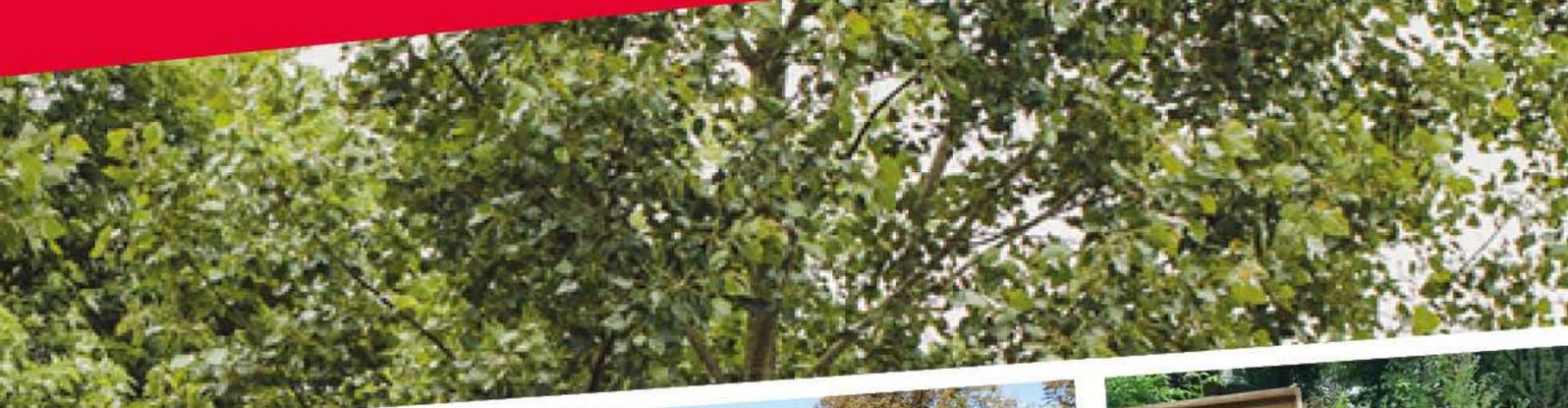


# THE PARKLAND WALK



**Supplementary Management  
Plan 2020**  
(minor amendments January 2021)

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## Foreword

Dear residents and park users,

I am pleased to share with you the management plan for the Parkland Walk. This plan has been developed by Haringey Council, with input from the Friends of Parkland Walk, stakeholders in and around the park and with input from your local ward councillors.

Residents have told us that our parks and green spaces are one of the things they love the most about Haringey, and as a council, we agree. We are proud of our green spaces and are committed to doing all we can to make our parks the very best they can be.

Most of Haringey's district and local parks have been nationally recognised through the Green Flag Award scheme, and we continue to work with Friends groups to maintain and improve our parks for our community and visitors alike. In a recent resident survey 80% of people told us they were satisfied with parks and greenspaces in the borough.

It is no secret that Haringey – like all local authorities – has been affected by austerity, but we continue to work hard to fund and maintain our parks, as well as bringing in external investment to provide a much-needed boost.

Green spaces in Haringey play so many different roles - from a retreat from the busy city, or a place for sport and play, to sites for nature conservation and world-renowned events. Each management plan seeks to balance the many competing demands for each park to allow our community to enjoy the park their way.

This management plan looks to show how the council is meeting and addressing the criteria of the Green Flag Award scheme and sets out the priorities for action and improvement of the park over the coming years.

I hope you find this document useful and I would encourage you to make the most of your local park. If you want to get more involved in the future management of the park why not consider joining a Friends group, attending an event or simply just send us some of your thoughts?

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, followed by a small, square portrait photograph of a woman with red hair wearing a red top.

Cllr Kirsten Hearn  
Cabinet Member for Climate Change, Equalities & Leisure

## **Open space vision in Haringey**

Our draft vision is that Haringey's parks and green spaces will be places where:

- Residents' lives are being improved by access to quality green space
- Communities take an active role in the decisions about the future of parks and green spaces
- Civic pride and community ownership of parks are encouraged, through a diverse range of volunteering opportunities
- A diverse range of events is offered, providing a backdrop for communities to celebrate together and enhance the borough's cultural offer
- Wildlife flourishes and habitats are maintained, expanded and connected.
- Spaces are protected and future proofed for the next generation
- Funding for parks is sustainable and sufficient to deliver the agreed service standards
- Full advantage is taken of the health and wellbeing benefits

The Parks and Green Spaces Strategy is in development and will be subject to consultation with a range of partners and stakeholders before the Council is asked to formally adopt it in early 2022. More details are set out in sections 10.4 and 10.5.

## **Purpose of the Management Plan**

This management plan details and guides the management, maintenance, development and improvement of the Parkland Walk.

In developing this management plan, we particularly want to stress the importance we place on our commitment to involve the whole community in shaping the future of Parkland Walk. This is because we recognise that open space affects the lives of almost everyone who lives and works nearby. We believe that the combination of effective management and community involvement of all our open spaces offers considerable potential for helping to make Haringey a thriving and more cohesive community.

This management plan should be treated as a living and evolving document. It is open to review and adaption in an ever-changing environment.

This document is the primary location where all those with a connection to the Parkland Walk - council staff and members, Friends and community groups, partners and residents - should be confident that everything about the Parkland Walk can be found and is set out here.

It also tells a little of the history of the park, how it is today and details future plans and aspirations and how these are to be achieved.

This document is a supplementary management plan, to be read alongside the full 2010-11 management prepared by the Ecology Consultancy which can be found at Appendix A and at <https://www.haringey.gov.uk/libraries-sport-and-leisure/parks-and-open-spaces/z-parks-and-open-spaces/parkland-walk-local-nature-reserve>. This supplementary management plan was written in 2019. The action plan was updated in January 2021.

## 1. Setting the scene

### 1.1 Haringey in a nutshell

Haringey is one of 33 London boroughs, and is located to the north of the capital covering 11 square miles (28km<sup>2</sup>) in total. The borough population in 2020 was estimated to be 289,000 which is 15% more than ten years ago.



Overall Haringey is the seventh most deprived borough in London (out of 32). However, the borough has extreme contrasts. Areas such as the high hilly communities of Highgate, Muswell Hill and Crouch End in the west are some of the most prosperous locations to live in London, while some wards in the east are classified as being amongst the more deprived in the country.

