

## Minutes of Forum general meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2018 - at Bruce Castle Museum

**Present:** Friends Groups/Community representatives from: **Alexandra Park** (Robyn Thomas), **Chesnuts Park** (Ceri Williams), **Coldfall Woods and Muswell Hill Playing Fields** (**Ann Brookhouse**), **Down Lane Park** (Martin Ball), **Downhills Park** (Clare Parry), **Finsbury Park** (Eldridge Culverwell and Clive Carter), **Parkside Malvern green spaces** and **Haringey Rivers Forum** (John Miles), **Hartington Park and Carbuncle Passage** (Chloe Tait), **Lordship Rec** (Joan Curtis and Dave Morris), **The Paddock** (Quentin Given), **Parkland Walk** (Cathy Meeus and David Warren), **Priory Common** (Joyce Rosser), **Priory Park** (Chris Chadwick), **Queens Wood** (David Warren), **Tottenham Cemetery** (Dave Morris), **Wolves Lane** (Phil Chinn), Clif Osborne from **The Conservation Volunteers** **And For Part Two Haringey Council:** (Simon Farrow, Thema Channer, Sahina Choudhury, Lily Labonte and Glynis Kirkwood) **Apologies:** Bruce Castle Park, Meadow Orchard, Railway Fields, White Hart Lane.

### Part One

**1. Minutes of last meeting (1<sup>st</sup> September 2018)** These were agreed.

**2. Waste collection** Cathy Meeus from Parkland Walk highlighted waste and recycling management issues/problems and suggested that there should be a working party of Friends Groups. Dave Morris said that there had been problems over the summer. Should it be part of the Parks Strategy or separate Friends meeting? The current litter collection schedule for Haringey parks was distributed (showing whether site visits are daily, weekly or twice weekly). Urgent need for issues to be addressed.

**3. Ten Year Strategy** Notes circulated of July meeting of council officers and Friends reps re Parks & Public Open Spaces Strategy. Council cabinet has accepted or part-accepted most of the recommendations of the Scrutiny report – most of the points can be considered during the Strategy update. . [See below] Dave said Parks Dept should aim to make our parks the best in the country. He reported on his meeting with Simon Farrow to discuss process for Strategy.

**4. Football Facilities Plan** Dave, and Clasford from Broadwater United FC, met with a consultant for the Football Foundation (funded by FA) to discuss grassroots football provision ideas for Haringey – seeking sites for informal football as well as pitches and pavilions. Plan for Haringey to be produced. . [See below]. It was suggested there have been local issues with football eg Priory Park and Albert Rec. Paul Ely said there is an active Football Forum in Haringey.

**5. Paddling pools and fountains** There are three paddling pools in Haringey parks – their needs will be discussed in Strategy. What is Council position on water fountains? . [Seem to be no problem if properly maintained, regularly tested, and no cost to Council]. Parks cafes should be refilling water bottles. Priory Park got £10K to restore historic water fountain but not connected to water supply.

**6. Hartington Park and Carbuncle Passage** This is a new group. Site needs improvement. Problems of waste and litter. They have had clear ups. They want to have development plan for their park with input from locals.

**7. Wolves Lane** Phil Chinn praised Anne Gray and Pamela Harling for their work in raising funds for solar panels on greenhouse roofs. He said that the Consortium needed to do more to look after the site – heating still not working.

**8. London - Friends of Green Spaces Network** Continue to have regular well-attended meetings for FGs. Dave distributed map produced by London National Park City. This will be formally launched next year.

**9. National - Federation of Parks and Green Spaces** Dave said that since the Charter for Parks was launched in July another dozen national organisations had signed up. The Sunday Mail has run a weekly “save our parks” campaign, focusing on some of the Charter demands.

**10. Rivers Forum** John Miles circulated details for next meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> November. He referred to water management/flood risks plan and Moselle recognition and restoration campaign. Similar process starting for

Stonebridge Brook in Chestnuts Pk. Proposal to restore Alexandra Palace filter beds as wetlands. Role of Thames Water. John is visiting Friends Groups.

