

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Dated:</b>
Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood & Queen's Park Committee	23 May 2018
<b>Subject:</b> Superintendent's Update	<b>Public</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Superintendent of Hampstead Heath	<b>For Decision</b>
<b>Report author:</b> 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 across the Heath since February 2018.

### Recommendations

It is recommended that:

- Members note the contents of this report.
- Members provide feedback in relation to the recommendations presented in the Shared Use paths report (appendix 2) as outlined in paragraph 3.
- Members agree that a prioritised programme of surfacing and waymarking works will be implemented through the Annual Work Programmes as outlined in paragraph 4.

### Main Report

#### Divisional Plan

1. A 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter update on the status and progress of the 2017/18 Divisional Plan Projects is attached at Appendix 1. Members are asked to note the progress of the Projects, and in particular Projects with April 2018 milestones.
2. Due to a duplication of Project 3.5 (development of an Events/Culture Strategy) in the 2017/18 Divisional Plan, and additional Project has been added to the 2018/19 Divisional Plan. Project 3.5 is the development of an Events Strategy, and Project 3.14 is the development of an Arts and Heritage Strategy.

#### Shared-Use path surfacing

3. A draft report outlining the surfacing and waymarking options for the existing shared-use-paths on Hampstead Heath was discussed by the Hampstead Heath

Consultative Committee at their meeting in April. The Superintendent is seeking Members views on the final draft of the report (Appendix 2), and in particular, on the preferred surfacing material (page 16), the priorities identified (page 20-23), and waymarking (page 29).

4. Following feedback from Members it is recommended that a prioritised programme of surfacing and waymarking works will be prepared and subsequently, implemented through the Annual Work Programmes.

### **Planning**

5. 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 2017/5395/P (Granted)
  - Athlone House (Granted)
  - The Wallace House

### **Extreme Weather**

6. The Superintendent will provide an update on recent site closures.

### **Constabulary**

7. The Superintendent will provide an update on recent prosecutions.

### **City Surveyors Cyclical Work Programme**

8. The Superintendent will provide an update on current projects at Mixed Pond, and the Lido.

### **City of London Corporation (Open Spaces) Act 2018**

9. The City of London Corporation (Open Spaces) Act 2018 received Royal Assent on 15 March 2018.
10. A copy can be accessed at <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/id/ukla/2018/1>. This additional legislation has significant implications for the City Corporation and its ability to manage its Open Spaces. The Act focuses primarily on three main objectives:
  - Clarifying general management powers;
  - Strengthening the City Corporation's powers to deal with anti-social behaviour; and
  - Providing greater opportunity to generate income to be re-invested back into the running of our green spaces.
11. Exercise of the new powers will be decided by the Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood & Queen's Park Committee following consultation with the Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee.

## Swimming

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

## Workforce

13. The Open Spaces Department has appointed 23 Apprentices as part of the Government's Apprentice levy. Six apprentices have been appointed at Hampstead Heath, in the following roles:
  - 1 Conservation - Environmental Conservation NVQ Level 3
  - 2 x Ranger - Environmental Conservation NVQ Level 2
  - 1 Arborist - Arboriculture NVQ Level 2
  - 1 Zoo/Farm - Animal Care NVQ Level 2
  - 1 Gardener - Horticulture NVQ Level 2

## Upcoming Events

14. Give it a Go! returns to the Heath on Sunday 15 July 2018. The event showcases Sport, Health and Physical activity on the Heath.
15. Parliament Hill Fields Lido 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The Lido was opened on 20 August 1938. At a cost of £34,000, it was the most ambitious and expensive of the thirteen Lidos built on parkland sites by the London County Council (LCC). In 1937 the then LCC Leader, Herbert Morrison, vowed to make London 'a City of Lidos'. The aims were to provide open-air recreation for all and to bring the seaside to the City. 80 years on we will be celebrating the opening of the Lido with a series of events organised by the Parliament Hill Lido User Group (PHLUG). The events will include:
  - Thursday 21 June 2018 - Summer Solstice event.
  - Sunday 24 June 2018 - Lido Strollathon. The other Lidos have been invited to a guided swimming tour of the Heath, which will include a visit to the bathing ponds.
  - Friday 13 July - Lido picnic at the bandstand. The Rhythm Kings will be providing musical entertainment.
  - Saturday 25 August - 80th Anniversary Spectacular! Evening swim followed by live music, food and wine.
  - Sunday 2 September 2018 - 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Duathlon.
  - Saturday 29 September 2018 - All Out-Swim Hampstead (for Macmillan Cancer Support).
  - Friday 21 December 2018 - Winter Solstice event.

## Learning Team

### Schools programme (ahead of target)

16. Primary schools have been participating in our programme throughout January, February and March. We delivered our first outdoor literacy sessions with two classes in the Old Orchard garden in full sunshine. The teachers and students

really enjoyed the workshop. The teachers commented that the sessions used a creative learning approach to engage and inspire all pupils. Map reading on the Heath has been a popular session over the last few months, an example of teacher feedback includes: "Very fun and hands on learning. The children enjoyed themselves and it linked to our topic perfectly".

17. The launch of our new secondary Schools website is on track for April 2018. Several new sessions have been trialled on the Heath with a local secondary school. The sessions provided useful feedback that has been used to improve the sessions ready for the website. Example sessions include making model boats and testing their ability to float as well as a fire lighting and shelter building session.

#### Play programme (ahead of target)

18. Plans for the re-development of the Adventure playground and Peggy Jay Centre grounds have progressed well over the last few months. The designers are currently working on a concept design for both areas and this was discussed with stakeholders on the Heath on 6 April. The children who use the Adventure playground were invited to take part in the consultation workshop with the designers, to gather their feedback on the initial designs for the playground. We are looking forward to seeing the designs soon with the aim of starting the build in the autumn.
19. The One O'clock Club has continued to receive excellent numbers of visitors over the winter, focusing on providing a wide variety of play experiences for children under 5.

#### Playing Wild – (on target)

20. The first play trail has been developed for Parliament Hill Fields incorporating activities and games encouraging families to explore the Heath independently. The play trail is currently being trialled by families who attend the One O'clock Club. The trail is due to be published online in April 2018.

#### Green Talent (ahead of target)

21. A two-week project took place in March, providing work experience placements for 9 students. The students were given the opportunity to learn about the various teams that work on the Heath including helping at the One O'clock Club, the Education Centre as well as carrying out conservation tasks on the Heath, at Queen's Park and West Ham Park.

#### **Highgate Wood**

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

#### **Queen's Park**

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

## **Appendices**

- Appendix 1 – 2018/19 Divisional Plan (Including 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Status & Update for 2017/18 Divisional Plan).
- Appendix 2 – Land Use Consultants Report (final draft)

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