### 1.2 The demographics of Haringey

The population is very diverse and very youthful. Around a quarter of the borough population is aged 0-19 and only a tenth of residents are over 65. Nearly two fifths of the borough population are from black, Asian or minority ethnic (BAME) groups and 26% identify as “white other”.

The Parkland Walk is in Stroud Green, Crouch End, Muswell Hill and Highgate wards. The population density in Stroud Green ward is 11,782 residents per km<sup>2</sup>, for Crouch End it is 9,592/km<sup>2</sup>, for Muswell Hill it is 7,482/km<sup>2</sup> and for Highgate it is 5,276/km<sup>2</sup> (This works out to an average of 8,533 for the Parkland Walk which compares to an average of 10,264 in Haringey and 8,697 in London). This highlights the importance of access to parks and open spaces in these neighbourhoods.

The Haringey website has detailed information about the population of the borough and individual wards within the borough. This can be found at <http://www.haringey.gov.uk/local-democracy/about-council/state-of-the-borough>

### 1.3 Open space provision in Haringey

Haringey Council manages most of the public open space within the borough, except for Alexandra Park, Highgate Woods and Tottenham Marshes.

Although much greener than some other London boroughs, Haringey is deficient in all types of open space, including public parks. This fact underlines the importance of improving and maintaining sites like the Parkland Walk to enable more intense and diverse use.

In 2014, 24.7% of Stroud Green ward, 13.9% of Crouch End 30.7% of Muswell Hill ward and 41.8% of Highgate ward (in which the Parkland Walk is located) was described as open space. This, when taken as an average across the four wards (27.8%) is on a par with the average open space across Haringey (28%) and below that of London (39%).

Furthermore, only 3.9% of the land area of Stroud Green ward is **public** open space, 11.6% of Crouch End, 24.7% of Muswell Hill and 22.1% of Highgate (averaging at 15.6% across the four wards). This compares to nearly 17% across the whole of Haringey and nearly 20% across London.

## 2. About the Parkland Walk Local Nature Reserve

The Parkland Walk is the remnant of the course of the former Finsbury Park to Alexandra Palace Railway Line. It is approximately 3.5 kilometres in length, the majority of which is in the London Borough of Haringey, with a short but relatively broad section in the London Borough of Islington. The site is oriented approximately southeast to northwest.

Parkland Walk South runs from Finsbury Park through Crouch Hill to Highgate where a section of the track has been subsumed into Highgate Wood.

Parkland Walk North runs from Cranley Gardens under Muswell Hill Road to Alexandra Palace Park.

### 2.1 Site Location and description

The coordinates and grid reference of Parkland Walk are as follows for different points along the walk:

<b>Muswell Hill, N10</b>	528906 / 189604	TQ289896
<b>Cranley Gardens, N10</b>	548487 / 189166	TQ284891
<b>Holmesdale Road, N6</b>	528829 / 188006	TQ288880
<b>Oxford Road, N4</b>	531333 / 187366	TQ313873

The Parkland Walk was designated a Local Nature Reserve in 1990. Together with Queen's Wood and Highgate Wood it forms a Site of Metropolitan Importance for Nature Conservation. It is also designated as Metropolitan Open Land.

The Walk covers an area of 129,688m<sup>2</sup> and stretches for 3.5 kilometres from Finsbury Park through to Alexandra Park and goes through the wards of Stroud Green, Crouch End, Muswell Hill and Highgate; four of 19 wards within the London Borough of Haringey.

A small, two hectare section of the Walk between Mount Pleasant Villas and Crouch Hill Road lies within the London Borough of Islington. This part of the walk is managed by Islington Council. Inter-borough working has been established between Haringey and Islington's Parks and Nature Conservation Officers.

Islington Council have their own management plan in place for their section. This and more information can be found at: <https://www.islington.gov.uk/sports-parks-and-trees/nature-reserves/parkland-walk>