**11. Lordship Rec** Details of their lottery-funded Greenspace Community Empowerment national project 'parkscommunityuk' circulated.

**12. Ray Swain** Dave described the vital work for parks and Bruce Castle Museum done by Ray who died recently. Friends of Lordship Rec produced a special leaflet as an acknowledgement to him. A copy was circulated.

**13. Walks booklets.** Thousands of our own booklets available to all groups for free.

## Part Two

### **14. Parks reports (Council responses below) -----**

**Downhills Park** Exploring water systems and ponds. There will be a remembrance event at the recently restored war memorial. The rugby club has restored their building

**Wolves Lane** Planting bulbs and Chelsea flowers and shrubs. Successful crowdfunding for solar panels. But gas boiler heater not working which is threat to plants. The gate is to be restored.

**Tower Gardens** A new group. Litter picking. Joint work with TCV. Joan mentioned the sad death of Dick Tomlinson, a council tree officer who was a local resident.

**Finsbury Park** Clive Carter said still damage caused by summer 'Wireless' event. Chronic problem of huge lake which regularly floods. Needs major drainage scheme.

**Down Lane Park** Martin welcomed 'Hari Bear / Xplorer' activities. But still awaiting the refurb of the multi-use games area.

**Priory Park** Chris Chadwick reported on two weekly events held there (as part of a national scheme) – Tennis for Free every Saturday and Park Run every Sunday (over 150 children took part). Work with Plastic Free Crouch End. He passed round photos of the new totem pole in the philosopher's garden.

**Parkside Malvern** Manage some local green strips. Concerned about inadequate public green space in Wood Green, and are lobbying for deculverting the Moselle in St William/Clarendon development.

**Paddock** Quentin said there are to be planting sessions. Still one rough sleeper. Main problems are knotweed and frontage.

**Priory Common** Bulb planting sessions to be held. Priory Common Orchard doing well with weekly work sessions.

**Coldfall Woods** Also has knotweed problem. Wild Learning organisation has used wood in summer holiday – litter problem. Successful walks programme eg geological walk coming up. Bulb planting sessions. Thanks to TCV.

**Railway Fields** Clif Osborne said doing well. A winter event is planned.

**Chestnuts Park** Regular gardening sessions. Thanks to Thema. New volunteers involved. Making bid for grant for wild flower meadow. Main problem – lack of maintenance by parks dept eg hedges not cut. The Bridge need to maintain their area. They have had discussions with John Miles about Stonebridge Project and drainage (council had a plan for this is 2011).

**Tottenham Cemetery** No update

**Lordship Rec** Joan Curtis said £4000 raised for water fountain but need council permission for piping. Problem with broken bins that need to be replaced. Dave said 100 children at the Hub for Halloween walk. Lots of work in open orchard, including scything of meadows there being done by members. They hope the Hub building gets

a proposed grant to improve the facilities. Adventure playground to be taken down as 'end of life'. Lots of other maintenance, events and activities.

**Alexandra Park** Robyn Thomas reported on Fireworks Nights. Friends and parks manager inspected park afterwards. Dog Trust signs and paths. Other events – walks, talks and calendar. History book coming.

**Parkland Walk** David Warren reported on opening of their new wild life area - the Fire brigade filled their new pond. Thanks to TCV. Entrances repaired but problems with one. Continuing problems with encroachment (difficult to get legal action speeded up).

**Queens Wood** David reported problems with oak trees. Waste from local builders now remedied. Fence by main pond restored. Litter problem because road runs through middle of the park – Highways dept have now accepted some responsibility so Veolia taking over. Some rough sleepers. Poor state of paths.

**White Hart Lane** Anne Scott unable to be at meeting but had sent in report which referred to scheduled 'Masterplan' meeting with Glynis Kirkwood. There was an event on 29<sup>th</sup> September with many residents taking part in fun activities and giving their ideas for the future improvements of the area.

