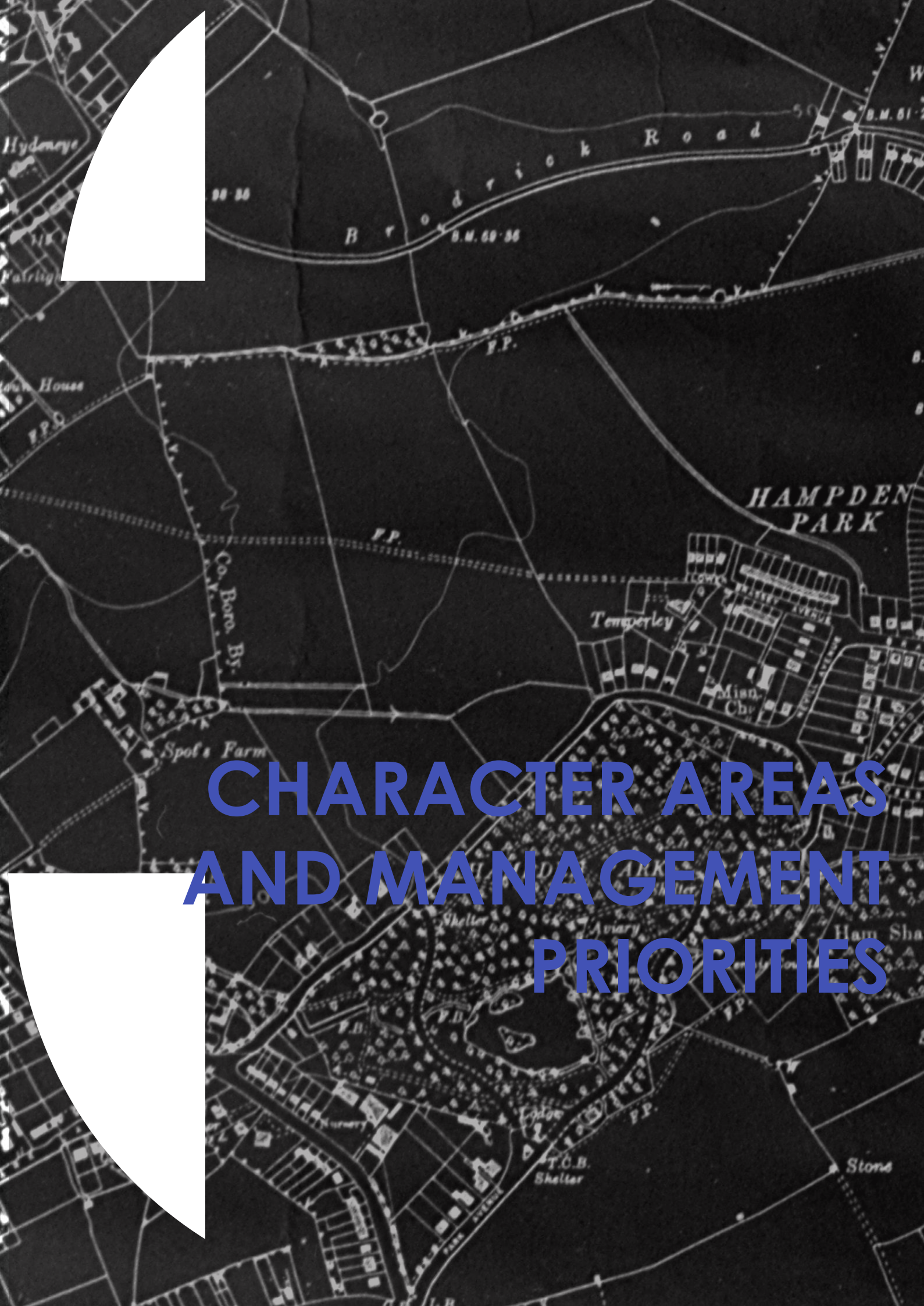


Fig.8 - Hampden Park playground.



CHARACTER AREAS AND MANAGEMENT PRIORITIES

3.1 CHARACTER AREAS AND MANAGEMENT PRIORITIES

The Green Flag Management Plan is based upon character areas within the park. Each character area has its own set of functions. Management and maintenance regimes have been developed to respond to these functions and fulfil the overall management vision for the park.

Area A: Decoy Wood and Ham Shaw


Area B: Decoy Stream nature and conservation area

Area C: Decoy Pond and margins

Area D: Café and central activity hub

Area E: Sports grounds

Area F: Hampden Park Drive



“...The best park around. Much improved in recent years..”

3.2 AREA A: DECOY WOOD AND HAM SHAW

Description

Decoy Wood and Ham Shaw is an area of mature, primarily broadleaf mature woodland, originally of Oak, dating back to the early 1800's with the later addition of either self-seeded or planted Ash and at its eastern extreme, Bosnian Pine and Beech. An understorey of Ash, Field Maple, Hawthorn and Buckthorn has developed, and in spring ground flora is dominated by Lesser Celandine and Hart's Tongue Fern. The woodland area, dissected by a network of natural woodland paths, has a strong individual character that separates it from the more typical park-like spaces to the south and west.

Vision

The woodland area has potential to develop as a principal focus area for habitat and bio-diversity outcomes; this will be more strategically managed so that these outcomes can proliferate over time. The contrast between this area and the parkland beyond will continue.

Management objectives

The EBC Trees and Woodland Strategy includes provision for regular inspections to monitor the health of trees; effectively minimizing any potential health and safety issues that may pose a danger to users of the park. Work will be carried out to maintain the health and safety of trees, this will establish a range of habitats on the ground layer beneath. A variety of other interventions will also be carried out to promote greater bio-diversity.

Footpaths will be maintained to facilitate greater access to this part of the park. Surfaces will be kept litter free and hard landscape infrastructure (bins, dog bins benches and signage) maintained to a high standard.

3.3 AREA B: DECOY STREAM AND NATURE CONSERVATION AREA

Description

The valley of the Decoy Stream is densely vegetated with a variety of mature trees and communities of aquatic and marginal plants on the stream edges. To the north of the stream, young trees have been planted in areas of long and shorter grass and under planted with decorative perennial plants to give a semi-natural texture.

Vision

The management of the stream valley will be based around its status as a principal area of focus for ecological and habitat outcomes. The area will continue to be managed for these outcomes through a specific management regime that will emphasise its naturalistic rather than formal characteristics.

Management objectives

The management of the site will focus on ecological and habitat outcomes through the adoption of a specialist management regime based on a recent detailed survey.

Volunteering and school use will be encouraged through programmed activities and special events, these will tie-in with wider educational and volunteering opportunities across the park, as Council resources allow.

The bio-diversity assessment reports of July and October recommends the eradication of Ground Elder and Gunnera, and encourages the creation of additional wildflower meadows in the vicinity of Decoy Pond. The report also highlights the need to control the feeding of bread to birds by members of the public.

3.4 AREA C: DECOY POND AND MARGINS

Description

The pond has recently been de-silted and planted with marginal plants; supporting ever-changing communities of wildfowl, some permanent communities, fish and invertebrates.

Vision

The overarching aim in this landscape zone is to provide an attractive and accessible feature whilst enhancing the biodiversity of the park.

Management objectives

Management objectives will focus on establishing a balance between the needs for park visitors to access the lake and its edges, and the need to preserve its bio-diversity value. As such, management will be driven by the findings of the habitat and bio-diversity report commissioned by Eastbourne Borough Council.

In a more general sense, management will be driven by a number of key factors, including:

- Monitoring and controlling water quality;
- Discouraging the public from feeding the wildfowl;
- Controlling vermin living around the lake margins;
- Enhancing, diversifying, maintaining and controlling plants (for invasive species) growing in and along the edges of the lake;
- Removing litter from the lake and its banks on a regular basis to avoid unsightly build-up of rubbish;
- Grass between the pond edge and the drive to be kept as amenity grass, with path edges neatly defined;
- Paths, furniture and fences to be maintained in a sound and clean state with hoggin areas regularly raked and rolled. Additional hoggin topped up as required;

3.3 AREA C: DECOY POND AND MARGINS (cont.)

- Litter collection and bin emptying maintained so that litter is not allowed to collect on the ground and bins not allowed to overflow at any time. Litter to be collected from the pond on a regular basis; and
- Invasive weeds including Japanese Knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) and Ground Elder (*Aegopodium podagraria*) are controlled and are to be vigorously eradicated with special dispensation given for the use of herbicide until the infestation is brought under control. It is noted that there is a single and historical presence of Gunnera (*Gunnera tinctoria*) which will be controlled to prevent any spread of the species.



Fig.9 - New planting areas in the park.

3.4 AREA D: CAFÉ AND CENTRAL ACTIVITY HUB

Description

The cafe is the focus area of activity in the park and the major destination for many park users. The various sports and play facilities attract a significant proportion of the park's visitors and the area is accessed and traversed on foot, by bicycle and by motor vehicle. The park's major facilities (café, toilets, playground, bowls and tennis clubs) are all clustered around this part of the park and are well connected visually and in terms of connecting paths. A network of connecting routes joins this area to parkland on the margins of the pond and to the south of Decoy Wood.

Vision

This part of the park will continue to be the main focus of activity within Hampden Park, will act as the park's 'shop window' and is a main focus for future investment. The vision for this part of the park is driven by the diversity of offer but underpinned by the best possible standards of management and maintenance.

Management objectives

Management objectives in this area will be driven by the highest achievable standards of management and maintenance within the available resource allocated by the Council.

Equipment in the children's playground and the safety surfaces will be checked on at least a weekly basis and repaired as necessary according to the makers' specifications to maintain the safety of the facilities. Dogs will not be allowed within the playground and any faeces removed immediately. Litter will be collected and bins emptied to maintain the playground in accordance with COPLR Zone 1 standards.

Hard surfaces will be kept clean and weed free, with litter collected from surfaces and bins at a frequency that will not allow rubbish to accrue and contribute to a poor appearance.

3.5 AREA E: SPORTS GROUNDS

Specialist pruning and appropriate maintenance of plants is employed as necessary and in accordance with horticultural best practice.

Grass areas will be kept as amenity grass and will be spiked to prevent over-compaction as required. Turf repairs will be undertaken annually to areas of excessive wear.

Street furniture will be regularly checked and repaired or replaced as necessary.



Fig.10 - Tennis courts.



Fig.11 - Hampden Park crocuses and pond.

Description

The southern area of Hampden Park is set to short grass and devoted to formal sports. A section of surviving hedgerow demarcates the edge of the park and separates it from Eastbourne Sports Park and Sussex Downs College.

Vision

The vision for this part of the park is to maintain the area to a high standard to support the various sporting activities that it currently offers and will continue to offer in future. All park boundaries will be maintained for security purposes where they exist.

Management objectives

Grassed areas will be maintained as amenity grass or as specialist sports turf.

Litter will be removed from short grassed areas on a regular basis to stop it blowing into adjoining planted areas. Sports clubs will be encouraged to be self-policing in terms of litter generated during formal sporting events.

Regular maintenance of drainage systems will ensure good levels of playability and the condition of boundaries and gates will be regularly checked and repairs undertaken as necessary. The focus of this part of the park will be on formal sporting activities; the Council will continue to work in partnership with local sports clubs to ensure that this area continues to support this function to a high standard in future.

3.6 AREA F: HAMPDEN PARK SPINE ROAD

Description

Hampden Park Drive winds through the centre of Hampden Park and is the main point of access. The Drive provides access for pedestrians, cyclists and drivers and offers free parking for visitors.

Vision

Hampden Park Drive will continue to be the main point of access to the park and the transition from highway (outside the park) to park road (inside the park) has been more clearly defined through designed interventions. The road will continue to support access for all types of users but edges will be softened to give the drive the character of a park road.

Management objectives

The road will continue to support pedestrian, cyclist and motorised use, but steps to reduce and control the speed of vehicular traffic will be taken including works to the road surface to encourage vehicles to reduce speed. Steps will be taken to ensure that crossing points are clearly signed and pedestrian safety regularly reviewed.

Hard surfaces are to be kept clean and weed free, with litter collected from surfaces and bins at a frequency that does not allow for rubbish to accrue or to be blown onto adjoining beds.

Paths, furniture and fences are to be maintained in a sound and clean state.

3.7 TREE STOCK

Trees in parks are managed on a cyclical basis in accordance with the Trees and Woodland Management Strategy 2010-15. Programmed work to trees in Hampden Park are supplemented with emergency works where health and safety issues are identified. Tree works are carried out by the Council's contractors.

3.8 PATROLLING AND ENFORCEMENT

Monitoring of issues around the antisocial behaviour, vandalism and security will be monitored regularly by the Council's Neighbourhood First Officers who liaise closely with the PCSOs. Further support will be forthcoming from the police as required.

Members of the public have the opportunity to report issues relating to anti-social behaviour, maintenance and repairs through the free 'Report it' smartphone application as well as by telephone and increasingly, email correspondence. The Council web pages can also be used to report issues noted within Eastbourne's open spaces.



