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| Committee | Dated: |
| Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queen's Park Committee | 5 September 2018 |
| Subject: Superintendent's Update | Public |
| Report of: Superintendent of Hampstead Heath | For Information |
| Report author: Bob Warnock – Open Spaces Department | |

Summary

This report provides an update to Members of the Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queen's Park Committee on management and operational activities since May 2018.

Recommendations

It is recommended that:

- Members note the contents of this report.

Main Report

Hampstead Heath Management Plan

1. Development of the Hampstead Heath Management Plan 2018-2028 (2018 Plan) is progressing to schedule, with the final version to be completed by November 2018.
2. A detailed report was submitted to Members of the Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee (HHCC) on 9 July 2018, and Members views were sought on the following documents:
 - Final progress report on the 2007 Hampstead Heath Management Plan.
 - First draft of the Hampstead Heath Management Plan 2018-2028.
 - Revised schedule for completion of the new Hampstead Heath Management Plan 2018- 2028, including proposed community consultation.
3. Members of the HHCC were invited to meet with the Projects and Management Support Officer during July and August to discuss the draft and were also invited to submit their comments in writing. During this time, consultation with a range of Community and Stakeholder groups was undertaken.

4. The draft 2018 Plan is based on the recommendations of the review of the 2007 Plan conducted in 2016. The draft 2018 Plan builds on the 2007 Plan and aims to be:
 - Short and concise, to enable it to be readily updated/reviewed.
 - Outcomes-based and measurable.
 - Embedded into the new Management Framework and our ways of working (see figure 1).
 - In accordance with the four themes of the Heath Vision.
 - Aligned with the City of London Corporate Plan and its format.
5. A report summarising the consultation findings and a revised draft of the 2018 Plan will be presented to the Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee at their meeting on 29 October 2018.
6. The final draft of the 2018 Plan will be presented to Members of the HHHWQPC for consideration at their next meeting on 28 November 2018.



Figure 1: Management Framework.

Land acquisition

7. The Superintendent will provide an update at the meeting.

Planning

8. The Superintendent will provide an update on the following planning applications:
 - The Water House, Millfield Lane. 2017/3692/P (Granted subject to S106)
 - Parliament Hill William Ellis School 2018/1270/P
 - South Fairground Site (London Borough of Camden enforcement action)
 - North Fairground Site 2017/4346/P
 - Jack Straws Castle 2017/2064/P (Current)
 - Chester Court, Lissenden Garden 2017/1353/P (Refused)

Trees and Oak Processionary Moth

9. As of the 14 August 2018, 1,721 nests have been identified on 630 trees across Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queen's Park.
10. Specialist Contractors have been undertaking nest removal, and as of 14 August, 1,114 nests have been removed from 325 trees across Hampstead Heath,

Highgate Wood and Queen's Park. Of these, 1,039 nests have been removed from 285 trees from Hampstead Heath.

11. The removals have been concentrated on high risk trees, such as those located near to playgrounds, swimming facilities, major roads, paths and areas of high footfall.
12. For comparison, in 2017 a total of 187 nests were removed by a Specialist Contractor.
13. The nest picking operation was ceased in late August when the moths began to emerge from nests.
14. The costs of managing OPM in 2018 is so far in the region of £100,000. This includes internal costs, such as staff time, to carry out inspections, and external costs which cover specialist contractor nest spraying and removal.
15. The Director of Open Spaces Department will be presenting a detailed report in the autumn setting out the impacts and costs associated with managing OPM across the Department.

Constabulary

16. An update on recent prosecutions is provided below:
 - Byelaw 13 – Cycling, guilty plea, fine £100.00, costs £100.00 and a victim surcharge of £30.00.
 - Byelaw 21 & 23 – Dog Control, guilty plea, fine £133.00. The court withdrew the offence of Byelaw 23 as they felt it was dealt with under Byelaw 21.
 - Byelaw 21 – Dog control, proved in absence, fine £400.00, costs £300.00 and a victim surcharge of £40.00.
 - Byelaw 13 & 45 proved in absence, fine £270.00, costs £185.00 and a victim surcharge of £30.00.
17. Since the end of July, 690 byelaw formal warnings and enforcement actions have been issued. Officers have dealt with 676 incidents and 20 criminal offences.
18. The main focus for the Constabulary Team this summer has been the Parliament Hill Lido. The start of the School summer holiday coincided with an extended period of hot weather which led to large crowds at the facility. On several occasions, Officers had to deal with incidents of disorder.
19. The Constabulary Team continues to maintain a close working relationship with the Metropolitan Police Service, sharing intelligence and joint patrols with Local Safer Neighbourhood Team Officers.
20. Officers from the Constabulary Team continue to attend Local Ward Panel Meetings.

21. Over the course of the year, the Constabulary Team have been working closely with the London Ambulance Service Hazardous Area Response Team and Officers have participated in training sessions.

City Surveyors Cyclical Work Programme

22. Hampstead Heath Extension Changing Rooms – the boiler and associated pipework and vales are being replaced. Works will be completed before the start of the rugby and football season in September 2018.
23. The public toilets at Golders Hill Park have been redecorated ahead of the start of the school summer holidays.

Capital Projects

East Heath Car Park (Divisional Plan Project 2.1)

24. Planning approval has been granted by the London Borough of Camden.
25. Due to the project costs being in excess of £400,000 the tender process will take longer than initially planned. The increase in projects costs to £427,944 is due to the additional drainage requirements and rural landscaping.
26. Is it currently estimated that works will commence on site in Spring 2019.

Adventure Playground (Divisional Plan Project 3.10)

27. The Team have now received revised proposals from the Designer, with design alterations in line with feedback received following Stakeholder engagement. A 3D model of the proposed designs will be produced to facilitate further Stakeholder engagement.

