



Green Flag Award 2018

Name of Site: Pinner Memorial Park

Managing Organisation: London Borough of Harrow

Desk Assessment Feedback (Management Plan and supporting documentation)

| Criteria | Strengths | Recommendations |
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| Presentation | <p>The strategic context was covered and local aims and objectives, albeit somewhat jumbled up.</p> <p>Contents link to page helps quick access.</p> <p>Locating and getting to the site is well documented.</p> | <p>Images should have captions or be linked to text, (Fig 1) for example.</p> <p>The PDF I downloaded had a number of formatting problems, not least cut off landscape pages.</p> <p>Page numbers should follow numerical order.</p> <p>On page 15 there is a lone picture, no caption, page 16 is blank, and the heading for text on page 18 is on its own on previous page.</p> <p>The version on the website is formatted better but is a previous version, website should be updated.</p> <p>Avoid the word “should”, if it is in the action plan it “would” be carried out.</p> <p>There is some repeated</p> |

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| | | <p>information at various sections, avoiding this makes the plan more concise.</p> <p>Section 4 might be better placed nearer the beginning.</p> |
| Health, Safety & Security | The “Capable Guardian Scheme” is an excellent initiative. | <p>“Place making” and “Target hardening” also arose from the consultation, but there is no further information on these.</p> <p>No mention of Police patrols, lighting or CCTV.</p> <p>There is no defined opening times, and there is some ambiguity over the site been actually open 24 hours/day. Needs clarification.</p> <p>No mention of staff training, particularly First Aid.</p> |
| Maintenance of equipment, buildings & landscape | <p>Procedures in place to ensure site is kept in good condition and follow up maintenance using in house teams, well coordinated.</p> <p>Commend the use of Community Payback to carry out railing painting.</p> | <p>The repairs budget (£105k) should be broken down to indicate how much is available to Pinner Mem. Park.</p> <p>We did not find a “Preventative Maintenance Programme”, recommend this as opposed to ad hoc approach.</p> <p>Would a site Maintenance Table be more useful ?</p> <p>Management Plan should ensure appropriate styles of equipment, such as benches/bins are used in the future, use make, name, description, even an image to ensure this.</p> |
| Litter, cleanliness, vandalism | Good to see a high standard of litter clearance is required and rapid response to graffiti removal. | Maintain current ethos. |
| Environmental Management | <p>Intention to promote and encourage wildlife. Harrow Council have a Climatic Change Strategy.</p> <p>There are defined targets for reducing chemicals, gas, water and electricity.</p> | <p>The Environmental link on the website takes you to “Controlled parking zones”. In this version of the plan specify Euro 6 or better for vehicle emissions.</p> |

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| | | <p>Herbicides used to control weeds on paths and in borders is disappointing.</p> <p>Green waste is composted, is it returned to site?</p> <p>When referring to the action plan actions are mostly investigatory or consultation, no tangible actions??</p> |
| Biodiversity, Landscape and Heritage | <p>The site clearly has a lot of history.</p> <p>Use of felled trees and standing timber to promote insect life.</p> <p>There is a Conservation Action Plan as an Appendices.</p> | <p>The map (Fig 3) should have a circa date.</p> <p>Picture on page 15 has no caption and there is another blank page at 16.</p> <p>Section 3.5 “conservation” would usefully include a plan identifying the compartments.</p> |
| Community Involvement | <p>A very diverse community.</p> <p>Forum's involvement where they “help manage and maintain within available budgets” is commended.</p> <p>Harrow Council seek to connect with the local community.</p> | <p>Not clear how this works and is controlled?</p> <p>Page 11 refers to “access in relation to cultural issues”, but does not clarify what this issue actually is .</p> |
| Marketing & Communication | <p>Four concerts in the Park (29th July and 5th. 12th. and 19th. August) on the website.</p> <p>Section 3.8 covers the marketing strategy.</p> <p>Attempts are being made to engage with hard to reach groups.</p> | <p>Text suggests a leaflet is to be produced, not in the action plan, when?</p> <p>There could be quite a bit more on the website.</p> |
| Overall management | <p>The organisational chart is great, showing the management structure.</p> <p>There should be a better understanding of the relationship with each of “streets and grounds” assistant manager.</p> <p>Pleasing to see monitoring arrangements for this Plan and its delivery.</p> | <p>Is there a specific person who acts as custodian for the Park?</p> <p>Include a budget section specific to this park, inc.</p> <p>Revenue budgets for grounds maintenance and buildings and equipment repairs.</p> <p>Include Capital or externally funded items and if possible anticipated volunteer time.</p> <p>The Action Plan is key and should contribute to the</p> |

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| | <p>Council's policy and strategic aims, as well as being conducive to the site's needs.</p> <p>The action plan feels a bit generic. In Appendix 3, the "calculation of risk" is very confusing, (low impact x low probability = medium risk). Suggest scale of 1-5 for each thus score of 1 = no risk and 25 maximum risk</p> <p>Not all the actions are SMART (mentioned in the text) and as such are quite hard to pin down.</p> |
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Additional comments

Include in the list of supporting documents "Raising the Standard", it is a very useful guide to Green Flag. Some of the other reference points are a bit dated today and less relevant.