Fig.12 - Eastbourne Hampden Park Skatepark

4.1 THE MANAGEMENT OF HAMPDEN PARK

The management of Hampden Park is informed by Eastbourne Borough Council's departmental business plan for parks and open spaces.

Following a recent Council restructure, the Parks and Gardens department has now moved into the Specialist category, as Specialist Advisors for Open Spaces. The Specialist Advisors are supported by Neighbourhood First operatives who regularly undertake visual inspections of amenities and have a highly visible presence in the community.

The Council employs external contractors for the management and maintenance of local parks and gardens, led by the Specialist Advisors for Open Spaces. These contractors were appointed in 2007, after a successful tender for a 10 year contract and work to adhere to the contract specifications set out in Appendix 2.

Customer First consists of five teams:

A Customer First contact team to deal with all enquiries, face to face, over the phone and online.

A Customer First caseworker team to provide a joined up and integrated service for all applications and cases you have.

A Neighbourhood First team based in your area to help you quickly resolve issues and improve standards.

A team of Specialist Advisors who manage complex cases and provide expert input where required.

A service improvement team dedicated to identifying ways to improve service performance and quality.



Fig.13 - Hampden Park map and information board.

4.2 A WELCOMING PLACE

Hampden Park is a much loved and well-used amenity for the people of Eastbourne and it is estimated that the park has over half- a million visits a year. Balancing the visitor needs and park uses is a continuing challenge for the future. The park provides a place where people can relax, be involved in recreational activities (both active and passive) and somewhere where they can learn both formally and informally about heritage of the park as well as its ecology.

Good and Safe access

The park has a number of access points, most of which are DDA compliant but where this is not the currently the case further improvements are planned.

Staff presence

The park is intermittently staffed 7 days per week, 52 weeks per year by a mobile team of maintenance operatives. A permanent on-site gardener works from Hampden Park 5 days per week. All parks staff wear a distinct uniform and the park is regularly patrolled by PCSOs. The park café is open all year round.

The Council website is the main source of information regarding parks, however, the Council accept enquiries using various methods and encourage the use of online accounts and emails through the web site. Information signage is also present in each park.

AIM 1 : Positively welcome people into the Park in terms of both physical and social access. Continue to improve access to the Park, overcoming any intellectual, physical, sensory, social and cultural obstacles					
	Objective	Achievement to date	Action required	Timescale	Responsibility / comments
1.1	Ensure the park is easy to get around and feels welcoming	Rolling programme of repairs to Hampden Park Drive	Enhance main entrances to reinforce sense of arrival for pedestrians and cyclists – Reduce/re-define vegetation to open up entrance views Maintain signage Improve signage – identity & branding (uniformity)	Internal capital bid 2016-17 2015-16 On-going £30k Internal capital bid for re-signing throughout Eastbourne including parks 2016-17	Senior Specialist Advisor Specialist Advisor Open Spaces Senior Specialist Advisor Service Improvement and Development
1.2	Advise routes for cars, walkers, joggers, cyclists etc.. to reduce conflicts	Speed limits, traffic calming and raised table at cafe	Address conflicts between cars and café users/children at lake – hierarchy of user groups & downgrade the importance of the car/vehicular access	Internal capital bid to re-surface table between café and lake 2017-18 to enhance safety. Improved signage.	Senior Specialist Advisor
1.3	To extend the usage of the park by existing users and attract new users from the local vicinity and from Eastbourne as a whole		Better marketing of the park on the Council's website – more site specific information & details	Enhancement of Parks webpages in partnership with EBC tourism: 2015 and on-going	Specialist Advisor – Open Spaces

Table 1: Management objectives – Aim 1

Signage

Signage within the park has been reviewed and a re-signing process was completed in 2016. The signage strategy for the Park concentrates on:

- Communicating the brand for Eastbourne Parks;
- Wayfinding within the park and to destinations beyond the park; and
- Information and interpretation to inform visitors of the park's cultural and natural heritage.

4.1.1 Entrances, boundaries and signage

The identity of Hampden Park was historically undermined by a lack of effective transition from adjoining streets to the park. This has recently been addressed as identified in the Action Plan which specifies:

- Entrance detailing for entrances on Hampden Park Drive and Decoy drive; and
- The physical characteristics of Hampden Park Drive within the park itself should be such that it is distinct from the adjoining public highway and functions more as a 'park road'.

4.2 HEALTHY SAFE AND SECURE (refer to Table 2)

The park needs to provide a safe environment for the public to visit and for contractors and EBC staff to work. It is imperative that the infrastructure of the park is designed and maintained in such a way that it poses no danger to park users. The management of Hampden Park is focused on the provision of healthy and safe facilities and a secure environment in which to relax.

The parks maintenance team visits the park on a daily basis and report all and any health and safety matters to the Specialist Advisor for action. Qualified council staff undertake sample visits to a number of playground sites to undertake a quality control assessment; in June of each year, a RoSPA (Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents) assessment is undertaken for each playground and a final report submitted for the attention of the Specialist Advisors. A risk assessment specific to Hampden Park is attached as appendix 5.

The park has a range of health and safety related equipment deployed across the park, as follows:

- Toilets – within the park café and available for use 7 days per week during café opening hours;
- Emergency equipment – life buoys are deployed around the lake and checked by the parks maintenance team; and

- Emergency numbers are posted on all signs across the park.

Security vandalism and graffiti

User surveys indicate that the overwhelming majority of users feel safe or very safe using Hampden Park. Incidents of crime and anti-social behaviour and vandalism are rare. The objective of the management regime will be to ensure that this remains the case.

The parks maintenance team visits the park on a daily basis, providing reassurance to the public using the park and is a first point of contact regarding incidents anti-social behaviour and breaches of the bylaws or statute law. The Customer First team liaises closely with the Police and local PCSOs and regularly shares intelligence with these as a means of driving down anti-social behaviour in the park. The Council engages positively with the local community regarding anti-social behaviour and enviro-crime through its Neighbourhood Panel, which is attended by both the Police and PCSOs. To support this dialogue, members of the public are encouraged to report any incidence of crime or anti-social behaviour through the 'Report It' app.

Regular maintenance of planted areas keep key views open around the main footpaths and foci of activity. Further works will be undertaken to ensure that park users continue to feel safe to use the space.

AIM 2 : Ensure a healthy, safe and secure experience for park users/ To maintain and improve health and safety measures in the park to ensure a safe and enjoyable visitor experience					
	Objective	Achievement to date	Action required	Timescale	Responsibility / comments
2.1	Undertake weekly safety inspections of play equipment/lake/pathways and all parks facilities	Weekly inspections plus reporting through 'Report It' and Playsafe Apps	Review current system. Update, improve & regulate	On-going	Neighbourhood First Advisor – Open Spaces
2.2	Apply and update Risk Assessments for all uses and areas of the park.	All risk assessments currently being updated	Ensure risk assessment up to date, relevant & effective	On-going monitoring	Specialist Advisor – Open Spaces
2.3	Deal with incidents of vandalism or temporary hazards as soon as possible, making safe and rectifying	Reporting through Neighbourhood First, 'Report It's App and grounds maintenance inspections	Monitoring of policy for repairs and repairs performance	On-going	Specialist Advisor – Open Spaces

Table 2: Management Objectives – Aim 2

AIM 2 : Ensure a healthy, safe and secure experience for park users/ To maintain and improve health and safety measures in the park to ensure a safe and enjoyable visitor experience

	Objective	Achievement to date	Action required	Timescale	Responsibility / comments
2.4	Follow set procedure for reporting incidents and accidents. Where appropriate, put measures in place to reduce such health and safety related incidents	Incident reporting through Neighbourhood First and corporate accident reporting system or via obstruction reports by the Contractors.	Operations, monitoring & effectiveness	On-going	Specialist Advisor – Open Spaces
2.5	To manage the park to deter and reduce the incidents of crime, ensuring the park is a safe and secure place for visitors.	Neighbourhood First presence within the park	Bio-diversity report and woodland management plan (to enhance safety in woodland area)	March 2015	Specialist Advisor – Open Spaces
		Monitoring of crime and ASB by Neighbourhood First and Police Community Officers	Bridge repairs	2015	Specialist Advisor – Open Spaces
			Boundary path	2016	Specialist Advisor – Open Spaces
		Lighting on access paths to sports facilities and skatepark	Internal capital bid 2017-18	Senior Specialist Advisor	
2.6	Increase the presence of park staff in the park. Where possible, enforce Park Bylaws.	Contractor and Neighbourhood First presence within the park Police Community	Bye-laws review and adoption of new bye-laws	2017-18	Senior Specialist Advisor
2.7	Improve the relationship with police, community safety staff – outreach workers to tackle and monitor anti social behaviour. Consult Crime Prevention Officer	Improved relationship between Neighbourhood First, Police/ PCSOs and the community.	Arrange diversionary activities.	On-going	Specialist Advisor – Open Spaces
2.8	Improve/re-balance access for vehicles, pedestrians and cyclists	Traffic calming and speed limits	Further traffic calming measures	New signage (2016-17) Capital bid to re-surface road table between café and lake 2017-18	Senior Specialist Advisor Senior Specialist Advisor
2.9	Communicate effectively with dog owners to encourage responsible use of the park	Responsible dog ownership events in parks	Annual park-based event in Eastbourne	2015 and on annual basis	Specialist Advisor - Open Spaces
2.10	Address vermin infestation	Baiting and other control measures	Continuing control measures, education, signage and alternative offer	New signage (2016-17) Work with café to offer seed-based alternative	Specialist Advisor - Open Spaces Neighbourhood First Advisors
2.11	Manage and alleviate trespass issues with leased sports facilities.	Prepared capital bid document for 2015-16.	Add secure fencing around lower green of outdoor bowls club.	2016-17	Specialist Advisor

4.3 CLEAN AND WELL-MAINTAINED (refer to Table 3)

The cleanliness of the park is taken very seriously by both the Council and park users. Litter clearance is undertaken as part of the borough wide grounds maintenance contract. The Council has and continues to take a very robust approach to the management of litter in the public domain.

The Council also takes a strong approach to the control of dog faeces within its open spaces. Dog bins are provided and litter bins are now dual use and can be used to dispose of dog waste. Neighbourhood First undertake regular site visits to promote responsible dog ownership and actively

engage with the local community.

The Council encourages users to report incidents of poor maintenance, vandalism and repair issues through the use of the 'Report It' app. Reported issues are referred to the Customer First department and acted upon, with health and safety issues always being given top priority.

The Council encourages responsible dog ownership and facilitates an annual dog show to promote its relationship with dog owners.

Table 3: Management Objectives – Aim 3

AIM 3 : Provide a well-maintained and clean Park environment, maintaining the landscape, buildings and infrastructure of the park to consistently high standards.					
	Objective	Achievement to date	Action required	Timescale	Responsibility / comments
3.1	To ensure the park provides a high quality facility that is clean and safe for all to enjoy.	Monitoring through grounds maintenance contract Site based gardener	Spot inspections and default notices specifically for areas beyond open grassland. Bio-diversity management plan Apprenticeships and volunteers Further volunteering and training opportunities through new GM contract	Ongoing. March 2015 Apprenticeships arranged and employed by the contractor. Volunteers on-going through Neighbourhood First and Friends of the Hampden Park 2017-22	Specialist Advisor – Open Spaces Specialist Advisor – Open Spaces Specialist Advisor – Open Spaces and GM contractor Senior Specialist Advisor
3.2	Monitoring/ inspections/incident reporting.	Weekly/monthly monitoring through GM contract	Review effectiveness of monitoring	On-going	Specialist Advisor – Open Spaces
3.3	Respond rapidly to complaints	Monitoring through weekly/monthly reports, Neighbourhood First reporting and 'Report It' App	Review effectiveness and performance	On going	Specialist Advisor – Open Spaces
3.4	Enhance ecological management		Bio-diversity report and management plan Woodland Management	March 2015	Specialist Advisor – Open Spaces
3.5	Infrastructural maintenance		Roadway and path repairs	2015/16	Specialist Advisor – Open Spaces

4.3.1 Infrastructure and services: maintenance and repair

Buildings in the park are maintained as part of the Council's Planned Maintenance programme. A specific bid for the refurbishment of the toilet block was submitted and these works were completed in early 2015.

Responsibility for the repair of leased buildings (the Bowls Pavilion and Park Café) is defined within the lease agreements for these buildings.

Pathways and roadways are inspected by the Council's grounds maintenance contractors on a daily basis and any issues relating to quality and safety are addressed as priority.

All services to independent users within the park are separately metered. Eastbourne Borough Council undertakes meter readings and individual users are billed accordingly.

Planting management within the park is carried out by a contract gardener normally allocated to the site. Planting management in the Decoy Pond and Decoy Stream areas of the park will be informed by an ecological management plan from March 2015. This will strike a balance between the following criteria:

- The need to protect bio-diversity;
- The need to provide areas of horticultural interest and excellence within the Park; and
- The need to keep sight lines open so that users can enjoy the space from a perceived position of safety.

