



## Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee

**Date:** MONDAY, 20 JANUARY 2014  
**Time:** 7.00pm  
**Venue:** EDUCATION CENTRE, PARLIAMENT HILL FIELDS, HAMPSTEAD HEATH, NW5 1QR

**Members:** Jeremy Simons (Chairman)  
Virginia Rounding (Deputy Chairman)  
Xohan Duran  
Colin Gregory  
Michael Hammerson  
Ian Harrison  
John Hunt  
Nigel Ley  
Alix Mullineaux  
Susan Nettleton  
Akin Olukiran  
Helen Payne  
Mary Port  
Harunur Rashid  
Susan Rose  
Steve Ripley  
Ellin Stein  
Richard Sumray  
Simon Taylor  
David Walton  
John Weston  
Jeremy Wright

**Enquiries:** **Alistair MacLellan**  
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Dinner will be served in the Parliament Hill Café at the conclusion of the Committee

**John Barradell**  
Town Clerk and Chief Executive

# **AGENDA**

## **Public Agenda**

1. **APOLOGIES**
2. **MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**
3. **MINUTES**  
To agree the public minutes and summary of the meeting held on 12 November 2013.  

**For Decision**  
(Pages 1 - 14)
4. **SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE**  
The Superintendent of Hampstead Heath to be heard.
5. **REPORTS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF HAMPSTEAD HEATH:-**  

**For Discussion**

  - a) Review of Annual Work Plan 2013 and Proposed Annual Work Plan 2014  
(Pages 15 - 60)
  - b) Fees and Charges (Pages 61 - 76)
  - c) Introduction of Dog Control Orders at Burnham Beeches (Pages 77 - 102)
  - d) Management Work Plan for Model Farm Compartment (Pages 103 - 120)
  - e) Progress Report on Improvements to East Heath Car Park and South End Green Approach (Pages 121 - 136)
6. **QUESTIONS**
7. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT**
8. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**  
The date of the next meeting to be discussed.

**HAMPSTEAD HEATH CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE**  
**Tuesday, 12 November 2013**

Minutes of the meeting of the Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee held at Education Centre, Parliament Hill Fields, Hampstead Heath, NW5 1QR on Tuesday, 12 November 2013 at 7.00 pm

**Present**

**Members:**

Jeremy Simons (Chairman)  
Virginia Rounding (Deputy Chairman)  
Xohan Duran (Representative of People with Disabilities)  
Colin Gregory (Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents' Association)  
Michael Hammerson (Highgate Society)  
Ian Harrison (Vale of Health Society)  
John Hunt (South End Green Association)  
Susan Nettleton (Heath Hands)  
Mary Port (Dartmouth Park Conservation Area Advisory Committee)  
Ellin Stein (Mansfield Conservation Area Advisory Committee/Neighbourhood Association)  
Richard Sumray (London Council for Sport and Recreation)  
Simon Taylor (Hampstead Rugby Club)  
Jeremy Wright (Heath & Hampstead Society)

**Officers:**

Alistair MacLellan	- Town Clerk's Department
Esther Sumner	- Town Clerk's Department
Sue Ireland	- Director of Open Spaces
Simon Lee	- Superintendent of Hampstead Heath, Queen's Park & Highgate Wood
Declan Gallagher	- Operational Service Manager
Richard Gentry	- Constabulary and Queen's Park Manager
David Bentley	- Hampstead Heath Information and Communication Officer
Paul Monaghan	- Assistant Director Engineering, City Surveyor's Department
Meg Game	- Hampstead Heath Ecologist

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Helen Payne, Susan Rose, Steve Ripley and John Weston

**2. DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

There were no declarations.

### 3. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting dated Monday 8 July 2013 were approved as a correct record subject to the following amendments:

#### **Members Present**

Committee members to have the name of the group they are representing given in the list of attendees.

#### **Item 1 Apologies**

Ian Harrison noted that he had submitted his apologies for the 8 July meeting.

#### **Item 4 Reports of the Superintendent of Hampstead Heath**

'(Copies attached)' to be deleted.

#### **Item 4.3 Progress Report on Enhancement of Landscaping Works to Bull Path and Surrounding Areas**

'Three tupes of buttercup' to be amended to 'Three types...'

#### **Matters Arising**

##### **Dog Walking**

The Chairman noted that the report on commercial dog walking on the Heath, that had been intended for the present meeting, would now be submitted to the committee meeting in January 2014.

##### **Planning**

The Chairman noted that an update on planning decisions would form part of the Superintendent's update in the current meeting.

##### **Affordable Art Fair**

In response to a question from Ian Harrison the Superintendent confirmed that the Affordable Art Fair proposal for a 'Grow London' event had been submitted to, and approved by, the Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queen's Park Committee in September 2013.

##### **London Borough of Camden Flood Warning Letter**

The Superintendent apologised that he had not circulated a letter from the London Borough of Camden detailing information to local residents on the risks associated with flooding, as had been promised at the July meeting. He undertook to circulate the letter as promised, and took the opportunity to update the committee that Camden would be issuing maps of at-risk areas of surface water flooding in early December 2013. The information provided by Camden would similarly be circulated to the committee.

##### **Cycle Stands**

In response to a query from Mary Port over the installation of cycle stands, the Superintendent noted that this had been discussed at the recent committee walk on 2 November, and that he would update her on the issue outside of the meeting.

### 3.1 **Draft Minutes of the Hampstead Heath Sports Advisory Forum Meeting dated 23 September 2013**

At the invitation of the Chairman, Richard Sumray made some comments on the draft minutes of the recent Sports Advisory Forum meeting.

#### **Places, People and Play**

Mr Sumray drew the committee's attention to the issue of the funding position that was affecting refurbishment works on the athletics track and the cricket pavilion upgrade. He noted that the Ponds Project was resulting in a lack of staff resources, impacting on the ability to seek external funding for such works.

#### **British Military Fitness (BMF)**

Mr Sumray noted that BMF was keen to engage with wider activities on the Heath, such as the staging of classes at a recent 'Give it a Go' event. He argued that such willingness should be encouraged and put to good effect.

#### **Charging Policy – Athletics and Cricket**

Mr Sumray noted that the principles behind the planned charging policy were sound, but that he would be meeting with the Superintendent to discuss the best way to make progress.

#### **Bowls and Croquet – New Lease**

Mr Sumray noted that he would be meeting with the Superintendent shortly to discuss the new lease of the Parliament Hill Bowling Green. The Chairman noted that this would take place around 26/27 November.

#### **Changing Facilities – Athletics Track**

Mr Sumray stated that the lack of showers at the changing facilities currently on offer at the Parliament Hill athletics track was unacceptable. The Superintendent agreed, and noted the Director had been liaising with the Chamberlain's and City Surveyor's Departments to identify and implement a long term solution. In the meantime he informed the committee that portable showers would be arriving later in the week, on 17 November.

The Director of Open Spaces noted that she had been given an assurance from the Chamberlain that funding for a longer term solution had been identified and at present the timetable was for these funds to be approved in January 2014 and for works to commence in April/May 2014. There remained a possibility that the timetable for works could be brought forward but nevertheless she noted that greater clarity over dates was needed before the committee was briefed further. She confirmed that the short term solution of temporary showers would be kept in place until the works had been carried out.

In response to an observation from Mr Sumray that the problem over the delay in the procurement and installation of portable showers as a temporary solution may be due to centralised decision-making within the City of London Corporation, the Director of Open Spaces replied that new Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) were being developed which would focus on the completion

dates of projects, rather than their start-dates, in order to more accurately measure effective performance.

#### 4. **SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE**

The committee agreed to amend the order of business so that the Superintendent's Update would be considered ahead of the Reports of the Superintendent.

**RESOLVED:** that the Superintendent's Update be moved from Item 5 on the published agenda to Item 4; and that Reports of the Superintendent be moved from Item 4 to Item 5.

#### **St Jude's Day Storm**

The Superintendent updated the committee on the impact of the St Jude's Day storm on 28 October. He noted that it had reached the Heath around 0630 and was largely over by 0715, and that the Sandy Heath area had been the worst affected, with some paths still closed as a result. Overall around 50 trees had been snapped or brought down on the Heath, with a further 50-60 trees suffering damage to their crowns. Nevertheless a lot of veteran trees on the Heath had been spared damage, thanks to recent works.

The Superintendent went on to note that Highgate Wood had been particularly affected, potentially due to it being located on higher ground compared to the Heath, with 100 trees damaged. He informed the committee that staff resources would be diverted from the Heath to Highgate Wood to deal with the damage. He noted that staff had been exemplary in their response to the storm, coming in early on the day and working hard to deal with the storm's impact. He concluded by saying that – with the fatality at Kew a year ago arising from a snapped branch – Highgate Wood with its high proportion of damaged trees had remained closed to the public for a few days after the storm whilst assessment and remedial works were carried out.

#### **National Cross-Country Championships**

The Superintendent informed the committee that the National Cross-Country Championships would be returning to the Heath in 2015, and that the decision to do so was secured by the Leisure and Events Manager.

#### **Duathlon**

The Superintendent noted that the Duathlon held on the Heath in September 2013 had raised over £1,169 for the Lord Mayor's Appeal.

#### **Planning – Garden House**

The Superintendent noted that the appeal to the Planning Inspectorate over the Garden House planning decision had been dismissed. At the invitation of the Superintendent, Ian Harrison commented further on the failure of the appeal, noting that it had not been as robust as similar appeals submitted to the Planning Inspector in the past, particularly a recent appeal that had focused on a point of law. He reiterated concerns that the application concerning the Garden House would see the road leading into the Vale of Health regularly obstructed by construction traffic, and that Vale of Health residents had little

faith in the London Borough of Camden's ability to enforce the efficient movement of traffic in the area during the construction period. He concluded by expressing appreciation on behalf of the Vale of Health Society for the City of London Corporation's support in opposing the Garden House application.

#### **Planning – The Water House**

The Superintendent updating the committee noted there was no indication of the Camden planning officer's view regarding the revised application for The Water House. The application if approved would see heavy use of Millfield Lane during construction works that from the Corporation's perspective is completely inappropriate.

#### **Planning – Athlone House**

The Superintendent noted that a planning application had been received by the London Borough of Camden but not yet formally logged.

#### **Planning – Swain's Lane**

In response to a query from Mary Port, the Superintendent indicated that he was aware of the planning proposal in question and that he would be considering its potential impact shortly.

#### **Sports**

The Superintendent concluded his update by noting that the London Youth Games and the Cross-Country Championships were upcoming on the Heath.

### **5. REPORTS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF HAMPSTEAD HEATH :-**

#### **5.1 Progress Report on Construction of a Stumpery in the woodland walk way - Golders Hill Park**

The Operational Manager updated the committee on the creation of a stumpery within Golders Hill Park, phase one of which had now been completed. He noted that overall the project, that had seen cooperation between Hampstead Heath and Epping Forest staff, had been a success and that a great deal of appreciation for the stumpery had been expressed by members of the public. In response to a question from Colin Gregory, the Operational Manager confirmed that further stumps would be installed as part of a later project phase.

John Hunt expressed his congratulations on the project. He said that it might arguably rivalled its counterpart at Highgrove and that the stream was particularly notable. The Superintendent agreed and updated the committee on the intention to install a pump to allow the stream to flow.

Jeremy Wright informed the committee that the Heath Sub Committee of the Heath and Hampstead Society considered the stumpery to be brilliant.

The Operational Manager noted that the project had been very much led by staff within Golders Hill Park. The committee decided to place on record their appreciation to Sean Dillon and Ciaran O'Keeffe, the two staff in question.

## **5.2 Report on maintenance works and future proposals at the Hill Garden & Pergola**

The Operational Manager introduced the report on maintenance works and future proposals at the Hill Garden and Pergola. He highlighted that a decade of repair works had been carried out in cooperation with the City Surveyor's Department and that the photographs appended to the report gave a good impression of what had been achieved. The repair works had also made it possible to give serious consideration to the use of the Pergola as a venue for marriages and civil ceremonies.

The Superintendent provided the committee with further background on the use of the Pergola for marriages and civil ceremonies. He noted that this had been an aspiration in the management plan but had been a relatively low priority. Nevertheless the City of London had been proactively approached by the Superintendent Registrar for Camden who was very supportive of the use of the Pergola for ceremonies. The Superintendent Registrar had confirmed that requirements for toilet facilities and an interview room could be met using adjacent facilities such as the café in Golders Hill Park.

In light of the strong support from Camden for an application to be submitted, the Superintendent noted that the question was now to decide on the appropriate balance between the number of ceremonies conducted, in light of the potential for revenue, versus the wish to ensure the Pergola remained open to the public. He informed the committee that this would be among a range of issues considered in a report that would go to the January 2014 meeting of the committee. He concluded by noting that the Hampstead Heath Business Manager had been on a fact-finding visit to Hylands Park Chelmsford to observe best practice in conducting ceremonies in public open space, and he further underlined the potential for much needed revenue arising from the use of the venue for ceremonies.

In response to a question from Colin Gregory, the Superintendent clarified the likely impact of ceremonies on public access. He noted that ceremonies would be restricted to a particular area of the Pergola and that the wider site would remain open to the public. Furthermore, only ceremonies rather than receptions would be permitted, which would dispense with the need to provide large temporary structures like marquees, and that any smaller structures associated with the ceremonies would be constructed and dismantled within two hours. He took the opportunity also to comment on the likely frequency of ceremonies, noting that the Business Manager's research indicated that two weekly ceremonies and two weekends of ceremonies per month was likely to be the maximum.

In response to remarks from Ian Harrison that a similar proposal put forward by English Heritage for Kenwood House had been poorly thought through and communicated, with little information on costs and projected revenue and predicted impact on public access provided, the Superintendent assured the committee that these issues would be addressed in the January 2014 report.



He noted that, judging from the market, people were prepared to pay for the uniqueness of location for ceremonies. He highlighted the example of the high level walkway at Tower Bridge at which each ceremony provided excellent revenue generation.

In response to questions from Ian Harrison over the potential for receptions to be held in the Spaniards Road side of the Hill Garden, and access for vehicles, the Superintendent replied that the Corporation would exercise caution on permitting receptions to take place, and that vehicular access would not be permitted. Instead attendees would have to make use of the nearby off-site car park at Jack Straw's Castle. It was mooted that brides could use bespoke transport to access the venue, such as carriages.

Richard Sumray noted that he was very supportive of the proposal and emphasised the need for clarity on the issues involved in the January 2014 report.

### **5.3 Hampstead Heath's Hedges and Their Management**

The Hampstead Heath Ecologist introduced the report on Hampstead Heath's hedges and their management. She noted that she had surveyed the hedges on the Heath throughout 2012 and part of this process had meant defining what constituted a hedge. Of the definition adopted within the report, over 7km of hedges existed on the Heath, but this rose to 20km if a looser interpretation was applied. She concluded by noting that the landscape of the Heath, including its hedges, had changed significantly during the past century. A ten-year management plan had been drawn up, which was appended to the report.

In response to a comment from Richard Sumray that he found it hard to identify within the report the development of new, and the restoration of existing hedges, the Hampstead Heath Ecologist replied that it was extremely difficult to restore a hedge that had declined. She added that new hedges had been installed on the Heath in the past, particularly around the Bull Path, and that a balance had to be struck in maintaining the natural aspect of the Heath by ensuring the existing landscape was not broken up by inappropriate planting of new hedges.

In response to a question from Colin Gregory, the Hampstead Heath Ecologist replied that the management of hedges was included in the Hampstead Heath work programme and that it complied with existing strategic policies. The Superintendent added that the new Hedges Management Plan could be explicitly linked to policies in future documents.

Colin Gregory took the opportunity to remark on a hedge near the cricket pitch on the Hampstead Heath Extension, noting that its restoration as a narrow hedge would not be welcome due to its location in screening views.

Susan Nettleton thanked the Hampstead Heath Ecologist for her report and remarked that she welcomed the use of native hedge stock.

In response to remarks from John Hunt on the need to manage the buffer zones around hedges as well as the hedges themselves, the Hampstead Heath Ecologist replied that, in keeping with ensuring the natural aspect of the Heath be preserved, intervention in the landscape had to be minimised and a balance had to be struck between actively encouraging and managing visible buffer zones around hedges and focusing on the hedge itself.

In response to a suggestion from Michael Hammerson over highlighting the importance of hedges to the wider public, the Hampstead Heath Information and Communication Officer replied that such information could be included under the Heritage section on the City of London Corporation's website.

#### **5.4 Hampstead Heath Ponds Project - Preferred Options Report and Non-Statutory Consultation**

The Chairman introduced the report on the Hampstead Heath Ponds Project Preferred Options Report and Non-Statutory Consultation. He noted that the Ponds Project Stakeholder Group (PPSG) existed under the aegis of the Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee and that the PPSG had met on around 20 occasions over the past 12 months, and its members had shown commitment and energy to the task at hand throughout. The PPSG had been given the support and assistance of the Strategic Landscape Architect (SLA) Peter Wilder who had also facilitated a number of PPSG workshops. There now existed two preferred options on each chain of ponds which were detailed within the current report before the committee. He noted that the Corporation was obliged to follow the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE) guidance on the works required on the Heath dams and that the project costs – over £15m – were not being allocated or spent lightly. He told the committee that the eventual works decided upon would be the minimum required. He concluded by saying the work of the PPSG had been key in informing the project to date, and noted that if works were restricted to the three statutory dams rather than spread across the two pond chains as currently proposed then the resulting impact on the Heath's natural aspect would be greater.

The Superintendent then took the opportunity to address the committee, and welcomed the Assistant Director of Engineering, the Responsible Officer for the safety and integrity of the Hampstead Heath dams. The Superintendent highlighted the core objective of the project, the prevention of the dams breaching as a result of storm events. He noted that a design philosophy had emerged throughout the project process to date. This philosophy was anchored on the need to preserve the natural aspect of the Heath as well as ensuring the safety of people resident downstream from the dams. These two principles meant that the design proposals attracted a range of views from a variety of stakeholders. The Superintendent highlighted the accepted principle that works should be spread across the two pond chains in order to minimise the impact of works. He then went on to summarise some key issues:

#### **Probable Maximum Flood (PMF)**

He noted that it was forecast that the PMF would see 38 tonnes of water per second flow over or around the Highgate Number 1 dam, and that this would be

reduced to around 30 tonnes per second under the Preferred Options. He emphasised that the project was anchored on dam preservation, not flood alleviation.

### **Legal Duty**

He recognised that the City of London Corporation (CoL) had a duty to preserve the natural aspect of the Heath in accordance with the Hampstead Heath Act 1871, but this was a qualified duty.

### **Passive System**

He acknowledged that there had been suggestions that, rather than a passive system of dam drainage being installed on the Heath, staff could operate drainage valves to ease pressure on dams in the event of storms. However, the risk to individual staff was unacceptable.

### **Early Warning**

He reported that the Meteorological Office could not commit to providing sufficient early warning of convection storms, the most likely cause of extreme rainfall events. He also referred to recent guidance from the Environment Agency/DEFRA on risk assessment for Reservoir Safety that stated that it was considered unlikely that in the UK context any effective warning would be given.

### **Preferred Options**

He suggested that the PPSG underestimated the influence it had exercised over the identification of the preferred options. He noted that the two options were very similar in character due to the overarching need to follow industry and statutory guidance. He noted that many of the solutions incorporated into the Preferred Options had come from the PPSG and that they had provided a vital scrutiny function.

### **Consultation**

He noted that the CoL was obliged to carry out works to ensure the dams were not at risk of failure, and failure to do so in a timely fashion would risk the CoL being issued with a s10 notice which would effectively remove the project from CoL control and risk an inappropriate and insensitive solution being implemented. He added that the period of non-statutory consultation would see the CoL asking people what they wanted to see done to the dams. He concluded by saying that the eventual option may be a variant of a Preferred Option.

The Assistant Director of Engineering said that the Superintendent had provided a fair summary of the issues involved. He added that the adoption of early warning would only allow timely evacuation and not ensure the integrity of the dams, which was the issue in question.

The Chairman invited committee members to provide their comments on the report.

**Simon Taylor (Hampstead Rugby Club)**

He noted that this was only his second committee meeting and therefore did not feel qualified to comment in great detail. He was nevertheless impressed with the level of dialogue carried out by the CoL and the emphasis that has been placed on the preservation of the natural aspect of the Heath.

**Ian Harrison (Vale of Health Society)**

He noted that despite his recent absence he had remained impressed by the work of the PPSG, and the quality of the paperwork produced by the CoL for this meeting. He felt the project had been heading in the right direction when he was last involved six months ago, and this remained his opinion. He noted that he was unable to comment upon the specific views of the Vale of Health Society but that he would be surprised if they had moved away from the VoHS's historic support. He made some specific comments of his own.

Regarding early warning – he noted that he was formerly employed in the chemical industry and that his experience told him that it was not appropriate or wise to rely on one safeguard alone – such as early warning – given catastrophic events often arose due to a number of related failures of different safeguards. Regarding 'Preferred Option' - he felt it would be more appropriate to refer to the options as 'Proposed' or simply 'Options'. Regarding consultation – he argued that, subject to the risk of a s10 notice, as much time as possible should always be allocated to public consultation, and that the current timeline looked very tight. Furthermore he argued that consultation material should avoid technical language as far as possible to ensure clarity for the general public.

**Jeremy Wright (Heath & Hampstead Society)**

He noted that the H&HS had submitted around 5 pages of comments on the Preferred Options which included an issue with the use of the word 'preferred', and the suggestion that 'proposed' would be more appropriate. He said that the H&HS agreed that some works need to be carried out and supported the principle of spreading the works over the entirety of the pond chains and increasing the capacity for storage in the central areas of the chains. However, the H&HS cannot support any options that were drawn up on an incorrect interpretation of the law and consequently would damage the natural aspect of the Heath.

The H&HS has issues with the Quantitative Risk Assessment (QRA) used by the CoL. He noted that the QRA states that in the event of dams overtopping during a 1/400,000 year storm, the likely loss of life (LLOL) is currently estimated at 1,100 and at 1,400 in the event of the dams failing, and therefore works would only lead to a residual improvement of 300 in LLOL.

He cited the information provided by Haycock to highlight the experience of the 1975 storm on the Heath, noting that during the storm it had taken 5 minutes for flooding to occur,, The emergency services very quickly received 2,000 calls for assistance from the public. By comparison it is estimated that in the event of a storm it will take six hours for the dams to overtop. Therefore emergency services will be well aware of the issue of flooding, and will be responding to

calls from within the area at risk of flooding well before the dams have overtopped. Therefore, the H&HS does not understand why the CoL is not adopting the principle of Early Warning. He continued by asking if the CoL really believed the content of the QRA. He said that the H&HS had submitted a number of questions on the document with the aim of probing some of the assumptions therein. The recent response that they had received from Atkins did not answer any of these queries. He stated that the H&HS regarded the QRA to be a suspect, factually wrong and misleading document.

He referred to a peer-review by Aecom Engineers which estimated the Bird Sanctuary Dam and the Mixed Bathing Pond dam to be at low risk of failure, and compared this to the completely opposite estimation put forward by Atkins that these dams were at high risk of failure. He said that despite these inconsistencies the CoL had chosen the QRA as the basis for its statement of 1,400 persons being subject to a LLOL in the event of dam failure. He urged the CoL therefore to issue a revised QRA and an acknowledgment, given the 1975 case study, that a storm will provide a natural degree of early warning. He noted that the SLA report was generally accurate. Lastly, he expressed sadness that the consultation will concern two options only.

**Richard Sumray (London Council for Sport and Recreation)**

He considered the two most significant documents to be the legal position set out jointly by the CoL and the H&HS and the paper outlining the forthcoming information-giving and consultation exercise. He felt that if it was considered to be necessary the judicial review mooted by the H&HS should happen sooner rather than later, given the clear divergence in interpretation of the law, and amount of money already spent by the City Corporation the implications of launching a judicial review once a further round of consultation had taken place. He suggested that further discussion could usefully take place between the H&HS and the CoL to attempt to resolve the difference over legal interpretation. He argued that the H&HS should decide what it wanted to do.

He felt the paper relating to the consultation exercise was well written but problematic. He noted that the process was largely about information-giving, but it was not clear precisely what the public was being asked to consider – if there are only two very similar options, how is the public to make an informed decision? He felt that the term ‘consultation’ was not appropriate as this was not what was really happening. The wording of the material used would be important. and feedback should be given to observations made by the public. Lastly, he said that if the Ponds Project went ahead then the opportunity should be seized to improve the Heath as much as possible as a result.

**Chairman**

The Chairman allowed Jeremy Wright to comment upon Richard Sumray’s observation regarding the possibility of a judicial review. **Jeremy Wright** remarked that H&HS would need to see the final options being considered for a planning application before it was in a position to decide whether or not to embark upon a judicial review. He concluded by saying that the H&HS would rather avoid mounting a judicial review and therefore if there was the possibility

to discuss the legal position further or for any friendly action to take place to clarify the position then this would be welcomed.

**Ellin Stein (Mansfield Conservation Area Advisory Committee/Neighbourhood Association)**

She noted she had been a regular attendee of the PPSG and that she was aware the project was a balancing act between varying dam heights, spillways and impact on the Heath. Nevertheless she felt uncertain over whether, informed as she was by the PPSG process, she could make a decision between the Preferred Options. She recognised that the core principle was dam preservation and not flood alleviation. She felt that examples of consultation material she had seen on the Resources for Change website had a patronising tone, and was too simplistic. Material presented should address real concerns, such as disruption posed by construction, and the effect of new dams on runners, anglers, swimmers etc. It should give an idea of the effect of construction traffic. Fundamentally, it should address why the project is necessary. Lastly, she said the consultation needed to have clarity of purpose – was it genuine engagement or simply a tick box exercise?

**Xohan Duran (Representative of People with Disabilities)**

He felt that the consultation should fully inform the public, and why the CoL feels it is necessary to spend £15m. He agreed that it should detail the disruption posed by construction, in terms of traffic and the alteration of the landscape. He argued that the end-result should comply with the statutory duty to preserve the natural aspect of the Heath. Lastly, he hoped that a s10 notice could be avoided.

**John Hunt (South End Green Residents Association)**

He felt that the public was faced with a common sense versus legal issue conflict. They are faced with two different, well informed legal opinions. Moreover, the number of variables in the project makes it almost impossible to make an informed choice between the options. He voiced admiration for the detailed critique provided by the H&HS. He concluded by saying that the South End Green Association (SEGA) were primarily interested in the lower chain of ponds and therefore did not welcome an increase in the height of Hampstead No. 1 and 2 dams.

**Susan Nettleton (Heath Hands)**

She felt that it was a shame that such fundamental differences remain this far into the project process and that ideally these needed to be resolved. She felt that the public consultation should make it clear the project was about the prevention of dam failure. In terms of project presentation and communication she welcomed the aerial plans but observed that the proposed spillways needed to be included in these, and that similarly a new path near the Boating Pond was not depicted. She noted that no detailed plans existed showing the impact of the spillways despite their significant extent, and that they should be depicted on the plans. Lastly she said that pictorial material of views should depict the dams up close rather than viewed from a distance.