**Simon Farrow's responses (to above)** -----

**Rough sleepers** A recent count (done at 5am) found 54 in borough. Problem of accessing funding from other services.

**The Paddock** He said that two new officers – Chris Patterson and Simon Crabtree – will help resolve problems.

**Japanese knotweed** He said that a company had started work.

**Downhills Park** Glynis is new projects officer.

**Water fountains** No policy either way at the moment. Cost implications of regular inspections, etc. Cafes make tap water available. Dave pointed out that Lordship Rec has someone who comes in once a month to check water safety at Hub, which will include the new drinking fountain. Installation of Lordship Rec fountain to be followed up as well as general policy.

**Finsbury Park** Aware of drainage issues. Contractor looking into these.

**Down Lane Park** New officer to deal with MUGA.

**St William development** He said that internal dialogue (eg with planners) sporadic.

**Copthall Wood** Feedback to Wild Learning concerns. Asking Ed Santry. Working on new guidelines for using the woods.

**Chestnuts Park** Lack of maintenance due to some staff being ill. Tony Healey will deal with hedges.

**Parkland Walk** Aware of encroachment problems but up to Property Dept officers to take action.

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**15. TCV report** Clif Osborne reported on the local leadership skills course. Their next one is on wild life garden design. Possibility of first aid training. Still working around borough with FGs and their own volunteers.

**16. Ten Year Strategy** Simon referred to our successful joint successful meeting in July. He circulated Parks Strategy Development Pathway (2018-2020). He described background. Proposed to have Friends Workshops in May 2019. Discussion of proposed five Workshop Groups. Suggested there should be additional workshop groups on Parks Furniture/Infrastructure and Events & Activities. Concern about need for improved budget for parks before 2020. Dave said Friends Forum should lobby for this.

The Pathway document was welcomed. Requested that Litter and Waste should be first workshop group. Correspondence will be shared with Friends groups.

**17. Green Flag** Simon said that 7 parks had been visited by a Green Flag judge and 2 found to be 'red'. Green Flags at those 2 sites will be temporarily removed and the proposed repairs and maintenance undertaken there and at the other sites. The relevant groups will be informed about this. The Forum asked it be fully updated.

**18. Small grants** Thema asked for other groups to go on her list to get information re grants and events, and to give feedback on small grants process. Any problems with applications contact her. She can help in publicising activities. Small grant process to be included in Events and Activities workshop during Strategy review. She will draft an update for us to circulate to all groups.

**19. Projects Officer.** Glynis Kirkwood introduced herself as a new parks projects officer at the Council. She was Lordship Hub Centre Manager until September.

**20. Sports and activity** Lily Labonte introduced herself as a new Council sports and activities officer. She will work with groups and practitioners organising events in green spaces. She was previously active helping organise community events in her local park, Lordship Rec.

**21. Football plan** There is a Football Facilities Plan being developed by the Football Foundation in every local authority area in the country. Improvements to be funded by the FA. Simon mentioned that Priory Park not designated for sports. To be discussed as part of the Events and Activities theme/workshop for the Ten Year Strategy.

**22. CIL funding** Dave said that council is consulting on what CIL funding goes to. Important for people to respond before 30<sup>th</sup> November – our parks need more resources!

**23. Next meeting** 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2019 (ward budgets to be put on agenda)

## **Appendix 1**

### **Parks and Open Spaces Strategy Initial Discussion**

#### **Notes From Council/Forum Joint Meeting - 25 July 2018**

*Draft Notes by Phil C, for the Forum*

**Attendees** Council officers - Simon Farrow, Tim Pyall, David Theakston, Alex Fraser, Sarah Jones, Lewis Taylor, Andrea Keeble, Ed Santry Friends Groups reps – Dave Morris, Joyce Curtis, John Miles, Clare Parry, Klaus Kuerner, Cathy Meeus, John D???, John Leeford???, Phil Chinn

Note: Discussion was lead by Simon Farrow (SF) and Dave Morris (DM) with inputs from members of the Council team and representatives of various Parks

#### **Introduction**

The precursor to this meeting was the Cabinet's response last week to the Scrutiny Committee's report and recommendations on Parks strategy. It was pointed out that this was just the very first step of the discussion and Review process.