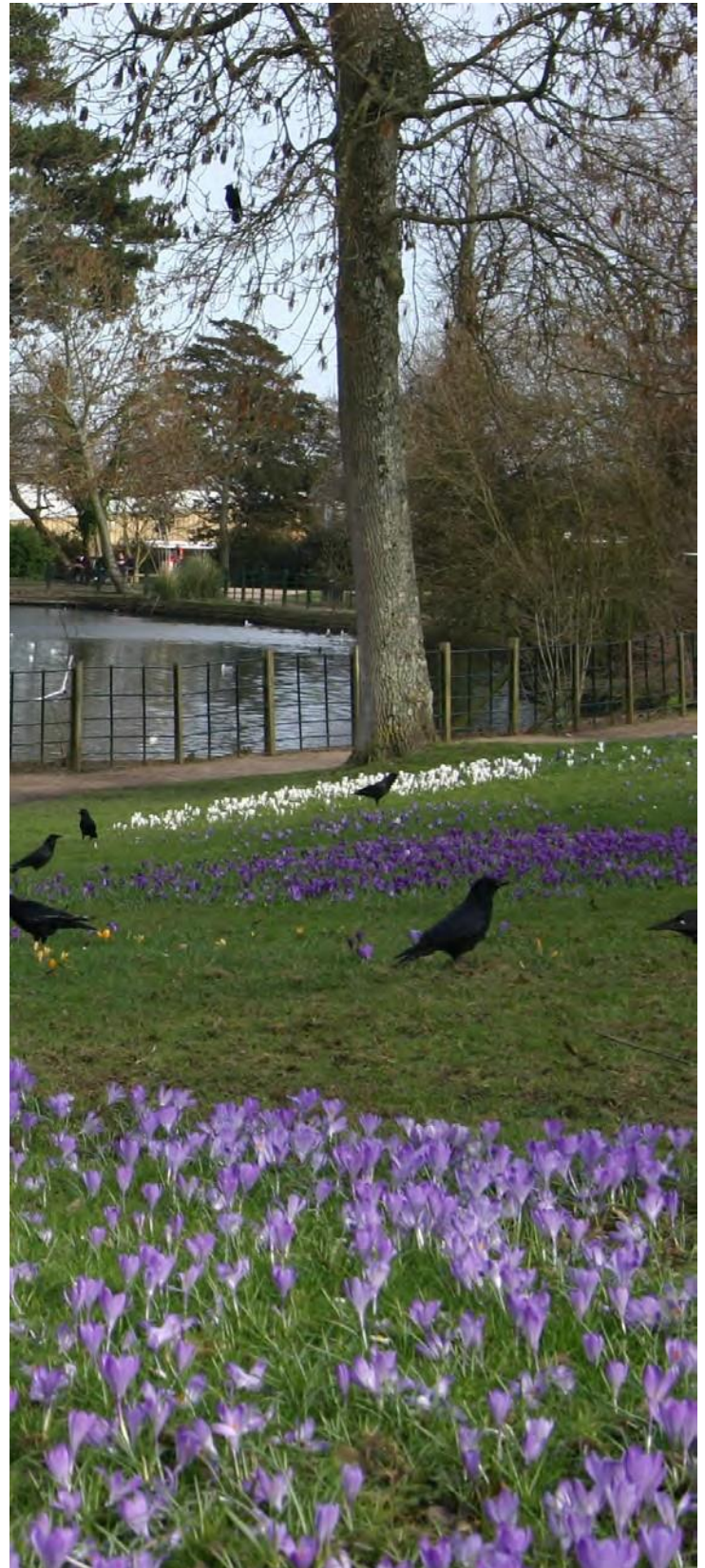


Fig.14 - Planting around the pond.

4.4 SUSTAINABILITY (refer to Table 4)

Sustainability is becoming increasingly important in all aspects of day-to-day park management. It is important that management practices at Hampden Park are subject to review in light of the most recent developments in sustainable practices.

As part of its aspiration for the management of the public domain, the parks service has defined a number of objectives for sustainability. Specifically the service will (as resources allow):

- Develop bio-diversity informed management plans for the park;
- Revise the management plans to include Bio-diversity recommendations upon adoption;

- Increase Conservation areas within the park ;
- Enhance the water quality of our water bodies; and
- Further develop and enhance our relationships with voluntary and community sector organisations as a long term sustainable commitment to our parks and green spaces.

These actions will build on the following measures that have been or are in the process of being completed:

- De-silting and refurbishment of the pond.

AIM 4 : Improve the environmental quality and sustainability of practices carried out in the Park.

	Objective	Achievement todate	Action required	Timescale	Responsibility / comments
4.1	To manage the park in a sustainable way	Green waste re-cycling. All green waste and tree works arisings re-used in parks	Further sustainability measures built into new contract from 2017 (eg re-cycling, waste segregation, electric vehicles	2017-2022	Senior Specialist Advisor GM contractor

Table 4: Management Objectives – Aim 4



Fig.15 - St Andrew School donates new bird boxes for the park, Jan. 2008.

4.5 CONSERVATION AND HERITAGE (refer to Table 5)

The heritage of Hampden Park is described and outlined in Section 2.1 of the management plan. The original function of the site revolved around the use of the stream and pond to provide wildfowl for the original county estate. Wildfowl are still encouraged through the successful management of these two key aspects of the park's heritage. The de-silting and restoration of the pond by the Council has re-invigorated this part of the park.

The work of recording the park's heritage has been supported by the efforts of the Friends of the Hampden Park.

Today, the park's natural heritage is a key aspect of its significance and a key attractor to audiences. The Council has commissioned a study of the bio-diversity of the site and the conclusions and recommendations of this study will be built into future management proposals from 2015. Part of this report will propose measures for the future management and replacement over time of the park's vital tree stock. The report's recommendations will also inform management actions contained within the new grounds maintenance contract, specifically to be procured in 2017 thus ensuring that ecological management is central to the maintenance of Hampden Park over the next 10 years.

In pursuit of these recommendations, the Council will undertake a number of ecological initiatives including the installation of bat and bird boxes and the creation of log-pile habitats; working in partnership with local organisations to promote the natural heritage of the site and make it available to a wider audience.

Building on the Friends participation in the Great Garden Birdwatch, the public can also be encouraged to record the wildlife they see around the park. These records can be used to inform management decisions, monitor wildlife in the park and passed on to the Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre.



Fig.16 - Bluebell planting, Oct. 2007.

Feeding of birds is very popular with park users but runs contrary to advice from the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust on sustaining wildfowl populations. The depositing of large quantities of bread in and around the pond margins could encourage a larger population of rats which may constitute a risk to human health because of Weil's disease. The Council is taking active steps to control the rat population and have installed signage to advise visitors against feeding wildfowl.

AIM 5 : Maintain the historic landscape character and enhance the Parks biodiversity value, whilst ensuring provision for contemporary users.					
	Objective	Achievement to date	Action required	Timescale	Responsibility / comments
5.1	To protect the fabric and historical integrity of the park whilst enhancing biodiversity and amenity benefits.	Achieved QEII Fields in Trust status for Hampden Park. Successful de-silting of Decoy Pond. Commissioned a biodiversity study to produce a management plan.	New signage Develop natural heritage outcomes (e.g. through bat and bird boxes) through Bio-diversity and woodland management plan Incorporate bio-diversity and heritage outcomes into new contract specification from 2017	Internal capital bid 2015 March 2015 plus volunteer activity after this 2017-22	Senior Specialist Advisor Specialist Advisor – Open Spaces Senior Specialist Advisor GM contractor
5.2	Involve experts in developing the biodiversity/habitat value of areas in the park e.g. tree and habitat trails	Partnerships with East Sussex Wildlife and Rescue Service.	Further partnerships with external organisations to maximise bio-diversity value and user access e.g. BTCV Sussex Wildlife Trust	2016-17	Specialist Advisor – Open Spaces
5.3	Complete Tree Asset Management Strategy including specific management objectives and targets for the trees in Hampden Park	Tree Asset Register created on Arbortrack	Tree management	Ongoing.	Specialist Advisor – Open Spaces
5.4	To have a rolling programme of tree planting and replacement to ensure the tree stock is maintained whilst the species and locations selected for planting	Existing rolling programme of tree planting. Arbortrack tree index created.	Tree planting programme	Ongoing.	Specialist Advisor – Open Spaces
5.5	For Hampden Park to remain a significant contributor to the Eastbourne's open space resource	Enhance play area within Hampden Park. New skatepark within Hampden Park. BMX Pump track to be created 2015. Tennis courts refurbished.	Marketing through the Council's website & other effective media	2015 and on going	Specialist Advisor – Open Spaces
5.6	Ecological enhancements	De-silting of Decoy Pond and introduction of marginal planting.	Ecological enhancements to lake and stream valley areas in line with Bio-diversity plan Food foraging planting	2016 2018; External funding application in partnership with Edible Eastbourne	Specialist Advisor – Open Spaces Specialist Advisor – Open Spaces

Table 5: Management Objectives – Aim 5

4.6 COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT (refer to Table 6)

Hampden Park is as a focus for community involvement in the area, this is borne through the enthusiasm of community groups that use and enjoy the park.

Volunteer sessions in the park have been successful. The Council will continue to build relationships with Voluntary Sector organisations to ensure that the volunteer offer is strengthened.

Children from all backgrounds attend school visits to the park, helping children to develop an understanding of nature outside of the classroom.

The Council has a very close relationship with the Friends, who have successfully developed into an independent 'Friends of' group.

AIM 6 : Provide opportunities to increase community use and involvement, particularly through events, education, interpretation and building partnerships.					
	Objective	Achievement to date	Action required	Timescale	Responsibility / comments
6.3	To enhance educational opportunities in the park	Sensory garden designed by students from a local college. School bulb planting with support from EBC and Friends of the Hampden Park	Maximise potential of park as educational resource through partnerships with local schools and colleges – project engagement opportunities	On going	Specialist Advisor – Open Spaces
6.4	To have regular contact and meetings with The Friends of the Hampden Park, to maximise effective use of their commitment to and resources for the park.	Annual audit of park with the Friends of the Hampden Park.	Attend The Friends of the Hampden Park meetings and develop enhanced relationship.	On-going	Specialist Advisor – Open Spaces
6.5	To provide a good range of facilities and activities for people to enjoy	Satisfaction survey 2014 Skatepark (2014) Toilet refurbishment (2014)	Consult stakeholders on current and future provision in the park – user & non-user groups to inform future funding bids New park facilities	2015 and on-going Further initiatives, funding dependent: New BMX track (2015-16) Resurfaced tennis courts (2015) Play equipment (2015-16) New sports opportunities – e.g. free running	Specialist Advisor – Open Spaces or external consultant Specialist Advisor – Open Spaces

Table 6: Management Objectives – Aim 6

4.6 COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT (cont.)

The parks staff meet with the Friends of the Hampden Park on a regular basis, giving local residents the opportunity to raise issues around management and maintenance.

Community involvement in the management of the park is key to providing a facility that people will use, respect and enjoy. The Friends of the Hampden Park is highly organised and successful in fund raising and acting as one voice for park users to communicate park issues to EBC. It should be considered that the FoHP may not represent the needs of every part of the wider community and therefore it is still necessary to find other ways to engage people.

In recognition of this, the Council engages separately with specific interest groups (e.g. sports clubs and users of the skateboarding facility). This ensures that their aspirations are understood and that they have an understanding of the constraints within which the Council operates when trying to reconcile conflicting aspirations of different users groups.

The Council has identified potential areas of conflict between the following groups of users.

- Vehicles, pedestrians and cyclists; all three sets of users have specific needs and the management plan proposes looking at how design initiatives can be applied to resolving potential conflicts, particularly around the park hub. We will review how these users interact at key crossing points (e.g. in front of the cafe to ensure that the safety of users and especially of children, is preserved at all times).
- Dog walkers and other users; the park is very popular with a variety of user groups. This can create conflicts when such a variety of activities are concentrated in the same areas of the park.

Any guidelines issued by staff rely upon the goodwill of park users to interpret and follow them, thereby preventing real abuse and misuse of the park. This will be reinforced by the introduction of new signage around the park to inform the public

on issues around dog control, dog fouling and by advising cyclists to cycle responsibly.

4.7 MARKETING (refer to Table 7)

We are developing a new strategy for marketing and promotion, and for the provision of appropriate educational interpretation/information.

The Specialist Advisors work closely with the Neighbourhood First team to ensure information about events is readily available for visitors and residents.

The Tourism team ensures that parks and events are promoted through a variety of media; the events are promoted using the website, the Friends, the local press and internally within the Council.

Information boards provide park users with general information regarding the site.

Eastbourne's Website

The website contains information on Eastbourne's major parks, their facilities, a map, an events calendar and information on the history of park.