**Colin Gregory (Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents' Association)**

He agreed with the issues identified regarding consultation by previous speakers. He was keen to know what the actual question under consideration would be, and emphasised that the process should provide information and invite views. He put forward the example of the construction of the Parliament Hill Staff Yard – none of the original options put forward were considered acceptable after consultation and so a brand new option was put forward. He used the example of consultation over the A1/North Circular – overall the majority of respondents were in favour of none of the proposals, and yet a proposal with only a small percentage of support was chosen simply so the project could proceed. He warned that the CoL risked a credibility issue if it took such an approach. He said that the CoL should make it clear why it had adopted its chosen position. He welcomed the site plans within the agenda pack, and observed that the legal paper focused on the Reservoirs Act 1975 and did not include any analysis of common law liability. He felt that it was key to canvass the views of the contractor that would be carrying out the works.

The Superintendent replied that it was the CoL's intention to bring the contractor in early to allow them to gain an understanding of the phasing of the project and the wider issues involved.

**Mary Port (Dartmouth Park Conservation Area Advisory Committee)**

She agreed that the legal issue remained a problem. She felt that the technical nature of much of the information would be hard to communicate to the public, and that much of the information failed to reflect how local people related to the Heath – dog walkers, runners etc. were concerned over natural aspect, not safety of dams. She agreed with the decision to focus storage on the centre of the chains of ponds. She felt that many of the diagrams were too technical, and that more explanation was needed over the nature of the spillways, including visual material.

**Michael Hammerson (Highgate Society)**

He felt that there was no consensus in the PPSG given it represented such a multiplicity of views. He remarked that some of the works proposed did not seem very well conceived and could be interpreted as 'window dressing' – particularly around the Bird Sanctuary dam. He felt that the large size of the spillways – 30-40m – needed to be demonstrated. He felt that the issue was boiling down to whether the work proposed was really necessary or if it was simply a legal issue. He argued the consultation process should aim to convince public why the CoL was willing to spend £15m, and it should avoid giving the impression that the two options were immutable. Visuals of how the Heath would look should be provided, and a description of what the construction process would involve. The CoL needed to get across that the Heath was not going to be developed and would recover over time. He warned that awareness of the project amongst the public at large was minimal – even among regular dog walkers on the Heath.

The Chairman thanked the committee and noted that these comments would be reported to the Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queen's Park Committee on 25 November 2013.

The Superintendent took the opportunity to make some comments:

### **QRA**

In light of the criticism from the H&HS, he said that the document was not a design tool but something intended to assess impact, and it was usually produced in the civil engineering industry to identify the best outcome for a project.

### **Options**

He argued both sets of options were very similar. ... He agreed that visualisation of the spillways needed to be improved. He said that the information-giving exercise was exactly that – information giving, and that an open ended question would be included to allow the public to comment as widely as possible. The information would set out the project process to date and make clear why the CoL was doing what it was doing. He concluded by saying that the CoL had produced reams of information, none of which provided an alternative to the options in question.

The Chairman emphasised that all comments would be going to the Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queen's Park Committee on 25 November 2013, and that the contractor would be engaged as soon as possible to allow early contractor involvement in the design process.

6. **QUESTIONS**

There were no questions.

7. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT**

There was no other business.

8. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Monday 20 January 2014 at 1900hrs in the Education Centre, Parliament Hill Fields, Hampstead Heath, NW5 1QR.

**The meeting ended at 9.15 pm**

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Chairman

**Contact Officer: Alistair MacLellan**  
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<b>Committee(s):</b>	<b>Date(s):</b>
Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee	20 January 2014
<b>Subject:</b> Review of Annual Work Plan 2013 and Proposed Annual Work Plan 2014	<b>Public</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Superintendent of Hampstead Heath	<b>For Discussion</b>
<p><b>Summary</b></p> <p>The report below provides a review of the management operations and activities carried out on Hampstead Heath over the past 12 months as part of the 2013 Annual Work Plan, and presents the new 2014 Work Plan, which is appended to this report.</p> <p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <p>That the Consultative Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Notes the work undertaken during 2013 to enhance the natural aspect and designed landscapes within the Heath.</li> <li>b) Provides its views on the proposed 2014 Annual Work Plan appended to this report.</li> </ol>	

## Main Report

### **Background**

1. Hampstead Heath is a complex mosaic of different habitats, comprising extensive areas of grassland, secondary woodland, hedgerows, water bodies, streams, a bog, heathland and formal areas. It is also an extremely popular and well used site. These factors make it complex to manage.
2. The Interim Management Policy Plan for the Heath states, in Policy 6, that the City will draw together an annual work plan for the Heath in consultation with local groups and interested parties. The Annual Work Plan will reflect the primary objective set out in the Mission Statement and will broadly cover planned conservation operations including vegetation, pond and wetland management, tree work and footpath maintenance and fencing works.
3. For completeness the major tasks within the formal areas of the Heath have also been included within the Annual Work Plan.

### **Review of the 2013 Annual Work Programme**

## ***Tree Management***

4. The Tree Team have experienced an exceptionally busy year, starting with the heavy snowfalls in February which resulted in a number of damaged limbs, the increased inspection operations necessitated by tree disease and then the St Jude's Storm event on the 28<sup>th</sup> October which left up to one hundred damaged trees across Hampstead Heath
  - Throughout the last twelve months the team has focused on priority works and have almost completed the first year of piloting a revised tree inspection system, which allows the safety inspections to concentrate on areas of highest risk such as busy highways and high use visitor focal points. To date the team have inspected a total of 1,953 trees at both Hampstead Heath and Queen's Park.
  - Tree disease remains a major issue for the team, with Massaria of Plane now identified across the Heath's 400 London Planes. Inspections have been carried out on the high use areas such as South End Green and the Highgate Road, and suspect branches removed. The team also carried out surveying operations throughout the summer months for Oak Processionary Moth around the perimeter of the site but found no evidence of the caterpillars.
  - De-compaction and diversion of paths that have developed under veteran trees has been carried out at three sites on the second and third hedge lines. The team also installed multiple bracing on the twin stemmed veteran Wild Service Tree next to the Hollow Beech above the Viaduct Pond. A total of 25 veteran trees received works over the period since January varying from compaction alleviation to ivy removal.
  - A survey was carried to identify the location and condition of all the Hybrid Black Poplars on the Heath. These magnificent trees are among the largest on the site but are susceptible to limb failure, so consequently a schedule of works was drawn up prioritising those requiring work in high use areas.
  - The St Jude's storm event on the 28<sup>th</sup> October left over 100 trees damaged across the Heath. The Tree Team spent the two weeks following the storm dismantling and making safe those trees in the most critical areas such as roadside, and those in high use areas. A number of trees required specialist dismantling operations due to their locations, including a Lombardy Poplar which collapsed onto the edge of William Ellis School's sports hall. It has taken over a month to get round to all the various locations, but with the assistance of the Conservation Team, the major work is now completed.



**Figure 1: Dismantling operation on poplar following the St Jude's Storm.**

### ***Nature Conservation Work***

5. The Conservation Team have experienced a productive year, with excellent progress on grassland management aided by the new baling equipment, and the completion of the Kenwood Educational Garden. Thanks to the long dry spell this summer the team were able to catch up on works that were outstanding from last year, and also maintain the momentum to complete programmed work in the 2013 Annual Work Programme. As mentioned above, the team have been heavily involved in the clear up operation after the St Jude's Storm event and are still removing all the fallen timber from the more formal parts of the Heath.

### **Control of Invasive Species**

- Giant hogweed and Japanese knotweed control continued, using stem injection techniques.
- Himalayan balsam has been prolific again this season due to high germination rates. A targeted and systematic approach was adopted again, working down the Fleet Stream catchment and along other riparian areas. Yellow balsam control was extended this year across the Heath, again with the assistance from the Heath Hands volunteers. An area of ragwort on Sandy Heath was treated experimentally with herbicides.
- Areas of Californian brome, Michaelmas daisy, Canadian goldenrod and Russian comfrey were cut repeatedly and/or dug up to reduce their vigour

and prevent seeding. Areas of thistles, which are spreading, were cut, and volunteers pulled thistles in selected areas.

### Woodland Management and Hedgerows

- Over 60 metres of hedgerow were laid, along the First Hedge on Parliament Hill and on the Heath Extension. This rejuvenated the hedges and provides crucial undisturbed dog-free habitat for nesting birds. Supplementary planting was undertaken to some existing hedgerows, both to fill gaps and diversify the species range.
- There was an on-going programme of volunteer sessions directed by the conservation team to remove non-native tree saplings at various wooded location on the Heath, with particular focus within areas of secondary woodland adjacent to the Spaniards Road and around the Vale and Viaduct.
- Shrub islands at Parliament Hill were coppiced or layed.
- Fifty oak saplings were dug up and potted up for transfer to Northern Ireland, as part of the celebrations.
- Extensive areas of native bulbs were planted at Whitestone Garden.
- Restoration of the old orchard at Springett's Wood was on-going, through additional planting of old fruit tree varieties and restoration work to veteran pear trees.
- 120 metres of hedgerow were planted along East Heath road to provide natural screening for East Heath car park.
- Cyclical coppicing and planting of the hazel coppice in the orchard adjacent to Kenwood yard was undertaken, and further traditional varieties of orchard fruit were also planted.
- Over 1200 Christmas trees were recycled and composted in our annual Christmas tree recycling scheme, run in partnership with Camden council.
- A number of naturalistic looking nesting boxes were once again placed in woodland areas.
- Two more coupes were opened along the Sandy Heath ride, perpetuating this important woodland edge habitat.

### Heathland and Acid Grassland Management

- Three exposed sandy banks specifically created for invertebrates have been created by the volunteers at the Vale of Health.

- A number of trees were removed at the base of the slopes opposite the Vale of Health in order to restore valuable Acid Grassland Habitat and improve floristic and faunal diversity
- The area of Gorse was expanded on the West Heath, Sandy heath and Vale of health gorse patches involving coppicing and planting seedlings raised Kenwood Nursery. This work was carried out as part of the City Bridge Trust programme involving the Heath Hands Volunteers
- Two areas on West heath were scraped and opened up to encourage heathland flora.

### Grassland Management

- Over 14 hectares of conservation grassland were cut across the Heath between late June and September, and nearly 40 tonnes of baled material removed from the site and transported to a green waste facility where the bales were used by a nearby farm.
- This new method of collecting the arisings from the grassland cutting has made a major impact on the efficiency and sustainability of this critical operation. The Claas baler produces 400 kilogramme round hay bales, which are then loaded onto an agricultural trailer which was purchased this year with the baler. The new trailer can carry up to twelve bales depending on moisture content. Each trailer load represents what the team would have transported previously in 36 separate journeys to the green waste facility. This has achieved a huge cost saving in fuel and also transporting time.



**Figure 2: New Claas baler and Voltra tractor**

- The perennial wild flower area sown in 2012 on the Old Hockey Pitch looked most attractive this year, and that behind Parliament Hill summit is also developing better after re-sowing last autumn. However, seeds sown this spring in a new wild flower area in Tumulus Field did not germinate, probably due to cold spring and drought, despite regular watering in the dry period. Those sown in the National Grid works area behind the Parliament Hill Café, which is damper, did germinate, but the area became overrun with thistle. It was therefore treated with herbicide. Both areas were re-sown with wild flowers in September, and it is anticipated that fencing may be required until next summer.
- The two annual wild flower meadows, one on the Extension and the other beside Duke's Field, were re-sown in spring and by summer looked most spectacular. In late spring the fences were removed, which resulted in some damage to the meadow at Duke's Field, a very busy part of the Heath. Nevertheless it is proposed to re-sow this popular meadow in 2014, and again remove the fence once the vegetation has established.
- A bed of herbaceous perennials good for producing nectar and pollen was established for the local bee keepers' association to provide additional forage for bees.
- Detailed prescriptions have been developed for the majority of the natural grassland areas incorporating varied timings for cutting and detailing site specific actions.

- Areas of relic acidic grassland have been identified and work has been undertaken to preserve and expand these.
- As with previous years the team have continued to manage the spread of bramble with existing areas cut back to agreed boundaries recognising their value as habitat.
- A pilot corporate volunteer event was held in May where 70 volunteers removed ragwort and tree saplings from the grassland in the Parliament Hill area, and the Tumulus Field.
- Heath Hands volunteers focussed on the conservation of ant colonies across some areas of the Heath.
- Grassland management specifically tailored for grass snakes was carried out in Athlone House Gardens and Cohen's Field.

#### Paths and erosion issues

- Monitoring for the potential development of bare eroded footpaths across grasslands and halting the development of these through the cutting of alternative desire routes to distribute foot traffic and subsequent compaction.
- Restoration of a number of informal paths through wooded areas achieved via the removal of accumulated mud and detritus, with the aim of reducing erosion and compaction to veteran trees as a result of foot traffic.
- Serious erosion issues to open grassland areas have been addressed with the removal and repair of some informal paths
- Work has continued to improve drainage alongside existing paths and also to reduce gullying at various locations on bound gravel surfaces.
- The cycle path on the southern side of the Tumulus Field was the focus of a programme of irrigation, rolling, and consolidation during the hot summer period which caused the top surface to break up and become dangerous for cyclists.

#### Ponds

- De-silting of the two ponds on Cohen's Fields to improve water depth and conservation value.
- Installation of dams along catchments to slow water flow and improve the conservation value of ditches.
- Improvements to the marginal edges of the Ladies pond through clearance and additional planting.

- Floating islands in the Model Boating Pond were rejuvenated with supplementary planting.
- As mentioned in the above section on the control of invasive species the conservation team continue to work closely with the Hampstead Heath Angling Society on various projects to improve the fishing environment.
- Several fishing workshops were held during the summer, raising the profile of angling and promoting recreational benefits.
- Regular removal and checking for rubbish, snags and discarded fishing tackle in all the ponds.
- Some judicious coppicing has taken place to trees along the marginal edges of a number of the ponds. This has proved to be very advantageous to the amphibian population due to increased light levels along the all-important warm marginal edges.
- Creation of a new pond to be used by school groups for pond dipping at the Kenwood educational garden.
- New ephemeral pools were dug at Springetts wood.
- Regular removal of blanket weed was carried out at the Whitestone pond between June and September.

### Outreach

- Outreach projects for the Conservation Team included: the delivery of recycled materials to a number of community garden projects; digging a wildlife pond at a local allotment site; supplying sustainable coppiced products to a local allotment in Highgate and assisting this site to plant a native hedgerow; and the treatment of Japanese knotweed at a local nature reserve.

### ***Ecological work***

6. The Ecology Team were heavily involved with the Ponds Project throughout the year, providing specialist advice to the Atkins design team and then supervising and coordinating a number of the surveys carried out over the spring and summer required for the Environmental Impact Assessment. Despite this they still managed to carry out important habitat monitoring work and provide guidance on conservation work.
  - Amphibian populations were monitored by the ecology team in spring. Twelve volunteers received training in grass snake identification and ecology; grass snake populations were monitored weekly by volunteers from May to October 2013. Six volunteers assisted with crayfish trapping



during 2013; four have been carrying this out on a weekly basis since April and are still continuing. This is largely for monitoring purposes.

- Stag beetle monitoring was carried out weekly by two volunteers along two transect areas on the Heath. A further five volunteers received training from the Ecology team on stag beetle ecology and monitoring. In a further session 10 volunteers and staff received formalised training from a UK expert on Stag beetle ecology.
- The grassland monitoring programme was continued. This showed that the expansion of the Tormentil Slopes last year, by tree and shrub removal, spreading cut material containing ripe seeds, and bramble control, was successful, resulting in the spread of this archetypal acid grassland plant in its only stronghold on the Heath.
- Creeping thistle is continuing to spread on the Heath, despite the programme of annual cutting which has been on-going for many years. Thistle is a valuable plant ecologically, but too much reduces the area of grassland. An experiment was started on Parliament Hill to establish whether more regular cutting will reduce the prevalence of thistle.
- The Ecology Team led a public guided walk on the management of Hampstead Heath and five guided walks looking at grass snake were provided for school children in liaison with the RSPB.
- The Ecology Team liaised with and advised a number of higher education students involved with Heath-related research projects.
- A mixture of ling and cross-leaved heath was planted at the West Heath bog and the West Heath heather slopes. This was in conjunction with a PhD student growing heather in symbiosis with liverwort species.
- A Compartment Management Plan was produced for Sandy Heath Ride in April this year and this was approved by Committee and will be incorporated into the new Annual Work Programme.
- The completed Hedgerow Survey and recommendations were also submitted for Committee approval and were well received. This report will provide improved guidance and planning for future work on the Heath 7 kilometres of hedgerows.
- Quarterly walks were held with the Heath Subcommittee of the Heath and Hampstead Society and ecological walks were held for the LGBT network and the RSPB.
- The ponds were checked weekly for blooms of blue-green algae.

## ***Formal Areas***

7. The Gardening and Sport and Recreation Keeping Teams have had a challenging and creative year on completing approved projects in the 2013 Annual Work Programme and routine general maintenance of the formal areas at Parliament Hill Fields, Golders Hill Park, Heath Extension Sports Areas, Pergola & Hill Garden and Keats House. Three separate progress reports have been brought to your committee throughout 2013 on the landscape works at the Ball Path, stumpery update and sustainable bedding.

### Golders Hill Park & Hill Garden

- Successful completion and establishment of the sustainable planting scheme in the Walled Garden. The Park Manager and Head Gardener are liaising with representative of Central Square, Hampstead Garden Suburb on knowledge transfer and design ideas for Central Square.
- Following research and a trip to Highgrove House by two front line members of staff, works has been completed on the first phase of the stumpery in wooded walkway next to Lily Pond.
- Planting and establishment of a mixed native hedge row along the wooded fence in the Orchard Field.
- Installation of new shade canopy and items of equipment in the children's play area.
- Installation of two new table tennis tables, which have been extensively used throughout the year.
- Replanting of shrub boarder following building works to the Hill Garden boundary wall.

### Parliament Hill Fields

- Successful completion of phase one landscapes works at the Bull Path Entrance, off Highgate Road.
- Planting and establishment of native hedge rows around tennis courts five to ten.
- Replanting of shrub boarder at the Hive, building used by the RSPB for the Wild about Hampstead HLF project with nature species.
- Hard pruning of hawthorn hedge around bowling green and Highgate Road which has improved vigour and air circulation around the plants.

### Sports Facilities and Filming Events

- Despite the cold winter, late spring and hot summer, the sports and recreation team managed all the winter and summer sports grass surfaces to an extremely high standard at Golders Hill Park, Parliament Hill Fields and Heath Extension.
- Management and retention of A1 certification from UK Athletics at the Parliament Hill Athletics Track and successful track meetings including the national 10,000 metres event in May.
- Overseeing approximately 45 filming events, ensuring the Heath landscape is protected at all times.
- Grass land renovation establishments works following National Grid works on the Heath Extension.

### **Corporate & Strategic Implications**

8. The protection of the natural aspect cannot be taken for granted and to retain the existing mosaic of vegetation that makes the Heath such a popular open space, whilst fulfilling the basic services to keep the site clean and well maintained, requires significant investment.
9. The landscape enhancement works supports several of the City Together Strategy - The heart of World Class City 2008-2014 themes, including: ... *supports our communities ... protects, promotes and enhances our environment.*
10. The preparation and implementation of an Annual Work Plan in accordance with the Overriding Objective of the Strategic Management Plan "*Retain and enhance the Heath's habitats and natural resources to enable continued quiet enjoyment and appreciation of the natural world by visitors*".
11. The actions for the new annual work plan are set out under the main character areas of the Heath. This follows the format of the proposed Part III section of the management plan, detailed prescriptions of work and includes all those work elements already included in the Management Work Plans.

### **Implications**

12. The costs of meeting this ambitious programme are funded through the Superintendents local risk budget. Wherever possible opportunities will be sought for external funding to support these essential works.

## **Conclusion**

13. The Heath is a complex site and it is impossible to set out in full all the work required to manage it a year ahead. Unanticipated circumstances may require a change of priorities, such as storms. However, the plan establishes our intentions for the year, subject to the Committee's comments.

## **Appendices**

- Appendix 1 – Annual Work Programme for 2014

## **Background Papers:**

Progress Report on construction of a Stumpery in the woodland walkway - Golders Hill Park

Progress Report on the Enhancement of the Landscaping Works to the Bull Path and Surrounding area at Parliament Hill Fields

Progress Report on Sustainable Planting in the Walled Garden - Golders Hill Park

## **Contact:**

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# **Hampstead Heath Annual Work Plan January to December 2014**

## **Introduction**

The Annual Work Plan January-December 2014 includes conservation and arboricultural work and work related to the formal areas of Hampstead Heath. It outlines the management works that will take place over the coming 12 months. Like all working documents it must be recognised that weather, seasonal changes and other factors can have an impact on the programme and lead to unavoidable changes. Sunday working which causes noise will be avoided where possible, but may from time to time be necessary. For example, in wet summers it may be necessary to take advantage of dry weekends to cut grass.

Consideration of the Annual Work Plan for 2014 was due to be considered at the November 2013 Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee, but could not be taken at that time due to an over-full agenda caused by discussion of the Ponds Project. It therefore had to be delayed until the January 2014 meeting. As the programme runs from January to December 2014, a few items of work have necessarily been undertaken before the Committee meeting.

Any comments or queries should be made, in the first instance, to the Conservation Manager, 020 8347 0389.

# Conservation work

## Principles for ecological management

Much conservation work on the Heath aims to maintain the *status quo*. Without this work, valuable habitat would be lost from large areas of the Heath. Our current guiding ecological principles are to follow current UK guidance or best practice for the management of species and habitats including:

- To maintain current grassland areas, particularly the scarcer patches of 'acid grassland' on the Heath's upper areas. This involves keeping back encroaching bramble, thistle and tree seedlings and dealing sensitively with the margins of adjacent woodland and hedges, which can be particularly valuable ecologically. Such work will be completed from autumn to early spring, to avoid disturbing breeding birds, or from late autumn where there may be grass snakes present. If necessary, low bramble can be cut again outside this season, ideally on a hot day when grass snakes will probably be in retreat underground or can move away from machinery, or it can be cut by hand.
- Where choices are possible, to aim for a mosaic of vegetation of different aspects and height. Such mosaics are essential for many invertebrates, amphibians and reptiles and this principle applies to both woodland and grassland habitats.
- To be on the lookout for opportunities to develop undisturbed areas of dense scrub or woodland understory, to provide additional (currently scarce) bird-nesting habitat.
- To be on the lookout for other habitat enhancement schemes which would be beneficial to wildlife.
- To try to eradicate or prevent the spread of invasive species, e.g. Japanese knotweed and Himalayan balsam, which would be detrimental to the Heath's wildlife value if allowed to increase their populations.
- The public enjoyment of nature in a safe environment is of paramount importance.
- Particular care is taken to attend to the needs of valued or special species and habitats, e.g. veteran trees and ancient hedge lines, kingfishers, and the rare *Atipus affinis*, a purse web spider.
- In non-formal parts of the Heath we seek to avoid planting purchased trees and shrubs, relying instead on natural regeneration. Where a more reliable or quicker result is required, only stock of local provenance will be used.

## **New work for 2014**

A number of new items have been added to the Annual Work Programme for 2014. This section identifies some of the most major; numbers refer to locations shown on attached map.

### Hedges

A survey and analysis of the Heath's hedgerows was completed in 2013, and a ten year plan for their management proposed. The following work was identified for 2014. On the Extension, the western half of the hedge south of the rugby pitch (80) is gappy and generally in a poor state; this will be gapped up and layed. Half of the hedge alongside the stream north of the cricket pitch (77) was layed in 2013, and the rest will be layed in 2014. Part of the western side of the hedge north of the cricket nets (79) will be coppiced or layed to thicken it up. On Preacher's Hill (21), the northern part of the hedge alongside East Heath Road is thin and gappy, and dominated by ash saplings. Additional species will be introduced and it will be layed.

### Preacher's Hill

Unscheduled work on the Ponds Project precluded the production of a management plan for Preacher's Hill (21) over the summer, but the area was discussed on one of the regular walks with Heath and Hampstead Society Heath Sub-committee. A number of items for this area have been included in the 2014 programme in anticipation of a management plan in 2014. In addition to hedge work, these include substantial reduction in the cover of bramble, tree planting beside Christchurch Hill and Willow Road, and removal of a dead poplar and replanting with native black poplar.

### View from Chubb Shelter

Members of the Heath and Hampstead Society Heath Sub-committee are keen to preserve the view of the City from the Chubb shelter, which is being obscured by tall trees in South Meadow (41) near the edge of Tumulus Field. Consequently it is planned to remove or high pollard a small number of ash trees and up to six young oak trees, and maintain the pollarded trees at this height thereafter.

### Vale of Health

It is proposed to control further bramble in the Vale of Health (3) beside the path leading toward Whitestone Pond, with the removal of a Turkey oak and sycamores.

### Fleet Stream

The production of a management plan for the Fleet Stream, Hampstead Branch, was another item which was substantially delayed due to work on the Ponds Project. In anticipation, it is proposed that two glades along the stream be opened up, one where balsam poplars grow (6), downstream of the Vale of Health pond, and the other at the junction of the two branches below the Viaduct Pond (7).

### Path between Viaduct Pond and Vale of Health toilets

It is proposed to coppice a strip each side of this (17), to lighten up the path and improve the habitat. One false acacia tree will be removed, with others being removed in subsequent years.

## **General maintenance**

In addition to habitat management, this Plan also includes other works within the more formalised parts of the Heath. It has not been possible to include all the general maintenance and development tasks that take place, but elements of these can be summarised as:

- Amenity grassland areas are provided and maintained for recreation.
- Areas of formal gardens are maintained throughout the Heath, but principally at the Hill Garden, Golders Hill Park and formal recreational areas below Parliament Hill to Gospel Oak entrance and from Highgate Road to Nassington Road.
- Daily litter picking and Trilo collection from bins is carried out on a daily basis. Dedicated fishing tackle bins at each fishing pond are emptied separately by the Heath Rangers Team.
- Maintenance of sporting and recreational facilities for athletics, football, fishing, tennis and many more activities.
- Supervised swimming facilities at the Lido and at the three natural bathing ponds.
- Play facilities including maintenance of playgrounds, the Peggy Jay Centre and the Adventure Playground.
- Daily cleaning and inspection of public toilets.
- Liaison with the City's Sustainability Working Group to implement the City's sustainability policy wherever possible.
- Path maintenance Heath-wide as and when required: power harrow, add agreed aggregates and roll; and fill in potholes.
- Cleaning and maintenance of benches.
- Maintenance of fences.

## **Notes on the tables**

Numbers in the first column relate to approximate locations of proposed work as illustrated on the accompanying map. The relevant Natural Landscape Chapter policies from the Hampstead Heath Management Plan 2007-2017 are given in the second column, or where appropriate references to the Part I Plan itself. Areas of the Heath where the work is to be undertaken are listed in the third column.