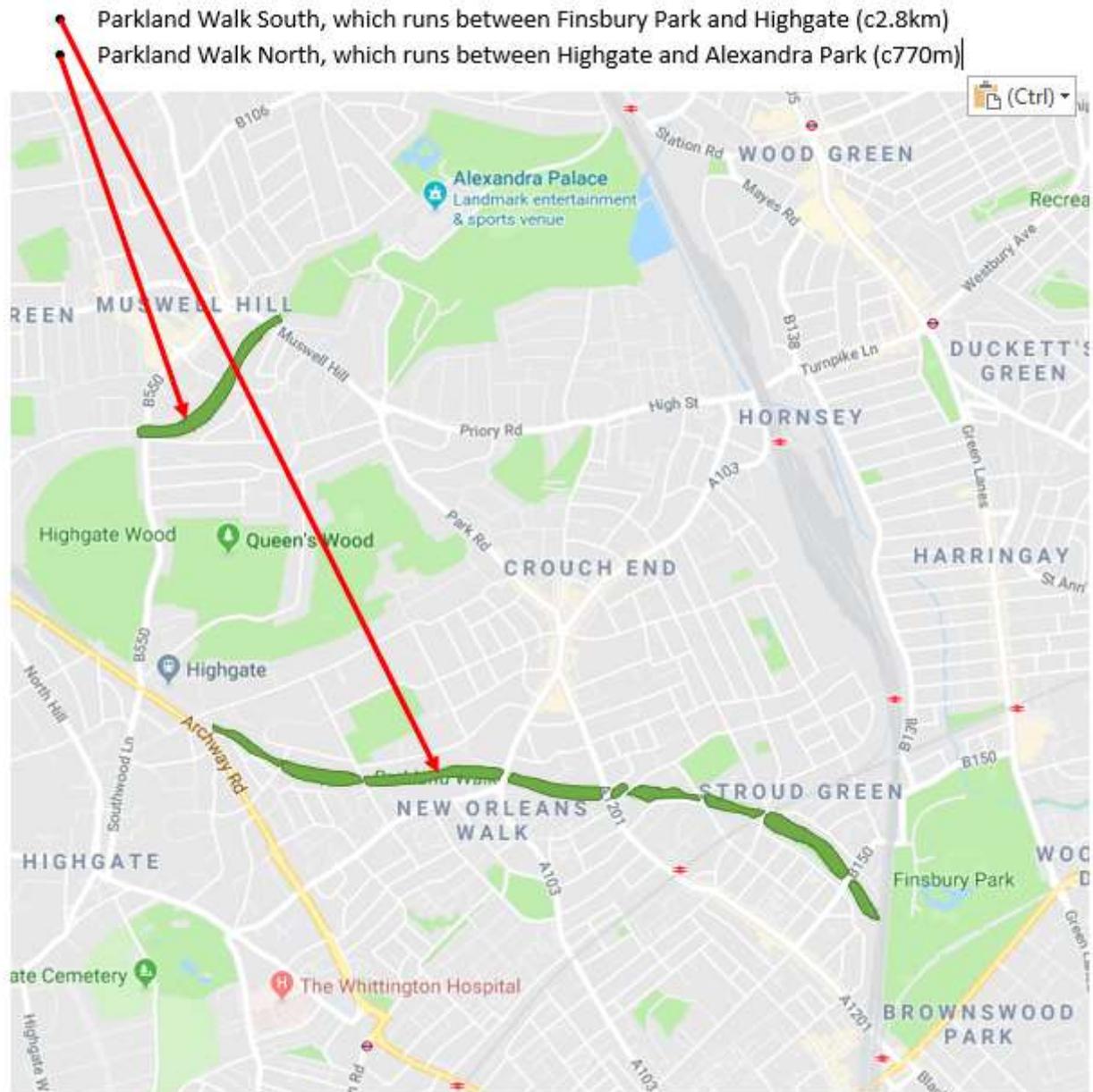


Image 2: Map highlighting Parkland Walk North and Parkland Walk South

## 2.2 Facilities

Parkland Walk contains the following facilities and assets:

### Main path

The original specification for the path surface was 'as-dug hoggin from a borrow pit'. Further to this, patch repairs have been undertaken over the years leaving a varied patchwork of different materials, aggregates shapes and sizes and specifications and large sections of the main path are in need of further repair or resurfacing works. Working with the Friends, we have found hoggin providers and agreed an acceptable specification for future path works, ie 50mm screened hoggin, laid to a camber to shed water to the sides, with no edging.

### Entrance steps and access points

These are discussed in more detail at 3.2.

All steps and access paths were revamped between 2007 and 2010 and 6 sets of steps were further resurfaced in 2018.

### **Boundaries**

Much of the boundary of the Parkland Walk is formed by adjacent properties and are owned by the freeholders of these properties. Abutments, fences and retaining walls are present where the site is adjacent to roads or crosses them on bridges. All bridges, with the exception of Crouch Hill, are owned by the London Borough of Haringey.

### **Bridges**

In total there are 11 bridges that either run over or under the Walk. These are at the following locations:

#### Bridges that go over the Walk

- Muswell Hill Road
- Muswell Hill
- Crouch End Hill
- Crouch Hill (within Islington)
- Vicarage Path (Haslemere Road) footbridge (on the boundary with Islington)

#### Bridges that the walk goes over

- St James' Viaduct
- Northwood Road
- Stanhope Road
- Mount Pleasant Villas
- Stapleton Hall Road
- Upper Tollington Park

### **Bins and benches**

Following borough-wide consultation with Parks Friends Groups, the Friends Forum, Councillors and members of the various Parks teams in 2019, a new bin and a new bench were decided upon for all of the borough's parks and open spaces. These are the Wybone bin and the Eastgate Anti-vandal bench.

For nature conservation sites such as Parkland Walk, the bins will have a timber surround, so they better reflect the nature of these sites. All of the existing bins were removed as part of the 2019 asset repair works, and 13 new bins were installed at each of the entrances of the Parkland Walk. Each bin is now on a new hard base and fixed to concrete foundations. The cladding is not yet installed

Benches on parkland walk are simple backless wooden benches. They are a place to rest rather than dwell. Most are made from railways sleepers (or similar timber) to reflect the historic legacy of the site.

## **2.3 Trees**

Parks and open spaces are of significant arboricultural importance as they contain some of the largest and oldest trees in the borough. Trees are an essential feature in

parks providing shade and structure, making them a more attractive environment to visit.

There is a planned inspection programme for which we aim to inspect each tree every four years. Trees in parks usually only require maintenance to mitigate risks to site users and adjacent properties. Over 150 new trees were planted in Haringey's parks and green spaces on 2017 and 2018, funded in part by the GLA.

We will be reviewing and updating policies on tree management as part of the new Parks Strategy, with likely changes to inspection regimes and details on a more planned approach to new tree planting. This will also include how we aim to mitigate existing pests and diseases, such as Oak Processionary Moth, along with future risks to Haringey's tree stock.

The tree population of the Parkland Walk is mainly comprised of sycamore, oak and ash with smaller numbers of silver birch, wild cherry, rowan, hawthorn and holly.

## **2.4 Encroachment and expired leases**

A regular series of meetings, initiated by the Friends of the Parkland Walk, along with representatives of Haringey's Parks Service, Property Services, Legal Services and Enforcement Team, take place every 6-8 weeks to discuss matters of encroachment, leases, dumped rubbish & garden waste. The meeting is usually a static desk meeting and focuses on identifying issues and discussing options to address them. There are currently over 50 issues that the group are looking into.

The Enforcement Team will be installing new signage at key locations and hotspots warning residents not to continue with illegal activities.

The Friends of the Parkland Walk initiated and undertook a survey in winter 2018/19 to assess the state of the boundary and identify potential encroachments.

Other progress made since 2015 includes renewal of garden lease agreements for the properties concerned at current market rate for twenty-five years, plus one property handed back the land to the nature reserve. A number of encroachment cases have been dealt with by the Council's Strategic Property and Litigation teams, including one case taken to Land Tribunal to address an infringement where the occupiers have been written to seeking them to reposition the boundary fence.

### 3. A welcoming place

#### 3.1 Visiting the Parkland Walk

##### 3.1.1 Public transport



**Image 3: Map showing closest tube / overground stations to the Parkland Walk (Reproduced with kind permission from the Friends of the Parkland Walk)**

The Parkland Walk can be accessed by a number of public transport options.