The web page can be visited at www.eastbourne.gov.uk/parks.

Signage

Signage throughout all Eastbourne's parks is being updated. New signage will adhere to Eastbourne Borough Council's signage guidelines and access requirements.

Press

The Council will seek, whenever possible, press coverage for events and activities taking place in the park.

We are strongly committed to developing Hampden Park as a place where people can volunteer, learn and acquire new skills. These principals will be built into the new parks grounds maintenance contract when this is procured

in 2017 to ensure that the park develops its role as a key facility for the local community and Eastbourne as a whole.

The identity of the Park is to an extent determined by the number of events that take place within it. These range from school visits, lectures and guided walks to more general public events such as the 'Race for Life' fun run.



Fig.17 - Arboretum opening with Eastbourne Mayor, July 2008.

AIM 7 : Develop the Park as a civic amenity, a source of pride, which realises the full potential of its historic and natural attributes and ensure effective promotion of the Park as a community resource.					
	Objective	Achievement to date	Action required	Timescale	Responsibility / comments
7.1	To enable people to appreciate the park's heritage	Interpretation signage at Decoy Pond and in the History Garden The Friends have funded signage and interpretation boards in the park	Better signage and interpretation across the site More information on the Council's website	Internal capital bid 2015 Enhancement of Parks webpages in partnership with EBC tourism: 2015 and on-going	Senior Specialist Advisor Specialist Advisor – Open Spaces
7.2	To keep people informed about what is happening in the park	The Friends have sourced external funding of £90,000 for the benefit of Hampden Park	Develop marketing strategy for the park – to attract more users from all areas (locals, businesses & tourists/ visitor etc.)	Enhancement of Parks webpages in partnership with EBC tourism: 2015 and on-going More partnerships working	SSpecialist Advisor – Open Spaces
7.4	To develop new audiences from under-represented and socially excluded groups	Youth audience developed through skatepark	Engage with excluded groups to encourage their participation as resources allow.	On-going	SSpecialist Advisor – Open Spaces
7.5	Promote parks activities	Health walks	Work with partners to extend range of activities and events (e.g. schools and colleges) – park as an educational facility & health improvement opportunity	On-going	Specialist Advisor – Open Spaces
7.6	To deliver employment and training opportunities for the immediate labour market.	Horticultural apprenticeships through existing GM contract	Partnerships to promote employment and training opportunities through new GM contract	2017-22	Senior Specialist Advisor GM contractor

Table 7: Management Objectives – Aim 7

4.8 CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT PLAN (refer to Table 8 and Section 5.0)

The continuous improvement action plan tables set out the objectives and priorities to address the issues identified throughout the management plan, to take forward the vision and to meet the identified management aims for the park. The aims and the associated objectives have been broadly divided under the eight Green Flag Award criteria to enable ease of use and self- assessment. It is noted that the aims and objectives do not exist independently from one another but are bound together by the overall vision for the park.

For each objective the target timescale is set and the person/team responsible for implementation identified. The action plan will be annually reviewed to assess whether timescales have been achieved and to aid future budget planning.



Fig.18 - Planting snowdrops, April 2008.

AIM 8 : Ensure all those involved (including the local community) in the management and maintenance of Hampden Park effectively use the Management Plan as a working document.					
	Objective	Achievement to date	Action required	Timescale	Responsibility / comments
8.1	Monitor and review the management plan regularly.	Preparation of GFMP 2014	Annual monitoring of GFMP by EBC and stakeholders	2015 and on going	Specialist Advisor – Open Spaces
8.3	Refer to management plan in relation to any future projects or management issues.	EBC medium term financial strategy	Refer to plan to inform future projects and prioritise projects listed in this plan	2015 and on going	Senior Specialist Advisor /Specialist advisor – Open Spaces
8.4	To ensure that administrative systems are in place for the effective collection, storage and distribution of information related to the park	Make information on the park available on the Council's website.	Expand on the information made available through the Council's website.	Improve website pages: 2015 and on-going	Specialist Advisor – Open Spaces

Table 8: Management Objectives – Aim 8



MAINTENANCE GUIDELINES

5.1 CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENTS

This section identifies the different hard and soft landscape management regimes required within Hampden Park. The plan will be read in conjunction with the annual maintenance schedule (Appendix 2) that lists the operations required to maintain each component area and the more detailed maintenance guidelines which follow.

Parks Grounds Maintenance Contract

Procurement of the grounds maintenance contract is undertaken in accordance with the Council's Contract Standing Orders (CSO's) and in line with EU regulations. Maintenance of this park currently forms part of the grounds maintenance contract for the whole borough.

As detailed earlier in the plan, the parks grounds maintenance contract provides for a single borough-wide integrated grounds maintenance service enabling a standardised approach across all parks and benefiting from economies of scale.

The contract is operated by the Landscape Group and commenced on the 1st January, 2008 and will remain in operation until 31st December, 2017, when re-tendered.

5.2 ACCESS AND SECURITY

Both of these considerations are discussed earlier in this plan. Park entrances are to be maintained to ensure that access is as free as possible for all types of users. To maintain this situation:

- Access points will be clearly marked and in a good condition;
- They will not restrict access for the disabled and will be designed to control access where required e.g. for vehicles, etc.;
- Paths and roads within the park will be maintained in a sound condition.

Park security is the responsibility of the Council and as such, the Neighbourhood First team undertakes regular inspections to monitor the site for problem areas. This monitoring is supplemented by an on-site presence of contracted grounds maintenance staff. There is ongoing communication between the Council and the PCSOs who patrol this area. If security issues are identified, measures are taken to ensure these are alleviated promptly. Improving safety within these areas can be achieved by opening sight lines to allow natural surveillance and by encouraging use of the area to attract more visitors. Where necessary, the police and PCSOs will be informed if an area requires more frequent attention.

In making the park secure it is important to avoid becoming too regimental and prescriptive about behaviour. As such; efforts will be made to attract a wide variety of people to the park; by working with the community we hope to instil a sense of ownership within the users of the park. This would result in respect and care being shown by visitors towards the park and other users.

Health and Safety

Security is also addressed elsewhere in the management plan and it is imperative that necessary measures are taken to ensure the park is safe for visitors, EBC staff and contractors working in the park. The main considerations are as follows:

- The structures and fabric of the park will be designed and maintained in such a way that they pose no danger to the park users;
- Any work carried out in the park must comply with the relevant health and safety regulations. Staff and contractor training will be kept up to date, including first aid; and
- Incidents of vandalism will be dealt with immediately or the necessary action taken to minimise the risk of harm to park users until repairs can be actioned.

Contractors and park staff will be fully briefed on health and safety procedures and the measures to be implemented in the event of a problem. This should involve a full reporting procedure for incidents and accidents in the park. A detailed risk assessment specific to Hampden Park is attached as appendix 5.



Fig.19 - Park access road.

5.3 VISITOR MANAGEMENT AND INTERPRETATION

Attracting visitors to the park touches on a number of different issues:

- Attracting them;
- Providing a satisfying experience when they do visit;
- Allowing them a voice in the development and management of the park; and
- Responding to that voice and communicating with them.

The following section proposes general guidelines/principles to consider in relation to visitor management.

Attracting visitors

Advertisement through digital and traditional media outlet fields will be employed by the Council and event organizers to attract visitors to the park, or to specific events held within the park. This can be done through advertising points further afield, as well as the Council's website.

To ensure that the beauty of the park is maintained, consideration will be given to the design of the landscape features within the park coupled with the standards of maintenance that can also attract additional park visitors. A commitment to achieve the Green Flag standard of excellence provides an added incentive to produce and maintain an attractive park.

Events and activities need to be aimed at the varied community using the park. They need to be well-organised and once completed, organisers should leave the park in a clean and sound condition with consequent damage repaired immediately. There needs to be effective communication and coordination between the organisers of events and park staff, this will provide a well-balanced mixture of large and small events of different types and ensure that the park remains accessible to all



Fig.20 - Finger post, funded by the Friends via sponsorship, near toilet block.

Literature advertising the park and its activities will be clear, attractive, provide correct and relevant information and be well distributed using all available forms of media.

Providing a satisfying experience

Once a visitor has been attracted to the park, whether to enjoy the park itself or an event therein, their satisfaction is strongly influenced by the extent to which their expectation of a visit matches the reality of their experience. To achieve this coincidence:

- The park must be attractive, safe and well maintained and the resources within it (café, toilets, playgrounds etc) function as they should;
- The park/event must be advertised accurately;
- The park/event must function as expected. Events must be well-organised and of good quality; and
- The facilities, history and services on offer in the park must be effectively and coherently presented to the visitor.

A voice in the development and management of the park

The Council's Community Strategy stresses that parks will be managed for their users. The views of those users, in all their variety, will be gathered and assessed. The Friends of the Hampden Park

5.4 ADMINISTRATION AND ARCHIVING

is a valuable voice for many users but this will be expanded on by gathering information on user attitudes collected through a variety of approaches within the local community. The information gathering process will include the views of those people either not visiting the park, or not involved with the Friends. The surveys will be aimed at both general park users and also at responses to particular events.

Responding to and communicating with park users

All customer feedback will be collated, assessed and used to inform the continuing management and development of the park. It is important that any action/response to this feedback is considered under the vision, aims and objectives of this management plan before being implemented. Comments on health and safety issues may however require a rapid response and will be assessed and acted upon as appropriate to maintain the safety of the park and its users.

It is important in fostering a degree of involvement in the running of the park to provide feedback to user concerns and information on the management of the park, changes to the fabric and restoration projects. This can be achieved through meetings, through the use of the Council's website and websites of other stakeholder organisations and in leaflets made available within the park. In distributing information to users and stakeholders, it is important to coordinate the distribution of all information to ensure that:

- The information distributed communicates clearly;
- Different sources of information do not contradict each other; and
- There is a visible and recognizable link between the various types of information disseminated on the park itself.

The effective management of public space will be informed by effective record keeping. These records of the park's fabric will include park history, tree and other baseline surveys, user comments, information disseminated, minutes of meetings, event records, contracts and their administration etc. Much of this information is stored digitally and although there is a range of technological products/software that can be used in managing the various data, some general points need to be considered:

- Information can be archived digitally on CDs but any archive must be supported by and controlled through an efficient index procedure for easy retrieval of data;
- The format and software used for storage of different kinds of information about the park will be where possible, compatible with one another for ease of use and ease of data comparison/analysis when required.

GIS (Geographic Information Systems) offer the opportunity to store and inter-link to map data with associated databases of text or graphic information. For example, tree surveys are most useful when the surveyed trees digitally plotted and displayed on a map are directly linked to the digital survey database including species, age, condition etc. so that this information can be easily retrieved, analysed, displayed and updated. This method of tree surveying is currently being undertaken by the Council.

The use of digital media will be informed by Government's guidance 'E-Government: a framework for public services in the Information Age'.



FINANCIAL PLAN

6. FINANCIAL PLAN

Ongoing revenue maintenance costs for Hampden Park are as follows:

- £102,109.61 Park Maintenance
- £40,040.94 Sports Park maintenance

The below future projects are to be included into the development plan of Hampden Park; however they are subject to funding and resource availability.

FINANCIAL PLAN		
Project	Timescale	Cost
Reurbishment of Hampden Park WC facilities	2014-15	£40K
Refurbishing of tennis courts	2014-15	£190K
Replace playground multi-unit	2015-16	£50K
Introduce a path between Ham Shaw and the skate park path	2015-16	£25K
Build BMX pump track	2015-16	£46K
Repair to Hampden Park road	2016-17	£25K
Improvements to Ham Shaw wood paths	Capital bid 2016-17	£15K
Improvements to Main entrances	Capital bid 2016-17	£35K
Re-signing throughout Eastbourne including parks	Capital bid 2016-17	£30K
Further traffic calming	Capital bid 2017-18	£25K
Lighting of access paths to sports courts and skate park.	Capital bid 2017-18	£30K
Drainage for sports pitches	Capital bid 2019-20	£50K
Total Costs		£516K



MONITORING AND PLAN REVIEW

7. MONITORING AND PLAN REVIEW (see Table 8)

The management plan will be continually reviewed, revised and re-written. The cycle for the management plan is to:

- Revise and adopt the management plan;
- Operate according to the aims and objectives held within the plan;
- Monitor the operation of the management plan;
- Review the working of the management plan; and
- Revise and improve the management plan where necessary.

Review and Revision

The management plan covers a period of 5 years starting from February 2015. Eastbourne Borough Council's Specialist Advisors for Open Spaces will carry out an annual review of the management plan to enable any improvements and alterations to be made as necessary, whilst continuously working towards the aims and objectives therein.