Documents provided included responsibilities of Council officers and the 16 recommendations from members of the Scrutiny Committee (See document for detail ). The Cabinet considered its responses to the latter last week.

The intention was that this meeting would further progress a new Strategy for Parks. Members of the Council team would outline the priorities for their 7 areas of responsibility. The new Cabinet's borough plan is being worked on and will probably be completed in February. The final report on Parks Strategy will fit into this and be produced in the first half of next year. This is the starting point of the next stage of consultation (SF). There will be presentation back to the next Friends of Parks Forum.

## **Scrutiny Review / Cabinet Response**

See separate document for list and outline of 16 recommendations from members of SR. Some relate to summary findings from Friends group responses.

Cabinet “agreed” or “agreed in part” all, but one – that a proportion of the Public Health budget be allocated to Parks (12). These are a summary of the further Cabinet responses to the Recommendations:

Need to further work on communications and accessibility to Friends Groups (Recommendation 1).

Statutory/Non-Statutory nature to be part of 10 year review (2).

Maximise use of CI levy. Anything funded from it can be maintained from it, ie. Current account funding. Applies to neighbourhood plans. (4)

Capital funding should not be from Parks Service budget – Cabinet agreed (5)

Each Park to have dedicated member of staff if possible? SR agreed on principle, if adequate resources were available – further discussion required (6)

Aim to have Green Flags for all Parks (7)

To use Natural Capital Accounting – Agreed (11)

Percentage of Public Health Budget. Cabinet say currently fully committed. Andrea Keeble – discretionary amount of budget is very low. (12)

Access to TfL funding to be further considered in LiP transport application (eg paths, lighting?) (13)

Should all Parks be covenanted in future. Yes, but Council thinks admin may be costly, so will do 10 first. Fields in Trust believe costs could be considerably reduced. 50 spaces are not yet covered (14)

## **Components of the Strategy – Inputs from Members of Council Team**

SF asked each to give a maximum of 5 priorities. “To be the beginning of the conversation, not the end”.

### ***David Theakston – Park Development***

Landscape Design and Asset Management – All aspects of management and design of hard areas; development of style guide; condition survey; fund raising plan; interim day-to-day plan ( member of team to work on repairs and relationship with contractors ).

Capital Budget – One member of team to work on development and delivery. To link to Council’s 10 year plan – 25 projects – could be 15 more.

Non-Capital Projects – up to 80 at any time – e.g. requests from Councillors and Friends Groups.

Parks Compliance – Leases; Health and Safety; Fire etc.; Buildings assessments.

New member of team appointed, attempting to recruit another.

£3.6M for bridge repairs is separate from the other £7.XM capital budget over 10 years. Joan Curtis (JC) asked how disability maps in – to be covered by Andrea Keeble.

### ***Tim Pyall – Parks and Open Spaces***

Change of Horticultural Styles by use of capital programmes.

Regeneration – Prioritisation of future investment

Repair & Maintenance – value of having people on site.

Manage the Understanding of Existing Spaces.

Utilities – Spend eg on water.

Water provoked a lot of discussion. Why is there not more recycling. Tim wants to make use of capital projects to achieve. More use of grey water trees. Use of water from paddling pools. Currently no water storage tanks on any buildings. John Miles – view water as an asset; create exemplars of usage; add tours of parks and water retention initiatives. TP – work being done with water engineers. Alex Fraser gave example of streams in Queens Wood.