Swimming

28. The Superintendent will provide an update on the swimming facilities.

Learning Programme

29. During the Summer term 5,327 Primary School and 356 Secondary School students engaged with the schools' programmes.
30. During the course of the school Summer holidays a daily average of 37 children attended the One O'clock Club and 91 children the Adventure Playground.
31. So far in 2018, 506 participants have engaged with Playing Wild (1,631 in total since 2016) and 37 participants have engaged with Green Talent (242 in total since 2016).

Benches (Divisional Plan Project 3.9)

32. Over the last 15 months 24 new benches have been installed. These are a mix of new sponsors and old sponsors who have renewed for a further 10-year period.
33. The installation of a further 20 benches are currently being progressed and the waiting list will remain closed during this time.
34. Since 2016, 104 current sponsors have contacted the City of London to update their contact details. This is a result of local media attention.
35. As outlined in the Bench Policy, older benches where sponsor details are not held will be tagged with a small sign requesting the sponsor contacts the City of London. To date 73 benches have been tagged, with sponsors for just over half of these benches subsequently coming forward. A further 30 benches will be tagged over the autumn/winter.

Waste and Recycling Review

36. A review of the Waste and Recycling operation at Hampstead Heath is currently underway.
37. The review will cover both the short and longer term on site waste collection and will consider longer term aims, such as increasing recycling, reducing the amount of waste left on the Heath and reducing cross contamination of waste, for instance via dog waste. The longer term aims of the review will be achieved through increased public awareness and collective input.
38. A Waste and Recycling Outcomes Framework has been drafted with key actions corresponding with the principal outcomes of the new Hampstead Heath Management Plan (2018 Plan), *Caring for the Heath, Enhancing quality of life, and Protect and Conserve*.

Events

This Girl Can

39. Between 10-16 June 2018 free introductory sessions were offered in Tennis, Track and field, Rugby, fencing and fitness to support the National this Girl Can campaign. The sessions were held in partnership and supported by Highgate Harriers, Hampstead Rugby Football Club, England Rugby, Camden Fencing Club, Sport Hackney, British Military Fitness and the Parliament Hill tennis coach.
40. The sessions were promoted by the Clubs involved and on social media by the City of London's Media Team and could be booked via Eventbrite.
41. Over the course of the week 151 girls took part in sessions, as detailed below:
 - Tennis, 10 June 2018 - 12

- Rugby schools session, 14 June 2018 - 40
- Rugby, 16 June 2018 - 30
- Fencing, 16 June 2018 - 11
- British Military Fitness, 16 June 2018 - 5
- Track and Field, 16 June 2018 - 18
- 5k Heath Run, 16 June 2018 - 35

42. Heath Hands also supported this campaign through additional sessions on 13 and 15 June 2018.

Race for Life

43. On Saturday 7 July 2018, 859 participants ran 5k around the Heath to raise funds for Cancer Research UK.

Give it a Go

44. Give it a Go! returned to the Heath on Sunday 15 July 2018. The day comprised of taster sessions in sports and wellbeing activities such as football, athletics, tennis, fencing, dance and yoga to promote health and wellbeing. The day was well attended by families and many people participated and tried their hand at a new activity.

45. The Traditional Fair returned to the Heath over the Bank Holiday weekend (25-27 August 2018). This was the final traditional fair of the year and features a mix of stalls and rides suitable for all the family.

Weddings and Civil Ceremonies

46. The Hill Garden and Pergola continues to be a popular venue for weddings and civil ceremonies, with ten having taken place this year and a further three planned. Ceremonies have ranged from 25 to 120 guests and the feedback received by staff continues to be excellent. Four ceremonies are currently booked for 2019.

Hampstead Heath Ponds Project

47. On the 21 June 2018 the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management awarded the Ponds Project 'Highly Commended' in their Best Practice Award for Stakeholder Engagement.

Highgate Wood

48. There is good progress on the Roman Kiln Project. The Friends of the Roman Kiln (FORK) are now a constituted charity. An external consultant has been appointed to prepare an application to the Heritage Lottery Fund. A fundraising event for the Roman Kiln Project was held in Highgate Wood in July which was a great success.

49. The Highgate Woods Community Day took place on Sunday 2 September 2018.

Queen's Park

50. The Book Festival took place in the park over the weekend of 30 June - 1 July 2018, it was considered a success by the event organisers. A provisional date has been requested for 2019, building upon the success of the 2018 event.
51. There will be five outdoor cinema screenings over the summer. A final cinema screening will be held on Saturday 8 September 2018. To date, numbers in attendance have been lower than anticipated.
52. The bands on the Bandstand and the children's magic shows continue to be very popular with members of the public, with lots of people enjoying the free entertainment provided.
53. Queen's Park Day will be held on Sunday 16 September 2018, this is an annual event, organised by volunteers from the Residents' Association.
54. The 6 Tennis Courts are due to be resurfaced, with works are due to commence on site from Monday 17 September 2018.

City of London Central Grants Programme

55. Grants are offered for voluntary and registered charities to support projects linked to "Enjoying Green Spaces and the Natural Environment". There are a range of themes for which applications will be considered:
 - Connecting communities with their green spaces
 - Improving the conservation value of the green spaces
 - Improving our knowledge of the biodiversity of the green spaces
 - Delivering behaviour change initiatives that reduce the amount of litter and fly tipping within green spaces
 - Improving mental ill-health through the use of green spaces
56. A "Meet the Funder" session has been arranged at Parliament Hill Conference Room, to provide further information and support, this event will take place on 25 September 2018, between 3 - 5pm.
57. The deadline for submission of grant applications is 19 October 2018. Please see appendix 1 for further information and a link to additional information.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – City of London Central Grants Programme Poster

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