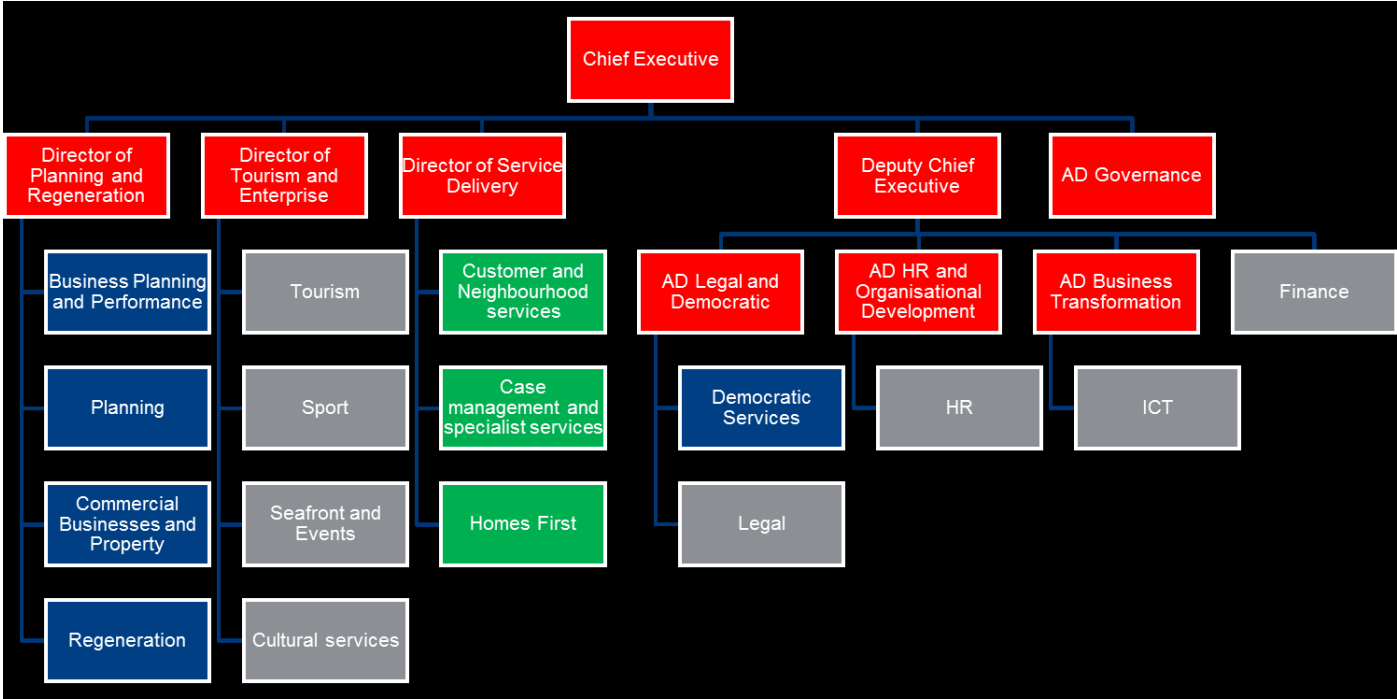
The annual application to the Keep Britain Tidy Green Flag Award will provide an annual monitoring tool and baseline annual assessment from which further improvements will be made.



**APPENDIX 1
JOINT
TRANSFORMATION
PROGRAMME HIGH
LEVEL MANAGEMENT
STRUCTURE**

A1.JOINT TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME HIGH LEVEL MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

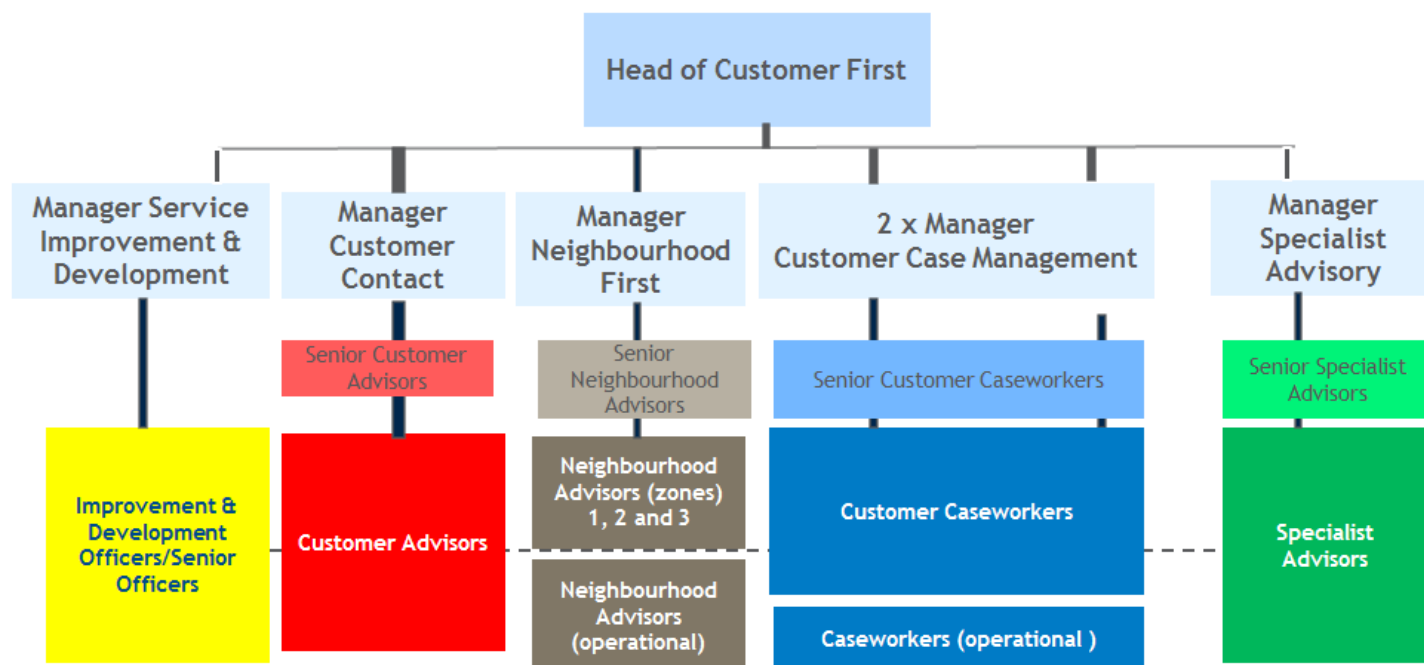
Joint Transformation Project – High Level Structure Chart - 2017





**APPENDIX 2
CURRENT LOCAL
MANAGEMENT
STRUCTURE**

A2. CURRENT LOCAL MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE



Technical operations for the Parks and Gardens section are managed by the Specialist Advisor (Open Spaces).

Trees are managed by Specialist Advisor (Arboriculture).

A Senior Specialist Advisor oversees the "Clean and Green" portfolio which includes:

- Open Spaces (Parks and Gardens);
- Arboriculture;
- Downland Management; and
- Engineering.

On-site support is provided by the Neighbourhood First team who carry out basic site inspections that do not require specialist or technical horticultural knowledge for judgement.

Incoming calls/emails are taken through the Customer First team in accordance with the Future Model; issues requiring specialist information are noted, and sent to an appropriate Specialist Advisor, where necessary.



APPENDIX 3
GROUNDS
MAINTENANCE
SPECIFICATION

Table 9: Maintenance Schedule

Spec. Ref.	Section/Task	Maintenance Tasks/Specification	Period of year	Quantity m2
C/LC/A	Litter Collection A	Where there is evidence of dense litter accumulation, prompt response and removal is required within 6 hours. Removal of less dense or scattered litter is required within twelve hours.	Year round	218,624
C/LC/B	Litter Collection B	Removal of scattered litter is required within 24 hours and dense litter is required within 12 hours.	Year round	108,840
C/LB	Litter bins	All litter bins to be emptied on a regular basis before reaching 75% capacity. Work must be programmed to anticipate busy periods such as weekends, Bank Holidays and events. Each bin to be washed and disinfected to remove debris and dirt when bin is unhygienic and attracting insects.	Year round	29 no.
C/PS	Path sweeping & hard surfaces	All paved concrete or tarmacadam surfaced areas to be swept clean, including seat bases, brick channels, edges, synthetic and safety surfaces. Remove arisings, debris and litter to litter code grade A.	Year round	5641
2.3.5	All fly tipping	Remove from site within six hours of occurrence or reporting. Inform the Supervising Officer of any evidence of origin or source of illegal dumping.	Year round	Item
2.3.8	Excreta: Gardens and Grounds	Remove excreta daily from paths, steps, sports grounds and other areas in public use throughout the day. Remove excreta weekly from planted areas and grass or as part of routine grounds maintenance operations.	Year round	Item
2.4.9	Fallen leaves and arisings	Leaves on paths, slopes, steps and other areas where they cause a risk to users are to be removed daily, as a priority. Leaves must be cleared from drains and gulleys before they cause an obstruction to the efficient flow of water.	Year round – mainly autumn/winter	Item
2.19.0	Infrastructure Graffiti	Graffiti shall be removed as soon as possible by scrub cleaning and/or use of solvents. Any obscene/ racist graffiti to be reported and removed within four hours	Year Round	Item
2.19.11	Public Garden Signs and Outdoor Notice Boards	Clean surface with brush, detergent and warm water as necessary to ensure sign is legible and has a clean appearance.	Year round	Item

Spec. Ref.	Section/Task	Maintenance Tasks/Specification	Period of year	Quantity m2
G/AG	Amenity Grass	Throughout the year grass will be maintained between 50 and 75mm as a cut and let fly operation. Edges to be reformed once a year. Grass to be collected if it exceeds 100mm in height.	Year round	122,165
G/GB	Grass Banks	Grass managed between 50 and 75mm. Removal of cuttings required after each cut.	Year round	120
G/RG	Rough Grass	Grass managed between 50 and 100mm. Grass not to exceed 150mm between April and September.	Year round	12,012
2.5.6	Bulbs and corms in grass	Areas of bulb planting to be left until the foliage have fully died back. Cut and remove arisings as part of routine grounds maintenance.	Year round	Item
R/F/S	Football – Senior Pitch	Marking out - overmark once a week Chain harrowing Piercing/ spiking Aeration with tines, penetration of 100-150mm Rolling Fertiliser Weed control Forking goal mouths to 300mm	Aug – May Nov - April Monthly in playing season Playing season Playing season April/ May April/ June 1 Sept - 30 April	35 6 7 6 3 1 1 17
	Football – Senior Pitch	During main season the optimum playing surface should be maintained at 25-35mm.	1 Sept - 30 April	29890
R/F/J	Football – Junior pitch	During main season the playing surface is maintained at 25-35mm.	1 Sept. to 30 April	17166
R/R	Rugby field	During main season the optimum playing surface is maintained at 50-65mm. All seasonal operations as per R/F/S i.e. marking out, chain harrowing etc.	1 Sept. to 30 April	23930
A/SG	All shrubs and ground cover	Routine maintenance to include effective weed control and mulching. Inspect and refirm newly planted shrubs in ground. Water if showing signs of drought stress during the first two growing seasons to ensure establishment	Year round	2,430
A/SP	Shrubs and perennials	Routine maintenance to include effective weed control and mulching excluding chemical weed control.	Year round	139

Table 9: Maintenance Schedule

Spec. Ref.	Section/Task	Maintenance Tasks/Specification	Period of year	Quantity m2
F/PR	Perennial banks and rockery areas	Routine maintenance to include effective weed control Reset loose rockery stone, ensuring lines of strata and rock faces are aligned in a natural manner. Return eroded soil back onto the bed	Year round	60
F/RB	Rose bed	Carry out all routine maintenance Reduce Hybrid Tea and Floribunda roses by one third. All roses to be pruned according to 2.13.3 (types) Apply well-rotted manure to a depth of 50mm Apply granular compound rose fertiliser	November Feb - March Nov - Dec April - May	86
H/01	Established hedge 1 cut	Hedge to be cut as close as possible to previous years outline Self-seeded trees and bushes to be cut to ground level and poisoned as a part of maintenance.	May - Sept	139
S/CH	Countryside hedge	Hedge to be cut as close as possible to previous years outline and not allowed to grow into the road.	May - July	680
P/PG	Playgrounds, inspection and maintenance	Weekly inspection to be carried out by a suitably trained and qualified person. Annual certified inspection to be carried out by The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA).	Year round June	52 1
P/W	All year round facilities and youth activities	Weekly inspection of BMX and skate park to be carried out by a suitably trained and qualified person. Annual certified inspection to be carried out by The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA).	Year round June	52 1
R/T/H	Tennis hard court	Sweep clean all hard surfaces and remove arisings, litter and debris before start of tennis season. Mark out all lines using permanent marking compound. Inspect weekly to ensure safe for play. Carry out weed control to court, surrounds and base of perimeter fence	Year round Minimal availability from Sat. preceding Good Friday to first Sat. in November	1600