At the eastern end of the Walk there are two tube stations; Finsbury Park and Manor House, both located on the Piccadilly Line. Finsbury Park is also served by the Victoria Line.

At the other end of the southern section lies Highgate tube station, on the Northern Line.

Overground stations include Finsbury Park at the eastern end, Crouch Hill station, and Alexandra Palace at the far northern end of the walk.

A number of bus routes cover the roads along Parkland Walk including:

Muswell Hill, N10 – 43, 134, 144, W7

Holmesdale Road, N6 –43, 134, 263

Crouch Hill, N7 – W3, W7  
Oxford Road, N4 – W3, W7, 210

### 3.1.2 Vehicles

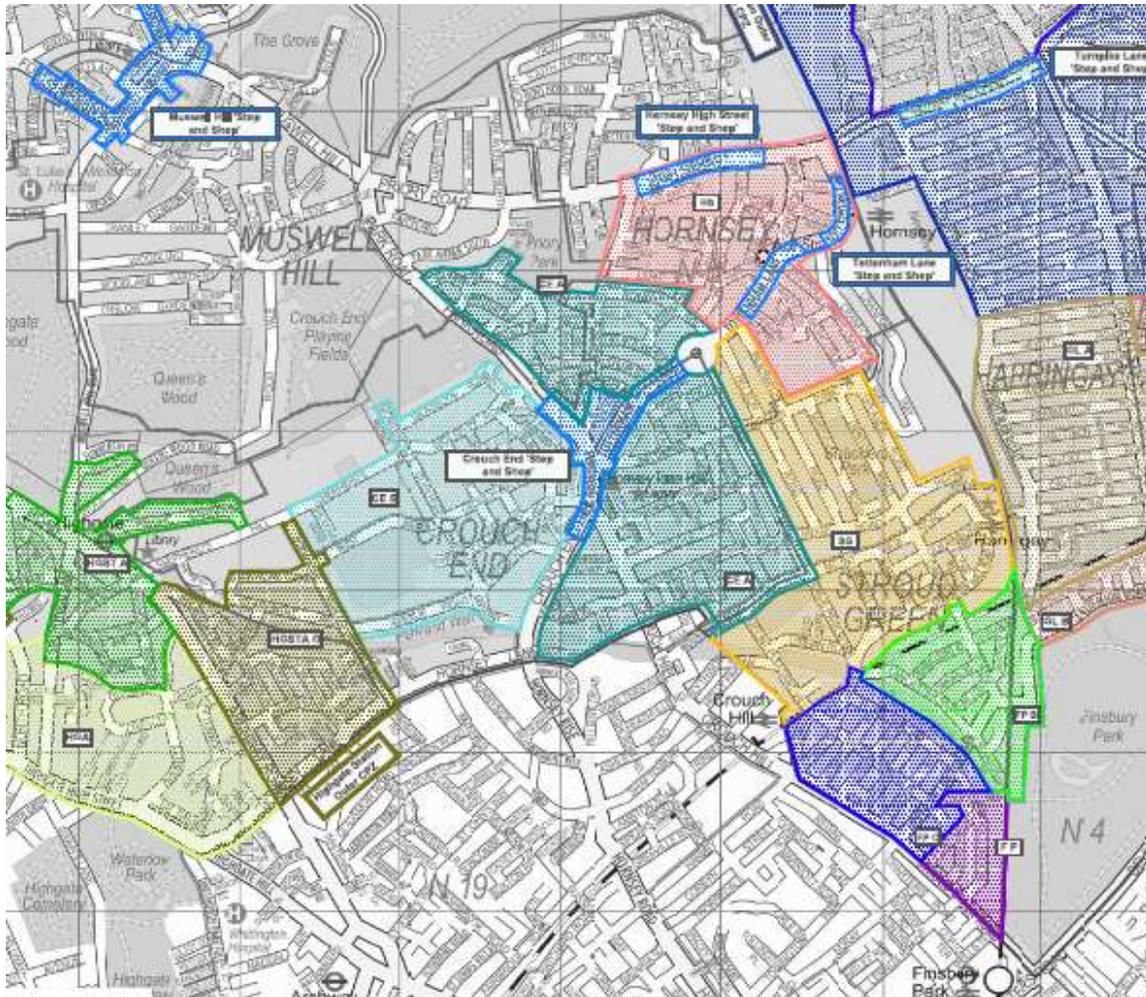


Image 4: Map showing controlled parking zones around Parkland Walk

There are no parking facilities within the Parkland Walk and due to its nature conservation status. Any driving such as by operations staff or contractors within the site is kept to a minimum.

Many of the surrounding roads around the southern section of the Walk are covered by a number of controlled parking zones. Resident or visitor parking permits would be needed to park during hours of operation, or there are pay and display machines located at certain points.

These operate as follows:

- Highgate Station: Mon – Fri, 10am – 12pm
- Highgate Station Outer: Mon – Fri, 10am – 12pm
- Crouch End A: Mon – Fri, 10am – 12pm
- Crouch End B: Mon – Fri, 2 – 4pm
- Stroud Green: Mon – Fri, 12 – 2pm
- Finsbury Park B & C: Mon – Sat, 8.30am – 6.30pm / Match days, Mon – Sat, 8.30am – 8.30pm / Sun & Pub Hols, 12 – 4.30pm

### 3.1.3 Bicycles

Bicycles are allowed along the Parkland Walk and in fact the Walk is part of the Green Ways route between Muswell Hill and Finsbury Park. However pedestrians have priority at all times and only considerate cycling is permitted.

Many signs stating this have been erected at prominent positions along the walk to emphasise this.



Image 5: Pedestrian priority/considerate cycling signs at Parkland Walk

A number of cycling events, activities, maintenance workshops and training sessions for people of all abilities take place throughout the year at Finsbury Park which is located at the eastern end of Parkland Walk South.

