



Chapmans Green Management Plan 2006 – 2010 Executive Summary *(Reviewed January 08)*

Introduction

The 0.8 hectare Chapmans Green, located on Lordship Lane near Wood Green, was first opened in the early 1900's and has changed little since then. The site has been managed by the London Borough of Haringey since its formation in 1965.

Chapmans Green is primarily a formal garden only providing a bowling green, which has been in operation since 1925, and two tennis courts for sporting recreational use.

Park Management

Chapmans Green is managed by the Parks Service, a division of Recreation Services in the Directorate of Adult, Culture and Community Services in the London Borough of Haringey. A Parks Service Neighbourhood Manager, responsible for all sites in the west of the borough, oversees the maintenance and management of Chapmans Green. He is assisted by a Neighbourhood Officer and the site itself has a permanent gardener, who uses a dedicated mess-room located in the bowling green pavilion. During peak periods the gardeners are assisted by other permanent staff or agency staff. Events, marketing and other administrative tasks are carried out by the Parks Service in-house administrative team.

Chapmans Green has a recently formed Friends group who largely consist of members of the bowling green as well as other local community members. The Friends have been supportive in the maintenance and improvement of the site.

Our Vision for Chapmans Green

To develop and enhance a high quality approach to formal bedding and horticulture maintenance whilst providing an important local amenity.

To achieve this vision we aim to follow the eight Green Flag Award criteria in creating a welcoming, well used park, which is clean and well maintained.

A Welcoming Place

The Parks Service aims to place welcome signs at each entrance to the park detailing the name of the park, contact details for the Parks Service and Friends group, as well as symbols detailing 'good' behaviour in the park.

Current signage tends to be more negative and these signs will be gradually replaced over time.

Chapmans Green also has a notice board located outside the entrance to the bowling green pavilion. The notice board displays the bye-laws, environment policy, a map of the park, and any relevant information regarding events and activities in the park.

We aim to ensure that the park is accessible to all members of society and undertake audits and user surveys on a regular basis to monitor this provision. An accessibility audit was carried out in 2005 and the recommendations arising from this have been addressed. All of the entrances to the park are wheelchair accessible.

Cleanliness, Health and Safety

The Parks Service takes a very serious approach to Health and Safety on its sites. Staff are given relevant training and are provided with relevant safety clothing and appropriate equipment for the task they are undertaking. Any accidents or incidents that occur on site to either staff or members of the public are reported to the management team and are followed up.

The Parks Service maintains two mobile hygiene teams; one based in the west of the borough and the other in the east of the borough. Litter is collected from Chapmans Green on a daily basis and the on-site gardener works alongside them to litter pick the park. Dog bins are emptied at least once a week by a mobile hygiene operative. Graffiti is removed within 24 hours by the on-site staff member.

Toilets for the public are provided as part of the bowling green pavilion and as such are available during opening hours of the park.

Safe and Secure

The Parks Service has a Parks Constabulary which regularly patrols the boroughs parks and open spaces in the borough.

Security in the park is boosted by the presence of the on-site gardener, who walks the park every morning to carry out safety checks on all facilities.

The park is also locked at dusk and re-opened by 7am each morning.

Maintenance of Buildings, Equipment and Landscape

In September 2003 the London Borough of Haringey launched the Better Haringey Improvement Programme, the primary objective to make Haringey Cleaner, Greener and Safer. Through this programme £1m in 2005/06 was provided to allow for major improvements in many of the Council run parks and open spaces. The Parks Improvement Programme, run since 2005/06, has received £250,000 from the Haringey Capital Fund as well as monies from numerous other funding agencies.

From both internal and external Capital funds £54,000 in 2005/06 was spent in Chapmans Green and the following works were undertaken:

- refurbishment of the bowling green pavilion both inside and out
- installation of 11 bins and 6 benches
- resurfacing of pathways
- installation of the notice board
- fence and gate repair

In the two years since then a further £11,500 of Capital funds has been spent in Chapmans Green and the following works were undertaken:

- railing repair and paint
- replanting of the south-east shrub bed
- internal signage
- completion of resurfacing of pathways
- bricking in the compost bay

For the remaining two years (April 2008 – March 2010) of this management plan further maintenance works will be undertaken, subject to receipt of funding, and will largely comprise of the following:

- refurbishment of the two tennis courts
- installation of a drinking water fountain
- refurbishment of the bowling green pavilion as necessary
- enhancement of each entrance to increase welcoming feel
- replacement of benches and bins as they come to the end of their life
- rolling program of repair and paint of the railings and fence
- rolling program of renewing shrub beds around the park
- rolling program of tree planting to replace vandalised / old / diseased trees

The London Borough of Haringey runs an In Bloom competition and Chapmans Green has been successful in achieving the Best Bedding Award on several occasions.

Environment and Sustainability

The Parks Service aims to reduce its impact on the environment and as such:

- uses bedding plants grown in peat-free soil as supplied by Faith Nursery
- requests plants to be grown in peat-free soil when supplied by other contractors
- not use chemicals unless all cultural (manual) methods have failed
- aims to reduce transport emissions through better scheduling of work
- reduces transport emissions through recycling green waste on site instead of taking it to North London Waste
- procures materials and furniture made from sustainable or recycled sources
- uses drought resistant plants to cope with climate change and reduce water use
- aims to ensure machinery procured has low emission levels
- continues to assess ways of reducing our impact on the environment

Conservation of Nature and Heritage

Chapmans Green is primarily a formal garden and as such as little in the way of natural areas. This is being remedied by the development of a wildlife friendly shrub bed in the south east corner of the park. The site has approximately 60 trees in its grounds of which the majority are non-native species. These trees are maintained and replaced as necessary either with like for like or with trees of local provenance.

Marketing

The Parks Service carries out extensive borough wide marketing of its parks and open spaces. Chapmans Green is advertised in the following ways:

- a specific leaflet on Chapmans Green with a map and details on its facilities
- through the quarterly Recreation Services stakeholder newsletter
- through articles in the Haringey People monthly magazine
- events are listed on the 'what's on' page of the Haringey website

Chapmans Green is also advertised beyond the borough boundaries through:

- the Haringey website under parks and leisure
- the Good Parks Guide
- the 'YourLondon.gov.uk' website
- on the 'VisitLondon.com' website with a special article in 2007

The Parks Service will continue to assess ways in which to further advertise Chapmans Green to the local and wider community.

Community Involvement

Chapmans Green has a Friends group which is involved in the parks management and improvement.

The Parks Service also carries out an annual park user survey through which they can gauge the improvements desired by the local community and whether the direction the park is heading is satisfactory.

Tell us what you think or get involved

Users of Chapmans Green can tell us what they thought of their visit to the park by:

- going online and completing the 'yourvisit' survey found on the Parks Service pages
- calling the Parks Service Customer Care line on 020 8489 5662
- by emailing the Parks Service at parks@haringey.gov.uk
- or by writing to us at Parks Service, 1st Floor, Contract House, Ashley Road, Tottenham, N17 9AY

Users of Chapmans Green can also get involved in the maintenance, management and future vision for the park by joining the Friends group.

They can be contacted through emailing the Bowling Green Club noelpark@sarahwood.plus.com or by visiting <http://www.noelparkbowlsclub.co.uk/>

Summary

Chapmans Green continues to provide a number of facilities for the local community and those working in the area. The vision is to keep the Green Flag Award and thus maintain the high standard within the park.

The full management plan can be viewed on the Councils website at www.haringey.gov.uk/greenflag