## General items

Map ref.	Policy nos.	Location	Description of work
	50	Hedgerows Heath-wide	Remove non-native tree seedlings
	27	Hedgerows Heath-wide	Carry out any necessary management to promote trees which could grow into veterans.
	Access	Pavement edge general	Lift all trees & shrubs to 2m & cut back to pavement edge as necessary
	36, 46	All water areas	Manage routine incidents, & assist Wildlife Rescue experts in dealing with distressed water fowl. Assist Constabulary in preventing & investigating dog attacks.
	47	All or several ponds	Reinstate dragonfly monitoring scheme
	36, 37, 47	All or several ponds	Use a boat to check for and remove line & tackle & other debris during the fishing season.
	36	All or several ponds	Organise & oversee regular work parties of members of the Hampstead Heath Angling Society to conduct more thorough clean-ups of the ponds & other fishing-related conservation work.
	36	All or several ponds	Work with the Hampstead Heath Angling Society to ensure fishing regulations are understood & adhered to & assist Constabulary in checking permits & rod licenses
	36	All or several ponds	Try to improve marginal vegetation
	36	All or several ponds	Check & clean pond inlets & outlets
	Access, 36	All or several ponds	Monitor ponds for general problems and algae scums, and ensure warning notices are promptly put up & taken down
	36	All or several ponds	Maintain water mixing equipment at the Boating Pond.
	36, 47	All or several ponds	Monitor water oxygen and phosphorus levels
	36, 50	All or several ponds	Alleviate problems such as duckweed blooms and oxygen crashes when required
	36	All or several ponds	Liaise with Hampstead Heath Angling Society
1	Safety issue	Several ponds, including Highgate no 1, Hampstead no 1, Vale of Health, Viaduct	Carry out tree and scrub clearance required by Supervising Engineer to reduce flood risk
	50	Heath-wide	Control Himalayan balsam, Japanese knotweed, giant hogweed, California brome, sycamore and, where necessary, creeping thistle, ragwort and bracken
	50	Heath-wide	Produce map with locations of Japanese knotweed sites
	50	Heath-wide	Redo 2006 map of Himalayan balsam sites.
	50	Heath-wide	Establish a policy for control but not elimination of ragwort where necessary
	29, 30	Hedges Heath-wide	Top selected hedges as required to maintain hedgerow character
	50	Selected locations Heath-wide	Cut thistles before they seed to try to control them

2	47	Selected locations Heath-wide	Monitor selected features, including certain invasive species, Small Tumulus Field grassland, Vale of Health acid grassland, Tormentil slopes, Sparrows site, experimental cutting area, amphibians and reptiles. Analyse grassland monitoring data collected to date.
	3	Heath-wide	Planning, facilitating and overseeing the work of Heath Hands

## East Heath, Hampstead Valley and Vale of Health

Map ref.	Policy nos.	Location	Description of work
3	16	Upper Vale of Health	Control bramble as necessary to prevent further spread
3	4	Upper Vale of Health	Reduce brambly clumps by steps opposite Vale Lodge
3	H6	Upper Vale of Health	Cut bramble etc. round Pound to maintain views to it
3	1	Upper Vale of Health	Cut Cotoneaster opposite The Gables to maintain at about 1m70cm
3	14	Upper Vale of Health	Maintain patches of acid grassland by re-cutting areas created in 2012 by cutting 2 small scallops into the gorse at the lower edge
3	4	Upper Vale of Health	Mow majority of fertile grassland (including along paths) annually in September, removing arisings
3	14, 15, 47	Upper Vale of Health	Scrape area recently cleared above acid grassland slope. Maintain part open as area for invertebrates and plant gorse in remaining section. Maintain in future years.
3	14	Upper Vale of Health	Flail area of main gorse patch where gorse failed after recent management and replant with gorse
3	4	Upper Vale of Health	Maintain uncut strip of grass by wood opposite The Gables by cutting once p.a. at the end of the season
3	13	Upper Vale of Health	Weed heather 2 to 3 times yearly as required and cut round existing patches to prevent encroachment
3	4	Upper Vale of Health	Maintain rough vegetation at top of slope near Whitestone Pond by cutting annually after cow parsley has flowered
3	50	Upper Vale of Health	Pull Japanese knotweed then spray regrowth in late summer
3	50	Upper Vale of Health	Cut areas of hogweed in rough grassland 2-3 times p.a. to prevent spreading
3	16	Upper Vale of Health	Ensure trees & shrubs in bramble areas do not become more numerous
3	46	Upper Vale of Health	Skirt bramble carefully by hand on Atypus slopes, & remove tree & shrub seedlings. Cut back overhanging branches if they have extended from previous year.
3	13	Upper Vale of Health	Coppice gorse on 12 year rotation, cutting 1/6th every even-numbered year. When zones are coppiced, remove trees and saplings but retain a few song-posts, e.g. hawthorn, elder. Cut bramble & remove.
3	50	Upper Vale of Health	Control invasive species, e.g. sycamore, southern woodland, adjoining Vale of Health Approach Road
3	50	Upper Vale of Health	Remove Himalayan balsam from area
3	Access, H6	Upper Vale of Health	Install memorial bench at viewpoint over Vale on access path onto the Heath from Whitestone Lane
4	Safety issue	Vale Approach Road	Maintain sightlines at junction of East Heath Road

5	4, 6	Vale of Health Valley	Take back oak branches on north-east side 1-4 metres to maintain grassland area
5	4, 6	Vale of Health Valley	Remove hawthorn bush in grassland
5	6	Vale of Health Valley	Keep central area open, but retaining elder bushes at south-west edge. Retain nettle/comfrey area on south-west side. Mow south-eastern side as required to control bramble with aim of recreating grassland.
6	43	Fleet Stream below Vale of Health valley	Recreate marshy glade by removing dead, dying, and sapling balsam poplars and clearing bramble, leaving dead trunks and uncommon fern. Keep open in future years.
7	43	Fleet Stream	Create small glade where two branches of Fleet stream meet in woodland below Viaduct Pond; plant marsh-loving plants. Keep open in future by removing new seedling trees
8	4	Springett's Wood	Mow grass twice times avoiding bluebell leaves.
8	Access	Springett's Wood	Clear & mow paths
8	Access	Springett's Wood	Clean & oil bench
8	16	Springett's Wood	Keep bramble in damp area near pond in check by cutting back, & remove sapling & seedling trees & shrubs & scrub; create scrape
8	1	Springett's Wood	Repair fence with Kenwood to stop dog access
8	50	Springett's Wood	Remove & dispose of <i>Crassula helmsii</i> if present in pond
8	36	Springett's Wood	Maintain pond, and enlarge if a new liner is required
8	16	Springett's Wood	Check tree guards & tree ties, & clear scrub around young trees
9	29, 50	Row of trees/hedge on north/upper side of Hockey Field	Remove any sycamore saplings
10	Access	The Elms/Radio Mast	Cut back bramble/scrub encroaching on access road
11	16	Pines near the Ice House	Clear saplings round old pines and bring on new ones to replace them as they decline
12	16	Woodland south of Vale of Health Approach Road	Remove ivy from 20% of trees each year
13	25	Fleet Stream, Hampstead branch	Prepare a compartment management work plan
14	36	Fleet stream crossing to Viaduct slopes	Re-coppice/clear area previously opened up by crossing to Viaduct pond slopes. Remove selected willows from marsh area to allow marsh loving plants to thrive.
15	13, 14	Tormentil Slopes	Cut bramble patch and rosebay willowherb repeatedly, starting before bird nesting season
15	13, 14	Tormentil Slopes	Cut areas of coarse grass repeatedly
15	14, 15	Tormentil Slopes	Remove one small oak and raise crowns of trees on western and lower slopes, to increase area of acid grassland and tormentil
16	16	Path between Viaduct pond slopes and Hollow Beech	Scallop bramble edges
16	4	'Secret glade' W of path between Viaduct pond & Vale toilets	Continue reducing bramble & rosebay willowherb. Fell young Sorbus tree on edge of clearing.
17	16, 19, 20	Path between Viaduct Pond and Vale of	Open up and improve habitat by coppicing both sides, leaving major trees except removing one Robinia. Remove one more Robinia annually.

		Health toilets	
18	1	Viaduct Pond	On south-west side of Viaduct pond, cut back hedge below bench to create view of pond; leave band of shrubs at south-west corner
18	39	Viaduct Pond	Coppice alders along western bank every three years, starting 2014 if not cut in 2013
18	16, 50	Viaduct Pond	Remove or coppice young sycamores in enclosures to west of pond
18	13	Viaduct Pond	Remove bramble and tree saplings from gorse. Plant more gorse if necessary
18	39, 50	Viaduct Pond	Remove sycamore and false acacia and recoppice tree regrowth between Bird Bridge and the Viaduct to maintain open area.
18	39	Viaduct Pond	Coppice willow and silver birch and raise alder crowns along east bank, especially where impeding growth of emergent vegetation
18	13	Viaduct Pond	Maintain heather patch on slope by regular weeding
18	50	Viaduct Pond	Manage/remove/spray Japanese knotweed in enclosed area.
18	50	Viaduct Pond	Pull Himalayan balsam from marsh area
18	13	Viaduct Pond	Remove bramble and saplings from gorse area. Coppice any degrading gorse
19	Access, 7	Pryor's Field	Mow fertile grassland in southern part of field
19	7	Pryor's Field	Cut or dig up patch of blackthorn suckers on western side of path along Mixed Pond side of field
19	46	Pryor's Field	Check area where common spotted orchid grows to ensure it is not being outcompeted; manage appropriately if so.
19	50	Pryor's Field	Clear sycamore saplings and laurel from woodland strip along north edge
19	50	Pryor's Field	Pull any Himalayan balsam in damp patch. Pull Himalayan balsam in central bramble patch only if whitethroat not breeding.
19	Access	Pryor's Field	Make sure main paths are clear of bramble and in good order, and ditch line running along the south of the field has been regularly cleared of leaf litter and debris.
19	16, 29	Pryor's Field	Blackthorn shrubs along Mixed Pond fence line: remove oak sapling, coppice blackthorn to within 2.5m of fence and lay remaining shrubs along fence line. Achieve this through cutting 3 tranches on a 9 year rotation
19	20	Pryor's Field	Cut 1/3rd of the scalloped eastern edge of Pryor's Field between the path and shrubs (excluding the area dominated by blackthorn) on a rotational basis
19	13	Pryor's Field	Maintain gorse along northern edge by clearing bramble as necessary. Replenish gorse as necessary.
19	6	Pryor's Field	Reduce the extent of areas of bramble as specified on management plan, cutting by hand where ant hills are present.
19	50	Pryor's Field	Remove sycamore trees and saplings from large willow area on the southern edge near the fairground site
19	16	Pryor's Field	Coppice selected areas of shrubs on the Field side of the scrub band parallel to East Heath road, in order to thicken it up. Plant hazel or hawthorn where additional shrubs are required. This will improve the visual screen and the habitat for birds. Carry out in two tranches, one within 3 years, the other in perhaps 10 years' time, to be assessed
19	Access	Pryor's Field	Remove some bramble from north-west corner access path on both sides to make entrance to Pryors Field more attractive, with a better view of the field
19	Access	Pryor's Field	Remove small hawthorn growing too close to path to road

			from south-west corner of Field before it interferes with access
19	4	Pryor's Field	Cut a small area of bramble in north-east of field with aim of eradicating it
19	50	Pryor's Field	Pull or cut any purple Michaelmas daisy or white Michaelmas daisy not growing in main patch
19	47	Pryor's Field	Monitor extent of hogweed
19	50	Pryor's Field	Cut areas dominated by hogweed or remove flowers before seeding and take off site in all areas except that specified on the map in management plan
19	50	Pryor's Field	Cut round Michaelmas daisy and bramble patches to retain current extent
19	50	Pryor's Field	Control Japanese knotweed
19	6, 50	Pryor's Field	Control bramble and thistle as specified in the management plan
20	6	East Heath Road	Control spread of bramble, trees etc. onto road and grassland
20	6	East Heath Road	Regularly prune willows to maintain form and maintain safe driver visibility at car park entrance
21	6	Willow Road	Keep bramble back to current frontier, with elm suckers removed
21	29, 30	Preacher's Hill	Lay northern 1/3rd of hedge along East heath Road
21	29, 30	Preacher's Hill	Lay and extend short hedge on boundary of Children's Playground
21	4, 6	Preacher's Hill	Substantially reduce area of bramble to regenerate grassland by repeated cutting, avoiding damage to daffodils. 1st cut outside bird nesting season.
21	50	Preacher's Hill	Cut area of California brome repeatedly to stop it flowering, leaving patch of Russian comfrey
21	6	Preacher's Hill	Cut rough grassland & incipient scrub alongside Christchurch Road monthly, May-September
21	6	Preacher's Hill	Cut cow parsley/ rough grassland and incipient scrub alongside Willow Road monthly, June/ early July (after cow parsley has flowered) -September
21	6	Preacher's Hill	Remove dead cherry, 2 Turkey oaks, cherry sapling, & raise crown of large Turkey oak, to restore grassland
21	1, 46	Preacher's Hill	Remove dead elm in SE corner, coppice elm regrowth, plant black poplar
21	1, 46	Preacher's Hill	Remove dead trunk near Willow Road, plant black poplar
21	16, 50	Preacher's Hill	Remove sycamores & sapling ashes to benefit plane and oak, clump near East Heath Road
21	1	Preacher's Hill	Cut back small area of holly to improve view
21	1	Preacher's Hill	Plant suitable trees, e.g. crab apple, alongside Christchurch Road
21	16	Preacher's Hill	Reduce ivy on woodland trees
21	25	Preacher's Hill	Prepare a compartment management work plan
22	1	Lime Avenue	Cut back epicormic growth at base of limes along avenue length
23	6	Mixed Pond meadow	Cut grassland regularly, to keep back bramble encroachment
23	H6	Mixed Pond meadow	Prune oaks to retain view of Christchurch steeple
		South End Green/East Heath Car Park	Removal of the fence to the east of the path adjacent to South End Road. A new stock fence (the same as those used around the wildflower areas) will be installed at the rear of Hampstead Number 1 dam. Two short lengths of knee rail installed to discourage desire lines and protect the root plates of the London Plane trees. Install cycle stands at bottom entrance to the car park.

## Parliament Hill and Kenwood

Map ref.	Policy nos.	Location	Description of work
24	6	Second Hedge	Bramble fringe to meadow near top of Parliament Hill, south side; cut back eastern half by half its width (western half done 2013)
25	32	Tumulus Field	Allow regeneration of 3-4 oak saplings to former hedge line across Tumulus Field, in line with existing trees. Leave a strip of grass un-mown along the line of the old hedge.
25	9	Tumulus Field	Remove fence of wild flower area when seeds sown in autumn 2013 have established
26	32	Tumulus Field pond	Manage thistle if necessary July and August. Remove any not native aquatics
27	29	Third Hedge	Lay another very short section along southern side of hedge.
27	46	Third Hedge	Cut bramble on southern side of hedge to protect pignut
27	6	Third Hedge	Cut back current year's extension of bramble on southern side of hedge
28	25	Small Tumulus Field	Prepare a compartment management work plan
28	50	Small Tumulus Field	Cut area of hogweed near main path before seeding
28	50, Access	Small Tumulus Field	Cut central triangle, where ragwort has become dominant
28	6	Small Tumulus Field	Cut back bramble, western edge
28	4, 16	Small Tumulus Field	Cut top half of rough area in upper, south, corner of field
29	4, 6, 7	Sparrows site	Undertake wholesale pulling of thistle at the end of July, then consider cutting shortly afterwards
30	4, 6, 7	Southern side, Parliament Hill	Control remaining oak seedlings above Sparrows site
31	6	Parliament Hill, near Dump	Mow close to fallen tree to prevent brambles growing up
32	9	Parliament Hill near bandstand	Remove fence once wild flowers sown autumn 2013 have established. There may be a need for further thistle control.
33	16	Parliament Hill scrub thickets	Lay one scrub island
34	50	Nassington Road Entrance	Control patch of Japanese knotweed north of entrance
35	E1	Heath Life Education Centre	Manage wildlife garden for ecology & education.
36	E1	Secret Garden	Manage Secret Garden for ecology & education.
37	9	Grassland west of Secret Garden entrance	Re-sow a strip of cornflower annuals along edge away from path. Remove fence once vegetation established
38	Access	Highgate no 1 and Men's ponds	Maintain windows onto ponds at trig points

39	H6, 1, 39	Highgate no 1 pond	Maintain 2 open viewing windows and prevent shading of marginals by coppicing willows on 3 year rotation. Windows should be re-coppiced if required to maintain view.
40	40	Boating pond	Repair and maintain fence surrounding reedbeds
40	42, 45	Boating pond	Maintain floating reedbeds/islands and aerators
41	7	South Meadow	Mow all grassy glades except large areas north of stream to allow access & maintain grassland. Retain strip of long grass round edges.
41	7	South Meadow	North of stream, cut 1/3 grassland (see management plan), leaving refuges
41	50	South Meadow	Remove oak seedlings from grassland
41	1	South Meadow	Remove a small number of ash trees and up to 6 young oak trees near the boundary with Tumulus Field to improve the view from the Chubb Shelter. Maintain trees at this height
41	14, 15	South Meadow	Extend gorse patch near Highgate Gate towards birch tree
41	1	South Meadow	Cut path through brambles as necessary to allow access along all of fine line of veteran trees, south side of South Meadow
41	16	South Meadow	Remove entirely hollies cut back in 2012/3
41	6	South Meadow	Cut areas of bramble cleared in September 2011 several times in order restore grassland. In grassy northern section this will entail cutting back to tree drip lines. All glades in woodland which are currently predominantly thick bramble should be left as such, apart from maintaining any footpaths through them. Retain a brambly fringe round woodland glades.
41	50	South Meadow	Pull or cut small balsam in Kenwood SSSI strip before it flowers
41	50	South Meadow	Remove laurel & sycamore saplings & seedlings
41	Access	South Meadow	Strim bramble from paths if required to maintain access
41	Access	South Meadow	Try to reduce erosion on south side of wooden bridge over stream by placing brush & logs over area
41	Access	South Meadow	Maintain area in front of Chubb shelter
41	16, 26	South Meadow	Further remove or cut back holly in woodland selectively to improve visibility in woodland & reduce canopy competition where holly is tall.
41	19	South Meadow	Cut back dead elm on edge of SE corner of South Meadow & allow suckers to regrow
41	6, 19	South Meadow	Further cut back encroachment of grey willow in northern grassland; coppice remaining grey willow
41	50	South Meadow	Remove invasive Michaelmas daisy in glade
41	Access	South Meadow	Cut a path through bramble below selected fine oak trees to allow access to see trunks
42	Access	Chubb shelter	Clear any scrub obscuring shelter as necessary
43	1	Saxon ditch near Hampstead Gate	Clear to make a more obvious feature, but also erect suitable dead hedges to reduce footfall

44	47	Stream culvert crossing by bird feeders	Cut round where cuckoo flower grows
45	19	Orchard	Continue to coppice area of hazel/ash on a 7 year rotation. Plant additional hazel to fill gaps. Section 3 2014.
45	Access	Orchard	Cut hedges, cut back nettles and other vegetation from path.
45	16	Orchard	Clear around recently planted hazels
45	16	Orchard	Remove one large sycamore
45	16	Orchard	Raise crowns of selected beeches, especially near footpaths
45	16	Orchard	Plant 2-4 pear and 2-4 apple trees into suitable areas. London and Middlesex varieties
46	47, 50	New Cohen's Field ponds	Monitor for invasive species and remove as necessary
46	36	Cohen's Field ponds	Ensure regrowth does not cover pond again. Maintain a minimum of 50% open water
46	46, 50, visual access	Cohen's Field ponds	Stop shrubs & climbers growing higher than fence
46	36	Cohen's Field ponds	Autumn or late winter cut to pond edges to maintain a grassy fringe.
47	6, 16	Upper (western) Cohen's Field	Cut back overgrown fringe of scrub/tall vegetation on eastern boundary, preserving suitable saplings which will help screen Athlone House
47	H6	Upper (western) Cohen's Field	Plant black poplars along eastern boundary of field where screening of Athlone House is required
47	Access	Upper (western) Cohen's Field	Maintain ditch to upper pond to retain nearby crossing point
47	50	Upper (western) Cohen's Fields	Control Japanese knotweed re-growth above Goodison fountain hedge line
48	46	Lower (east) Cohen's Field	Remove sapling oaks from bramble fringe adjacent to Model Farm Compartment hedgerow.
48	30	Lower (east) Cohen's Field	Thicken understory along Stock Pond path beside Lower Cohen's field by laying shrubs
48	6	Lower (east) Cohen's Field	Cut back bramble islands developing under isolated trees to tree canopy & remove any tree & shrub regeneration within these bramble islands.
48	6	Lower (east) Cohen's Field	Grub out sapling trees from western fringe.
48	6	Lower (east) Cohen's Field	Cut back half way to streamline the brambles which have encroached on eastern edge
49	46, 50	Model Farm Compartment	Eradicate knotweed and balsam. Also cut back fringe vegetation and saplings to maintain some open ground
49	History	Model Farm Compartment	Remove vegetation growing on walls
49	7, 46	Model Farm compartment: top meadow	Continue to manage as open grassland by cutting in autumn.



49	4, 6, 46	Model Farm compartment: top meadow	July cut to perimeter of meadow and to selected coarse areas of grass/scrub to reduce vigour. Care should be taken of grass snakes.
49	7, 46	Model Farm compartment: Middle section	Maintain as rough meadow through autumn cut.
49	4, 46	Model Farm Compartment	Remove 2 sycamores from north-west of farm area
49	4, 46	Model Farm Compartment	Remove and prevent regrowth of 4-5 small false acacia, cherry + ash trees.
50	7	Pipeline Triangle	Early summer cut to Triangle to reduce coarse grass vigour & encourage later-flowering knapweed & bedstraw
51	1 & others	Athlone House Gardens	Management according to detailed management plan
52	19	Cohen's Wood	Thin oaks selectively and use timber for projects around the Heath
53	36	Stream line from Cohen's Wood to Ladies pond	Recoppice streamline area. Maintain dams & aquatic vegetation to improve water quality along catchments. Further clearance & dam creation may be necessary.
53	36	Stream line from Cohen's Wood to Ladies pond	Ensure corrugated stream cover is removed by the contractor.
54	1, 36 & others	Ecofield	On-going maintenance including planting, pruning, weeding & mowing
54	29	Ecofield	Cut <i>Leylandii</i> hedge
54	46	Ecofield	Plant herbaceous border for bees
54	1	Ecofield	Develop management plan for area
54	9	Ecofield	Develop wildflower area
55	6	Ladies Pond meadow	Ring bark ash sapling in centre of damp patch and leave as dead bush
55	6	Ladies Pond meadow	Cut back periphery of isolated bramble patch 1m and whole of newly-developing bramble patch nearby further north
55	47, 50	Ladies Pond meadow	Monitor and possibly remove thistle & ragwort round damp area
55	6	Ladies Pond meadow	Cut back bramble patch developing along tarmac path and southern streamline during winter & repeat cut 3 times during growing season
55	4	Ladies Pond meadow	Reduce erosion caused by paths by cutting alternative desire lines adjacent to existing path in summer
56	47	Stock Pond meadow	Monitor extent of bracken and rush
56	47	Stock Pond meadow	Cut back bramble and bracken along Kenwood edge by 2m before mid-March, then cut re-growth 3-4 times
56	47	Stock Pond meadow	Cut patches of invading rush in cold weather to reduce vigour, leaving main patch beside path
56	6	Stock Pond meadow	Remove saplings growing near rushes and oval sedge

57	1	Ladies Pond enclosure	Carry out wildflower meadow improvements, cyclical coppicing and pollarding
57	Access, 39	Ladies pond enclosure	NW edge of pond: remove woody debris from water & coppice 15m section of bankside to encourage emergent vegetation & reduce debris encroachment into the swimming area
57	36	Ladies pond enclosure	Enhance wetland through creation of pools at the northern marsh area of pond
57	6	Ladies pond enclosure	Cut northern wet meadow area early spring to prevent scrub encroachment.
58	36	Stock Pond	Continue to selectively thin & lift bankside trees to increase light levels & reduce leaf litter: remove dead elms
58	46	Stock Pond	Clear round wild service tree saplings
58	36	Stock Pond	Cut back scrub encroaching onto northern marsh area. Cut back to dead hedge.
59	50	Bird Sanctuary	Control Himalayan balsam & giant hogweed
59	47	Bird Sanctuary	Weekly clean & fill bird feeder
59	Access	Bird Sanctuary	Trim small hedge in front of bird feeder to maintain visibility
59	39	Bird Sanctuary	Coppice 10% of willows & alder along eastern edge. Avoid working near kingfisher nesting bank
59	39	Bird Sanctuary	Regular coppice or removal of recent regrowth from large birch tree southwards on one-year rotation, to provide more light to water
59	36	Bird Sanctuary	Continue to expand wet meadow E of pond through selective coppicing of trees and scrub encroachment
59	H6	Bird Sanctuary	Coppice alder & dogwood S end of pond to maintain view points
59	19	Bird Sanctuary	Coppice hazel area E of pond on 7 year rotation. Remove competing elm scrub.
59	36	Bird Sanctuary	Create large pool/channel N side of pond to increase wetness & habitat for reedbed
59	39	Bird Sanctuary	Remove selected trees and shrubs near reedbed
59	36	Bird Sanctuary	Reedbed cutting section 4
59	36	Bird Sanctuary	Dig more pools in western meadow to prevent drying out
59	36	Bird Sanctuary	Continue to increase reedbed through selective felling of birch & willow along NW edge of pond
59	6	Bird Sanctuary	Cut eastern dry area to prevent scrub encroachment in autumn/early winter
59	36	Bird Sanctuary	Cut eastern wet meadow late winter
59	6	Bird Sanctuary	Cut north western rough meadow to prevent succession. Keep some rosebay willowherb and maintain a bramble fringe. Autumn cut followed by late spring and mid-summer cut.
59	6	Bird Sanctuary	Cut rough meadow to the north of the reedbed late winter/early spring.
59	6	Bird Sanctuary	Late cut and early summer cut to grass area surrounding bird feeders to maintain as grassland

59	H6	Bird Sanctuary	Consider opening up viewing window again from corner nearest Millfield toilets
59	Access	Bird Sanctuary	Open up 1-2 new sightlines from western section towards reeds.
60	50	Southern slopes of Parliament Hill	Continue experimental regime of cutting selected areas of thistle monthly in season

## Hampstead Heath Extension

Map ref.	Policy nos.	Location	Description of work
61	Access	Heath Extension, path edges	Rough cut throughout growing season
61	7	Heath Extension meadows	Late cut to meadows in general
61	6, 50	Heath Extension meadows	Removal of thistles, ragwort and seedling trees
61	20	Heath Extension meadows	Development of scalloped edges between mown and long grass
61	4, 20	Heath Extension meadows	Reduction in the amount of bramble & some thistle where prolific on edges
62	6	Meadow above changing rooms	Hand grub tree seedlings and saplings
62	6	Meadow above changing rooms	Cut back bramble 2m if expanding into meadow
62	9	Meadow above changing rooms	Cut back raspberry to try and control it. Prevent it spreading into the grassland.
63	6, 7	Ikin's Corner meadow	Clear scrub and bramble to protect broad-leaved helleborine, then maintain
63	6, 8	Ikin's Corner meadow	Cut grassland every 2 years - next cut 2014
63	6, 9	Ikin's Corner meadow	Cut bramble growing either side of hedge running down to ponds, including twice in growing season
64	7	New hockey pitch	Top 50% thistle along hedgerow on west of grassland
64	7	New hockey pitch	Maintain scalloped edge to bramble & close-mown grass
65	7	Meadow west of children's play area	Top 80% thistle along east hedge
66	6	Meadow Lower & Upper Wield Field (formerly Meadow 308)	Reduce peripheral bramble. Target encroachment along north edge & remove seedling tree encroachment into meadow.
66	Access	Meadow Lower & Upper Wield Field (formerly Meadow 308)	Maintain horse ride and reinstate signposting
67	50	Meadow at North Point (far NE corner of Extension)	Hand pull or cut 80% thistle
67	7	Meadow at North Point (far NE corner of Extension)	Late annual cut leaving refuges