### 3.2 Entrances

The Parkland Walk is a public site open at all times. There are 20 entrances to the site along the route. These being located at:

N4: Finsbury Park, Oxford Road, Florence Road, Lancaster Road, Stapleton Hall Road, Blythwood Road, Upper Tollington Park, Mount Pleasant Villas

N6 & N8: Crouch End Hill, Crescent Road, Vicarage Path, Holmesdale Road, Stanhope Road, Crouch Hill, Milton Park, Northwood Road

N10: Muswell Hill Road Underpass, Cranley Gardens, St James' Lane, Hillfield Park, Muswell Hill

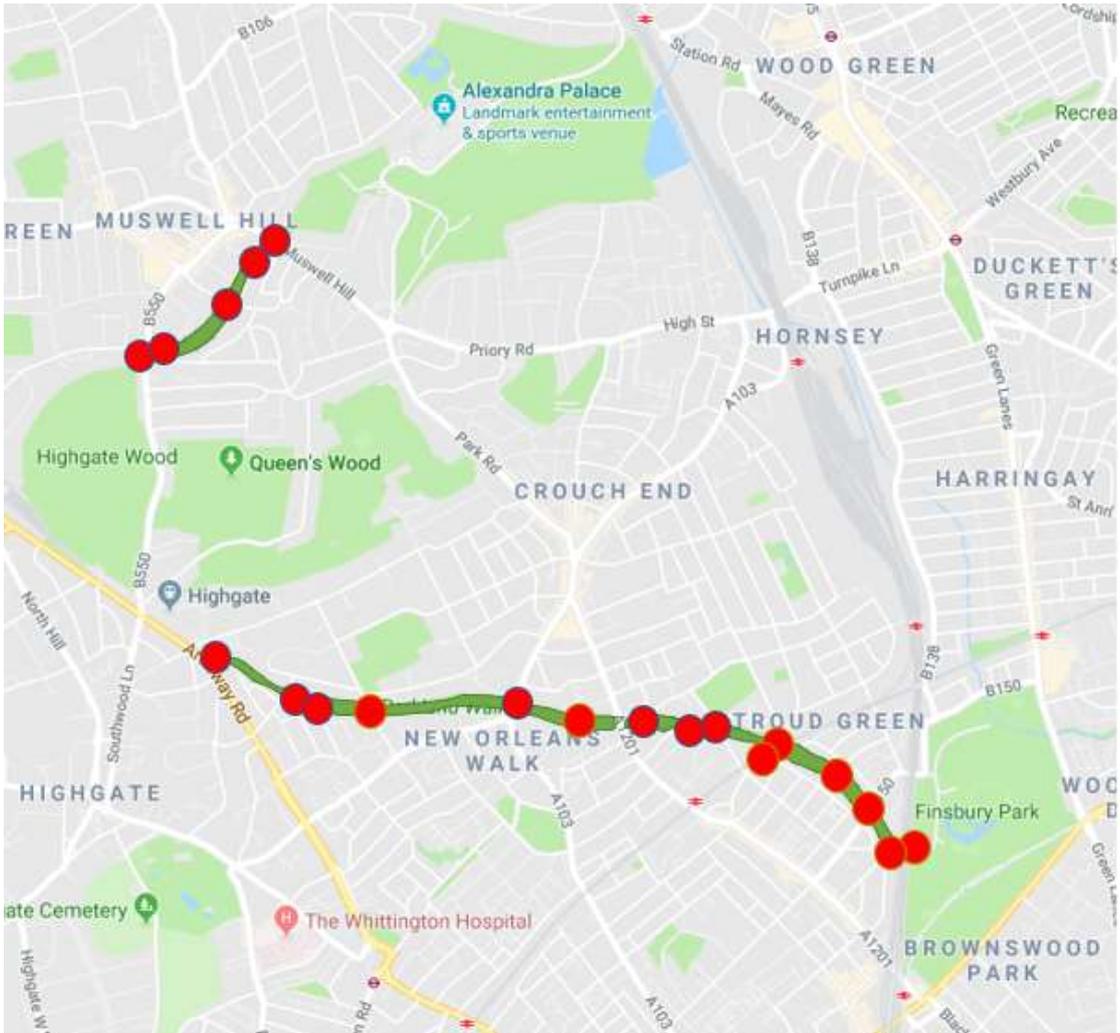


Image 6: Entrances to Parkland Walk

### 3.2.1 Vehicle access

There is no public vehicle access to the Parkland Walk. Access for service vehicles is kept to an absolute minimum due to the site being a local nature reserve. Access is limited to Blythwood Road and only in exceptional circumstances, Holmesdale Road. Operations staff only use small lightweight vehicles.



Image 7: vehicle entrance at Blythwood Road

Service vehicle access is currently forbidden over Stapleton Hall Road bridge until major bridge repair works have been carried out.

### 3.3 Access for all

The Equality Act 2010 defines a disabled person as someone with ‘a physical or mental impairment, which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal, day-to-day activities’.

Haringey Council and its partners are required by law to ensure that disabled people are not discriminated against with regard to access to public places. The council is also committed to meeting its obligations under the Public Sector Equality Duty with regard to ensuring that those with and without protected characteristics under the Equality Act are able to enjoy the Walk’s facilities.

This commitment is considered whenever changes or improvements are made to the Walk. This not only benefits disabled users and their carers/companions, but also benefits those with small children and older people.

The entrances at the start/end of both parts of the Walk are step free, although there is a steep incline at the Holmesdale Road entrance. Many of the other entrances onto the walk have stairs or steep inclines. Due to the nature of the existing paths and the terrain, people in wheelchairs and with pushchairs should be cautious when using Parkland Walk.

There is scope for further improvement to make the Walk more accessible if funding becomes available. Where major bridge repairs are planned from 2021, associated access routes will be made as accessible as site conditions and budgets allow.

### 3.4 Signage

There are entrance signs at each of the entrances to the site which include the name of the entrance, emergency and non-emergency contact details along with pictorial site rules and a map to show where you are in relation to the rest of Parkland Walk.



Image 8: New Parkland Walk welcome sign

Signage throughout the Parkland Walk has not been fully updated since 2010 and is now in need of refreshment and updating in line with corporate branding requirements. Some new signage will be installed early in 2021 to replace damaged signs.

### 3.4.1 Parkland Walk Logo

As part of the TfL improvements a logo for the Walk was developed by the Council to provide it with an identity that referred to both the heritage and conservation aspect.



Image 10: Parkland Walk logo

This logo was used on steel roundels both on the floor and inserted into railway sleepers and installed at all locations to the Walk.

It is also used on all welcome signage along the Walk.