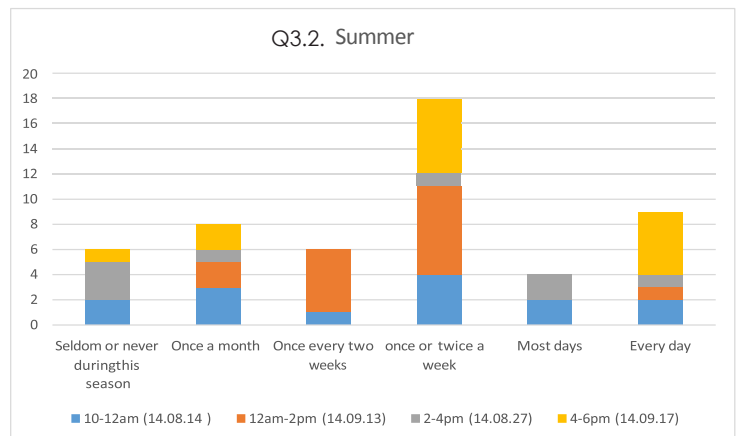
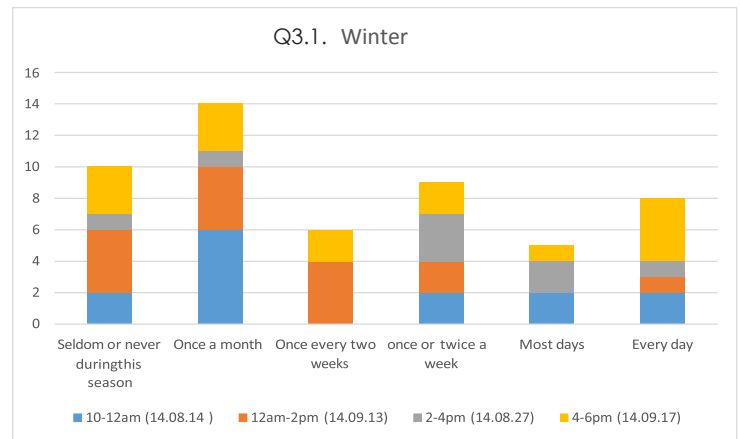
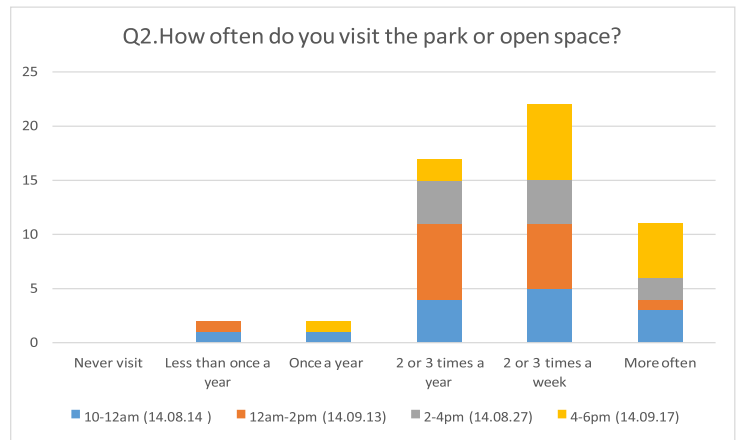
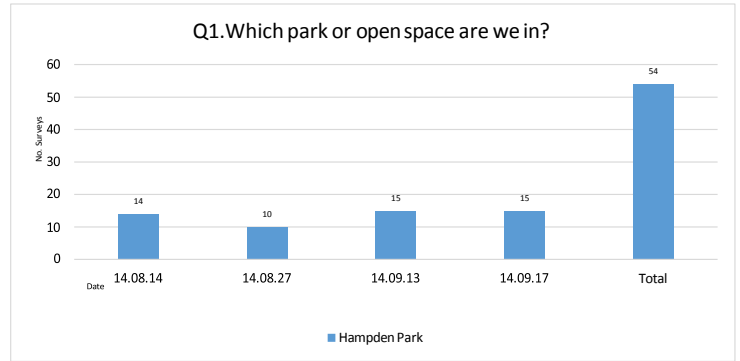
APPENDIX 4
USER OPINION SURVEY
HEADLINE RESULTS

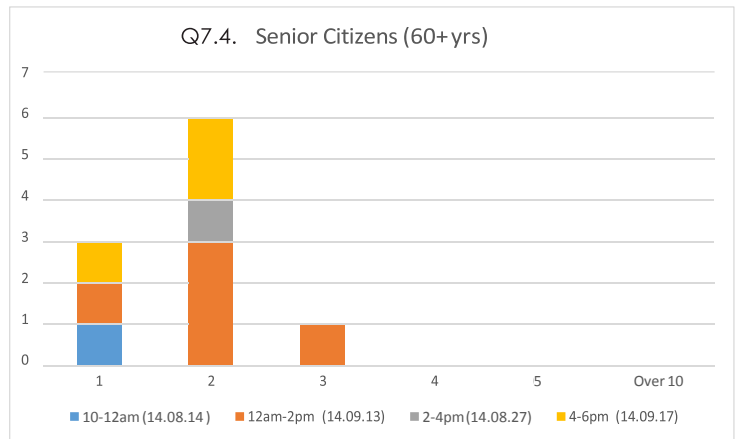
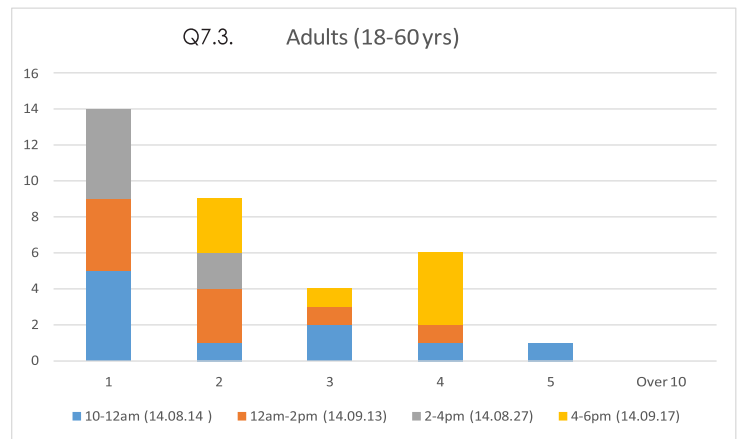
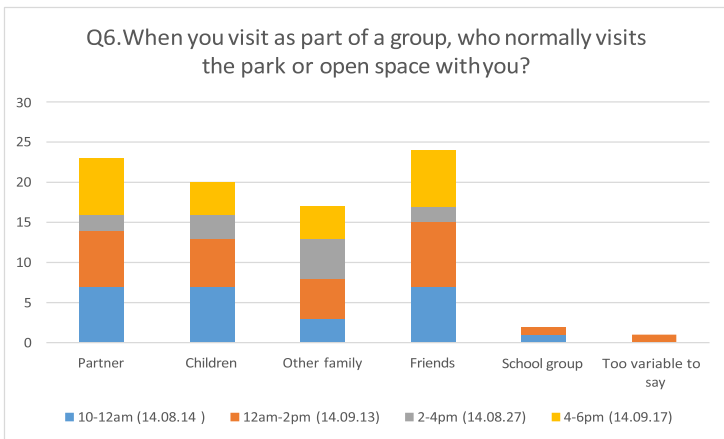
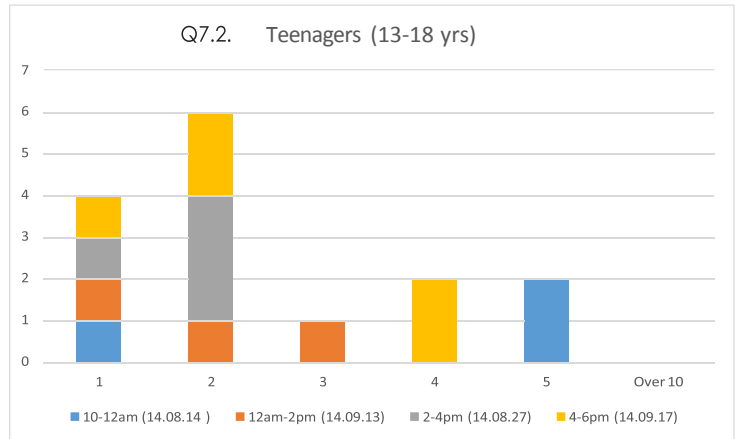
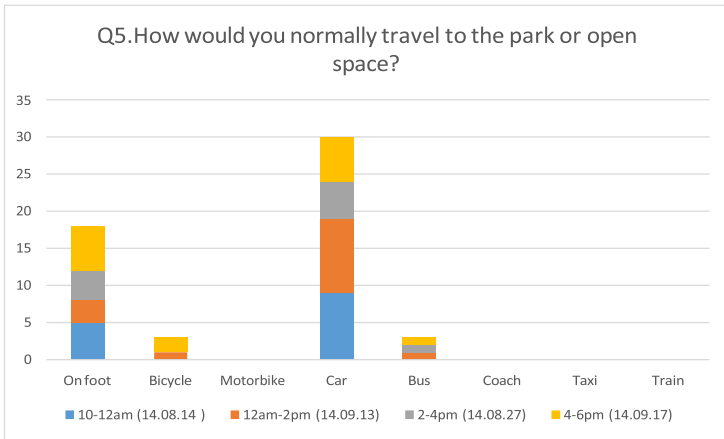
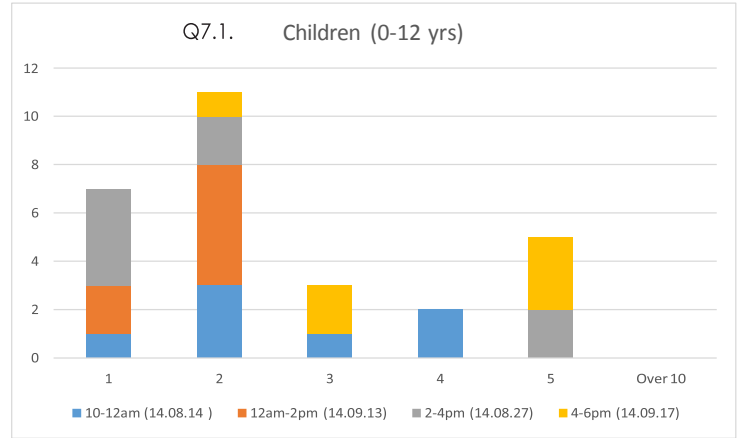
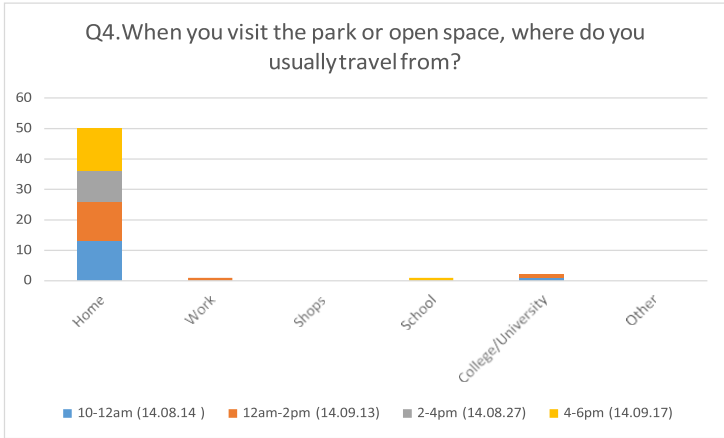
A4. USER OPINION SURVEY HEADLINE RESULTS

In support of the development of the management plan, we commissioned a user opinion survey to assess end-user perceptions of Hampden Park. The views and opinions expressed will be used to inform future dialogue around management and maintenance and future interventions in the park.