67	20	Meadow at North Point (far NE corner of Extension)	Develop scalloped edge between mown & uncut grass
67	7, 47	Meadow at North Point (far NE corner of Extension)	Cut & monitor three trial grassland management strips, cutting e.g. April/May; July; July then late
67	29	Meadow at North Point (far NE corner of Extension)	Cut hawthorn hedge
68	4	Eastern edge of Extension	Maintain cut grass strip at base of privet hedges at rear of private gardens
69	4, 16, 18	Damp triangle	Allow to develop as rough grassland dotted with trees and shrubs, which will in future be coppiced
70	16	Copse of aspen saplings	Weed as required. Keep free of everything except aspens. Do not thin aspens.
71	20	Hedge between cricket & football pitches	Retain 4m bramble/grassland fringe to hedge, leaving some wide sections clear to give occasional access to stream
72	6	Hedge between horse ride & junior cricket field	Hand grub tree seedlings and saplings in uncut area & allow habitat to improve for meadow ants. Cut around hills
72	6	Hedge between horse ride & junior cricket field	Cut thistle areas thistles to east and west in July to stop spread into area of ant hills
73	46	Large cricket field	Maintain native black poplar saplings at lower north corner of field
73	46	Large cricket field	Plant two more native black poplar saplings at lower north corner of field
74	16, 18	Old wood banks to east of Extension ponds	Remove holly if supressing young trees & alder stools along wood bank edge
75	H6	Near damp patch	Maintain viewing windows on both sides to give more view of stream
76	9	Wild flower area west of ponds	Clear and re-sow with an annual meadow mix. Remove fence in late spring/summer once establishment adequate
77	30	Extension Hedges	Lay 50m of hedgerow to north of Cricket pitches alongside stream.
78	4, 7	Extension Ponds	Maintain damp meadow by late winter/ early spring cut & clear from W edge of ponds 2-7, Feb or early March. See management plan for location.
78	6, 16	Extension Ponds	Cut/coppice scrub & grub bramble from N, S, E &W edge of pond 1 to maintain low scrub & wildflower area & prevent encroachment into pond. Remove fallen hawthorn. See management plan for location
78	H6	Extension Ponds	Prune recently layed hedge along No.2 pond. Relay 2022.
78	16	Extension Ponds	Selectively coppice shrub islands on 10 yr. cycle to maintain thick vegetation. Coppice 1 island/yr. See management plan for location
78	29, 30	Extension Ponds	Lay or thicken short hedge section running from pond 1 east towards Wildwood road.
78	36	Extension Ponds	Maintain open water by removing 50%-75% emergent vegetation from ponds 2-6 approx. every 10 years. Spread arisings along ground to west of ponds 4-6. Maintain minimum 50% open water. Pond 3 2013/14, pond 4 2015,

			Pond 6 2018, ponds 2& 5 2020.
78	50	Extension Ponds	Remove New Zealand Pigmyweed, <i>Crassula helmsii</i> , from pond 5 and any other ponds where it is present
78	47	Extension Ponds	Monitor dragonflies
78	41	Extension Ponds	Remove silt from ponds 1 & 7 by dredging sediment. Engineers department
78	Access	Extension Ponds	Maintain views to ponds in small sections of east and west sides through summer coppicing of vegetation.
78	46	Path edge near to Extension No.1 pond	Ensure marsh woundwort population is protected and maintained.
79	29, 30	Extension hedge north of cricket nets, south section	Lay west side to retain hedgerow character and preserve any remaining hedgerow shrubs
80	29, 30	Extension, near north-east corner	Lay west half of hedge and gap up

## West and Sandy Heaths and Judges Hollow

Map ref.	Policy nos.	Location	Description of work
81	2, 7	Flagstaff	Regular cut, but with midsummer window to allow flowering of wildflowers
81	H6	Flagstaff	Maintain view from benches towards Harrow
82	13, 14	Flagstaff gorse patch	Coppice a section of gorse on 12 year rotation and remove seedlings sycamore, oak and birch in compartment. Section 2 in 2014. Follow-up bramble removal in spring/summer needed
82	13, 14	Flagstaff gorse patch	Plant any open areas with gorse
82	13, 14	Flagstaff gorse patch	Follow up management of recently expanded area of gorse. Section 1- Revisit section to remove any returning scrub or bramble growth. Replant any failed gorse.
82	Access, safety	Flagstaff gorse patch	Coppice 1-2m strip of gorse from either side of main east-west track to maintain access and firebreak
83	13	Heath lands, next to Jack Straws car park	Late annual cut, leaving refuges
84	7, 9	Meadow below Pergola	Create wildflower meadow area
85	13, 14	Heather stand on slope by Hill garden middle gate (old section of Pergola)	Weed existing heather & grow on gorse seedlings for future planting. Cut area as required with high cut to maintain as low heathland.
85	13, 50	Heather stand on slope by Hill garden middle gate (old section of Pergola)	Control bracken
86	46, 50	Area opposite Hill Garden main gate, adjacent to North End Way	Remove bramble & bracken encroaching on lily-of-the-valley & grassland
86	13	Inverforth Close/Hill Garden heather	Weed and maintain heather.

		site	
86	14, 15	Inverforth Close/Hill Garden heather site	Cut perimeter of area 2-3 times to prevent bramble and scrub encroachment.
86	14	Inverforth Close/Hill Garden heather site	Increase area of heathland/acid grassland through selective tree and scrub removal from eastern edge
87	13	Drying Ground	Coppice or lift gorse growing over heather surrounding gorse patch. Weed & maintain heather on slopes
87	15	Drying Ground	Maintain open aspect under pines by bramble & scrub removal
87	14	Drying Ground	Continue to Increase area of Heathland/acid grassland through selective tree and scrub removal southern slopes towards hollow. Rake or scrape off heavy areas of leaf mulch.
87	6, 14, 15	Drying Ground	Cut open area down to hollow to prevent scrub regrowth and establish grassland
88	7	Grass Square opposite Bull & Bush public house	Late cut to grass, removing cuttings. Cut away from road edge.
88	50	Grass Square opposite Bull & Bush public house	Control knotweed
89	29	Cuttings Path	Maintain hedge and prevent encroachment
89	7	Cuttings Path	Maintain grass bank with late annual cut
89	16, 19	Cuttings Path	Maintain sightlines and open aspect along length of path
90	50	Heather adjacent to main path leading through West Heath 50m in from Dump	Control bracken on slope adjacent to area
90	14, 15	Heather adjacent to main path leading through West Heath 50m in from Dump	Weed heather 2 to 3 times yearly.
90	4, 6	Heather adj. main path leading through West Heath 50m in from Dump	Regular cuts of newly opened grass areas to prevent scrub encroachment.
91	39, 40	Leg of Mutton Pond	Cut back holly & coppice/pollard selective trees from pond banks, on 4-year rotation to allow light to penetrate marginal areas. Prevent regrowth in areas of good emergent vegetation. 1 side a year
91	39	Leg of Mutton Pond	Removal of tree and scrub cover shading out marginal vegetation, particularly on north side
91	39	Leg of Mutton Pond	Remove willow and birch scrub growing in reedbed. Cut back/grub out bramble encroachment from edges
91	36	Leg of Mutton Pond	Dig out dryer areas of northern marsh to encourage spread of reedbed.
91	36	Leg of Mutton Pond	Cut reeds every 8 years
92	50	Woodland rear of garden fences (area south-west	Monitor & control Japanese knotweed

		of Leg of Mutton Pond)	
93	16	Main body of West Heath woodland	Develop & increase deadwood habitat piles. Place timber in bramble in shade.
93	16	Main body of West Heath woodland	Maintain open glades through removal of sycamores
93	Access	West Heath roadside	Keep road edge & bollards visible by close-mowing through season
95	7	West Heath meadow	Late cut to lower part of meadow, leaving refuges
96	36, 44, 46	West Heath valley mire (West Heath bog)	Remove encroaching bramble from around dwarf willow & seepage points
96	46	West Heath valley mire (West Heath bog)	Cut Juncus & Glyceria before frosts to allow improved growth of sphagnum species
96	46	West Heath valley mire (West Heath bog)	Try to expand sphagnum through pool re-creation & translocation
96	46	West Heath valley mire (West Heath bog)	Maintain low herbage through regular cutting. Monitor for development of sphagnum.
96	14	West Heath valley mire (West Heath bog)	Regular cut of area between West Heath meadow & bog through removal of scrub & selective lifting & thinning of trees. This will increase area of acid-loving flora such as tormentil.
96	36	West Heath valley mire (West Heath bog)	Increase extent of boggy area through scrub removal from northern seepage point.
97	36	Whitestone Pond	Maintain pond to specification outlined by City Surveyors. Cut reedbed in early spring
98	7, 50	Flat area at top of Judges Hollow, close to flagstaff	Early cut; top thistle within grassland area
99	Access	Lower corner West Heath road/ Branch Hill junction	Maintain sightlines for traffic on lower bend.
99	Access	Lower corner West Heath road/ Branch Hill junction	Cut back road edge from Branch Hill junction down to West Heath meadow if necessary road closure can be obtained.
100	7, 13	Judges Hollow small wooded area & steep slope	Late annual cut to half slope
100	50	Judges Hollow small wooded area & steep slope	An isolated & expanding area of thistle & nettle on edges of bank needs regular cut to prevent expansion into acid grassland
100	50	Judges Hollow	Cut or pull patches of nettle among fine grasses

		lower section & gentle slope	
100	50	Judges Hollow lower section & gentle slope	Selective cut during May & July to reduce aggressive coarse grasses.
100	50	Judges Hollow lower section & gentle slope	Remove bramble & seedling trees encroaching on all open areas
100	50	Judges Hollow area of mature gorse	Remove large turkey oak and any seedling sycamores
100	7	Judges Hollow lime & chestnut avenue	Late cut of grass next to houses.
100	Access	Judges Hollow lime & chestnut avenue	Prune epicormic shoots on limes
101	Access	Path from Spaniards Green to Ikin's Corner	Cut back bramble encroachment
101	20	Sandy Road	Continue cutting 2 coupes/year along ride in 5-year rotation. Sections 1a +5a 2013. 2b + 4b in 2014. See map.
101	20	Sandy Road	Scallop path edge and ride edges during July
102	H1	Cooling Track	Monitor & remove tree seedlings along ditch as necessary
102	7	Cooling Track	Glade opposite Extension top locking bar: late cut at end of season
102	43	Cooling Track	Clear ditch culvert as necessary
103	50	Old Sand Pit, behind Heath House	Remove seedling sycamores
103	Access	Old Sand Pit, behind Heath House	Shape low epicormic growth from lime trees by bench
104	7, 50	Woodland next path & horse chestnut avenue, south of end of North End	Late cut to the Lily of the Valley area to remove bramble & ivy encroachment
104	16	Woodland next path & horse chestnut avenue, south of end of North End	Develop deadwood habitat
105	39	Sandy Heath pond 3	Selectively coppice or remove tree/gorse and scrub cover from the edge of No.3 pond to prevent shading and establishment of large trees. Attempt to establish soft rush in pond margins.
105	4, 14	All Sandy Heath ponds	Remove bramble developing in damp shaded areas & acid grassland
105	36	All Sandy Heath ponds	Remove selected emergent vegetation + sediment to prevent succession & maintain area of open water. Pond 1 in 2013. Do 2014 with mini digger
105	14	All Sandy Heath ponds	Regular cut of grass adjacent pond 4 to establish & maintain acid grassland
105	36	Main Sandy pond	Boom and net duckweed from pond No.2 surface when covering greater than 25% of pond surface
105	14	Sandy Heath grassland	Review removing turkey oaks from selected areas to increase the extent of acid grassland.
107	13, 14	Pitt's Garden	Weed & maintain heather plantings. Remove pine tree



			seedlings & saplings. Remove willow saplings.
107	14, 15	Pitt's Garden	High cut of northern heather section to maintain as low heath and prevent scrub encroachment.
107	14, 15	Pitt's Garden	Cut around heather sections to prevent scrub encroachment
107	16	Pitt's Garden	Remove three pine tree to provide room for the rest to mature
107	13	Pitt's Garden	Keep bramble controlled in areas of gorse
107	Access	Pitt's Garden	Remove wooden fence surrounding the arch
107	H1	Pitt's Garden	Keep listed wall adjacent to North End clear of vegetation.
107	H1, 50	Pitt's Garden	Remove some bramble & buddleia & coppice gorse along top of crib wall bank
107	4	Pitt's Garden	Maintain margins as grassland & prevent scrub encroachment on path by fence adjoining North End Way
107	14	Pitt's Garden	Increase area of potential heathland through removal of selected shrubs and trees from northern section.
108	6	Paddock	Grub tree seedlings & bramble as necessary
108	50	Paddock	Reduce thistles
108	7	Paddock	Early spring cut to 80% of meadow, leaving refuges, & repeat cut in summer, to encourage scabious
108	46	Paddock	Plant scabious plugs around Paddock to encourage spread
109	50	Large (Summer) Meadow	Control majority of Canadian golden rod, Russian comfrey & Michaelmas daisy as required
109	50	Large (Summer) Meadow	Remove non-native tree seedling in peripheral areas of meadow
109	7	Large (Summer) Meadow	Early spring cut (around March) to allow invertebrates to overwinter in dead stems
109	6	Large (Summer) Meadow	Cut back bramble edge on south side by 3m
109	6	Large (Summer) Meadow	Continue to remove saplings coming up through gorse
110	13, 14, 15	Gorse patch	Gorse expansion in section 1(if not done 2013). Remove tree and scrub cover from area. Grub out any bramble. Rake and remove as much top soil as possible. Plant up with potted gorse.
110	13, 14, 15	Gorse patch	Coppice gorse on a 12 year rotation in Section 2. Grub out seedling trees and remove bramble. Plant up any bare/dead patches with potted gorse
110	13	Gorse patch	Follow up management of recently expanded area of gorse. Section 1- Revisit section to remove any returning scrub or bramble growth. Replant any failed gorse.
110	13	Gorse patch	Coppice 1-2m strip of gorse from either side of main east-west track.
110	13, 14, 50	Gorse patch	Control bracken
111	16, 22	Woodland adjacent Spaniard's Road	Develop deadwood habitat
111	16, 23	Woodland adjacent Spaniard's Road	Remove cycle jumps
112	H6	North End Green: corner North End & North End Avenue	Cut bramble beneath trees to open view of Green from North End Avenue.
112	Access	North End Green: corner North End & North End Avenue	Put in new boundary posts adjacent to old ones, leaving the bases of the former rotten posts in the ground for stag beetle larvae and prevent disturbance of newts

112	1	Woodland edge north end Bridle Cottage entrance	Maintain open aspect along Bridle Cottage wall
113	4	Hill above Wylde Farm	Maintain 5m grass verge by cutting twice p.a.
113	H6	Hill above Wylde Farm	Remove small holly regrowth & saplings
113	H6	Hill above Wylde Farm	Cut low bramble on bank in summer
113	Access	Wylde Farm access road	Remove any garden rubbish
113	Access	Wylde farm access road	Strim round bollards throughout season
113	Access	Wylde farm access road	Selectively thin trees growing into road
113	16	Woodland near Wylde Farm	Manage area with pines to encourage these by removing senescent larches and nearby Turkey oaks and planting new Scots pines.

# Arboricultural Works

## Veteran trees

Policy nos.	Location	Description of proposed works
NL13	Selected locations Heath-wide	Management to tranche of next 50 nominated trees from the Veteran Tree Survey.  Proposed works to include:  Haloing adjacent tree canopies Felling selective encroaching trees Retrenchment pruning Cable bracing Dead hedging Mulching Moving paths/targets

## Wild service

Policy nos.	Location	Description of proposed works
NL4	Selected locations Heath-wide	Continue to record new found specimens.  Works to nominated trees  Proposed works to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Haloing adjacent tree canopies</li> <li>• Felling selective encroaching trees</li> <li>• Retrenchment pruning</li> <li>• Dead hedging</li> <li>• Mulching</li> <li>• Moving paths/targets</li> <li>• Planting 4 year old saplings in identified locations</li> <li>• Collecting seed for next tranche of propagation</li> </ul>

## Poplar project

Policy nos.	Location	Description of proposed works
	Selected locations Heath-wide	Survey of entire Poplar population Identification & prioritisation of works required  To include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduction of lapsed pollards</li> <li>• Removal of ivy to aid annual inspection</li> <li>• Removal of significant dead wood and hazard beams</li> </ul>

## Un-programmed and routine tasks

Policy nos.	Location	Description of proposed works
NL14	Selected locations North London Open spaces - wide	<p>Emergency works, to include making safe windblown and recently identified (Arbortrack) unstable and/or decayed trees</p> <p>Felling dead elm regeneration</p> <p>Retrieval of kites and other foreign objects</p> <p>Crown lifting for public/transport access</p> <p>Remedial tree works, to include reduction, felling, pollarding, coppicing &amp; airspading</p> <p>These works produced from Arbortrack Tree Risk Sequencing Inspections.</p> <p>Pest and disease monitoring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inspect for disease and pests within tree populations, including;</li> <li>• Massaria</li> <li>• Oak Processionary Moth (pheromone trapping)</li> <li>• Chalara fraxinea – (Ash die back)</li> <li>• &amp; AOD (Acute Oak Decline)</li> </ul>

## Additional Works

Policy nos.	Location	Description of proposed works
HY1	Burnham Beeches	Veteran beech pollard restoration
	Haringey & Camden	Working Party – assisting neighbouring Local authorities to carry out woodland conservation & veteran tree management
	Selected locations North London Open spaces - wide	Assisting with various arboricultural operations when required on CBT projects
	Selected locations North London Open spaces – wide	Flood Management: assisting and advising on arboricultural operations on dam structures on Highgate and Hampstead chains

# Formal Areas

## Parliament Hill Fields

### Routine Cyclical Maintenance 2014

<b>Policy nos.</b>	<b>Area</b>	<b>Description</b>
S1, S2, S7	1 Cricket Square and Outfield	Maintain cricket table and outfield which will include mowing, preparation and re-instatement of individual wickets, rolling, fertilising and irrigation. Priority will be given to non-chemical control methods. Inspect and maintain cricket practice nets.
S1, S2, S7	1 Cricket Square and Outfield	End of season renovation of cricket table to include deep scarification, solid tine aeration, top-dressing with surrey loam, over seeding with dwarf perennial rye grass, disease and weed control. Priority will be given to non-chemical control methods.
NL4, NL6	Woodland planting in cricket enclosure	Pruning management of blackthorn, hawthorn, rosa, buckthorn plantings along East and Southern boundary of cricket enclosure.
S1, S2, S7	Bowling Green / Croquet	Liaise with licensee of the Bowling Green and offer advice and support throughout the year.
S1, S2, S7	Formal grass sports areas: 2 football pitches 1 rugby training grid 6 schools training grids 1 soft ball area 5 rounder areas 4 mini football training grids	Maintain grass sports pitches and training grids which will include marking out, setting out goal posts, mowing; preparation and re-instatement of individual areas and fertilising. Routine checking of goal post will be completed by daily inspections.  Priority will be given to non-chemical control methods. Maintain and foster close working relationships with neighbouring schools and encouraging usage of facilities.
S1, S2, S7, S8	Formal grass sports areas: 2 football pitches 1 rugby training grid 6 schools training grids 1 soft ball area 5 rounder areas 4 mini football training grids	Renovation of grass pitches and grids to include aeration to overcome surface compaction, top-dressing and over-seeding centre circle and goal mouth areas.  Repairing and checking goal posts, nets and sockets.  Priority will be given to non-chemical control methods.
S1, S2, S7, S8	Class A Listed Athletics Track	Daily inspection of track (including hammer cage / pole vault, long jump and javelin run-ups / high jump fan / shot putt landing area / throwing areas etc. to check for debris and wear and tear. Check sand depth and quality and replace as necessary. Keep abreast with current UKA regulation changes.  Routine checking of hurdles / landing mats / hammer wires / throwing equipment / pole vault and high jump stands and bars / judges stand / starting blocks / flags / relay batons.  Replacement and repair as necessary. Setting out of track for meetings and training events (including schools). Ensuring the changing facilities including toilets are in a clean and tidy state on a daily basis. Maintain grass centre area and routinely replace divots.
S1, S2,	Petanque Area	Daily checking of Petanque area to include debris removal,

<b>Policy nos.</b>	<b>Area</b>	<b>Description</b>
S7		raking and replacement of topdressing material as necessary. Continual monitoring of weed and moss growth. Priority will be given to non-chemical control methods.
S1, S2, S7	10 Hard Tennis Courts	Maintain courts to include daily inspections for debris, vegetation, wear and tear. Daily checking of nets and fencing. Management of bookings from 1 April to 31 September and also weekend bookings from 01 October to 31 March. Monitor open access during the winter season. Priority will be given to non-chemical control methods for the control of moss and algae.
P1	Informal Recreation Areas Dukes Field Stone of Free Speech Bandstand Grass Surrounds Children's Enclosure.	Grass cutting of individual grass recreational areas a minimum once every seven days. Daily collection of litter, debris and dog faeces. During Spring & Summers term times place temporary bins on Dukes Filed & Stone for Free Speech. Re-instate as necessary.
NL3	Natural Grassland Areas in Parliament Hill	Management of existing recently developed natural grass areas (front of Lido) to encourage flora and fauna and extend the natural aspects of the Heath into this municipal area.
NL3	Natural Grassland Areas in Parliament Hill	Cut and collection of designated areas on a three yearly cycle. All cut grass to be baled and removed.
D1	Recently planted Specimen Trees – Dukes Field / Stone of Free Speech	Maintain specimen trees to include irrigation, pruning for vigour, form, safety, weed and disease control, checking of tree stakes. Priority will be given to non-chemical control methods.
B4	Male / Female / Disable Public Toilets	Ensure daily cleaning of toilets and regular checks. Replenish toilet rolls and soap on an hourly basis during peak times. Arrange for one deep clean in March/April.
D1	Mixed Boarders in Bowling Green	Maintain boarders to include mulching, routine, formative and regenerative pruning. Non-chemical weed and disease control via hoeing and removal or pruning out dead plants or branches. Hand irrigation if necessary. Priority will be given to non-chemical control methods.
NL6	Hedge Rows at Highgate Road, Tennis Courts and Bowling Green	Cut hawthorn hedges (outside of bird nesting season) to an appropriate height to encourage vigour, density and maintain views.
P3 B8	Memorial Benches / Litter bins / Tennis Hut Shelter / Tennis Huts	Repair, re-stain or re-paint benches. Remove graffiti and bird droppings as required.
B8	Footpaths, Signage, Fences	Footpaths, signage, fences will be checked on a daily basis and repairs carried out as and when required. Grass edging will be carried out during the growing season and wooden edging boards repaired as necessary.
P1	Routine patrolling of Parliament Hill Area	Visual presence will be maintained by Keeping staff during opening hours. Staff will interface with the public and hand out information answer queries and monitor bye-laws as necessary. Assist the Hampstead Heath Constabulary with emergency situation, for example lost children, lost dogs and vulnerable people.
	Christmas Tree	Sighting and later, dismantling of Christmas Tree by main Highgate Road entrance.
A8	Heath Hands Volunteers	Provide a programme for Heath Hand volunteers for the horticulture projects and works undertaken at the Parliament Hill area.
P8	Filming	Manage events to ensure that there is no long-term damage to

Policy nos.	Area	Description
		the landscape and minimise disruption to local communities.