PC asked about Landscape Strategy. SF discussed. How to use what we have to make visits to parks more enjoyable. Not articulated on paper. What is the Parks role in the management of all green spaces for multiple purposes? Bio-security; pollution control; awareness of nature, the passage of seasons; improved mental health; food growing and edible plants. Within current budgets could only afford to replace 2 to 4% of planting each year.

Cathy Meeus suggested the Parkland Walk as a flag ship for what could be achieved, but also to show the different concerns for it as a nature reserve as well as a leisure resource for cyclists and runners. There is a wide diversity across our parks.

### ***Alex Fraser – Trees and Nature Conservation***

Resurveying of all our trees – to understand the population, diversity, age, classes etc.; to prioritise replanting; to develop a database of tree assets.

Tree maintenance policy – legal duty of care; value of bio-diversity; approach to diseases e.g. oak processional moth issues in 5 sites.

Targetting of effort – Monies from events; involvement of other organisations- TCV, Trees for Cities etc; different priorities across the borough; are new trees required? ; impact of climate change .

More formal partnerships with external organisations eg. Trees for Cities, but many corporate groups are keen to help.

Food Production – Are there more possible areas which could be used? How much value should be put on this ?

Discussion – John D. – For whom are we developing woods? There are conflicts of interest/ compromises to be struck. We can not merely preserve. Alex – So many of our trees are veterans. We need to increase the life expectancy of young trees eg. By dealing with squirrel damage. Joan C – forestry skills training is useful, but can be expensive. Alex – Trees for Cities want to agree a 10 year plan. SF – A key theme is who will help with the delivery of a plan for trees. There is a need to articulate the strategy for trees and woodland and to work with multiple partners including Friends groups and other partners. John M – Alexandra Palace have shown the advantages of involving local people via including via bat,bird,funghi walks. SF – Trees for Cities can bring large groups in to help at no extra cost to the Parks budget.

NOTE: No mention of Allotments

### ***Ed Santry – Conservation and Sustainability***

Ed wants to integrate a general plant bio-diversity action plan into the Parks Strategy.

Landscape Connecting & Bio-Diversity Corridors - to improve access between existing green spaces ; linear spaces existing and new eg. Including the Moselle ; linking to regional ecological plans ;linking to other departments ( Homes for Haringey ) and neighbouring boroughs.

Data & Conservation Management – Current data very patchy; look for data gaps; need to decide what measures are required and frequency; suffered because 3 years since post filled.

Conservation Action Plans – Some groups have. Need to have current, 1 page plans to establish new projects.

Habitat & Species Mapping – prioritise in borough, link to London strategy and with neighbouring boroughs.

Designation and Status of Sites – to determine if sites are failing and allow prioritisation.

Friends group engagement is important and can be encouraged with skills development. Small pots of money are available eg as shown in the draft London plan.

SF – Need to map out in order to link in to other colleagues. The end game is to get the Cabinet to agree a strategy which would then inform the planning framework.

The importance of what happens in gardens and railway embankments was pointed out.

### ***Andrea Keeble – Active Communities***

All aspects of sports, play and physical/mental well being – including gardening, picnics in parks and dog-walking, linking to the reduction of anti-social behaviour.

Increasing and Widening Participation – This is the main thrust of the strategy. It includes increased access for people with disabilities and to improve mental health. There is a low level of visits from members of deprived communities.

Sports in green spaces are very male dominated. A lot of space is given over to football. More needs to be done to widen usage including more community events large and small. Outdoor Activity and Play Strategies need to be developed and kept up to date to improve and preserve what we have.

Walking is the most accessible physical activity. Improvement of paths would widen the “audience”. The infrastructure should be made as attractive as possible, making parks “friendlier”.

Volunteering – A lot does happen, but should be better co-ordinated to maximise the benefit from it. Marketing of the resources needs to be improved. Special mention was made of the work that Joan has done to publicise walks in Parks.

DM mentioned the Mayor of London’s Healthy Streets Initiative. SF commented on Parks providing less polluted routes to work.