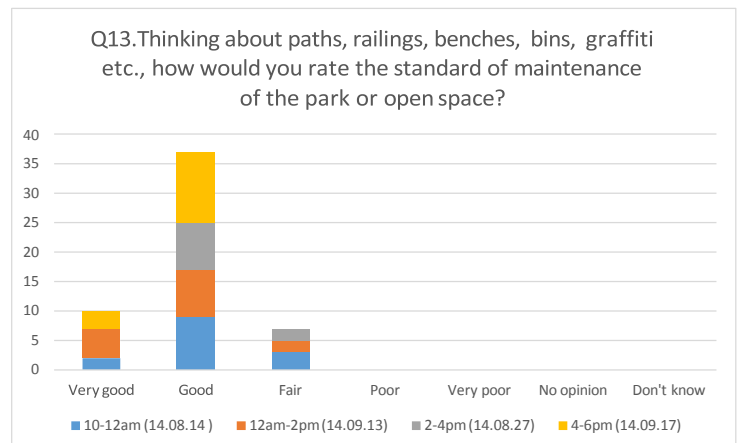
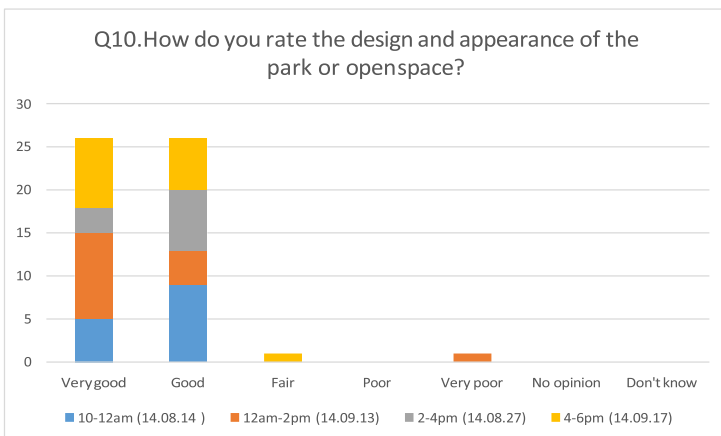
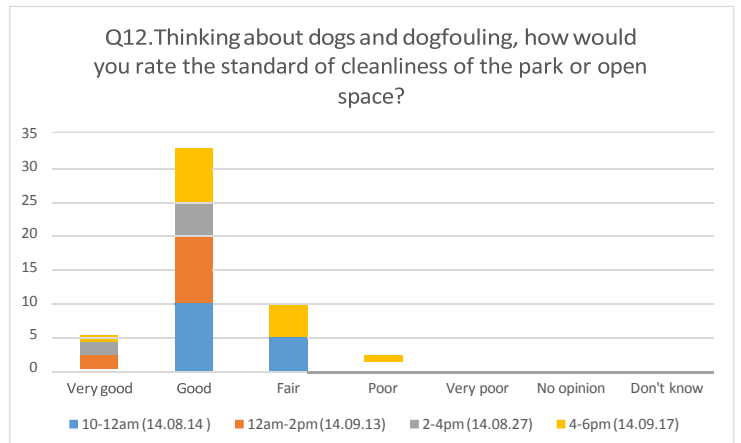
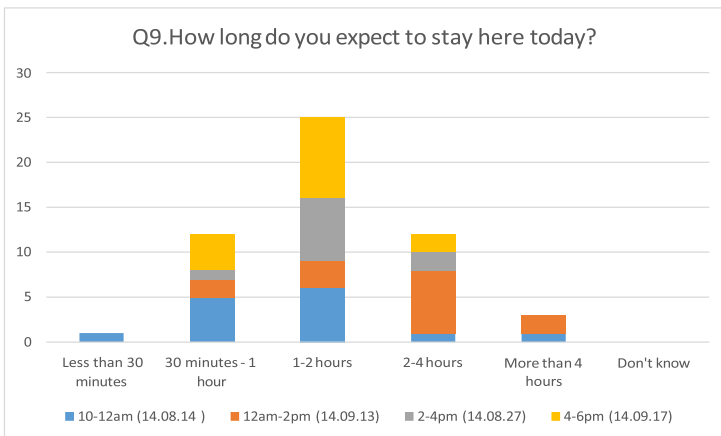
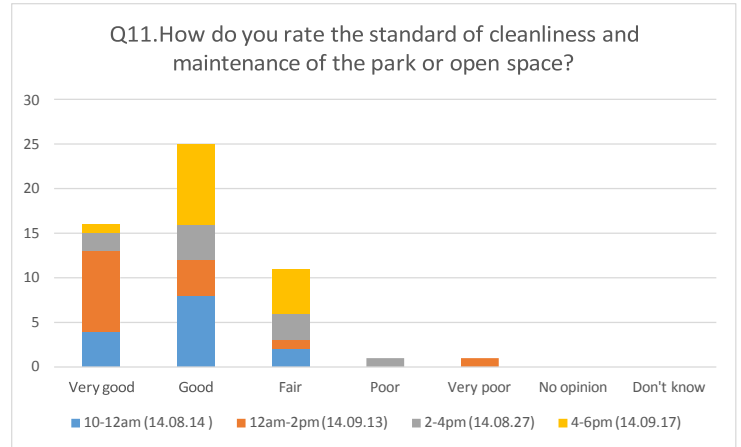
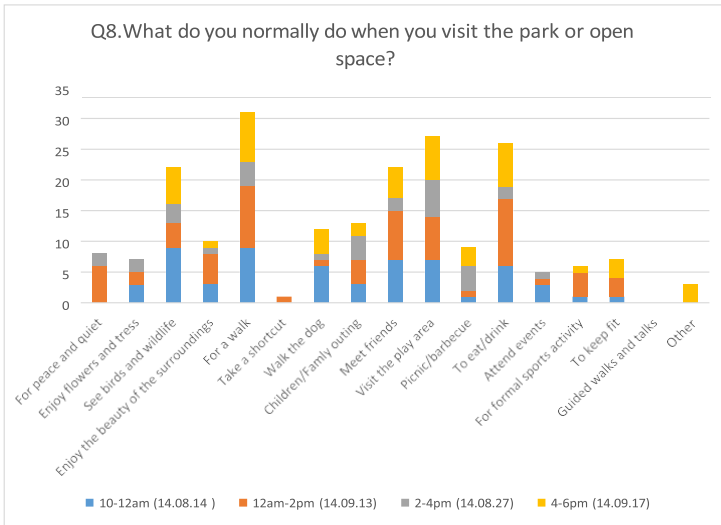
The following pages illustrate the findings of this survey.

The survey was undertaken on 4 separate days and at different times of the day in August and September 2014. A total of 54 people were canvassed.

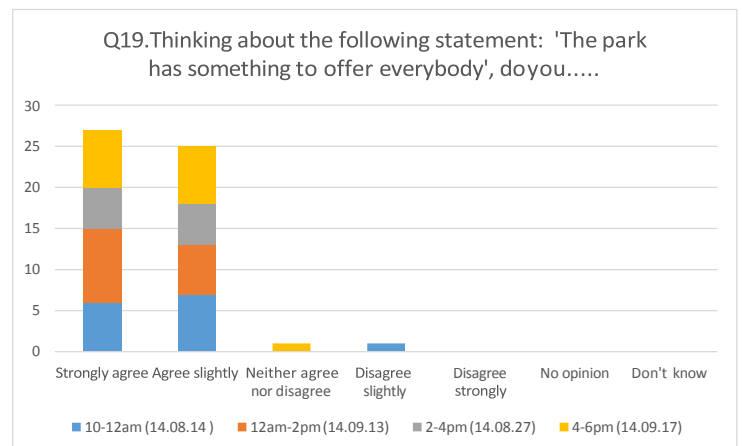
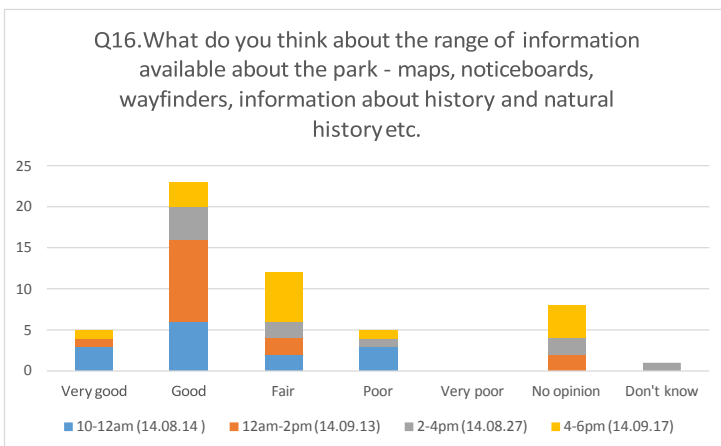
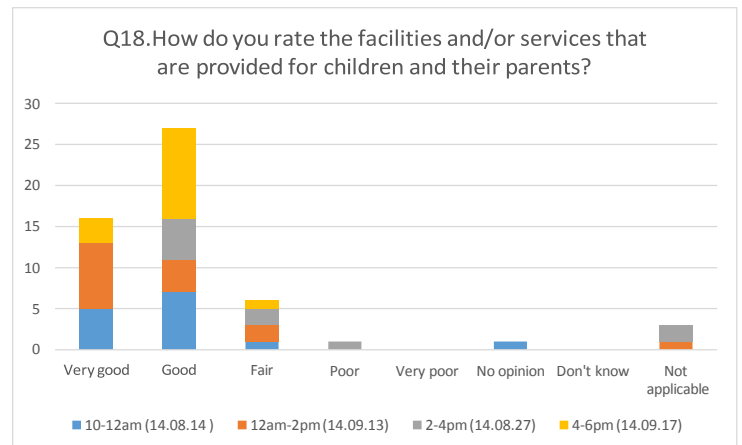
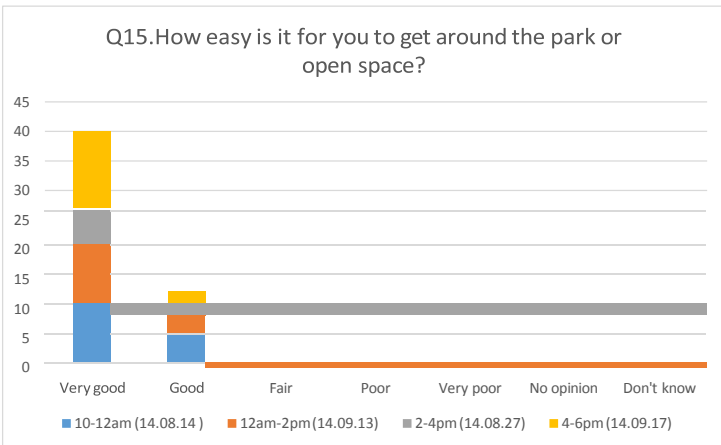
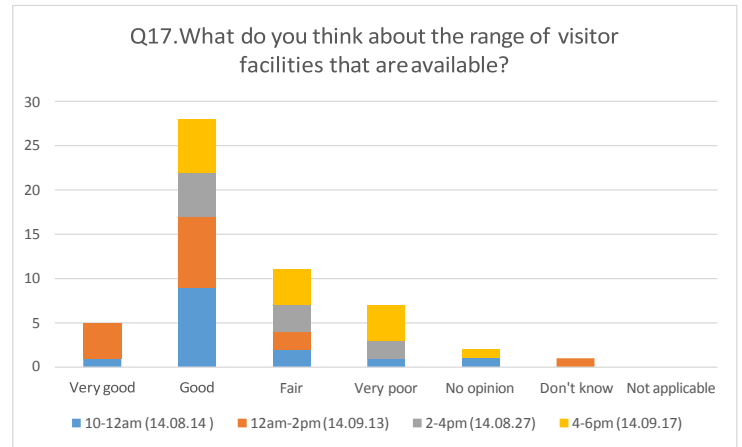
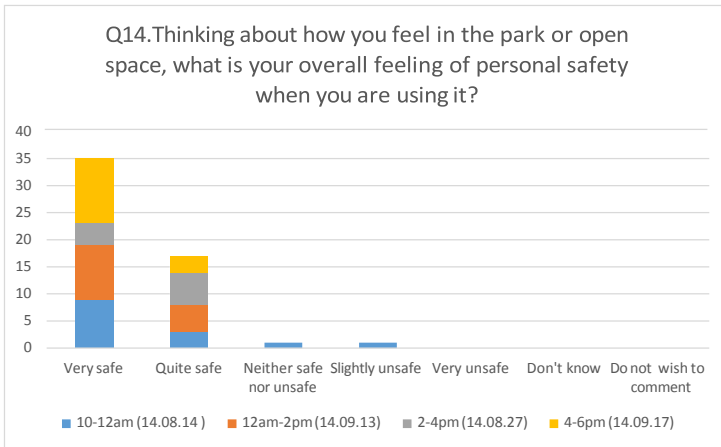