### Parliament Hill Project - 2014

B14	Ball / Bull Path Gateway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remove hedging at Tennis Hut Lawn, Highgate Road Petanque side and close-up pedestrian gap on Highgate Road.</li> <li>Plant up new orchard consisting of rare British natives.</li> <li>Replace metal bollards with wooden bollards.</li> <li>Clad Keepers house at entrance with rustic wood.</li> <li>Install bicycle stands and square gravel sets.</li> </ul>
B14	Shrub bed entrance to Ladies Toilets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remove metal fencing</li> <li>Retain existing tree and replant with native species.</li> </ul>
NL6	Children's Play Ground	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refresh soil and replant containers.</li> <li>Install education interpretation boards designed for children.</li> </ul>
NL6	Established Highgate Road Boundary & Bowling Green Hawthorn Hedge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce height of hedge by 0.25m to improve hedge vigour; air circulation around green and reduce the events of persons working at height.</li> <li>Gap up with mixed hedge planting.</li> </ul>
NL6	One year old hedge planting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Re-plant failed natural hedge whips around tennis courts 5-10.</li> </ul>
NL6	Lissenden Gardens Shrub Boarder Entrance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Removing sections of non-native species and replanting with native species, including bulbs.</li> <li>Hard pruning of native species to encourage new growth.</li> </ul>
NL6	Parliament Hill Café & surrounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Replace rotten wooden container in front of café building and plant up with native species.</li> <li>Review and replace table and chairs – seek detailed design approval from Consultative &amp; Management Committee before installation.</li> </ul>
NL6	Football Changing Rooms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Re-landscape back of building looking at Savernake Bridge.</li> </ul>
NL6	Bowling Green – Mixed boarders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Replant heathers plants.</li> <li>Review boarder to ensure all round seasonal interest.</li> <li>Remove conifer by first gate.</li> </ul>
	Fossil Fuel Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manage the operation of Parliament Hill two days per year where no fossil fuel is to be used (excluding heating, contractors, café and emergency services).</li> </ul>

## Golders Hill Park, Hill Garden and the Pergola (Includes sports areas on the Heath Extension and Keats House)

### Routine Cyclical Maintenance 2014

<b>Policy nos.</b>	<b>Area</b>	<b>Description</b>
S1, S2, S7	Heath Extension 2 Cricket Squares & Outfield	Maintain cricket table and outfield which will include mowing; preparation and re-instatement of individual wickets, rolling, fertilising and irrigation. Priority will be given to non-chemical control methods. Inspect and maintain 2 cricket practice nets.
S1, S2, S7	Heath Extension 2 Cricket Squares and Outfield	End of season renovation of cricket table to include deep scarification, solid tine aeration, top-dressing with surrey loam, over seeding with dwarf perennial rye grass, disease and weed control. Priority will be given to non-chemical control methods.  Erect post and chain fence during off season.
S1, S2, S7	Heath Extension Grass Sports Areas: 3 football pitches / 2 rugby pitches / Hockey Pitch / 1 school running track 2 cricket nets	Maintain grass sports areas which will include marking and setting out goal posts, mowing; preparation and re-instatement of individual areas and fertilising. Priority will be given to non-chemical control methods.  Maintain and foster close working relationships with sports and leisure administration officer, and encourage usage of the facilities with sports clubs and neighbouring schools.  One rugby pitch has been temporary re-located during National Grid works for another season
S1, S2, S7	Heath Extension Sports: 3 football pitches 2 rugby pitches 1Hockey Pitch 1 school running track	Renovation of grass pitches to include aeration to overcome surface compaction, top-dressing and over-seeding centre circle and goal mouth areas. Repairing and checking goal posts, nets and sockets.
S1, S2, S7	Heath Extension 6 Changing Rooms 2 Officials Rooms	Provide clean, well-maintained facilities to schools and sports clubs all year round. Facilities to be routinely cleaned.
S1, S2, S7	Heath Extension Informal Recreational Grass	Grass cutting of informal recreational areas a minimum once every seven days. Daily collection of litter, debris and dog faeces.
B4	Public Toilets - Golders Hill Park x 2	Ensure daily cleaning of toilets and regular checks. Replenish toilet rolls and soap on an hourly basis during peak times. Arrange for one deep clean in March/April.
A1	Golders Hill Park / Heath Extension / Pergola Routine patrolling	Visual presence will be maintained by Keeping staff during opening hours. Staff will interface with the public and hand out information answer queries and monitor bye-laws as necessary. Assist the Hampstead Heath Constabulary with emergency situation, for example lost children, lost dogs and vulnerable people.
S1, S2, S7	Golders Hill Park 2 Grass Tennis Courts 2 Croquet Squares 1 Putting Green 2 Table tennis tables	Maintain grass tennis courts and croquet squares to include twice weekly mowing, monthly verti-cutting, aeration, fertilising, disease, weed, moss control. Priority will be given to non-chemical control methods. Irrigation, divot repairs and marking out and rotation of



<b>Policy nos.</b>	<b>Area</b>	<b>Description</b>
		individual courts.
S1, S2, S7	Golders Hill Park 2 Grass Tennis Courts 1 Croquet Square 1 Putting Green 2 Table tennis tables	End of season renovation of grass tennis courts, putting green and croquet lawns to include scarification, aeration, topdressing, over seeding with bent & fescues mix. Disease, weed and moss control. Priority will be given to non-chemical control methods, for example, daily dew removal to discourage disease outbreaks and dispersal of worm casts.
S1, S2, S7	Golders Hill Park 4 Hard Tennis Courts	Maintain four hard tennis courts to include daily inspections for debris, vegetation, wear and tear. Daily checking of nets and fencing. Taking of tennis booking from 1 April to 31 September and also weekend bookings from 01 October to 31 March. Monitor open access during the winter season. Priority will be given to non-chemical control methods for control of moss and algae.
NL3	Golders Hill Park Natural Grassland Areas / Orchard Meadow / Dell Area / Swan Pond	Management of natural grass areas to encourage flora and fauna. Pathways cut through on a weekly basis and areas are "framed".
NL3	Golders Hill Park Natural Grassland Areas Orchard Meadow / Dell Area	Late September annual cut and collection - all grass cuttings to be re-cycled. Followed by two general maintenance cuts before end of November.
D1, NL10	Sustainable Planting in Walled Garden	Maintain sustainable plantings to include lifting and dividing, irrigation, staking, pest, weed and disease control - priority will be given to non-chemical control methods. Maintain and update interpretation boards and other media
D1	Golders Hill Park / Hill Garden, Pergola / Kitchen Garden / Keats House: Specimen Tree Management	Maintain specimen trees to include irrigation, pruning for vigour, form, safety, pest, weed and disease control, checking of tree stakes. Priority will be given to non-chemical control methods.
D1	Golders Hill Park / Hill Garden, Pergola, Kitchen Garden / Keats House Shrub Bed Management	Maintain shrub beds to include mulching, routine formative and regenerative pruning. Non-chemical weed and disease control via hoeing and removal or pruning out dead plants or branches. Hand irrigation if necessary. Priority will be given to non-chemical control methods.
NL6	Golders Hill Park / Hill Garden, Pergola, Kitchen Garden / Keats House Hedge Management	Cut hedges to an appropriate height to encourage vigour, density and maintain views. Hedges include Privet, Hornbeam, Yew, Buxus, Holly, Copper Beech, and Lonicera. Priority will always be given to the bird nesting season.
D1	Golders Hill Park Hanging Baskets by Café / Planting Tubs / Spot planting in boarders	Install hanging baskets and other seasonal planting areas maintenance to include weed & disease control, dead-heading, fertilising and daily irrigation. Priority will be given to non-chemical control methods.
E1,E3 P1	Golders Hill Park / Heath Extension Children's Play Areas	Children's play areas will be formally checked by qualified keeper on a weekly basis. Daily visual inspections will be carried out by keeping staff. Annual external playground inspections will be carried out by ROSPA.
E1,3 P1, 10	Golders Hill Park Zoo	Recommendations from the London Borough of Barnet's licensing authority will be adhered to. Links will be pro-actively maintained through BIAZA (British and Irish Association of Zoos and Aquariums) and via the Zoo ethics committee which meets twice per year.
E1, E3 P1, P10,	Golders Hill Park Zoo	Maintain all livestock and enclosures within the zoo to the animal welfare and husbandry standards as required by the

<b>Policy nos.</b>	<b>Area</b>	<b>Description</b>
NL10		<p>Zoo licensing Act.</p> <p>Monitor and maintain all enclosures and housing infrastructure within the zoo, to ensure safety and continued suitability. reporting any defects that may require attention.</p> <p>Liaise regularly with the zoo veterinarian to ensure the health of all the livestock within the zoo.</p> <p>Prepare for and attend bi-annual zoo ethics meetings.</p> <p>Ensure grass levels and general foliage within the animal enclosures is kept at a presentable level throughout the year. Areas left uncut to encourage natural animal behaviour e.g. foraging</p> <p>Promote the zoo to members of the public through advertised feeds, talks, donkey walks and animal adoption scheme.</p> <p>Continue to work towards the approved collection plan for the zoo. This includes the sourcing of new animals for the zoo as well as research into new enclosures and livestock.</p> <p>Maintain interpretation boards and other media</p>
E1,E3 P1, NL10	Golders Hill Park Butterfly House	<p>Full access to the Butterfly House will be available to the public during opening hours.</p> <p>Friday 4 April 2014 to Sunday 7 September 2014, 2-4pm every day.</p> <p>Saturday 13 September 2014 to Sunday 26 October 2014, 2-4pm, Saturday and Sunday only.</p> <p>27 October 2014 to April 2015 - CLOSED FOR WINTER PERIOD.</p> <p>The facility will be maintained in accordance with good husbandry practice.</p> <p>Maintain interpretation boards and other media</p>
B8	Golders Hill Park / Heath Extension / Pergola Memorial Benches / Gazebo / Litter bins	<p>Repair and re-stain benches and remove graffiti and bird droppings as and when required.</p> <p>Annual clean and re-painting of gazebo.</p>
P3	Golders Hill Park / Heath Extension / Hill Garden, Pergola, Kitchen Garden Litter	All areas to be litter picked daily. Litter bins to be emptied daily.
B8	Golders Hill Park / Heath Extension / Hill Garden, Pergola, Kitchen Garden / Keats House Footpaths, Signage, Fences	<p>Footpaths, signage, fences will be checked on a daily basis and repairs carried out as and when required.</p> <p>Wooden edging boards repaired as necessary.</p> <p>Wooden edging to be replaced with steel metal edging over a 20 year period.</p>
	Golders Hill Park Christmas Tree	Erection and, later, dismantling of Christmas tree by main North End Road entrance.
A8	Golders Hill Park / Hill Garden, Pergola, Kitchen Garden / Keats House/Butterfly House Heath Hands Volunteers	Provide a programme for Heath Hand volunteers for the horticulture projects and works undertaken at the various locations across the Heath.
HY1 NL5	Golders Hill Park / Heath Extension	Maintain ditches and water courses. Grid clearance to be carried out during inclement weather.

Policy nos.	Area	Description
	Ditch Management	All ditches to be maintained as specified in Corporation of London hydrology policy.
A1 D3	Children's Entertainment / Bandstand Concerts / Open House / Open Squares	Overseeing of children's education / interpretation / Open House & Square events, bandstand concerts etc.
HY1, NL5	Golders Hill Park Ponds and Streams	Quarterly maintenance of pond pumps and filters. Daily inspection of overflows and safety equipment. Management of vegetation on pond edges.
P8	Filming	Manage filming events on the Heath to ensure that there is no long-term damage to the landscape and minimise disruption to local communities.

### Golders Hill Park Project - 2014

E1,3 P1, 10	Golders Hill Park Zoo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Retain five year Zoo licence in accordance with Zoo Licensing Act 1981</li> </ul>
NL5, NL9, NL10	Stumpery Phase 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plant up stumpery in accordance with agreed October 2013 Management Committee report.</li> <li>Continue last 25meter stretch of dead hedging.</li> <li>Cover sand bags in stream with ground cover plants.</li> <li>Explore the installation of a pump to re-cycle water in stream.</li> <li>Install and update interpretation boards and other media.</li> </ul>
P1	Children's Play Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Research and install new additional play equipment.</li> </ul>
NL5, NL9, NL10	Outside Education Educational Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creation of a small section of Green Wall</li> </ul>
D1	Keats House	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Additional planting to Keats House – subject to monies being available.</li> </ul>
D1, NL5	Lily Pond	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plant native Water-Lily (Nuphat lutea and Nymphaea alba) and monitor their establishment. Wire protection is needed following 2013 failing due to water fowl.</li> </ul>
D1	Hill Garden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Re-plant shrub borders following final phase wall repairs.</li> <li>Following consultation and agreement from Tree Officer seek to remove six self set trees to improve light levels to planting below.</li> </ul>
	Fossil Fuel Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manage the operation of Golders Hill Park two days per year where no fossil fuel is to be used (excluding heating, contractors, café and emergency services).</li> </ul>
D1, NL6	Yew Hedge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Replace dying hedge in Walled Garden with Buxus to tie in with rest of the Wall Garden.</li> </ul>
	Table Tennis Table & Children's Play Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Install tiger mulch surfacing around tables – similar to pathway surface in playground by bowling green and section of worn grass at bottle neck in Children's Play Area.</li> </ul>
	Waste Dump Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review layout of the space to improve security and efficiency of site</li> </ul>
	Poppy Field	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As part of World War One centenary create a poppy area in the Swan Pond.</li> </ul>

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**Map 1**  
**Hampstead Heath Annual Work Programme 2014**  
**Key to conservation work locations**

Cities Revealed aerial photography Copyright The GeoInformation Group 2010



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<b>Committee(s):</b>	<b>Date(s):</b>
Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee	20 January 2013
<b>Subject:</b> Fees and Charges Report	<b>Public</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Superintendent of Hampstead Heath	<b>For Discussion</b>
<p><b>Summary</b></p> <p>This report sets out the proposed fees and charges for a range of facilities and services provided at Hampstead Heath for 2014/15. It includes the Charging policy developed by the Sports Advisory Forum and its future application in terms of developing a differentiated approach to setting charges for the wide range of sports and recreational activities on the Heath.</p> <p><b>Recommendation(s)</b></p> <p>That the views of the Committee be received on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the proposed fees and charges for 2014/15; and</li> <li>• the Charging Policy and framework that is being developed to implement a differentiated approach to setting charges for the wide range of sports and recreational activities on the Heath.</li> </ul>	

## **Main Report**

### **Background**

1. Charges for the wide range of recreation and sporting facilities that are provided in all the City's open spaces are traditionally reviewed annually. The current charges for 2013/14 for Hampstead Heath were approved by the Management Committee in November 2012.

### **Current Position**

2. Weather conditions during the past year have been very favourable, June and July were exceptionally hot months and many of the facilities, particularly the bathing ponds attracted many thousands of visitors during that period. Conditions at the Lido became so busy that for the first time in several years the facility had to close early.
3. For the period April – September 2013 inclusive the following income levels have been achieved across sports and recreation facilities:

Facility	Income Estimate (£)	Income for period April – September 2012 (exc. VAT) (£)	Income for period April – September 2013 (exc. VAT) (£)
Athletics Track	15,000	14,200	14,500
Cricket	5,000	7,600	11,950
Lido	125,000	142,300	245,500
Bathing Ponds	80,000	34,800	39,900
Tennis	37,000	56,300	68,200
TOTAL	262,000	255,200	380,050

NB. Invoices for rugby and football have been raised but income is recorded for the third and fourth quarter periods.

## Charging Policy

4. At your meeting in November 2012 officers reported that the Sports Advisory Forum had commenced work on reviewing the current basis for setting charges. In the past this has focussed on utilising benchmarks in isolation from other criteria or inflating prices in accordance with national indices. This approach was noted as being fairly crude in terms of what issues influence people's choices to pay to use a service.
5. The Forum has now prepared a Charging Policy (see attached Appendix 1) that is based on adopting a differentiated approach to charging, that recognises that each sport or activity should have charges set reflecting price sensitivity of what individuals are prepared to pay that are influenced by:
  - their ability to pay – how charges relate to an individual's level of disposable income;
  - perceptions of value for money – whether charges are judged to provide value for money for the level of service being offered and influenced by the extent to which service is deemed to be a necessity, or a choice; and
  - the availability of alternatives – whether the same or similar services can be obtained from other public, private or voluntary sector providers at lower cost or with greater value.
6. Other factors that affect price sensitivity are accessibility, awareness, attitudes and quality of provision. In addition the Forum has considered which priority groups the Heath should be targeting in terms of increasing use. These are set out in the policy.
7. Two examples are given in Appendix 2 setting out how the policy would be applied to individual sports. It is hoped that for 2015/16 the Forum will have had the opportunity to look in detail at four specific sports:
  - Athletics



- Cricket
  - Football
  - Tennis
8. In addition to the Charging Policy it is also important to confirm the current Concessionary Policy, ensuring that there is consistency of approach across sites. This policy was adopted in 2004 when the Department last undertook a major review of charges:
- young people aged 16 years or younger
  - full time students and those on Modern Apprenticeship schemes
  - senior citizens over state pensionable age
  - individuals on low incomes in receipt of means tested benefit
  - Individuals receiving “carer’s allowance”
  - holders of “Blue Badges”
9. As part of the work of the Sports Advisory Forum it is proposed to review the level of discount applicable to each of the various concessions and also to specific priority groups.

### **Proposed Charges 2014/15**

10. The Charging Policy has taken some time to develop and it has not been possible this year to utilise the framework above to develop charges for 2014/15. In line with discussions at the Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queen’s Park Management Committee the fees and charges for 2012/13 were rounded where appropriate to the nearest 50pence. It has been custom to increase figures by Retail Price Index which at October 2013 was 2.6%. A view was taken last year to retain the lower fees and charges at their current rates to avoid the problems of having to manage increases of 5p or 10p. With inflation still relatively low, discretion has again been taken on increasing the lower charges significantly at this point.
11. The proposed increases in charges for sports and recreational facilities during 2014/15 are set out in Appendix 3.

### **Corporate & Strategic Implications**

12. The current management policy plan states at policy 78 that: “recreational facilities will be managed in a way which recognises the right and ability of everyone to use and enjoy the Heath ...” The proposals set out in this report contain a range of charges with concessionary rates which have been assessed against other local providers.
13. The provision of a wide range of recreational and sporting facilities meets the current Business Plan strategic aim of ‘promoting opportunities to value and

enjoy the outdoors for recreation, learning and healthy living'. Access for all to facilities that help improve fitness and promote healthy lifestyles particularly obesity in young people is an important objective.

## **Implications**

14. Further works are proposed during 2014 to apply the Charging Policy set out in this report to develop a more sophisticated approach to setting charges for sports and recreational facilities.

## **Conclusion**

15. The development of a Charging policy will enable different sports and recreation activities to have differentiated charges recognising price sensitivities in relation to a framework that ensures that identified priority groups have the ability to access facilities to maximise their use.

## **Appendices**

- Appendix 1 – Charging Policy
- Appendix 2 – Examples of How the Charging Policy will be Applied
- Appendix 3 – Proposed Fees and Charges for 2014/15

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**APPENDIX 1**  
**HAMPSTEAD HEATH**  
**Charging Policy**

**Introduction**

Hampstead Heath offers opportunities for people to participate in a wide range of informal and formal sports and recreational activities, from bowling to croquet to swimming.

“What is the right price for activities?” appears a straight forward question but it disguises a very complex challenge. There are a large number of factors that affect charging that need to be considered. The diagram appended to this policy prepared by the Audit commission illustrates many of these competing and often controversial issues that need to be considered in developing a robust framework for setting charges.

Over recent years the City has used comparative prices for other local/equivalent services as a means of benchmarking prices for sports and recreational activities, which are then increased by inflation annually. Whilst this approach provides a means of assessing broad charges it hasn't addressed the more strategic question about what principles should underpin our charging policy.

**Objectives Underpinning the Charging Policy**

The City utilises charges to achieve a number of service objectives, these are set out below, in no order of priority:

- Maximising the use of the services and promoting the benefits of Club membership;
- Encouraging participation by all, but particularly young people, in healthy outdoor activities;
- Enabling access for all, recognising that some people have less ability to pay for services;
- Pay for some or all of the cost of providing the service (where costs can be attributed to delivery of the service);
- Ration use of a service where demand exceeds supply, particularly at peak times of use.

**What Factors Influence Use**

A major factor that determines the impact of charges on service use is the price sensitivity for current and potential service users. People will have different levels of price sensitivity, influenced by:

- Their ability to pay – how charges relate to an individual's level of disposable income;
- Perceptions of value for money – whether charges are judged to provide value for money for the level of service being offered and influenced by the extent to which service is deemed to be a necessity, or a choice; and

- The availability of alternatives – whether the same or similar services can be obtained from other public, private or voluntary sector providers at lower cost or with greater value.

Price sensitivity of what individuals are prepared to pay influences what priorities the Heath have in terms of meeting its charging objectives for delivering sport and recreation activities. Other factors that also influence individuals' use of services are:

- Accessibility – how easy is it for individuals to access services, for example, availability of local transport or the extent of opening hours.
- Awareness – whether people know what services are available (from which providers) and what benefits they might derive from using them.
- Attitudes – the beliefs and values of individuals particularly in relation to their personal rights and social responsibilities, for example, whether they believe they have a right to drive a car regardless of the environmental impact, or whether they consider they have a social responsibility to use more sustainable forms of transport
- Quality – whether people consider that the quality of provision offered in terms of customer care, standards of cleanliness of the facility, level of service and also condition of the asset itself in relation to its use and adherence to any governing body certification requirements.

### **Priority Groups**

In developing the charging policy it is important to be clear about which priority groups the Heath should be targeting in terms of increasing use. It is proposed that these should include:

- Young People
- Older People
- Unemployed
- Black and Minority Ethnic Groups
- Disabled People
- Health promotion target groups,(including people with chronic health conditions)

### **New Sports and Capital Investment**

Where a potential new sport or recreation activity is considered, it must first meet the requirements set out in the Strategic Management Plan under Essential Action S5 and S6.

Where enhancements to the current service level are proposed for example as a result of new investment in the infrastructure of the facility then the charges will need to be reviewed.

### **Adopting a Differentiated Approach to Charging**

Given all the above complexities it is recommended that the City adopt a “differentiated approach” to charges delivered on an activity by activity basis. This will enable the City to achieve its service objectives.



Appendix 1

The Factors that Complicate Charging



(Audit Commission, The Price is Right, 1999)

## APPENDIX 2

### APPLICATION OF CHARGING POLICY

In managing parks and open spaces, the Companion Guide to PPG17 recommends using a simple high/low classification to provide a means of determining the most appropriate policy approach.

The following four way framework has been used to apply the Charging Policy developed by the Sports Forum:

#### Price Quality Framework as a Guide to Differential Pricing

<b>High Quality/High Price</b> Protect current arrangements to a level the market can sustain	<b>Low Quality/High Price</b> Increase quality to maintain income potential
<b>High Quality/Low Price</b> Consider options for price increases to reflect investment and levels of demand	<b>Low Quality/Low Price</b> Consider options for investment in existing quality or change provision in line with strategic aims.

#### EXAMPLE 1 – Parliament Hill Athletics Track

Benchmarking work undertaken across a range of similar local authority athletics tracks in north London in 2011 revealed the following average benchmark for costs:

- Athletic Meetings Peak Use (exclusive use of facility at weekend) £154.00
- Schools Use (2 hour session) £84.00

This compares with the Charges levied for the Parliament Hill Athletics Track in 2011 that were:

- Athletic Meetings Peak Use (exclusive use of facility at weekend) £115.50
- Schools Use (2 hour session) £48.00

Using the price quality framework above the current scenario would fall into the category **(Low- ancillary / high - track) Quality/Low Price**.

Whilst the primary function is of a high quality, the condition of the ancillary facilities including changing, rooms, showers, toilets and lack of any dedicated warm up/weights room, poor café and lack of provision for seating for parents/guardians would warrant a discount on the average benchmark price.

From analysis of usage it is apparent that there is unlikely to be further demand for more peak time meetings as Clubs are regulated to a number of specific meetings by the Governing Body.

The level of discount would need to be considered but given that the ancillary services are integral to the quality of experience it might be reasonable to anticipate a reduction of between 10-20%.

If the full 20% reduction were applied then it could have been acceptable at that stage to raise charges to £123.00.

With regards the schools use from analysis of usage it is apparent that there is opportunity to generate increased use for more school sessions at the athletics track, particularly during the autumn and early spring periods.

Given young people are a priority group in terms of targeting increase use of the facility, in addition to the 10-20% reduction on the baseline benchmark rate because of the poor ancillary facilities, it might also be appropriate to apply a further reduction for attracting young people of say 5%. The 2011 charge of £48.00 still represents excellent value as with these reductions on the benchmark costs the rate could have been £63.00.

This scenario can be taken a step further in seeking to attract disabled young people with perhaps a further reduction on the benchmark price of 20-25%.

This would with a 25% reduction have attracted a figure of £42.00 at 2011 prices.

## **EXAMPLE 2 – Tennis**

Benchmarking work undertaken across a range of similar local authority tennis courts in 2011 revealed the following average benchmark for costs:

- Tennis Adult (hourly charge) £5.83
- Tennis Junior (hourly charge) £3.83

This compares with the Charges levied for the tennis courts in 2011 that were:

- Tennis Adult (hourly charge) £6.00
- Tennis Junior (hourly charge) £3.00

Using the price quality framework above the current scenario would fall into the category **Quality High/Cost High**.

This reflects the excellent quality of tennis facilities available both at Parliament Hill and Golders Hill Park.

From analysis of usage the courts are extremely popular during the summer months and at weekends during the winter period. The public are permitted free use of the courts during the winter months weekdays as it is not cost effective to employ staff to take money. It is feasible to consider charging higher fees in the summer months for adult tickets when demand highest. It might be acceptable during this period to increase prices by as much as 20%.



If the full 20% increase were applied then it could have been acceptable in 2011 to raise charges in the summer months for adult tennis to £7.00 based on the benchmark prices.

With regards to junior tennis, given again we are seeking to increase use of the facilities by young people it might actually be acceptable to offer a discounted rate Monday to Friday during the summer period of between 5-10%, but retain the baseline charge at peak times (weekends and Bank Holidays). Even applying the full 10% reduction to the junior benchmark figures in 2011 a fee of £3.50 could potentially have been levied Monday to Friday's.

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## APPENDIX 3 – HAMPSTEAD HEATH, HIGHGATE WOOD AND QUEEN’S PARK

**The proposed charges operate from 1 April 2014, all charges include VAT at 20%**

<b>Facility</b>	Charges approved 1/4/12 (£)	Charges approved 1/4/13 (£)	<b>Proposed Charges from 1/4/14 (£)</b>
<b>ATHLETICS TRACK</b>			
● Meetings Monday - Friday, (except bank holidays)	85.00	87.50	<b>90.00</b>
● Meetings Peak Times	120.00	123.50	<b>126.50</b>
● Schools Use - standard session charge	50.00	51.50	<b>53.00</b>
● Corporate events	280.00	290.00	<b>300.00</b>
● Individual Ticket - Adults	3.00	3.00	<b>3.00</b>
● Individual ticket - Concessionary Rate	1.50	1.50	<b>1.50</b>
● Season Ticket - Adults	58.00	60.00	<b>61.50</b>
● Season Ticket - Concessionary Rate	29.50	30.00	<b>31.00</b>
<b>BOWLS</b>			
● Seasonal Fee	113.00	n/a*	<b>n/a*</b>
● Seasonal Fee - Concessionary Rate	57.00	n/a*	<b>n/a*</b>
● Hourly charge per person	3.50	3.50	<b>n/a*</b>
<b>CROQUET (GOLDERS HILL)</b>			
● Hourly charge (members of HHCC) for rink	4.00	4.00	<b>4.00</b>
● Hourly charge (non members) for rink	7.50	7.50	<b>7.50</b>
<b>CRICKET</b>			
● Reserved match pitch (prepared and marked)	71.00	73.00	<b>75.00</b>
● <b>Reserved match pitch Parliament Hill weekends (prepared and marked)</b>	90.00	92.50	<b>95.00</b>
● Junior pitch (prepared and marked)	43.00	44.00	<b>45.00</b>
● Cricket nets (per hour)	6.50	6.50	<b>6.50</b>
● Season Adult (10 games pro-rata thereafter)	625.00	644.00	<b>660.00</b>
● Season Junior (10 games pro-rata thereafter)	380.00	391.50	<b>400.00</b>
<b>FOOTBALL AND RUGBY</b>			
● Reserved match pitch Adult (with goal posts)	66.00	68.00	<b>70.00</b>
● Reserved match pitch Junior (with goal posts)	42.00	43.00	<b>44.00</b>

<b>Facility</b>	<b>Charges approved 1/4/12 (£)</b>	<b>Charges approved 1/4/13 (£)</b>	<b>Proposed Charges from 1/4/14 (£)</b>
posts)			
● Season Adult (10 games, pro-rata thereafter)	575.00	592.00	<b>607.00</b>
● Season Junior (10 games pro-rata thereafter)	360.00	370.00	<b>380.00</b>
● Hire of goal nets	14.00	14.00	<b>14.50</b>
<b>Schools Use - standard session charge</b>	38.00	39.00	<b>40.00</b>
● Charge for damaged nets	36.50	37.50	<b>38.50</b>
<b>BASEBALL/SOFTBALL</b>			
● Reserved Pitch	47.00	48.50	<b>50.00</b>
<b>GOLF</b>			
● Practice nets per half hour	4.00	4.00	<b>4.00</b>
<b>PENTANQUE</b>			
● Hourly charge/rink	2.50	2.50	<b>2.50</b>
● Deposit for Boules hire	12.00	12.00	<b>12.50</b>
<b>PITCH &amp; PUTT</b>			
● One Round Adult	4.50	4.50	<b>4.50</b>
● One Round Concessionary rate	2.50	2.50	<b>2.50</b>
<b>PUTTING</b>			
● One Round Adult	3.00	3.00	<b>3.00</b>
● One Round Concessionary rate	1.50	1.50	<b>1.50</b>
● Lost or damaged putter	25.00	25.00	<b>25.50</b>
● Lost ball	5.00	5.00	<b>5.00</b>
<b>ROUNDERS</b>			
● Pitch per hour	12.50	13.00	<b>13.50</b>
<b>SWIMMING</b>			
<i>Lido</i>			
● Early Morning - Adult	2.00	2.00	<b>2.00</b>
● Early Morning - Concessionary	1.00	1.00	<b>1.00</b>
● Evening - Adult	2.50	2.50	<b>2.50</b>
● Evening - Adult	1.50	1.50	<b>1.50</b>
● Adults	5.50	5.50	<b>5.50</b>
● Concessionary Rates	3.50	3.50	<b>3.50</b>
● Daily family ticket (up to 2 adults & 2 children)	14.50	14.50	<b>14.50</b>
● Daily adult and child ticket	7.50	7.50	<b>7.50</b>