Tree inventory and plan very good, some entries have no species and the numbering system repeats itself on the plan. Do you have tree inspection software?

Field Assessment Feedback

| Criteria | Strengths | Recommendations |
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| A Welcoming Place | <p>The Heath Robinson Museum and the well run cafe are an excellent attraction to this historic Park.</p> <p>The sculpture linked to the museum is a welcome enhancement.</p> <p>The finger post direction signs provide added help to those navigating through the Park.</p> | <p>The Chapel Lane Car Park entrance and approach is poor. Recommend removal of galvanised barriers, but extending the square wooden posts.</p> <p>The two trees flanking the gates are dead or have dead in them and detract.</p> <p>The style of Park information board is not in keeping with the park's heritage and are quite hard to read due to the small fonts used.</p> <p>There is no sign at the cafe entrance, the most popular access.</p> <p>The Dickson Fold entrance was untidy and overgrown and not welcoming.</p> |
| Healthy, Safe and Secure | <p>The Park offers a variety of experiences to enhance health and in general terms being quite busy felt quite safe.</p> <p>Police were patrolling at the time of the visit.</p> <p>Play equipment was safe and usable, with some added interest.</p> | <p>As the Park is not locked and assuming people walk through at night, then lighting might improve safety.</p> <p>CCTV cameras at access points might also contribute to feelings of safety, accessing and exiting the site.</p> <p>Several members of the public asked if there was a toilet. It was not clear where or if there was one and whether it was available to non-cafe users.</p> <p>Tree roots are beginning to cause some disruption to pathways, creating trip hazards.</p> |
| Well Maintained and Clean | <p>The site was clear of litter and dog fouling.</p> | <p>There was some graffiti on play equipment and elsewhere.</p> <p>Borders in the formal garden were untidy with self set trees predominant.</p> |

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| Environmental Management | <p>Rainwater was harvested at the bowls pavilion and the runoff from the main buildings feed the main lake.</p> <p>It is a peat free park.</p> <p>Recycling of parks litter bin waste was tried and proved unsuccessful due to extensive contamination.</p> <p>Annual bedding is restricted in order to reduce water consumption.</p> | <p>Use of herbicides was seen in borders and paths, in part to deal with a lack of weed control. On site it was not clear who authorised this.</p> |
| Biodiversity Landscape and Heritage | <p>Good progress in leaving green margins as corridors and refuges for a range of flora and fauna.</p> <p>The restoration of the museum and cafe building are huge assets to the site. Both are well run and popular.</p> | <p>Some work done to renovate some areas in great need. Careful research is needed to ensure that changes are in keeping with the heritage value of the park. (Entrance signs and furniture as examples).</p> <p>No examples of bird or bat boxes</p> |
| Community Involvement | <p>There is understanding of the very diverse community in the catchment and provision of fitness, play and leisure activities.</p> <p>The Museum appeared to be very actively engaging with the community, with a good range of interpretational and educational activity taking place through half term.</p> | <p>No evidence base was provided in the plan, nor on the day.</p> |
| Marketing and Communication | <p>One of the features is the retained aviary, adjacent to a main pathway.</p> <p>Events are advertised at the entrance points.</p> | <p>No leaflets were available and the website is poor.</p> <p>Just four concerts in Summer seems quite lean in the context of the area and its residents.</p> <p>The information boards require some cleaning and refurbishment.</p> |
| Management | <p>We were encouraged that the new management team might now get to grips with the site's future.</p> | <p>Once the plan is made smarter and is informed through updated consultation, it will be easier to monitor progress.</p> <p>There appears to be a reliance upon previous employees for advice on maintenance issues.</p> |

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| | | Management could pursue the possibility of offering a franchise for ice cream sales and other catering, particularly during park events. |
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General comments:

A member of full time staff, on site would help enhance the overall standard of maintenance.

The judges felt the site was tired and progress to restore quite slow, possibly due to budget restraints. Recent staff and structural changes can't have helped this and appear to have led to a lack of "ownership" and true commitment to this valuable park.

Is it a candidate for HLF funding?