



Stationers Park Management Plan **2006 – 2010 Executive Summary *(Reviewed January 08)***

Introduction

The 1.5 hectare Stationers Park, located in Stroud Green Ward, was first opened in 1987 following closure of Stationers School. The original site size was reduced when Weston Park Primary School was built on the northern end of the park.

Stationers Park provides two tennis courts, a hard ball area and two play areas. An innovative timber adventure play area designed for under 12's has proven very popular over the last twenty years. The site also has a stream running down from the play areas to the pond at the bottom of the park where there is also a sundial, a small fountain and a brick bridge.

Park Management

Stationers Park 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 central area of the borough, oversees the maintenance and management of Stationers Park. He is assisted by a Neighbourhood Officer and the site itself has a permanent gardener, who uses a dedicated mess-room adjacent to the tennis courts. Events, marketing and other administrative tasks are carried out by the Parks Service in-house administrative team.

Our Vision for Stationers Park

The aim is to improve local residents and users quality of life by providing both passive and formal recreation and educational opportunities through partnership working and efficient and effective service delivery within a local open space.

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 gradually be replaced over time.

Stationers Park has a notice board located just inside the main entrance by the tennis courts. 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 majority of recommendations arising from this have been addressed. All 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. Litter is collected from Stationers Park 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.

Safe and Secure

The Parks Service has a Parks Constabulary which regularly patrols the boroughs parks and open spaces in the borough. They are able to issue Fixed Penalty Notices.

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, particularly in the playground.

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 Fun as well as monies from numerous other funding agencies.

From both internal and external Capital funds £10,600 in 2004/05 was spent in Stationers Park and the following works were undertaken:

- pathway resurfacing
- directional signage in the park

From 2005/06 to 2007/08 a further £39,500 of Capital funds was spent in Stationers Park on:

- soft landscaping
- external directional signage
- remedial work to the adventure fort
- repairs to the under 5 play area fencing
- new pathway in the play area
- installation of bins and benches

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:

- 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 renewing shrub beds around the park
- rolling program of tree planting to replace vandalised / old / diseased trees
- rolling program of repair to play, tennis and basketball fencing
- rolling program of pathway resurfacing
- repairs to the staff mess-room
- extend the hoggin path along the stream
- drainage works around the play areas
- subject to receipt of major specific funding:
 - o replacement of fencing and resurfacing of tennis courts
 - o replacement of the timber adventure fort
 - o replacement and refurbishment of the under 5's play area
 - o resurfacing of the hard ball area

The London Borough of Haringey runs an In Bloom competition and Stationers Park has been successful in achieving awards such as Best Park and Best Bedding 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 nearby Finsbury Park 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

The stream and pond in Stationers Park provide a particularly valuable nature conservation resource. They support a large population of common frog, listed as a flagship species in the HBAP, and several species of Dragonfly. It also supports a number of aquatic plants such as flowering rush and sea club rush. The stream and pond are regularly maintained through clearance of overgrown plants and dredging when required. Interpretation boards explain the key wild flora and fauna that can be seen along the stream.

The site contains a number of bird and bat boxes which are well used by a number of birds, who are also attracted to the many berry producing shrubs on site.

Stationers Park is within a three mile radius of Haringey's local Statutory Nature Reserves: Parkland Walk, Queens and Coldfall Woods, and Green Flag status Railway Fields, Haringey's nature conservation education flagship. Therefore it forms an important area of open space for local wildlife. There are plans to develop a conservation trail through the park and perhaps extending it to other sites.

Marketing

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

- a specific leaflet on Stationers Park 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

Stationers Park 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 Stationers Park to the local and wider community.

Community Involvement

Stationers Park is strongly supported by the local community with an active Friends group. The Friends have been instrumental in helping to improve the park, organising community events and taking positive actions towards reducing any anti-social behaviour in the park.

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 Stationers Park 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 Stationers Park can also get involved in the maintenance, management and future vision for the park by joining the Friends of group. They can be contacted through calling them on 07980 453699 or at friendsofspark@blueyonder.co.uk

Summary

Stationers Park continues to provide a number of facilities for the local community who may wish to exercise, relax or just visit the museum. 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