### 3.4.2 Interpretation panels

In 2010 interpretation boards were installed at seven locations along the Walk, highlighting various aspects. These include:

2 x Birds of Parkland Walk located at St James' Lane and Stapleton Hall Road

# Birds of Parkland Walk



As a habitat type, the Walk is young deciduous open woodland, and so about 60% of the bird population are blackbirds, robins and blue tits. Other common residents are wren, starling, song thrush, duncock, great tit, greenfinch, bullfinch, carrion crow and jay. There are increasing numbers of the species which are associated with more mature woodlands, such as the great spotted woodpecker and nuthatches. Indeed the latter was first recorded in the winter of 1988 and attempted to breed in 1994 on a site just off the Walk in Crescent Road, using the line as part of its feeding ground. On the open grassy embankments other birds such as goldfinches, magpies and kestrels may be seen.

By the end of 1984, 58 species of birds had been recorded on the Parkland Walk. About 30 of these have hold territory in spring, and the majority of these have bred.

The density of birds in spring is well above the national average for this type of habitat. The birds present are monitored by plotting their distribution on maps following a number of site visits. From the results it is possible to estimate the number of territories held by each species.

The above birds may be seen throughout the year, and their numbers are increased by migrants at different seasons.



During winter chaffinches, redpolls, gold crests and coal tits arrive in small numbers, but perhaps the most beautiful is the long-tailed tit. This tiny bird, with its pinkish chest and obvious long tail, is to be regularly seen in flocks of up to a dozen searching through the birch trees and scrub for food at many points along the line.

From April the summer migrants arrive from Africa and the European continent. Most of these, such as the chitichall, whitethroat and lesser whitethroat, use the Walk as a temporary staging post, stopping off to feed on their way to breeding grounds elsewhere in Britain. However, blackcaps and willow warblers have held territories on the line and, given an increased percentage of dense scrub, may well continue to do so in the future. Two more summer visitors are the swift and the house martin. Though neither species nest on the Walk they are a common sight overhead as they feed on flying insects.





[www.haringey.gov.uk](http://www.haringey.gov.uk)

1 x Trees of Parkland Walk located at Stanhope Road

# Trees of Parkland Walk

As you stroll along the Parkland Walk you will notice that there are few veteran trees, this is the result of the railway companies razing the grassy slopes of the embankments and cuttings, and from regular grass fires caused by passing steam trains. Both had the same effect - to prevent the growth of woodland shrubs and trees. As the line was not for closure in 1970 the management of these slopes was reduced, enabling trees to colonise freely.

The vegetation pattern of the Walk is mainly that of a young, deciduous woodland comparable to the edge of a mature wood. Woodland edges are rich wildlife habitats, because this is the point where different communities join and overlap, producing a mixture of the plants and animals from both. In addition some areas are still deliberately kept clear of trees to provide a grassland habitat.

The tree canopy comprises mainly of sycamore, oak and ash with strands of tall wood-bored cherry, silver birch and the occasional but tree. However some of the axes are more species rich containing Hawthorn, Holly, Elder, English Elm and several non native species such as Laurel. The ground flora is mainly dominated by Ivy, Bramble and wood anemone with outcrops of cow parsley, violet, crow garlic, wood sedge and even the locally rare lady fern.

This woodland is an important part of the overall management plan for the Walk whose main aim is to maintain the Walk's open woodland character whilst encouraging a wide diversity of native tree species and to favour the growth of those species which support the most diverse wildlife.

To achieve this a number of woodland habitat works take place annually including the removal of 'weed trees' such as sycamore. These would otherwise dominate and prevent the growth of favoured species. Through coppicing to native species, more light is able to reach the woodland floor stimulating the growth of understorey habitats. The grassy environments are mowed so they are not over-colonized by trees and the Walk turned into continuous woodland. Felled trees and fallen branches are not wasted but stacked within the woodland to create deadwood habitats for stag beetles and other invertebrates.



**What to look out for:**  
**Silver Birch "Betula pendula"**  
 The bark is a whitish colour and sheds layers like tissue paper. The smooth twigs have little dark warts and the leaves are small, roughly triangular and pointed with a toothed edge. In the summer female flowers called "catkins" are bright green then becoming dark crimson. Before seeds are dropped they hang like "umbrella".

**Did you know?** The name "birch" is a very ancient one, derived from the Sanskrit bhishpa meaning "a tree whose bark is used for writing upon" and it was a holy tree, revered by pagan Celts & Germanic tribes. It was also once used in large quantities to make hard wearing buttons, spoons and rods for the cotton industry.

**English Elm "Ulmus procera"**  
 Elms have characteristically asymmetrical bases. The dark green leaves are oval and toothed around the edge and are often pecked at or damaged. Once common across England, the elm was ravaged in the late 20th century by Dutch elm disease. There is still debate over whether the English elm is truly a native species or was brought here by Bronze Age farmers.

**Did you know?** Most elm seeds are sterile, and a good crop is only produced every 2 or 3 years. So new trees are usually produced by suckers sent out from a parent plant. This method of reproduction means that most elms are identical clones of one parent, so if one succumbs to a particular disease it is likely the seed will too.





[www.haringey.gov.uk](http://www.haringey.gov.uk)

2 x History of Parkland Walk located at Cranley Gardens and Crouch Hill

# History of Parkland Walk

**Haringey Station - 1870**

The Walk follows part of the course of the Edgware, Highgate and London Railway. The line from Finsbury Park to Highgate (and on to Edgware) opened in 1867. A branch from Finchley to High Barnet opened in 1879, and from Highgate to Alexandra Palace in 1873. In the 1890s it was planned to transfer all the lines to become part of the underground Northern line. The sections north of Highgate to Barnet and Mill Hill were transferred in 1940. Although partly completed, the rest of the scheme was halted and then abandoned after the 2nd World War. Infrequent passenger trains continued to Alexandra Palace, but ceased in 1964. Some freight trains ran until 1964, and the last use was by London Transport to transfer tube trains until 1970.

**The tube that never was**  
Contemporary tube maps from 1930 show the line between Finsbury Park and Alexandra Palace as being "under construction". The work was abandoned and never completed.

Improvements were made with new entrances and resurfacing of the path. The Parkland Walk was officially opened in 1984. It is formally designated as a Local Nature Reserve and as Metropolitan Open Land. The section from Finsbury Park to Highgate is part of the Capital Ring Walk around Inner London.