<b>Facility</b>	<b>Charges approved 1/4/12 (£)</b>	<b>Charges approved 1/4/13 (£)</b>	<b>Proposed Charges from 1/4/14 (£)</b>
● Book of tickets (10 for the price of 9)	49.50	49.50	<b>49.50</b>
● Book of tickets (10 for the price of 9) Concessionary	31.50	31.50	<b>31.50</b>
● Monthly Ticket – Adults	40.00	40.00	<b>41.00</b>
● Monthly Ticket – Concessionary	20.00	20.00	<b>20.50</b>
● Season Tickets - Adult (All Year)	140.00	144.00	<b>147.50</b>
● Season Tickets - Concessionary Rate (All Year)	90.00	92.50	<b>95.00</b>
● Summer Season Ticket – Adults	110.00	113.00	<b>116.00</b>
● Summer Season Ticket - Concessionary Rate	55.00	56.50	<b>58.00</b>
● All Facilities – Adults (All Year)	180.00	185.00	<b>190.00</b>
● All Facilities – Concessionary Rate (All Year)	100.00	103.00	<b>105.50</b>
● Summer Season All Swimming Facilities – Adults	110.00	113.00	<b>116.00</b>
● Summer Season All Swimming Facilities - Concessionary rate	55.00	56.50	<b>58.00</b>
<b><i>Natural Ponds</i></b>			
● Highgate: Mens', Kenwood: Ladies', Hampstead Mixed - Adult	2.00	2.00	<b>2.00</b>
● Highgate: Mens', Kenwood: Ladies', Hampstead Mixed - Concessionary	1.00	1.00	<b>1.00</b>
● Ponds – Adults (All Year)	115.00	118.50	<b>121.50</b>
● Ponds – Concessionary Rate (All Year)	60.00	62.00	<b>63.50</b>
● Ponds – Adults (6 month)	60.00	62.00	<b>63.50</b>
● Ponds - Concessionary rate (6 month)	30.00	31.00	<b>32.00</b>
<b>TENNIS</b>			
● Annual registration fee	15.00	15.00	<b>15.50</b>
● Adult Hourly Charge - hard or grass court (per hour)	6.50	6.50	<b>6.50</b>
● Concessionary Rates - hard or grass court (per hour)	3.50	3.50	<b>3.50</b>
<b>VOLLEYBALL</b>			
● Reserved pitch	40.00	41.00	<b>42.00</b>
<b>CHANGING ACCOMMODATION</b>			
Private changing room with hot water	40.00	41.00	<b>42.00</b>

<b>Facility</b>	<b>Charges approved 1/4/12 (£)</b>	<b>Charges approved 1/4/13 (£)</b>	<b>Proposed Charges from 1/4/14 (£)</b>
Keys - deposit or charge for loss	25.00	25.00	<b>25.00</b>
<b>SPORTS COACHING</b>			
<i>Tennis Coaching</i>			
Adult Beginners/improvers			
• 5 weekly 1 hour lessons	45.00	46.00	<b>47.00</b>
• 5 weekly 1 1/2 hour lessons	65.00	67.00	<b>68.50</b>
• 5 weekly 2 hour lessons	85.00	87.50	<b>90.00</b>
Children Beginners/improvers			
• 5 weekly 1 hour lessons	36.00	37.00	<b>38.00</b>
<i>Football Coaching</i>			
Children			
• 5 weekly 2 hour lessons	45.00	46.00	<b>47.00</b>
<i>Car Parking</i>			
• Up to 2 hours	2.30	2.50	<b>2.50</b>
• Up to 4 hours	4.60	5.00	<b>5.00</b>
• Additional hours or part hours above 4 hours	4.00	4.50	<b>4.50</b>

\* the bowls facility is now leased to the Parliament Hill Bowling Club supported by the Hampstead Heath Croquet Club who set their own fees for Members

<b>Committee(s):</b>	<b>Date(s):</b>
Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee	20 January 2014
<b>Subject:</b> Introduction of Dog Control Orders at Burnham Beeches	<b>Public</b>
<b>Report of:</b> The Superintendent of Burnham Beeches, Stoke Common and City Commons	<b>For Discussion</b>
<b>Summary</b>	
<p>This report was originally presented to the Epping Forest and Commons Committee on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2014 seeking their approval to proceed with the implementation of Dog Control Orders at Burnham Beeches.</p> <p>The Superintendent of Burnham Beeches, Stoke Common and City Commons will provide members with a verbal update following the EFCC's recent considerations on the matter.</p> <p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <p>The views of the Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee be received on the work being undertaken at Burnham Beeches to introduce Dog Control Orders.</p>	

## Main Report

### **Background**

1. Burnham Beeches is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserve and Special Area of Conservation. In recent years it has become an increasingly popular area for dog walking due to its convenient location and because it remains one of the very few open spaces in the area that provides free car parking Monday to Friday each week (excluding bank holidays).
2. In 2010 Members of the Epping Forest and Commons Committee approved the Burnham Beeches management plan 2010 – 2020. That document sets out the detail by which the City intends to achieve a balance between the needs of recreation, including dog walking and conservation whilst meeting its legal obligations.
3. The growing attraction of the site to dog walkers and the associated challenges this presents has been managed in a variety of ways. In 2004 and following extensive consultation with visitors, a 'Dog Behaviour Code' was introduced to set out the standards of dog behaviour expected of owners when visiting the site. More recently the Open Spaces Dog Policy and

associated agreement with the Kennel Club have restated the City's commitment to healthy exercise and good behaviour for dogs and their owners.

4. The Common Council of the City of London was designated as a Secondary Authority for the purposes of Chapter 1 of Part 6 of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 from 31<sup>st</sup> May 2012. This enables the Common Council to make Dog Control Orders (DCO's) in its open spaces outside the City where the relevant Primary Authority has not already made an Order in respect of the same offence on the same land.
5. South Bucks District Council (SBDC) is the Primary Authority for Burnham Beeches and has confirmed that it does not intend to exercise these powers in the foreseeable future.
6. Given the sensitivity of Burnham Beeches and its national conservation designations it was agreed that Burnham Beeches should pilot on behalf of the Open Spaces Department, the approach to implementation of DCO's.
7. Dog Control Orders will be among those abolished by the relevant provisions of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Bill currently before Parliament.
8. Discussions are taking place with officials about the extent to which the Corporation could be permitted to make use of the new powers for the protection of public spaces in respect of its open spaces outside of the City.
9. The new powers will replace an array of existing powers, including anti-social behaviour orders and injunctions, drinking banning orders, individual support orders, litter clearing notices, defacement removal notices, 'Section 30' dispersal orders, premises closure orders, gating orders and dog control orders.
10. The new powers are likely to be introduced in autumn 2014 and whilst they will alter the detail of how dog control issues are managed it is sensible to assume that the principle of greater control over dog behaviour on public open spaces will remain. In addition the preparation for the introduction of the new powers is likely to require a similar approach to that of DCO's particularly in terms of informing the visiting public, consulting on their implementation and achieving improvements through enforcement.
11. On that basis it remains appropriate for Burnham Beeches to continue to pilot the introduction of DCO's to 'live test' the broad challenges presented by the use of enforcement tools to improve dog behaviour. This learning can then be applied across the Open Spaces as required albeit this will need to be adapted to the legislations in force at the time.
12. Information provided by the Remembrancer on this issue also encourages this approach



## **Current Position**

### ***The Site Survey***

13. Since the Superintendent's report of November 2013 the informal public consultation process, conducted by Footprint Ecology, has concluded. A total of 359 visitors were interviewed. The survey results are shown in Appendix 1. The 'headline' results are that:

**Schedule 1. Failure to remove dog faeces.** The large majority of interviewees supported the introduction of Schedule 1 across the whole site.

**Schedule 2. Failure to keep a dog on a lead in an area so designated.** The introduction of Schedule 2 was supported by the majority of interviewees across 50% of the site or less.

**Schedule 3. Failure to put and keep a dog on a lead when directed to do so by an authorised officer.** The introduction of Schedule 3 was supported by a large majority of interviewees across 50% or more of the site.

**Schedule 4. Permitting a dog to enter land from which dogs are excluded.** This was supported by a minority (37%) of interviewees.

**Schedule 5. Taking more than a specified number of dogs on to the land.** This Schedule was supported by the large majority of interviewees with 3 being the favoured maximum number followed very closely by 4.

### ***The Burnham Beeches Consultation Group (BBCG).***

14. The full survey results were presented to the BBCG on December 11<sup>th</sup> 2013. Members were given the opportunity to recommend one of several options regarding the implementation of Dog Control Orders at Burnham Beeches. That recommendation is shown in paragraph 20 below.

### ***The Kennel Club***

15. The consultation results were presented to the Kennel Club on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2013. Their formal comments are awaited but from the meeting it was clear they are likely to request that:

- a. The City reduces the size of the area for Schedule 2 with a consequent increase in the size of the area covered by Schedule 3. This request may be based upon the literal outcome of the informal survey and with less weighting on the wider issues presented in paragraph 22.
- b. The City increased the maximum number of dogs per owner from three to four. This is based upon similar decisions at other sites. It also matches this committees initial view on the matter.

### ***Natural England***

16. The Superintendent has ensured that Natural England (NE) is aware of the complexity, extent and nature of the issues at Burnham Beeches. NE do not have a policy covering the impact of dog walking and wildlife on Sites of Scientific Interest (SSSI), nor is it felt that there is currently sufficient evidence to support such a policy. This 'evidence gap' remains a fundamental issue for

the owners and managers of SSSI's and it may be many years before research is sufficient for their needs.

17. On that basis, NE have made the following comments with regard to the introduction of DCO's at Burnham Beeches:

*Based on the information supplied, Natural England cannot find sufficient evidence to support dog control orders being necessary to protect the features for which the SSSI is designated. However, NE recognises that the City has consulted widely on the matter of DCO's at Burnham Beeches and that this information has been used to inform the final recommendation (Option/Map A).*

18. NE has also confirmed that they are content for the City of London, as owners and managers of the NNR, to formulate a local policy and reflect this via the introduction of DCO's.

**Proposals – Map A.**

19. The following proposal is based on the informal public consultation exercise and recommendation of the BBCG.

**Schedule 1.** This schedule will be applied across the whole site.

**Schedule 2.** To be applied to approximately 59% of the site.

**Schedule 3.** To be applied to approximately 41% of the site.

**Schedule 4.** No new dog exclusion zones will be created. Dogs will continue to be excluded from a small area around the café, as existing.

**Schedule 5.** The proposed maximum is 3 dogs per owner.

20. It should be noted that the areas covered by Schedules 2 and 3 do not exactly match the findings from the visitor survey, albeit they are as close as practicable (within 10% (40acres) to that ideal.

21. Other considerations not included in the survey include the City's duty under the NERC Act, 2006 to conserve biodiversity and DEFRA's requirement to ensure that DCO's are easily understood by visitors and can be reasonably and proportionately enforced on site. When all matters are considered 'in the round' the chosen proposal was favoured by the BBCG on the grounds that it:

- a. Provides a workable compromise in terms of a balance between recreation and nature conservation.
- b. Ensures that all main access points either by car or foot are within Schedule 3. This greatly reduces the need for dog owners to have their pets on a lead as soon as they jump from the car or otherwise enter the site and thus greatly reduces enforcement difficulties.
- c. Provides a very large area (222 acres) of the NNR for dogs to run free whilst remaining under effective control (definition previously agreed with the dog walking community).
- d. Enhances the enjoyment and protection of children and other visitors to the site by including a large part of the most popular recreation area,

including the easy access path network, within Schedule 2 i.e. 'the dogs on leads at all times' area.

- e. Makes logical use of the internal roads to create a visible and easily understood boundary between Schedules 2 and 3. This will greatly facilitate visitor compliance and reduce the need for enforcement by Rangers.
  - f. The area for Schedule 3 is largely open in nature and owners whose dogs are not under effective control will be easily identified and approached.
  - g. Will deter regular dog walkers who park on the roadsides to the north of the site to avoid weekend car park charges.
22. The next step, should members agree, is to proceed to the statutory consultation stage. The timetable for this stage is set out in Appendix 2. It is at this point that the City must advertise its proposal to introduce DCO's in a local newspaper. The consultation period will last for 28 days to allow members of the public and any interested body to comment on the detail of the proposals. Once the consultation is completed the DCO's may be made and their implementation date advertised, in a second notice published in a local newspaper or, amended if deemed appropriate. However, if the proposals are significantly amended the process must be started again.
23. The next step, should members agree, is to proceed to the statutory consultation stage. The timetable for this stage is set out in Appendix 2. It is at this point that the City must advertise its proposal to introduce DCO's in a local newspaper. The date of implementation must also be advertised in local newspapers. The consultation period will last for 28 days to allow members of the public and any interested body to comment on the detail of the proposals. Once the consultation is completed the DCO's may be made as advertised or amended if deemed appropriate. However, if the proposals are significantly amended the process must be started again.
24. The Superintendent will seek guidance from the Comptroller and City Solicitor to ensure that the statutory elements of this exercise are met.

### **Corporate & Strategic Implications**

25. The proposals support the Strategic aims of the City and Open Spaces Department by:
- 1. Quality.** Providing, safe, secure and accessible Open Spaces and services on behalf of London and the nation.
  - 2. Inclusion.** Involving communities and partners in developing a sense of place through the care and management of our sites.
  - 3. Environment.** Delivering sustainable working practices to promote the variety of life and protect the Open Spaces for the enjoyment of future generations.
  - 4. Promotion.** Promote opportunities to value and enjoy the outdoors for recreation, learning and healthy living
  - 5. People.** Manage, develop and empower a capable and motivated work force to achieve high standards of safety and performance.

## Financial and Risk Implications

26. The cost of the DCO consultation and enforcement design process is estimated at £21,000 including officer time, training, consultation costs and the provision of appropriate signage and other materials. These costs are being met from local risk budgets and are set out in Table 1 below:

**Table 1**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Research and informal Consultation (Footprint Ecology)	£7000
Management time (estimated at 30 days)	£7500
Staff Training (est)	£2000
Administration (set up)	£4500
<b>Total estimated costs</b>	<b>£21,000</b>

27. An income of around £2,000/annum is anticipated from Fixed Penalty Notice payments. It is estimated that the on-going cost to administer the scheme (staff time) of approximately £2000/annum. Given the anticipated income the overall cost of the scheme should be cost neutral.
28. The development of appropriate administration procedures is key to the success of the proposals. The Superintendent is considering this matter with the City Solicitor and District Enforcement who currently oversee the site's Parking Charge Notice administration.
29. Dog Control Orders will be among those abolished by the relevant provisions of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Bill (ABCP) currently before Parliament and greater clarity on the implications of this is desirable. The Remembrancer will continue to monitor progress of the ABCP through parliament and advise officers of its implications.

## HR Implications

30. Staff at Burnham Beeches have been consulted throughout this process and are aware of the implications on their roles. Minor adjustments to the staff structure have also been made.
31. The Rangers at Burnham Beeches currently issue parking tickets for failure to 'pay and display'. They will also enforce the DCO's (perhaps with the assistance of local PCSO's) and issue the FPN's. This will require additional 'appropriate training'.

## **Conclusion**

32. Dog walking at Burnham Beeches has grown in popularity over recent years. Incidents related to dog walking are recorded by staff and remain high despite proactive management such as the site's Dog Behaviour Code, waste removal and other 'dog friendly' services.
33. The site's byelaws have not been effective in reducing repetitive, nuisance behaviour as set out in the previous report to this committee and the use of DCO's at Burnham Beeches is proposed as a complementary enforcement mechanism.
34. DCO's offer additional controls and a more flexible approach to enforcement compared to the byelaws. This provides a rare opportunity to establish a proper balance between the needs of the many site users and the statutory requirement to enhance biodiversity (NERC, 2006).
35. The Kennel Club may request that changes are made to the proposals in this report with regard to Schedules 2, 3 and 5. Their final comments will be circulated shortly before the meeting of this committee.
36. The Superintendent proposes to commence the statutory consultation process early in February 2014 based on the proposals contained within this report. Appendix 2.
37. The Superintendent further proposes that, on satisfactory conclusion of that consultation process, he provides a final report to this committee in May 2014 to confirm the outcome.
38. The cost of implementation of DCO's at Burnham Beeches is currently estimated at £21,000.

## **Appendices**

- Appendix 1 – Summary results of the 2013 DCO informal consultation exercise.
- Appendix 2 – Delivery Timetable
- Map A – Specifying areas covered by each DCO.

## **Background Papers:**

1. Report to EFCC of Sept 2012. Use of Secondary Authority Powers to introduce Dog Control Orders at Burnham Beeches.
2. Report to EFCC and Open Spaces Committee – November 2013. Review of Pilot Study - Use of Secondary Authority Powers to introduce Dog Control Orders at Burnham Beeches.

**Andy Barnard**

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# Burnham Beeches Visitor Survey Interim Results

Durwyn Liley

# Today

- Focus on Dog Walking elements and DCOs
- Preliminary results: (survey work completed in November, report finalised in January)
- Final report will include:
  - Full analysis of questionnaire data
  - Maps showing distribution of people within the site;
  - Analysis of postcode data
- Approach; Key results (Dog Walking); Interpretation



# Logistics



Page 87

- 23 July – 16<sup>th</sup> November
- 17 different dates (8 weekend, 9 weekday) (134 person hours survey work)
- Split between main Car-park (8 days); Stag (3 days); Dell (4 days); Moat (2 days).
- Pre-school holidays; school holidays; autumn half term; mid November
- On each date 8 hours survey work spread from early am to near dusk



# Approach

- Single surveyors; selecting interviewees at random
- Survey day broken into 2 hour sessions
- Questionnaire involved two discrete sections,.
- Visitors also counted
- Data collected using ipads

# Questionnaire

- Visitor type (e.g.. a local resident or a holiday maker)
- Visit seasonality, duration, timing and frequency
- Transport mode used to access site
- Activity undertaken during visit and motivation for visiting
- The route taken by the visitor and whether this was reflective of their normal route
- Visitor demographics (age and gender)
- Home postcode
- The number of dogs observed with a visitor and whether these were seen on or off the lead
- The names of other local sites visited by interviewed group
- Questions were also incorporated into the question to gauge visitor opinion on the potential introduction of Dog Control Orders.

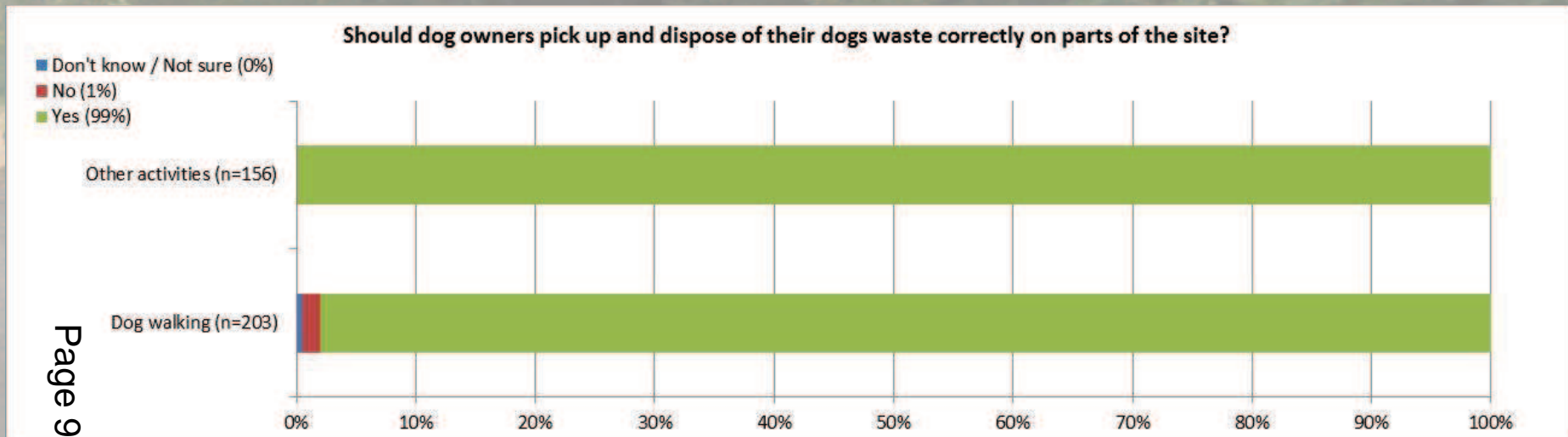
# An overview

- 359 interviews (data relating to 702 people)
- 70 refusals and 49 people already interviewed
- 61% of interviews conducted at main CP
- 44% visit 3x a week or more – dog walkers and joggers primarily
- 15% visit less than once a month - those visiting for walking, a family outing or 'other' activities
- 85% of all visitors arrived by car, 14% on foot
- For 43% of all visitors, main factor behind choice of BB is it's close to home
- Just 3% of people choose to visit BB because of the trees and 2% visit because of the wildlife interest

# Dog Walking

- 62% of interviewees had dogs with them (max 8 dogs)
- 57% interviewees were dog walking; 44% once accounting for group size
- A higher proportion of interviewed dog walkers were female (63%)
- 52% of all dogs were seen off-lead
- 88% of dog walkers interviewed had travelled to the site by car (81% non dog walkers)
- For 74% of dog walkers, visit is an hour or less
- For 50% of dog walkers, the main reason they choose to visit BB is because it is close to home (whereas 33% of non-dog walkers visit because close to home)
- No dog walkers interviewed stated that the trees or wildlife interest were a reason for visiting
- 94% of dog walkers were aware of the importance of Burnham Beeches for nature conservation

# Schedule 1: Pick up



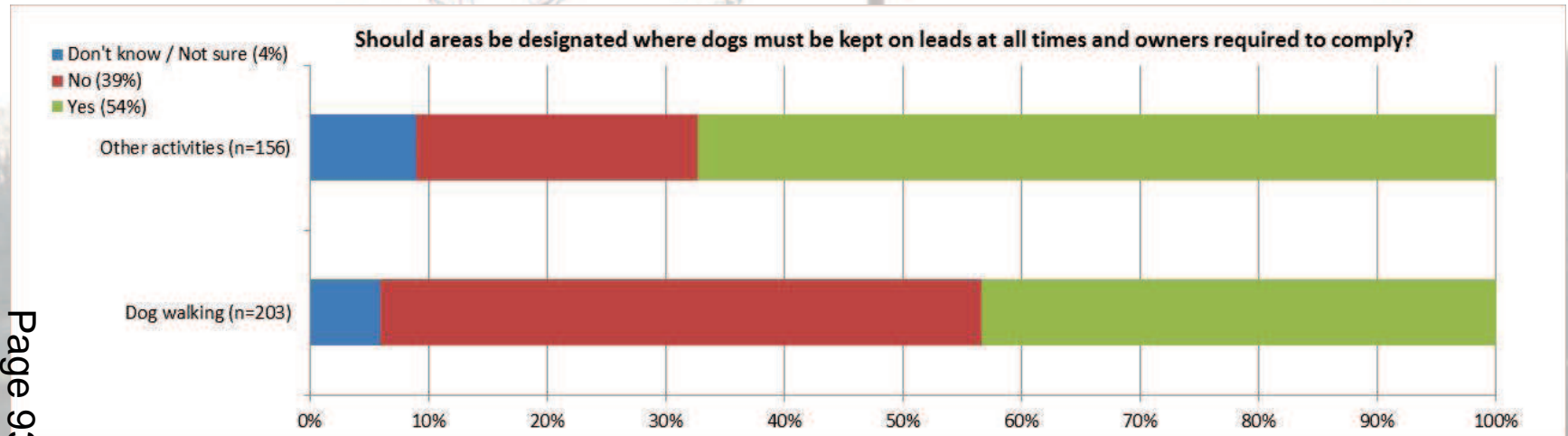
Page 92

For those that said yes:

- All of site: 88%; (81% of dog walkers; 96% non dog walkers)
- Part of the site: 12%

Comments included the suggestion 'around main paths' and not in 'deep woods'

# Schedule 2: Dogs on leads at all times

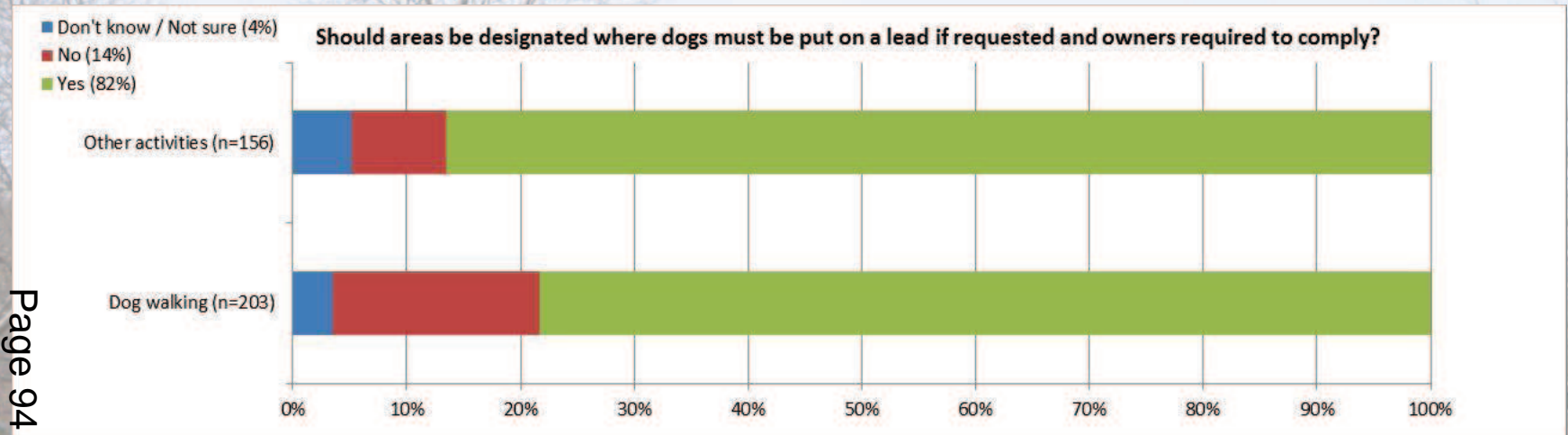


For those that said yes:

- All of site: 12%; (8% of dog walkers; 15% non dog walkers)
- Part of the site: 82%

Variations in % of site (less than 25% most common, then 50-74%); comments related to around café; where livestock; where wildlife interest (e.g. ponds); where 'valid reason'

# Schedule 3: Dogs on leads if requested



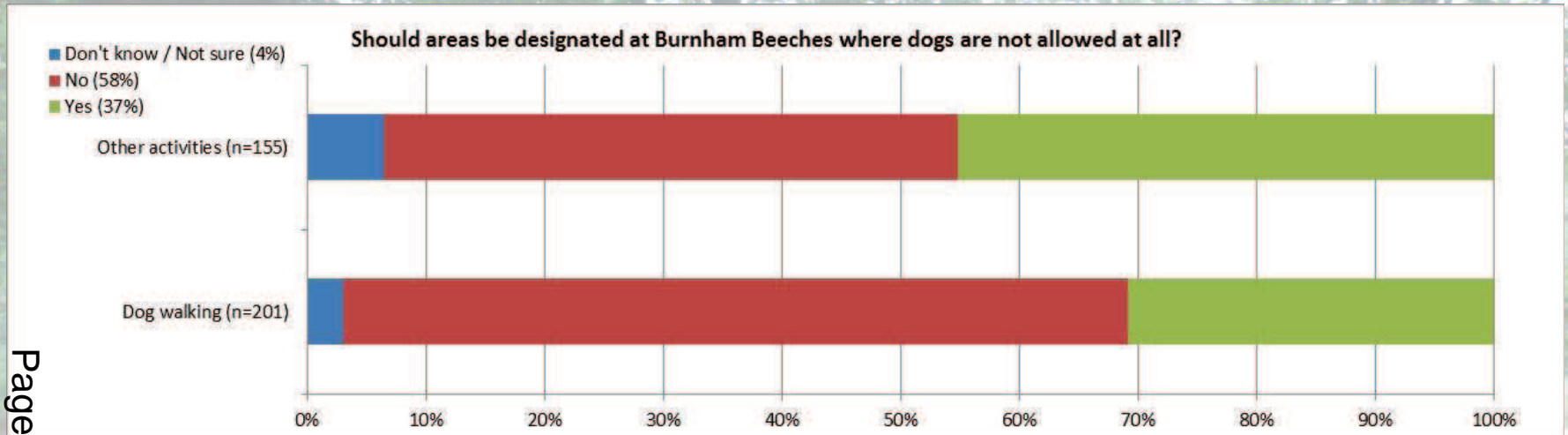
For those that said yes:

- All of site: 43%; (36% of dog walkers; 52% non dog walkers)
- Part of the site: 52%

Variation in %s where given: 25-49% most commonly given range. Many responses related to livestock, children, café, ponds, where lots other dogs



# Schedule 4: Areas with no dogs



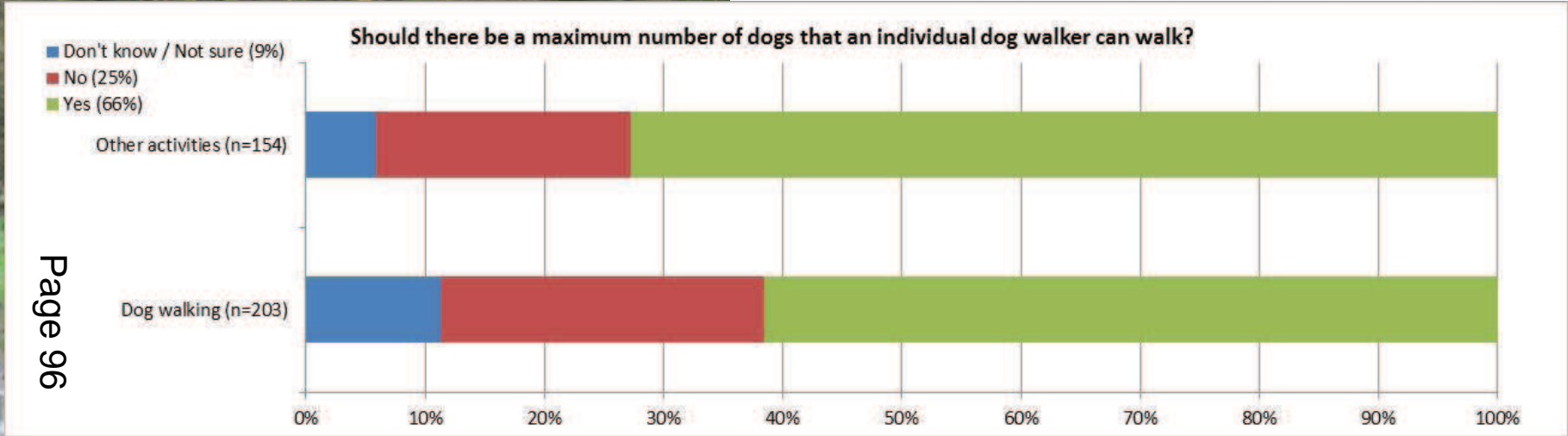
Page 95

For those that said yes:

- All of site: 4%; (2% of dog walkers; 6% non dog walkers)
- Part of the site: 89%

Clear preference for small part of site. Picnics, café and eating areas. Comments included the wetland areas, livestock and bird breeding season

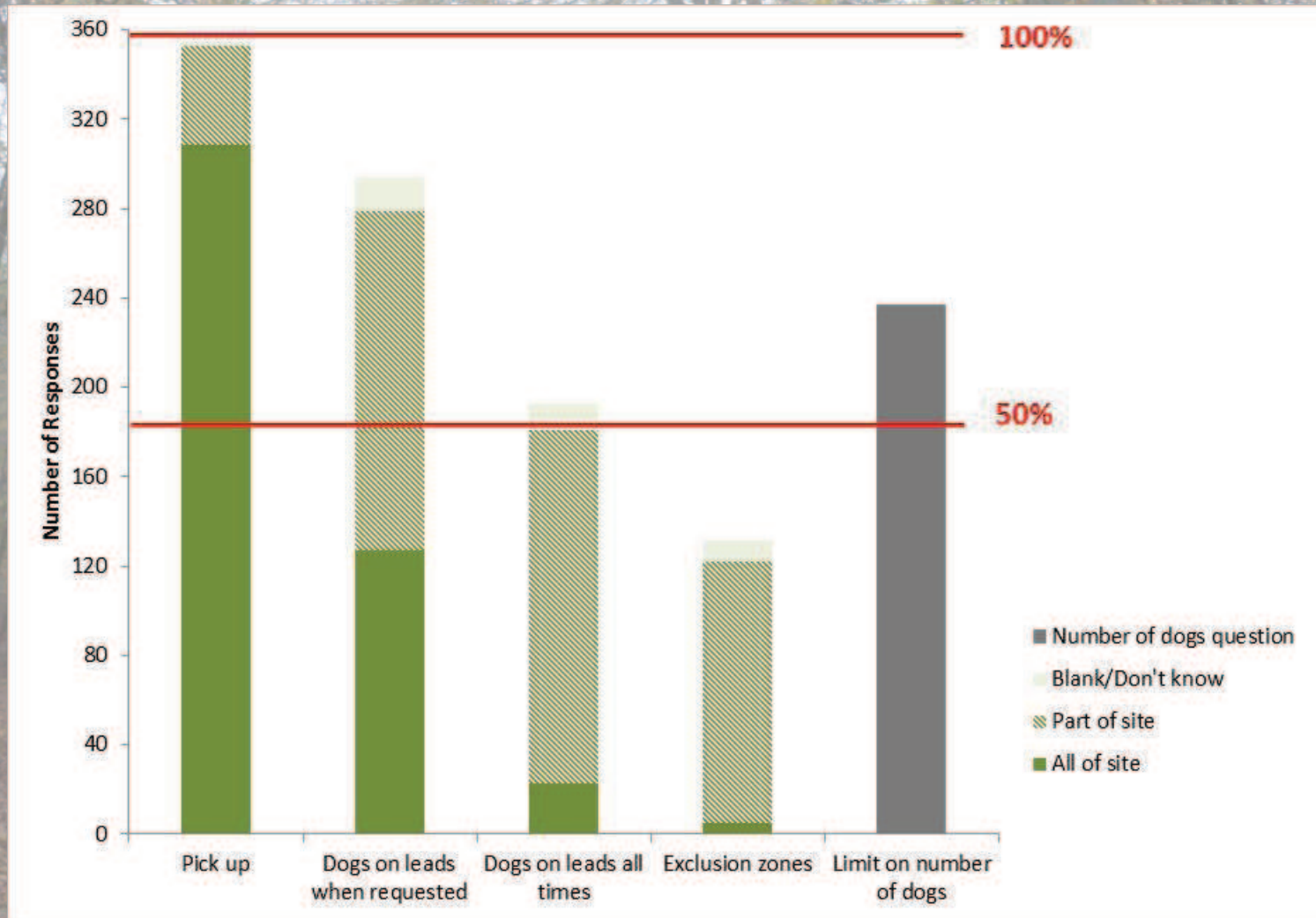
# Schedule 5: Maximum number of dogs an individual can walk



Page 96

- 2 dogs: 16%
- 3 dogs: 39%
- 4 dogs: 37%
- 5 dogs: 8%

# Overview



# Taking forward

- Clear split between dog walkers and non-dog walkers
- Proximity to home particularly important for dog walkers
- Dog walkers higher than expected visitor volume – increasing?
- Few people visit because of wildlife or the trees
- Some challenges with the survey: clearly contentious and wide range of views
- People struggled with the %s and these need to be considered cautiously

## Appendix 2 - Delivery Timetable

1. Formal written consultation with SBDC	February 2014
2. Formal written consultation – PC's	February 2014
3. Arrange public notice of the proposal	March 2014
4. Draft the orders i.e. agree wording and possible introduction date	April 2014
5. Final report to EFCC	May 2014
6 Publicise enforcement date and deliver marketing campaign	May 2014
7. Erect signage	June 2014
8. Enforcement commences	July 2014

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# Burnham Beeches



Volunteers play a vital role



Autumn in the Beeches



Mallards at Upper Pond



Walking in the car-free zone



The Ballerina pollard

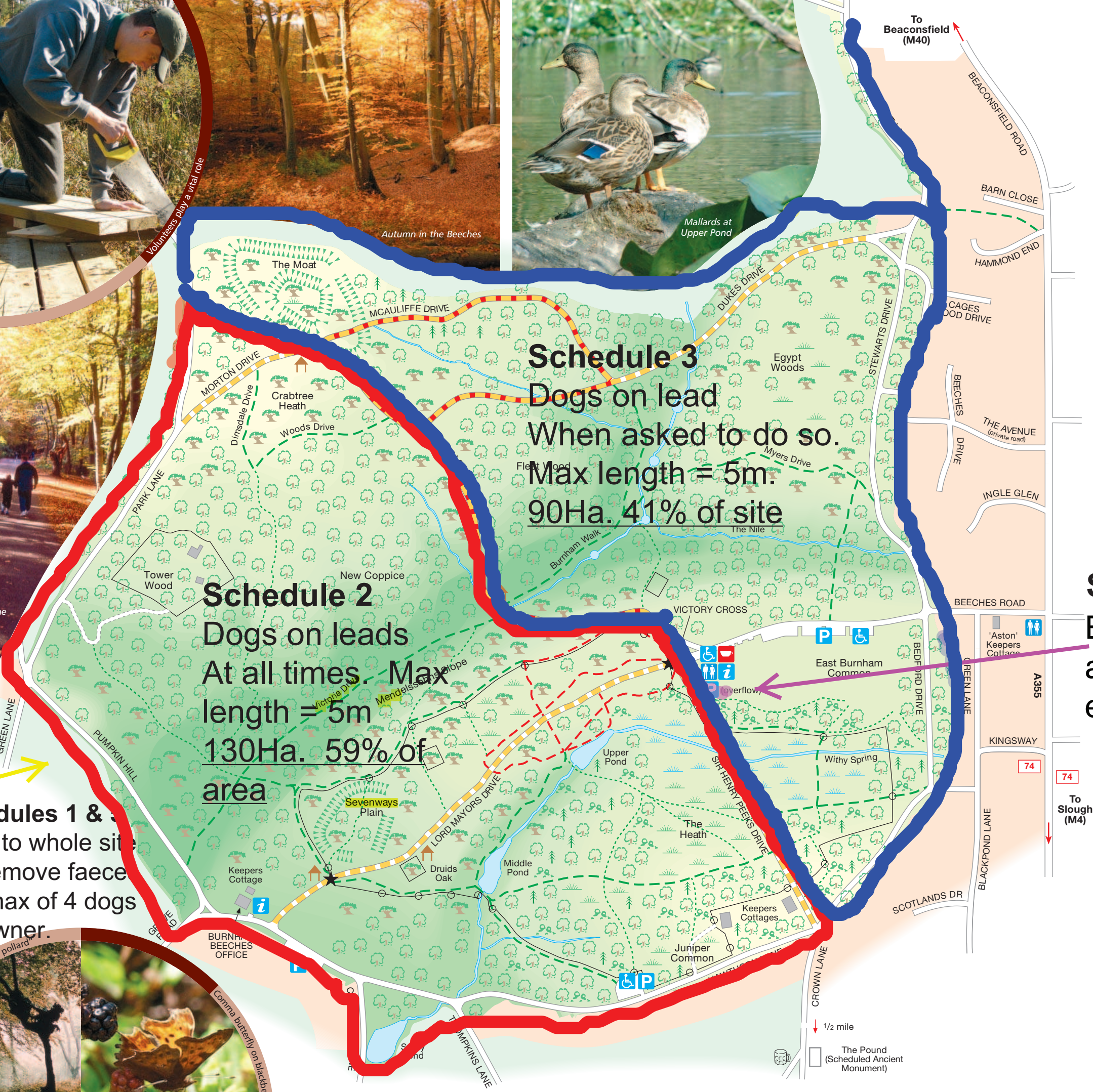
Comma butterfly on blackberries

Schedules 1 & 2 apply to whole site. I.E. remove faeces and max of 4 dogs per owner.

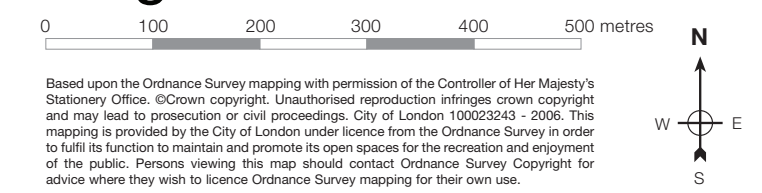
**Schedule 3**  
Dogs on lead  
When asked to do so.  
Max length = 5m.  
90Ha. 41% of site

**Schedule 2**  
Dogs on leads  
At all times. Max length = 5m  
130Ha. 59% of area

**Schedule 4**  
Exclusion zone at cafe - as existing



- Roads
- Roads closed to all vehicles
- Roads closed to traffic (except disabled badge holders)
- Track
- Main footpath
- Other path
- Easy access path
- Horse and cycle riding also allowed
- Walkers only
- Approximate height above sea level in metres
- Scheduled Ancient Monument
- Stream (seasonal)
- Swallow hole
- Shelter
- Information point
- Car park - pay and display
- Disabled parking
- Café
- Public convenience
- Bus stop
- Pub



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Burnham Beeches is a registered charity. Number 232987

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[www.crowninnfarnhamroyal.co.uk](http://www.crowninnfarnhamroyal.co.uk)  
 01753 647714

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<b>Committee(s):</b>	<b>Date(s):</b>	
Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee	20 <sup>th</sup> January 2014	
<b>Subject:</b> Management Work Plan for the Model Farm Compartment	<b>Public</b>	
<b>Report of:</b> Superintendent of Hampstead Heath	<b>For Discussion</b>	
<p><b><u>Summary</u></b></p> <p>This report presents a detailed work plan for the Model Farm compartment.</p> <p><b>Recommendation</b></p> <p>That the Consultative Committee be invited to submit their views on the detailed management plan for this area of the Heath.</p>		

## **Main Report**

### **Background**

1. In order to manage the Heath, it is necessary to prepare detailed Management Work Plans stating how each distinct area of the Heath will be managed, in line with established policies. Such documents will then feed into the annual work programme.
2. Management work plans are being prepared for key areas of the Heath; they will last for ten years, and will be reviewed thereafter, although alterations may be necessary sooner if unforeseen events arise. Plans for a number of areas have previously been presented to the Management and Consultative Committees. This report presents one more plan, for the Model Farm compartment (copy appended to this report).

### **Proposals for Model Farm Management Work Plan**

3. The Model Farm compartment is located towards the north east of Hampstead Heath and consists of an enclosed area in the most recently acquired land under City of London Corporation management.

4. The compartment can be divided into 3 distinct sections, these being the top meadow, central and Farm sections.
5. The compartment contains a mixture of fine leaved grassland, rough grassland and scrub and an old Farm section with remnant walls and tiled floors, providing a unique habitat on the Heath
6. The compartment provides an enclosed and relatively undisturbed habitat for a variety of species, including the United Kingdom Biodiversity Action Plan priority species, the grass snake. Snakes of all age ranges have been recorded in the site, showing its importance as a grass snake refuge and possible breeding site. The compartment forms part of the Heath's grass snake monitoring scheme.
7. The overall vision is to maintain the compartment as a mixture of meadow and open scrubland primarily as a habitat for grass snakes.
8. The top meadow should be cut in autumn yearly with grass incorporated into habitat piles for grass snakes. The central section should be managed as open scrubland with a yearly cut to prevent further succession.
9. The remnant farm section should be maintained in a stable state with trees and shrubs prevented from growing into the walls. This section should also have 50% of its area cut yearly to maintain a scrub mosaic.
10. It is proposed to remove the invasive species Himalayan balsam, and to treat Japanese knotweed in this compartment.
11. It is also proposed to remove 2 relatively young sycamores from the farm section in 2014. Their removal would increase light levels.

### **Financial and Risk Implications**

12. Activities included within the management work plan will be undertaken using the Heath's local risk budgets. There is a reputational risk in not pro-actively managing the natural aspect of the Heath. Left unchecked the mosaic of diverse habitats for which the Heath is renowned would be lost to secondary woodland cover and scrub.

### **Legal Implications**

13. The City has a legal duty under the Hampstead Heath Act 1871 to maintain the natural aspect of the Heath.

## Strategic Implications

14. The proposals link to the theme in the Community Strategy to protect, promote and enhance our environment.
15. They also link to the Open Spaces Department Plan through the Strategic Aim to 'adopt sustainable working practices, promote the variety of life (biodiversity) and protect the Open Spaces for the enjoyment of future generations', and the Improvement Objective to 'ensure that measures to promote sustainability and biodiversity are embedded in the Department's work'.
16. These works also fulfil Essential Actions in the Part 1 Management Plan, including:

*Retain and enhance the Heath's habitats and natural resources to enable continued quiet enjoyment and appreciation of the natural world by its visitors.*

*Maintain the Heath to protect and enhance populations of plants and animals protected by law, identified as being Priority Species in national and local Biodiversity Action Plans, or identified in subsequent management planning as being worthy of protection.*

## Conclusion

17. A Ten-year management work plan is presented for one area of the Heath: the Model Farm compartment.
18. The establishment of the aims and practices for managing these areas will feed into the annual work programmes for the appropriate years. The management work plans are subject to review at the end of the 10-year period and sooner if unforeseen events occur.

## Appendices:

*Appendix 1: Draft 10-year Management Work Plan for Model Farm compartment.*

## Contacts:

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# APPENDIX 1

## Model Farm Management Work Plan

Adrian Brooker

April 2013



# Model farm compartment

## 1.0. Site description



## 1.1 Location

The model farm compartment is located south east of Kenwood nursery staff yard near the north easterly extent of Hampstead Heath. The site is located in an area adjacent to Athlone gardens with lower Cohens fields to the west and the privately owned Athlone house land bordering along the north and west. Along the immediate southern border of this compartment is also land privately owned. The centre of the Model farm compartment is at grid reference 527,516; 187,389 and it covers an area of approximately 0.25 hectares.

The compartment boundaries can be seen in figure 4. The compartment is a new acquisition to the Heath's area after been transferred into Heath management in 2007 along with the adjacent Athlone gardens adjoining the compartment.

The area is fenced and has access only through a gate at the south eastern corner. A private land owner has an access point to the west leading out onto Cohen's field but there is no barrier between the land owned by this owner and that managed by the Heath.

For management purposes the compartment has been further subdivided into 3 distinct sections as shown in Figure 7. These being the southernmost farm section, a central section and a top meadow.

## 1.2 Geology, Soils, Hydrology

The model farm compartment is located on an area of Claygate beds. The compartment is on reasonably level ground although the ground rises up from the farm section towards the top meadow. The top meadow is raised on a terraced piece of land approximately 1-2 metres higher than the adjacent middle section. Along the western perimeter of the compartment the land falls away towards Cohens field and a small stream runs outside, but alongside the compartment. The surface in the farm section is mixture of made ground consisting of hardcore from old farm buildings as well as some remaining ornamental tiles and some areas of spoil. Several sections of bricked wall also exist in this section forming a number of 3 sided 'rooms' which were previously stables and outbuildings. Three ponds can be found just outside of the compartment. One is to the north, in the privately owned Athlone house land, and there are 2 scrapes dug in 2009 to the east, which are on City land.

## 1.3 Ecology

The site consists of 3 main areas running in a linear fashion in a north/south direction (Figure 7). The land to the south of these areas is not under City of London management. This land consists of open rough grassland dotted with small trees including apple trees and a hedgerow running along the southern border, part of which is in City managed land.

A description of the different sections is given below.

### Farm Section

At the southern edge is the farm section. This consists of partial old farm building walls surrounding open scrub with saplings and a variety of herbaceous species. The walls are largely damaged and have some remaining partitions with tiled floors still present. Bramble, nettle, thistle, buddleja, pendulous sedge and Himalayan balsam are reasonably widespread throughout the area. Other plants found that are uncommon on the wider Heath include white bryony, hemlock and teasel.

Figure 1: Model farm compartment, lower farm section, January 2013.



Sapling trees of elder, willow, ash and poplar grow throughout the compartment and 2 young sycamores grow in the north-west corner. A number of tall shrub specimens of a species of *Prunus* grow alongside the metal railings separating this area from the central section. Himalayan balsam is also present here.

### Central Section

The central section has as its eastern and western boundaries metal railings separating it from the Athlone house land and the main body of the Heath respectively. Beyond the western boundary fence a line of mature and semi-mature trees grows, consisting largely of ivy covered Lombardy poplar. The eastern boundary has 3 large cotoneaster bushes spreading over much of the boundary. A lichen covered dead apple tree grows alongside it and forms an attractive feature.

The area in the middle consists of scrubby relatively open ground with ivy and bramble being the main constituents. The large remnant trunk of an Italian black poplar lies on the floor along with other logs and a dead wood pile. The southern boundary of this section has metal railings along its length and leads to the farm section via a gate in the south west corner. The northern boundary consists of an ivy covered embankment leading up to the top meadow 1-2 metres above. Tree saplings of false acacia, ash and cherry are also present.

### Top meadow

The top meadow is largely open grassland bordered by a scrubby fringe of raspberry and bramble with metal railings surrounding the north, east and west of the meadow. A hedgerow recently planted along the eastern fringe mainly consists of guelder-rose, spindle, hawthorn and climbing rose species. This hedgeline provides a buffer in front of the metal railings of the Athlone land.

The grassland consists of finer leaved grasses such as red fescue and common bent. Occasional ragwort and rosebay willowherb also invade this grassland. Japanese knotweed is present to the west of the section.



## Fauna

Grass snakes are present in quite large numbers throughout the compartment with up to 15 individuals having been observed within a 20 minute period. Observation of these snakes is made easier by the placement of snake refugia (bitumen sheets) which form part of Hampstead Heath's snake monitoring scheme. The snakes in the compartment are of a varied age range, from large adults to recently hatched juveniles, showing the importance of the site as a snake habitat. Grass snakes are a United Kingdom Biodiversity Action Plan priority species largely due to declining habitat. Grass snakes have been recorded over a wide area in the southern part of Hampstead Heath, but are found in greater numbers in the enclosed sections of the Heath, principally here and the Bird Sanctuary.

Figure 2: Adult grass snake under refuge sheet in the lower farm section.



Fox adults and cubs are regularly seen in the compartment particularly in and around the top meadow and frequently use the reptile refuge sheets to mark their territory.

Three bee hives are present in the southern farm section which are maintained and managed by the North London Beekeeper Group.

Large numbers of spiders' webs have been observed on the shorter scrub surrounding the top meadow.

Figure 3: Spiders webs adorning low growing bramble on the top meadow fringes.



The site receives sun for large parts of the day with some shade provided by a number of mature trees growing along the western border.

Bats have been seen to forage throughout the compartment and along the adjacent western band of trees.

Smooth newts have been found resident in adjacent ponds and thus may be using the site for overwintering.

Butterflies species recorded visiting the top meadow in 2013 were gatekeeper, meadow brown, small and large skipper, small and large white, green veined white and common blue.

#### **1.4 Public and educational uses**

There is no public access to the compartment. One entrance exists from the publicly accessible Athlone Gardens area of the Heath, but this is kept padlocked. A private land owner has an access route via a separate gate to the west of the compartment. However there is no physical barrier preventing his access to the compartment. The compartment has been used for guided walks previously.

North London beekeepers currently have access to the site to tend to the beehives present there. The site is part of a grass snake monitoring route and so volunteers access the site weekly in the spring and summer months.

## 1.5 History

The compartment is within a newly acquired part of Hampstead Heath when approximately 1 hectare of land was donated from the grounds of Athlone house, which was being developed for private residences. Athlone house was until 2000 an NHS hospital nursing home and was formerly the grounds of Caen Wood Towers, whose last private resident up until 1942 was Sir Robert Waley Cohen, giving rise to the name of the adjacent Cohens fields. Caen Wood Towers was built in 1872 by Edward Brooke on the site of what were previously Fitzroy Farm and Dufferin Lodge<sup>1</sup>. One of Brooke's roles amongst others was Justice of the Peace for the City of London and one of her majesty's commissioners for the Lieutenancy of the City of London. The building then became an RAF intelligence training centre. Although the date of its building is unclear, a 'model farm' was built in the south east corner of the Caen towers grounds, which is now remnant within the compartment. This section had prior to the City taking over management been used as storage for garden waste, but had mostly been cleared prior to takeover. The landscape surrounding the present Athlone house has been associated with several estates and has been a designed landscape since the late C18.

Figure 4: C.1870's map with current aerial photograph overlay.



The above figure shows the boundary of the compartment along with the modern aerial photographs of the area and c.1870's maps superimposed.

Figure 5: Postcard of model farm area looking across Cohens field near Kenwood to Highgate village. Courtesy of Michael Hammerson.



The above postcard is believed to be a view looking from Cohens Field near Kenwood to the east towards Highgate and shows the model farm area in the centre of the picture and what is now Athlone Gardens in the background. The postcard has no date but is believed to be from early in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. The image below shows the location as it is today. Witanhurst mansion and St Michael church can still be seen in the background with the oak in front of and just to the left of the farm also surviving. The main tree to the right of the postcard is also still present but obscured in the photo below.

Figure 6: Photograph of the model farm area as it looked in August 2013.



The top meadow was previously thought to be an infrequently managed croquet lawn

A hedgeline was planted as a screen in the top meadow by the housing developers prior to the City taking over management of the area. Since 2007 the top meadow and the central section have been cut once a year to prevent scrub encroachment. The farm section has received selected cuts yearly and the wall kept free of tree and plant growth.

## **1.6 Natural and human-induced trends**

The walls of the farm section are in a state of disrepair and trees should be prevented from growing on the walls. Invasive species such as Himalayan balsam and Japanese knotweed may well seed or spread from or into adjacent land.

## **1.7 External influences**

The private landowner erected a tent to the east of the southern section in 2009 and this may be in the Heath's managed land. This land owner often uses the farm section for exercise purposes and storage of items.

The adjacent residents and landscapers of the Athlone house development may have an influence on the management and aesthetics of the area dependent on any work or planting that they may carry out on the boundary land.

## **2.0. Evaluation**

### **2.1 Natural landscape**

The compartment provides an enclosed and relatively undisturbed habitat for a variety of species including the UKBAP priority species the grass snake. Snakes of all age ranges have been recorded in the site, showing its importance as a grass snake refuge and possibly breeding site.

The site has a mixture of fine leaved grassland, rough grassland and scrub, with nearby ponds providing a food source in the form of amphibians. This mosaic of habitats along with its undisturbed nature provides an ideal habitat for grass snakes to thrive.

The farm section with its old walls and tiled floors provides a unique habitat on the Heath with plants such as hemlock and white bryony rare on the wider Heath.

Invasive species such as Japanese knotweed and Himalayan balsam may spread into adjacent Heath or private land if not managed.

### **2.2 Public and educational uses**

As the compartment is not accessible to the public the site provides good monitoring opportunities for grass snakes with its undisturbed conditions. Guided walks and a grass snake training event have made use of the secluded conditions. Public access should be restricted to these occasional events to ensure that the grass snake populations receive minimal disturbance. The conditions of the old farm walls mean that access should also be restricted on health and safety grounds.