### ***Sarah Jones – Events Management & Partnership Development***

Community events – Aim is to increase events everywhere and not just via existing groups. This could be via the small grants scheme. The whole allocation has never been spent.

Volunteering takes many different forms generating many different types of event. There is about £50k of core funding which generates an additional approximately £150K via volunteer hours, a major net positive.

Green Flag – The aspiration is for “all 50 sites” . How achievable is this ? There are now 22. Many of the management plans are out of date. Should Keep Britain Tidy change their national process ?

Major Commercial Events – SJ’s highest priority. Has worked hard to improve delivery. The aspiration is to have up to 5 major 3day events in Finsbury Park. The aim is to increase the number of events in other parks, like the Labour Live event.

It was noted by those present that this policy was controversial and the Friends Forum say it should be reviewed. DM commented that a mission statement is necessary. Finsbury Park appeared to be guided by the need to generate revenue.

SJ said that events are intended to increase Parks usage.

### ***Lewis Taylor – Parks Operations and Workforce Development***

Restructuring – Not major, but is currently an interim structure. Wants to improve frontline supervision. Needs to introduce a “pricing budget”.

Fleet & Transport – Issue of average age. Some from 2007 need to be scrapped. This needs to be acted on quickly. Capital is required to free up the current account. The existing 5 year machinery plan is nearing its end . There will be a shortfall at the year end if the current issues are not addressed.

Workforce Development – Need to upskill eg. Use of handheld equipment. They are very paper based.

Horticulture – Extra funding is required to reach even basic standards, which they are not currently achieving. They are currently grounds maintenance, not Parks management. They are very reactive to the last complaint. They are trying to react to schedules, but it is difficult to get to the right balance. They are deciding how to use the nursery in Finsbury Park. They intend to take on more apprentices from September.

Waste/Hygiene – A prime concern in the last 2 months. Problems with litter picking have arisen because of resource and the weather. He has 5 people to cover 382ha of parks. This includes the locking of Park gates. If they locked less gates they could collect more litter. Enforcement also needs to be improved.

SF commented that they have an aging workforce and the issue of how to generate the next generation of staff when the average house costs £400k. In Islington gardeners have been reported sleeping in cars. This is an issue for the industry.

DM commented that there were wider issues than the support of the Parks Service, such as the promotion of Community empowerment.

Clare Parry commented that the aging population issue was also one for Friends groups.

### **Next Steps**

SF said that after the holiday period the Council will return to the Strategy in September. What has been done so far will be summarised and there will be further consultation. For example, they will return to the Forum with and for updates. SF helped everyone for coming on such a hot evening and said that this was just the start of the conversations.

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## **Appendix 2**

### **Notes of Joint Officer and Friends Group Meeting on a future strategy for Parks and Green Spaces in Haringey. Civic Centre - Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2018**

Notes by Simon F

1. Aims for the meeting – The purpose of the meeting was to begin a conversation about a future Parks and Green Spaces strategy for the borough. The aim was to produce a document that would champion the purpose of parks in the borough and to secure ongoing investment from a variety of sources.

2. Scrutiny review and Cabinet Response – A considerable amount of work and evidence gathering had been done as part of the Parks Scrutiny panel which had reported its recommendations in March 2018. The councils cabinet had responded to the Scrutiny recommendations in the last couple of weeks and had agreed or partially agreed 15 of the 16 recommendations the only one that was not agreed related to funding being taken from the Public Health budget to fund the maintenance of parks. This recommendations would be developed into policy positions as part of the Parks and Green Spaces strategy development.
3. Intro to key Strategy Areas

Members of the parks team introduced what they considered to be the top five priorities to be covered in the new strategy.