Visible reminders of its railway past include the platforms at Crouch End Hill, the station house at Stapeleton Hill Road for Strand Green station, the viaduct in Muswell Hill and the brick building by Crouch Hill, which was built to house an electricity transformer for the Underground scheme but never used.

To find out more about your local history visit [www.haringey.gov.uk](http://www.haringey.gov.uk) or the Haringey Local History and Research Centre Museum, London Lane, N17 8WJ

[www.haringey.gov.uk](http://www.haringey.gov.uk)

1 x Parkland Walk Bats located at Holmesdale Road

# Parkland Walk Bats

The value of the Parkland Walk to people and wildlife can be observed during any daytime visit, but what is less well known is the reserve's importance to animals active at night and especially to bats.

Bats are the only mammals capable of true flight and all kind species feed entirely on invertebrates such as insects and spiders which they detect using echolocation. Our smallest bats are Pipistrelles and each one can eat as many as three thousand insects in a single night.

Of the seventeen species of bat found in the UK, seven have been recorded on or immediately adjacent to the Parkland Walk: Brown long eared, Common pipistrelle, Soprano pipistrelle, Daubenton's, Lesser, Natterjack and Noctule.

British bats and their roosts are protected by law due to the dramatic drop in their numbers over the last century. One of the key reasons identified for this drop in numbers is habitat loss and fragmentation. The Parkland Walk is important as it not only provides feeding and roosting opportunities, but because it provides a safe dark corridor linking other key sites within the landscape such as Finsbury Park and Highgate Wood.

To encourage bats, special roosting boxes have been put up in trees along the Parkland Walk and the London Bat Group working with London Underground has improved closed tunnels at Highgate Station used by bats for winter hibernation.

**Echolocation**  
Bats commonly hunt at dusk and dawn so they have adapted to this difficult environment to hunt in by developing a remarkable navigation system called "echolocation".

To imagine how echolocation works, pretend you are standing on the edge of a canyon and shout "hello," you'll hear your own voice coming back to you an instant later. Bats use the same technique by emitting high frequency clicks which they rebound off whatever is in front of them. They quickly process this information in the same way our eyes process sight telling them where and how big and even what shape an object is.

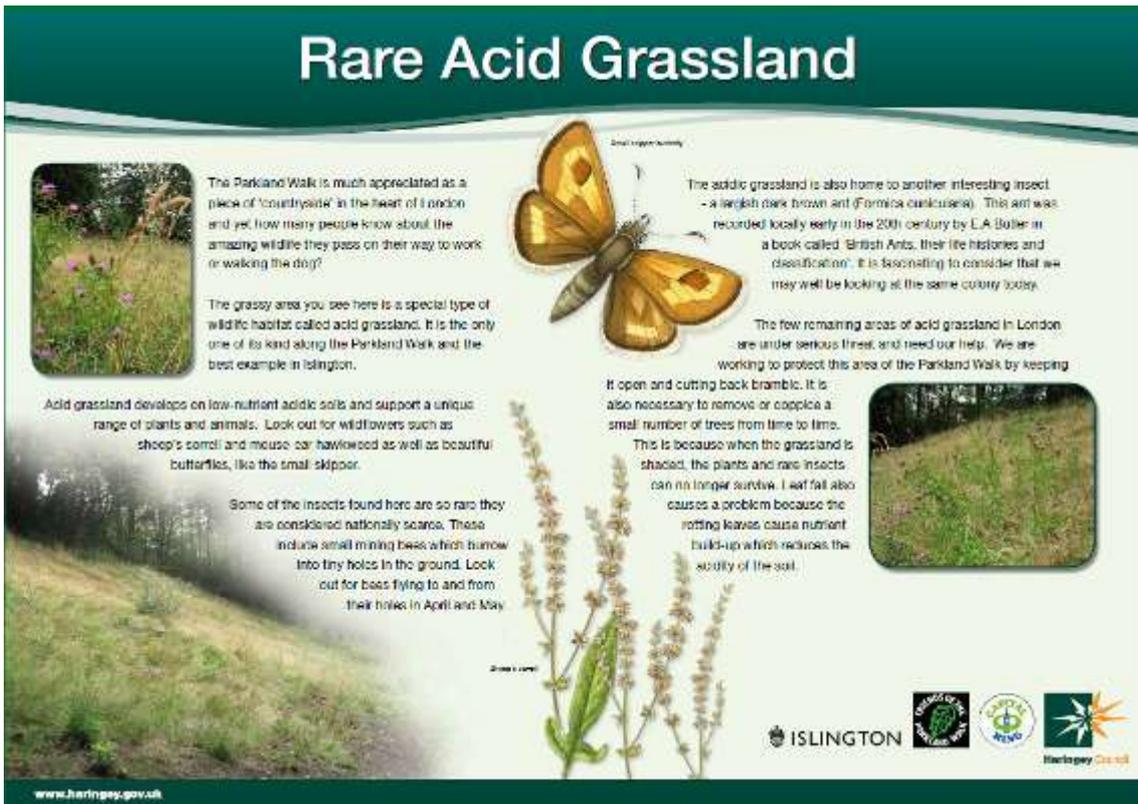
**Common Pipistrelle Bat**  
This species is the most common urban living bat, often found roosting in cracks and crevices in buildings, behind panelling, shutters, wires as well as ball bowls and trees. They are very territorial species and are particularly so during the mating season when special social calls are emitted and the bats smell strongly of musk.

**Daubenton's Bat**  
Daubenton's bats are long swimmers, hibernating for six months of the year. They prefer dark underground places such as caves & tunnel roosts. They normally stay near to water and at twilight hunt for insects, scooping them up with their membranous bats and legs just centimetres above the water's surface.

**Brown Long Eared Bat**  
Known for its distinctive long ears this species is thought to be one of the noisier of bats for which echolocation is more important than the use of echolocation in finding prey. They often hunt above woodlands searching for moths and are often seen hovering while searching for prey.

[www.haringey.gov.uk](http://www.haringey.gov.uk)

1 x Rare Acid Grassland located at Blythwood Road



Images 11 - 15: Interpretation signage installed on Parkland Walk

All of the above signs are in need of refreshment, both in terms of addressing physical deterioration over the intervening 9 years, but also in terms of revised text and design. The Friends of the Parkland Walk have expressed a keen interest in being consulted on any amendments.