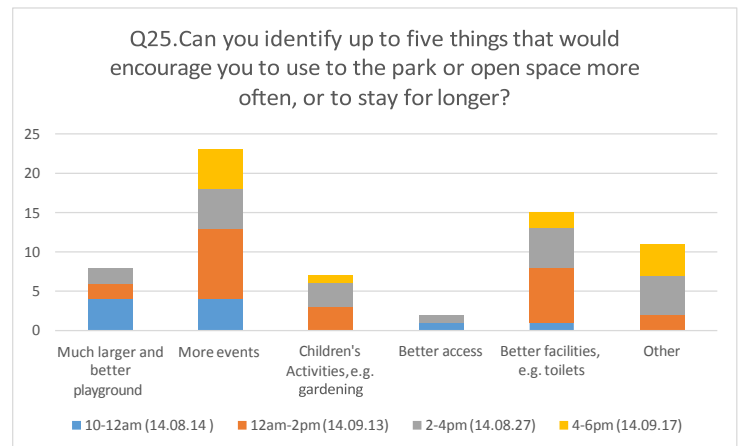
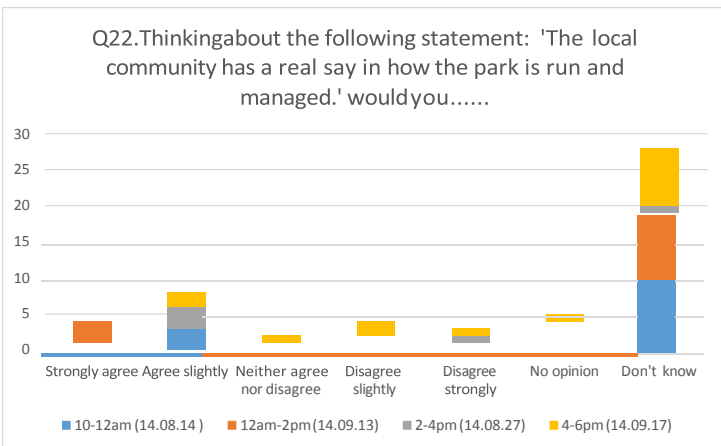
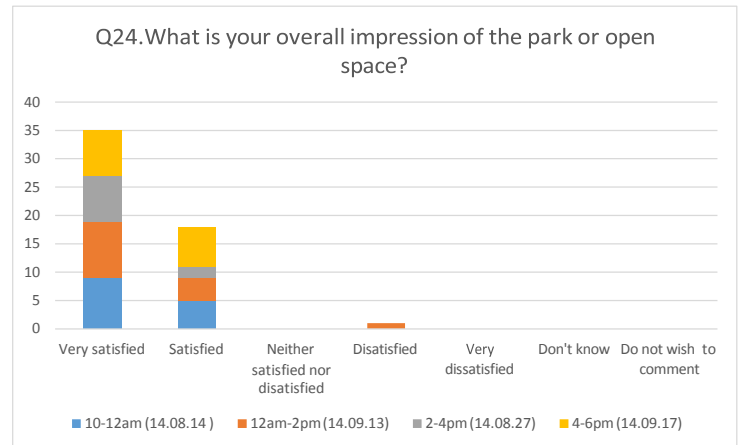
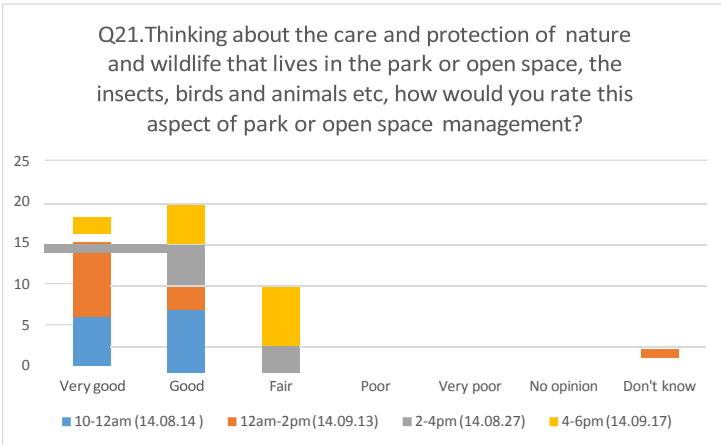
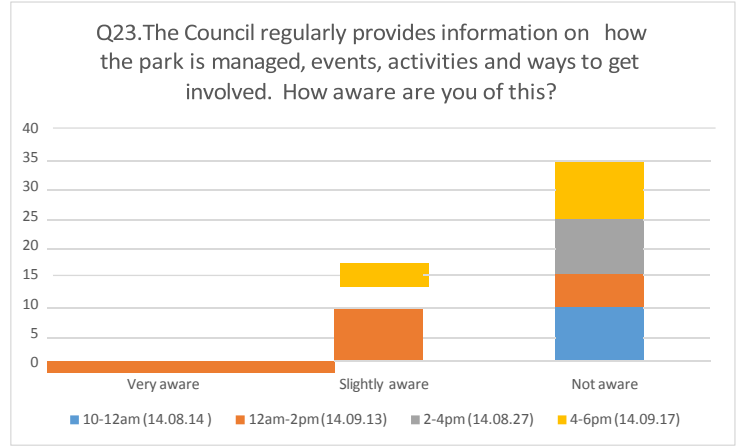
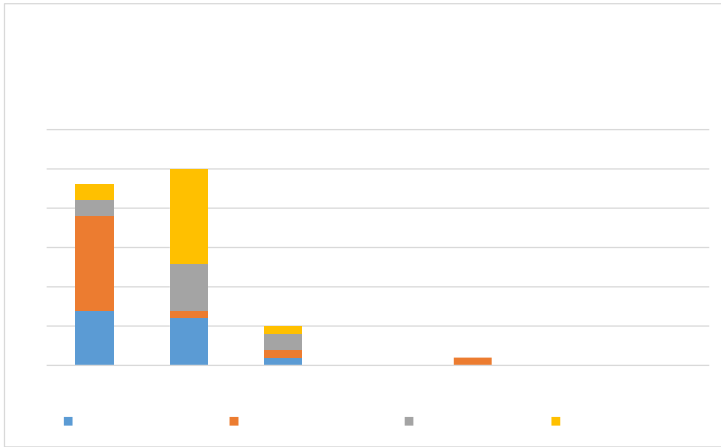
A4. USER OPINION SURVEY HEADLINE RESULTS (cont.)



A4. USER OPINION SURVEY HEADLINE RESULTS (cont.)



A4. USER OPINION SURVEY HEADLINE RESULTS (cont.)



Q25. Other:

- more benches, concerns about rats by pond (cafe);
- more benches, and picnic tables in pg, cleaner toilets, get rid of sandpit or make it more hygienic;
- when skate ramps are ready, will visit;
- fitness trail for adults, could do with another map near playground;

- vermin management should be better;
- cut back the vegetation so we can enjoy the view;
- activities for teenagers, more events for older people;
- picnic benches;
- more information of events;
- more info; and
- water play park, toilets in play area.

A4. USER OPINION SURVEY HEADLINE RESULTS (cont.)

Q26. Are there any more comments that you would like to make about the way this park or open space is managed or maintained, the facilities that are available, or the activities that take place?

- Love the variety of trees, but would a view of the water from all benches, some obscured view.
- Speed of cars on road, shouldn't be a road between lake and playground. Close of to cars ? Car park?
- Don't feel safe at night when coming through.
- Notice rubbish worse when students here, problems with care of signet and dredging etc.
- Toilets need to be improved, cars speeding through, rats and seagulls on increase, but much improved in recent years.
- Concern re pond and what's happened to signets.
- The best park around, but would like more information about what's happening to the signets and pond.
- Concern re squirrels in bins, tree stumps that users hurt themselves on.
- Would like to know more about what's happened to birds, concern re seagulls increase.
- Much improved in recent years, skate park coming will be good for teenagers.
- Upgrade the cafe offer.
- Better toilets.
- Pruning shrubs on lake side to open the view.
- Better food.
- Cafe expensive. Toilets not very good.
- Better use of space. Safety for children. Better wildlife management.
- More events.
- Trees could be named. Interpretation on birds.
- Get rid of the rats.
- Toilets could be improved. Not safe for my kids on their own. Look scary.
- Better than it used to be. More people here.
- Toilets, benches.
- Toilets, benches.
- Rats.
- Brook maintenance.
- More info on history, dog issues fouling and behaviour.
- Rats, seagulls, toilets.
- Rats, info about park, picnic, info about history garden.
- Doesn't always have to be free activities, people would come to stuff in summer if a small charge was asked.
- Excellent cafe cleanliness.
- Keep wood tidy and paths accessible.
- Speed of cars on road, shouldn't be a road between lake and playground. Close of to cars? Car park.
- More activities at the weekend would be good
- Toilets- not adequate for the numbers using them, especially women – well maintained, but people are messy.
- Some areas in the woods are overgrown.
- More bins.
- Toilets not adequate for people using them, especially with children but well maintained
- More benches in playground, more climbing equipment
- Not much for teenagers or older children
- Would like more info re the orienteering posts- couldn't open the PDF map that was sent in response to a request for more info
- Maybe tarmac paths around ponds to give better access
- Pathway between school and college and fields needs cutting down
- Knew about fun day through Facebook/ friends



APPENDIX 5
HAMPDEN PARK
RISK ASSESSMENT

List of Activities/Hazards (e.g. lone working, display screen equipment, slips and trips, falls from height etc)	Who might be harmed and how (e.g. employees, visitors etc) (e.g. upper limb disorders, sprains, fractures, etc)	Risk rating LO x PS e.g. 3 x 2 = 6	List existing controls in place	List further controls needed	Action by when	Action to be taken by	Do ne
HAMPDEN PARK							
Pedestrian collision with vehicle.	Staff, contractors and members of the public. There is the risk of personal injury or harm as a result of vehicles colliding with pedestrians.	1 x 4 = 4	15 mph speed limit in place; Road humps have been installed to slow down traffic.	Parking and vehicle access being looked into as part of Green Flag Management Plan	March 2016	SSA Open Space	
Attack by swans.	Staff, contractors and members of the public. Swans can act aggressively at mating time and attack people causing minor injury and distress.	1 x 2 = 2	Regular monitoring based on intelligence; Report aggressive behaviour to the Swan Sanctuary or WRAS to assess next steps.	Work with Swan Sanctuary or WRAS & put in place their recommended actions - signage, removal of swan.	On going		
Stream.	Staff, contractors and members of the public. There are no railings in place therefore there is the risk of personal injury or harm from falling into water.	1 x 2 = 2	Monthly monitoring of the bank for erosion by NAs. Steeper banks fenced in within extended play area. Wooden culverts replaced with recycled plastic to form a safer structure.		On going		
Deep water pond.	Staff, contractors and members of the public.	1 x 5 = 5	Signs and life saving equipment provided	Large signs to be erected in prominent	March 2016	SSA Open	
	Personal injury and drowning from falling into water.		as required; There is a 3ft to 4ft high metal fence around one third of the pond (at the café end); There is vegetation around the edge of the pond which would allow people to pull themselves out, and shrubs to restrict access; Two feeding platforms installed to create shallow water; The edges of the pond are shallow; Sight lines to the pond are kept reasonably clear to aid visibility.	place within park/open space, with additional signs as required.		Space	
Ditches.	Staff, contractors and members of the public. If ditches are allowed to become overgrown there is the risk of personal injury or harm from falling into water.	1 x 2 = 2	Monthly monitoring by NAs; Keep ditches clear of rubbish and debris so that the flow is maintained;		On going		

List of Activities/Hazards (e.g. lone working, display screen equipment, slips and trips, falls from height etc)	Who might be harmed and how (e.g. employees, visitors etc) (e.g. upper limb disorders, strains, fractures, etc)	Risk rating LO x PS e.g. 3 x 2 = 6	List existing controls in place	List further controls needed	Action by when	Action to be taken by	Done
			Ensure crossing points over the stream are suitable for their purpose.				
Slips, trips and falls	Staff, contractors and members of public; Personal injury due to slipping or tripping on missing or damaged edging to paths in woodland walks.	1 x 2 = 2	Monthly monitoring by NAs.	Repairs programme planned when new paths are installed.	March 2016	SSA Open Space	
Slips, trips and falls	Staff, contractors and members of public; Personal injury due to slipping or tripping on metal post in ground adjacent to bridge by bowls and tennis courts.	1 x 2 = 2		Requires removal	September 2015	SSA Open Space	
Stream	Various pipework bridging 2 sides of stream, could present risk of falls, injury and drowning.	1 x 4 = 4		Requires investigations as to purpose of pipework with a view to removing redundant pipework.	March 2016	SSA Open Space	
Bridge near fern garden	Staff, contractors and members of public; Risk of slipping or tripping and personal injury due to differential in levels between footpath and bridge.	1 x 2 = 2	Monthly monitoring by NAs; Path topped up with compacted gravel when required.		On going		
Bridge near spillway	Staff, contractors and members of public; Risk of slipping or tripping and personal injury due to slippery surface on bridge.	1 x 2 = 2	Monthly monitoring by NAs; Bridge surface to be coated with anti-slip coating when required.		On going		
All other water courses, lakes and ponds	Staff, contractors and members of public; Personal injury and drowning from falling into water.	1 x 5 = 5	Dynamic risk assessment approach; Staff & contractors awareness and assessment; Personal Protective Equipment including lifejackets if appropriate.	One large sign to be erected in prominent place within park/open space.	March 2016	SSA Open Space	
Path-way between Decoy Pond and silt trap	Staff, contractors and members of public; Risk of slipping or tripping and personal injury due to uneven surface.	1 x 2 = 2	Monthly monitoring by NAs; Repair when required.		On going		
Silt trap ponds off Decoy Drive	Staff, contractors and members of public; Personal injury and drowning from falling into water.	1 x 4 = 4	Monthly monitoring by NAs; Vertical banks re-profiled to a sloped finish.		On going		
Bench areas off Hampden Park	Staff, contractors and members of public;	1 x 2 = 2	Routine monitoring by NAs.	Inspection to be carried out.	March 16	SSA	
Drive	Risk of slipping or tripping and personal injury due to uneven surface.			Remedial works if required.			