a) David – Landscape Design and Asset Management

1. The development of an asset management plan which sets out the councils approach to managing and maintaining the hard features of a park. It would include performance standards plus and inspection and risk based intervention approach to repairs and maintenance.
2. A style guide would be developed as part of the asset management plan and this would set out the style, type and design of all hard features to be used in parks and green space in the borough. This would over time help to deliver a more consistent look and feel to Haringey's Parks and Greenspaces. The document would be flexible enough to include different approaches for different types of sites. E.g. Heritage, Nature and general sites.
3. Condition Surveys – an approach to regular site inspections for all hard features and buildings to ensure H&S standards are maintained and investment / replacement decisions are based on good data.
4. Fundraising Plan ensuring that resources were available to bid for funds to match fund council funding. Also that there is advice and guidance for friends groups to support them in their fund raising ambitions.
5. Sustainable planting and maintenance regimes – develop approaches to renewing planting areas within parks and greenspaces to be more sustainable, resilient to climate change and supporting of bio diversity.

b) Tim – Horticultural Standards and Maintenance

1. Quantifying the impact of regeneration on our parks and greenspaces and how the extra footfall will impact standards and maintenance. Links to asset management in terms of deterioration of the landscape due to greater usage.
2. Reducing utility consumption / reuse of water / self-generation of electricity. Including education opportunities for demonstration projects.
3. Educating the public on new and different landscape features such as de-culverting of rivers for better flood risk management or the greater use of sustainable urban drainage systems.

c) Alex - Trees and Woodlands (and food growing)

1. Potential for canopy survey or valuation of tree stock and its contribution across a number areas, heat, air, flooding.
2. Tree management and maintenance plans for trees in parks and greenspaces.
3. A tree planting programme to create greater diversity in the tree stock.
4. More formal delivery partners such as Trees for Cities and Woodland Trust.
5. Greater opportunity for food production including amenity fruit woodlands.

d) Ed – Nature Conservation and sustainability

1. This could be a theme on its own or a cross cutting theme through the whole strategy or both.
2. Would replace a dedicated biodiversity action plan or a biodiversity action plan could be part of the wider suite of documents.

3. Landscape scale approach, including ecological corridors and species specific actions. E.g. B-Line (Bug life)
4. Links to neighbouring boroughs plans and also a need to update data held about Haringey.
5. Looking at designation of LNR's and SINC's
6. An aspirational level document.

e) Andrea – Sport, Play and Physical / Mental Wellbeing

1. Increasing and widening participation, especially activities for Women
2. Relocation of Football from Grass to Astro Turf (Post Meeting - new Football Facilities Plan announced).
3. Walking and cycling links to and within parks.
4. Communication of the benefits
5. Resolving conflict of activities in areas such as Parkland Walk.
6. Delivering manifesto commitments such as doubling number of outdoor gyms.

f) Sarah – Event Management and Partnership Development

1. Continue to expand support and training for community based events.
2. No plan to review Outdoor Events Policy but will be set in the wider context of the Parks and Green Spaces Strategy in order to direct investment in line with the needs of each park.
3. Reshape partnership working model to focus on delivery partners.
4. Set out the role of friends groups in the ongoing management of parks and green spaces. Including Small Grants programme.

g) Lew – Operations, Workforce development etc.

1. Restructure of operation management to increase front line supervision.
2. Investing and renewing of our fleet and transport
3. Workforce Development
4. Improving Horticultural standards
5. Apprenticeships / ageing workforce
6. Hygiene and litter removal

h) Dave Morris – a view from the Friends Forum

1. Prioritisation of the service
2. Every area of the new strategy could have its own vision statement and links to cross cutting themes.
3. Partnership working
4. Development of Flagship sites which can present best practice
5. Volunteering engaging the community sector
6. Ageing demographic of the friends groups, a strategy for generating new members.
7. Valuing the contribution of café operators within parks.

4. Areas of Policy to be debated – although we ran out of time to discuss in detail we flagged the following: -e.g. management of dogs within parks, BBQ's, enforcement, licensing of physical activity trainers, gate locking, litter management.
5. Next Steps – To continue the dialogue and develop an approach where there was as wide a conversation as possible.
6. AOB – non discussed