## 2.3 History and built environment

The farm section provides a unique feature on the Heath and should be retained in a stable state. The tiled and paved areas should be prevented from scrubbing over to retain these features, which are also used as grass snake basking sites.

## 2.4 Overall vision

**Maintain the compartment as a mixture of meadow and open scrubland primarily as a habitat for grass snakes**

Maintain the top meadow as open grassland  
Maintain the central section as relatively open scrubland  
Prevent the growth of trees throughout the compartment.  
Maintain the remnant farm section in a stable state.

## 2.5 Relevance to achieving the 2007-2017 Hampstead Heath Management Plan

Overriding Objectives, Essential Actions and Aspirational Goals from Part I of the Hampstead Heath Management Plan which are particularly relevant to the management of the Flagstaff and Sandy Heath gorse sites are as follows:

**NL1:** Retain and enhance the Heath's habitats and natural resources to enable continued quiet enjoyment and appreciation of the natural world by its visitors

The following policies from the Natural Landscape chapter of the Part II Management Plan for the Heath are particularly relevant to Harry's compartment

Policy 7: Mowing regimes will be adopted which maintain grassland and support and encourage desirable flora and fauna. Refuge areas will be left for invertebrates

Policy 30: Traditional methods such as hedge laying will be used where appropriate to maintain and manage the Heath's hedgerows

Policy 34: The spread of scrub will generally be limited and will be managed to prevent it becoming woodland

Policy 46: Populations of plants and animals protected by law, identified as being Priority Species in national and local Biodiversity Action Plans, or subsequently identified as worthy of protection will be protected and enhanced

Policy 50: Selected invasive and inappropriate species will be controlled

### 3.0. Prescription and work programme

Figure 7: Model farm compartment 2013



### 3.1 Regular management tasks

#### Model farm site objectives

Objective	Prescription	frequency	Month(s)	Years	Who by	Priority : low, medium or high
Maintain top meadow as grassland	Cut grass once in autumn. Grass should be incorporated into compost piles at the fringes of the section. A 1m fringe of bramble + raspberry can be left uncut.	Once Yearly	Sept-Oct	Yearly	Cons team/ Volunteers	High
Lay hedge section to the east of the top meadow	Lay hedge every 7-10 years to maintain as thick hedge	Once Every 7-10 years		2016 + review in 2023	Cons Team	Medium
Prevent excess scrub encroachment in farm section	50% of the section should be cut yearly. Sapling trees should be removed. Bramble and other scrub should be removed from open tiled areas.	Once Yearly	Oct-Feb	Yearly	Cons team/ Volunteers	High
Coppice sapling + scrub thickets to prevent from maturing into woodland and maintain as thicket	Coppice shrub trees every 5-7 years along northern boundaries of the farm section and the top meadow section.	Every 5-7 years	Oct-Feb	2015 + review in 2020	Cons team	Medium
Remove tree growth from farm section walls	Cut or carefully ease out sapling growth from walls. Chemical treatment may be required for deep roots which are causing structural damage.	Every 2 years	Any	2014	Cons Team	Medium
Maintain central section as open scrubland	Cut or scythe central section. Leave a fringe of scrub vegetation but do not allow sapling trees to grow in the fringe.	Once Yearly	Oct-Feb	Yearly	Cons Team	High
Remove Himalayan balsam	Hand pull balsam yearly until eradicated	4-5 times Yearly until eradicated	June-Sept	2014+ 2015	Cons team/ Volunteers	High
Remove/treat Japanese knotweed	Treat knotweed	Twice over 2 years	Aug-Sept	2014 + 2015	Cons team	High



### 3.2 One-off tasks

Objective	Prescription	Month(s)	Year	Who by	Priority	Est. cost
Remove sycamores	Remove 2 sycamore trees from North western farm section	October-February	2014	Cons Team	Medium	Local Budget
Remove sapling trees from middle of central section	Remove and prevent regrowth of 4-5 small false acacia, cherry + ash trees.	October-February	2014	Cons Team	Medium	Local Budget

### 4.0 Review

Author	Date	Task	Observation, event or alteration to task

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### 5.1 References

1. British history online: Available at [http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=45248&strquery=caen wood towers](http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=45248&strquery=caen%20wood%20towers)

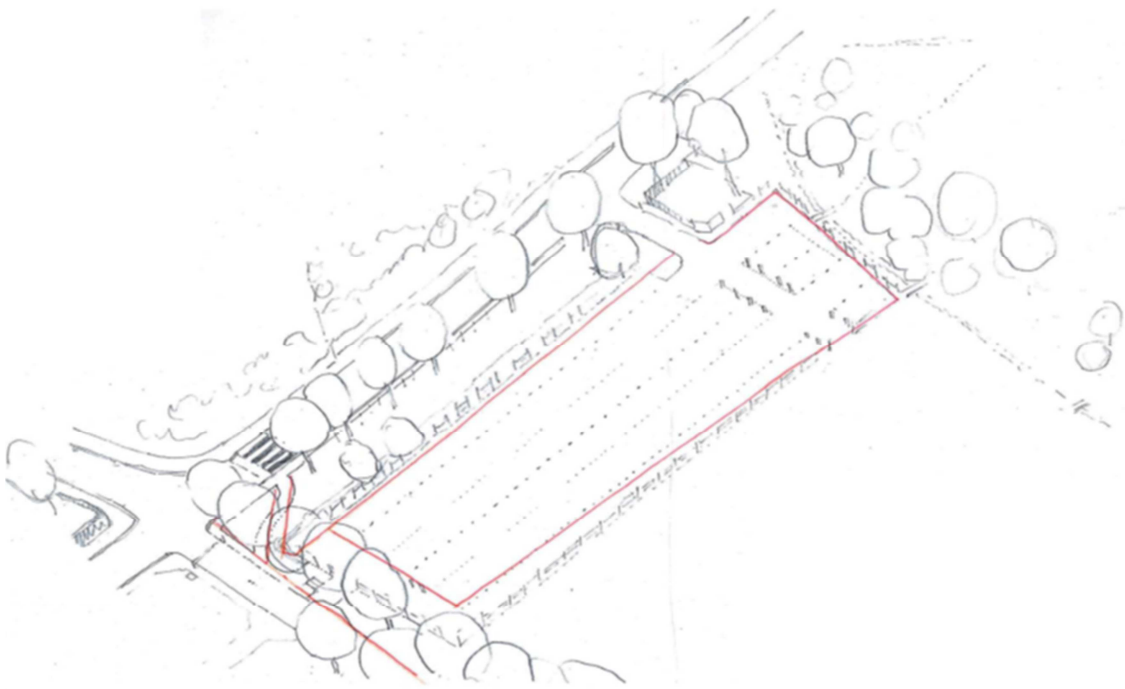
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<b>Committee(s):</b>	<b>Date(s):</b>
Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee	20 January 2014
<b>Subject:</b> Progress Report on the Improvements to East Heath Car Park and South End Green Approach	<b>Public</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Superintendent of Hampstead Heath	<b>For Discussion</b>
<b><u>Summary</u></b>	
<p>This report informs members on the completed landscaping works and minor enlargement of East Heath Car Park that was approved by Management Committee in July 2011. The improved layout and increased capacity is expected to yield additional income to support the budgetary reductions previously identified.</p> <p>The report updates members on the proposed future works planned for Spring 2014.</p>	
<b>Recommendation</b>	
<p>That the Consultative Committee notes the successful implementation of the landscape enhancement scheme and agrees the proposed future works for 2014.</p>	

## **Main Report**

### **Background**

1. East Heath Car Park is a popular facility for visitors to the Heath. Charging for the car park began in July 2005 with a modest fee being charged for stays of less than four hours. The increased cost after four hours was implemented to discourage long stay parking. The car park was often busy and full by mid-morning resulting in drivers having to find somewhere else to park and a lost opportunity for genuine Heath users to park.
2. The original car park measured 2,538m<sup>2</sup> and could accommodate around 100 vehicles organised in 3 rows. The new design saw the car park re-aligned to make it more rectangular in shape (see Figure 1), meaning that 4 rows of vehicles can park. This extra capacity has a potential to raise an additional £60,000 through additional income. The additional income was identified as one of the methods to off-set efficiency savings that had to be made by the Division in July 2011. The plans were presented and supported by your Committee and approved by the Management Committee in February 2011.



**Figure 1:** Sketch of the proposed design showing the existing car park boundary in red (Produced by Dominic Cole Landscape Architects)

3. East Heath car park and the adjacent hard standing area host three fairs annually. During the fairs the car park would remain closed for 8 days, resulting in a revenue loss of £4,000 per week. The removal of the fence line to accommodate fairground rides, took up a considerable staff time and increase vehicle movements across the body of the Heath to/from Kenwood Yard. The initial proposal sought to remove the Showman's Guild and their attractions from the car park and hoped that they could be accommodated on the adjacent land.
4. As part of the review of this area of the Heath it also became clear that the approaches to the Heath via South End Green and East Heath Road had developed a semi-urban appearance and an opportunity existed to make the area more rural.

### **Current Position**

#### **Showman's Guild**

5. Consultation with the Showman's Guild took place between January and November 2012. During these discussions it became apparent that it would not be possible to move the fairground from the car park, as the rides and stall holders could not be accommodated in the remaining space.
6. A series of permanent fence sections with opening 'pole gates' was proposed. This resulted in the fence not having to be removed, reducing the amount of time that the car park is closed from 14 days to 7 days. During the fairs the pole gate are opened and they allowed visitors to move between the car park area and fairground site (see Appendix 1).
7. Plans showing the existing and proposed location of the fairground rides in relation to the new fence line were produced (see Appendix 2). Approval to

relocate eighteen rides to accommodate the new fence line was received from the Showman's Guild.

### ***East Heath Car Park***

8. Planning permission for the car park extension was granted by London Borough of Camden in May 2012. The design was refined following consultation with staff and the Showman's Guild. The project saw 2400 M<sup>2</sup> Coxwell Gravel brought on site along with 710 M<sup>2</sup> macadam to create the new surface. The Coxwell gravel gives a 'countryside feel' to the car park, while the macadam areas provide a more robust surface in the areas of highest use, i.e. the turning areas at the top and bottom of the car park.
9. Thirty additional parking bays were added along with five disabled parking bays. French drains have been installed to improve drainage across the sloping site. The upper entrance has been widened to aid the movement of traffic during events and reduce disruption to car park users. Heath Hands have planted native whips around the existing fencing at the upper entrance of the car park.
10. Works began on the 25th February and were completed in 28 days. The Easter Fair then opened on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March (See Figures 2 and 3), with the car park reopened to the public on the 3rd April 2013.
11. It has not been possible to mark parking bays as stated in the original design as the insertion of concrete markers in to the Coxwell Gravel would disturb the surface and create issues with long term maintenance. Currently the bays are left unmarked, but users are parking sensibly and maximizing the available space. On exceptionally busy days Heath Rangers have assisted visitors with parking and when the Affordable Art Fair was on site in June, the car park was full from 11am in the morning until the car park closed at 8pm in the evening.



**Figure 2:** Photograph of the completed car park, looking north from the main entrance on East Heath Road (March 2013)



**Figure 3:** Photograph of the completed car park, looking east across the car park towards Hampstead No1 pond.

12. The project has created a flexible space which can be utilised for parking and continue to provide a base for Hampstead's traditional fair. Robust entrances to the Heath have been created that can bear the weight of heavy cranes and event equipment that are brought onto site. The cost of all the works including landscaping came to just over £100,000 and was met in part from additional income generated through the Affordable Art Fair and also from the National Grid works who had been working on site at Parliament Hill Fields.
13. Additional enhancement works were carried out at the lower entrance, improving drainage, resurfacing paths and shortening the entrance gate to allow better access for disabled users. A new style of water fountain was agreed during Hampstead Heath Consultative walk in July 2013 has been installed. The Heath's staff created the base which includes a 'dog drinking bowl' (see Figure 4 below).



**Figure 4:** New water fountain at East Heath

14. The hard standing area adjacent to the car park is made up of poor soil with a high content hard core and rubble. This ground can become churned up during events and there has been little success in cultivating grass in the area due to the poor soil makeup. The area often becomes dry and dusty in the summer, detracting from the green and lush areas around it (see Appendix 3 for photographs).
15. Zippo's circus is the last event of the summer based on the hard standing. Following its departure at the end of September, 'Hydro-seeding' of the area was trialed. Hydro-seeding is a process that sprays a mixture of grass seed, water, mulch and fertiliser on to the ground in a single operation. The water retaining mulch keeps the seeds moist, preventing erosion from wind and rain, while the fertiliser provides essential nutrients for healthy grass establishment.
16. The organic cellulose compound comprising of seed and nutrient was sprayed onto the 7000m<sup>2</sup> of ground that makes up the hard standing area on the 27<sup>th</sup>

September (See Appendix 4). Since this time the access to the area has been restricted in order to allow the grass to grow. As shown in the photographs an encouraging sward of grass has developed. Positive comments have been received from members of the public regarding the improvements, see comments below:

Dear Mr Maskell, I am told you are the person who is responsible for giving us back the much loved green vista at the entrance to the Heath from near the overland train. I am so delighted that someone took responsibility for rescuing the sad brown area it had become. Many congratulations on making this happen, it is very much appreciated by many people who may not actually write to thank you. I walk on the Heath regularly and will enjoy it even more now.	Maresfield Gardens, NW3	20/11/2013
Well done, many thanks to everyone! Fingers crossed it will continue to look good.	Local Ward Councillor	19/11/2013
I have been enjoying the green vista every day this week. So a big thank you to you and your colleagues for turning back the horticultural clock and allowing this greenery to develop. I am not surprised - I have always felt that time and less use could make it green again - but I am delighted.	Local Resident	19/11/2013

17. In order to further soften the edges of the car park it was proposed that a native hedge would be added to the road side perimeter of the car park. This has the effect of screening the parked cars from people passing by and increases the rural feel of the area. A total of 100m of mixed native hedging was planted, during October by Heath Hands volunteers and Heath Rangers planted 50m of this with the remaining due to be planted in January.

### ***South End Green***

18. The South End Green entrance to Hampstead Heath has become increasingly busy particular with the improvement of the London Overland Line. The area has a municipal urban feel containing long stretches of fencing and scrub which blocks out light and restricts views. During 2013 Heath Rangers have trimmed back vegetation and scrub adjacent to Hampstead No 1 pond to open up the Cathedral view and the Arboricultural Team have been working on the avenue of Plane trees, removing dead and diseased wood.

### **Future Works**

#### ***South End Green***

19. Heath Rangers will complete the following activities as part of their winter work plan.
  - Removal of the fence to the east of the path adjacent to South End Road. A new stock fence (the same as those used around the wildflower areas) will be installed at the rear of Hampstead Number 1 dam. This will be less visually intrusive and will maintain a safe distance for the public to be kept away from the pond.



- Two short lengths of knee rail will be installed to discourage desire lines and protect the root plates of the London Plane trees (see Appendix 4 for location).
20. The removal of this imposing fence will reveal the splendor of the Cathedral entrance and open up areas of the Heath that have hitherto remained inaccessible to the public.

### **East Heath Car Park**

21. Bicycle stands will be installed at the lower entrance in order to encourage environmental friendly transport to the Heath, but allow the bikes to be secured at the entrance and allow visitors to continue on foot. The stands will be situated outside the car park to avoid conflict between bicycles and vehicles.
22. The remaining 50m of native hedging will be installed by Heath Hands and Heath rangers in January.

### **Corporate & Strategic Implications**

23. The landscape enhancement works supports several of the City Together Strategy - The heart of World Class City 2008-2014 themes, including: *... supports our communities ... protects, promotes and enhances our environment ... is vibrant and culturally rich.*
24. The landscape design also shares the Open Spaces Department Business Plan 2012-2015 aims & objectives: *“Deliver sustainable working practice to promote the variety of life and protect the Open Spaces for future generations .. Manage, develop and empower a capable and motivated work force to achieve high standards of safety and performance”.*
25. The native plants used in the design supports the Overriding Policy D1 in the Hampstead Heath Management Plan Part 1 – Towards a Plan for the Heath 2007-2017, *“Conserve and enhance the historic and planned elements of the Heath’s designed landscapes, while improving their appearance and public facilities”.*

### **Financial and Risk Implications**

26. The expansion of the car park will provide the opportunity to increase car park income by estimated £60,000 per year on an on-going basis. This however forms part of our on-going savings as identified in our budget savings report, presented to this Committee in July 2011.
27. The costs associated with the future landscaping proposals as set out in Appendix 3 will be undertaken by in-house teams, the works forming part of the Annual Work Plan for 2013/14 and beyond.
28. Section 19 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 allows the City to provide parking spaces and to charge for parking. These provisions are applied to the Heath by the London Government Reorganisation (Hampstead Heath) Order 1989.

## **Conclusion**

29. The realignment of East Heath car park has created an additional 30 car parking spaces along with better disabled access and 5 disabled only parking bays. This has been welcomed by visitors and has seen the car park full to capacity during events and the summer. It is anticipated that the larger car park will provide an additional income of £60,000 per year on an on-going basis.
30. The proposed landscaping works at East Heath and South End Green will increase the rural feel of these entrances. Heath hands volunteers and Heath Rangers will complete these activities as part of their work plans and they will not attract a significant cost.

## **Background Papers / Walks:**

Progress Report on Improvements to East Heath Car Park and South End Green Approach July 2011

## **Appendices**

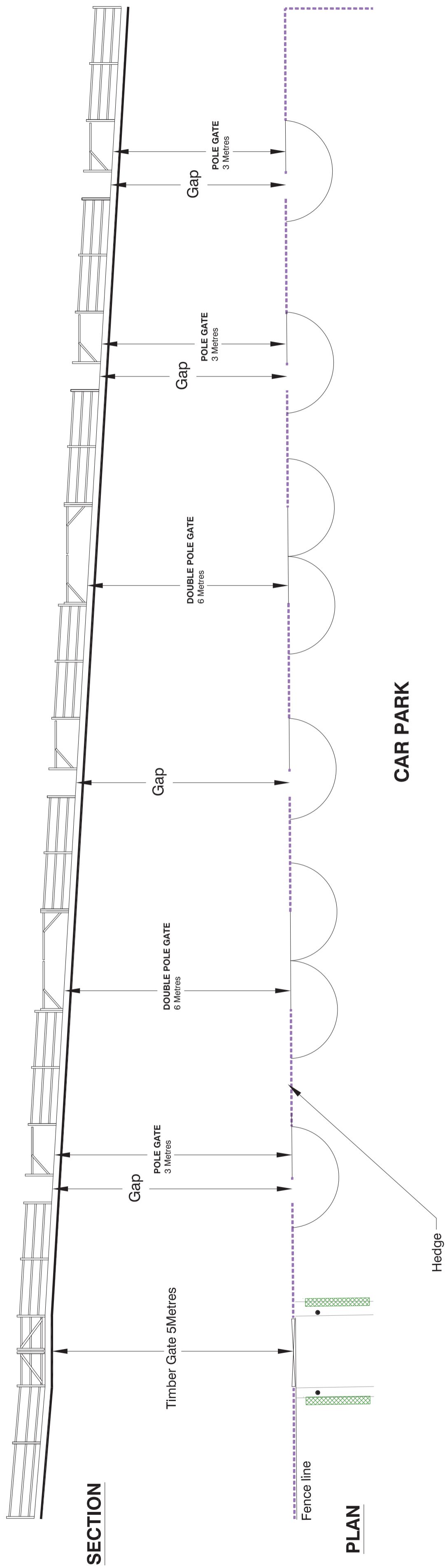
- Appendix 1 - Proposed fence line and gates
- Appendix 2 - Fairground stalls new layout
- Appendix 3 – Artists impression of the proposed works South End Green
- Appendix 4 - Hydroseeding

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Declan Gallagher: [declan.gallagher@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:declan.gallagher@cityoflondon.gov.uk) | 020 7332 3771

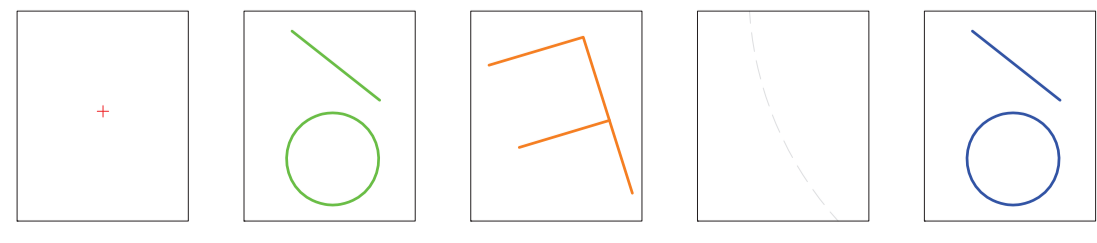


Revision A. 30/01/2013 - Hedge removed from fence line

<b>DCLA</b> Dominic Cole Landscape Architects	
42 Brecknock Road London N7 0DD 020 7700 7510 dominic@dominiccole.net	Project EAST HEATH CARPARK
CITY OF LONDON	Client
PROPOSED FENCE	Title
1:200@A2	Scale
DCLA016	Job No.
11	Drawing No.
A	Revision

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**KEY**



Plotted GPS coordinates

Locations correct as per provided GPS coordinates

Locations indicative as interpreted from the 1970's map of the fairground site

Original plot locations before adjustments to fit car park layout

Plots adjusted to fit car park layout

**East Heath Fairground site – plot sizes and key**

Side shows: all same size 25 foot in diameter  
Stalls: all same size 25 foot in diameter

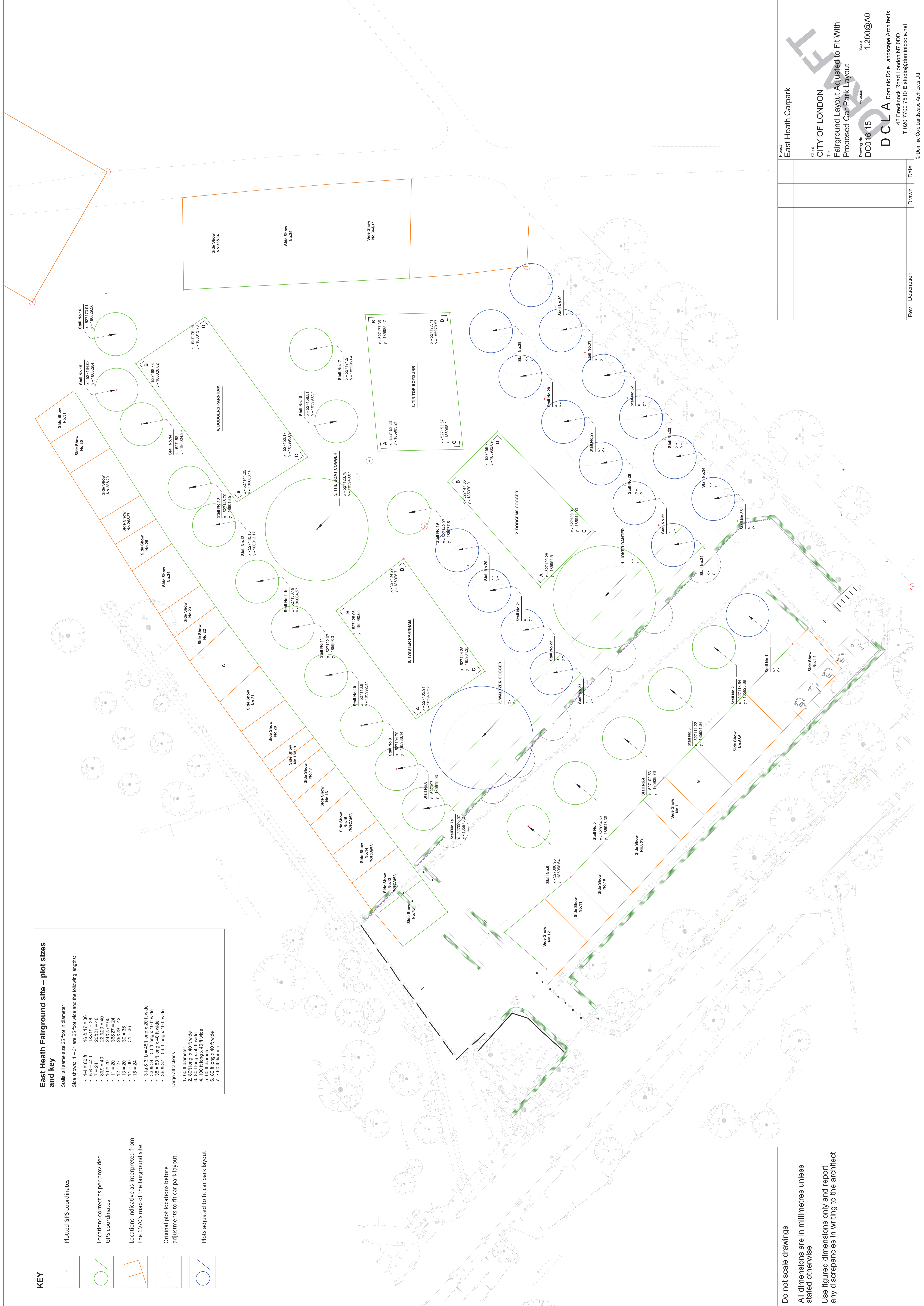
Side shows: 1 – 31 are 25 foot wide and the following lengths:

- 1-4 = 60 ft
- 5-6 = 42 ft
- 7 = 24
- 8 = 20
- 9 = 10
- 10 = 20
- 11 = 20
- 12 = 27
- 13 = 27
- 14 = 30
- 15 = 24
- 16 & 17 = 36
- 18 & 19 = 26
- 20 & 21 = 40
- 22 = 40
- 23 & 24 = 60
- 25 & 26 = 24
- 27 = 27
- 28 & 29 = 42
- 30 = 30
- 31 = 36

- 31 & 31b = 45 ft long x 20 ft wide
- 32 = 50 ft long x 40 ft wide
- 33 = 50 ft long x 40 ft wide
- 34 = 50 ft long x 40 ft wide
- 35 = 50 ft long x 40 ft wide
- 36 & 37 = 56 ft long x 40 ft wide

**Large attractions**

- 1. 60 ft diameter
- 2. 80 ft long x 40 ft wide
- 3. 100 ft long x 40 ft wide
- 4. 100 ft long x 40 ft wide
- 5. 60 ft diameter
- 6. 80 ft long x 40 ft wide
- 7. 7.60 ft diameter



Do not scale drawings  
All dimensions are in millimetres unless stated otherwise  
Use figured dimensions only and report any discrepancies in writing to the architect

Project	East Heath Carpark		
Client	CITY OF LONDON		
Title	Fairground Layout Adjusted to Fit With Proposed Car Park Layout		
Drawing No.	DC016-15		
Revision	1:200@A0		
Scale	1:200@A0		
Author	DCLA Dominic Cole Landscape Architects		
Address	42 Brecknock Road London N7 0DD		
Phone	T 020 7700 7510 E studio@dominiccole.net		
Website	www.dominiccole.com		
Rev	Description	Drawn	Date

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Proposed



Existing



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*Appendix 4: Hydro-seeding of East Heath hard standing area*



Aerial photograph of East Heath (2010)



Hard standing following Hydro-seeding (September 2013)



Hard standing area following grass growth (November 2013)

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