### 3.4.3: Capital Ring way markers

Divided into 15, easy-to-walk sections, the Capital Ring Walk covers 78 miles (126Km) of London's finest scenery, including open spaces, nature reserves, Sites of Specific Scientific Interest, ancient woodlands and more. Section 12 covers Parkland Walk.

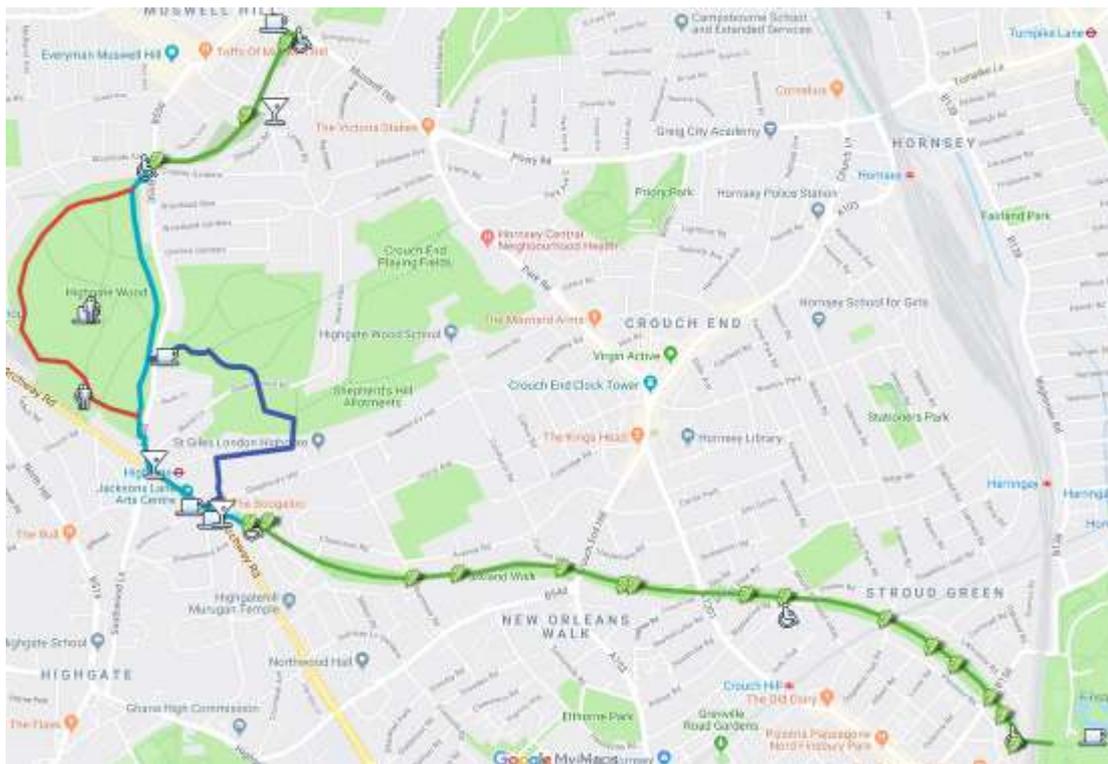
There are a number of Capital Ring interpretation waymarker posts at key locations along Parkland Walk.

### 3.4.4: Way-markers

The Council commissioned and installed 17 numbered way-markers at key locations throughout Parkland Walk, 3 of which are on Parkland Walk North, the rest on Parkland Walk South. All missing posts were replaced in 2019.

The way markers are used in conjunction with Google maps to supply information to visitors using mobile devices.

The map below can be used to help locate the markers: Each Friends logo leaf corresponds to a marker position. The Friends intend these posts to double up as markers for their 'art trail' project that was underway at the time of writing.



**Image 16: Locations of the Friends' red way-markers (reproduced with kind permission from the Friends of Parkland Walk)**

### 3.4.5: Other signage

The Friends of the Parkland Walk have had other signs designed and installed at various locations along the walk, such as their 'Don't be a Tosser' campaign aimed at stopping people from tossing their litter aside whilst on the Local Nature Reserve.

### 3.5 Toilet facilities and refreshments

Although there are no toilets or refreshments at any point along Parkland Walk, there are such facilities in easy access of some of the entrances, such as at Finsbury Park, Stapleton Hall Road, Crouch End Hill, Holmesdale Road, Highgate, Queen's Wood and Alexandra Park.

### 3.6 Events

Due to the nature of Parkland Walk, the only events that take place are conservation workdays.

The Friends manage a regular calendar date so that anyone wanting to volunteer to help in any of the tasks has plenty of notice. These sessions usually take place on the second Saturday of every month between 10am and 12pm.

Specific dates and times are publicised through the Friends website:

<https://www.parkland-walk.org.uk>

Other workdays are held and there are regular work parties held on weekdays by The Conservation Volunteers (TCV).

Workdays often involve litter clearance, tree and shrub trimming, edge maintenance, entrance clearance, planting and occasionally very specific tasks such as building ponds or custom habitats.



As shown, the borough is divided into two geographic sections (east and west), each of which is divided into three zones, giving a total of six zones across the borough. The zones are shown in the map overleaf.

Each zone has a six grounds maintenance staff: a team leader, a senior operative and four gardeners, but team sizes are altered to meet operational demands by transferring staff between zones and by bringing in seasonal agency resource as necessary. Parkland Walk is in operational zones 1 and 2.

The Parks Operations structure is the total resource available for all parks and open spaces. This not only includes council parks and open spaces, but also all the Homes for Haringey sites across the borough.

In addition to the zonal operations, the hygiene function is organised at a section-wide basis, one team operating in the east section of the borough and the other in the west. The hygiene teams empty litter bins across all parks and open spaces to an agreed schedule. They also respond to emergency cleansing and hygiene requests.

At a borough-wide level there is a team of two in-house arboricultural staff who carry out tree planting and supplement the use of external contractors for tree maintenance and responsive arboricultural work.

Most park operatives work Monday – Thursday 7.30am – 3.30pm and Friday 7.30 to 1.30pm. However, limited weekend work also takes place with pitch marking and hygiene activities for example.

### Map showing zones for operational management of parks in Haringey

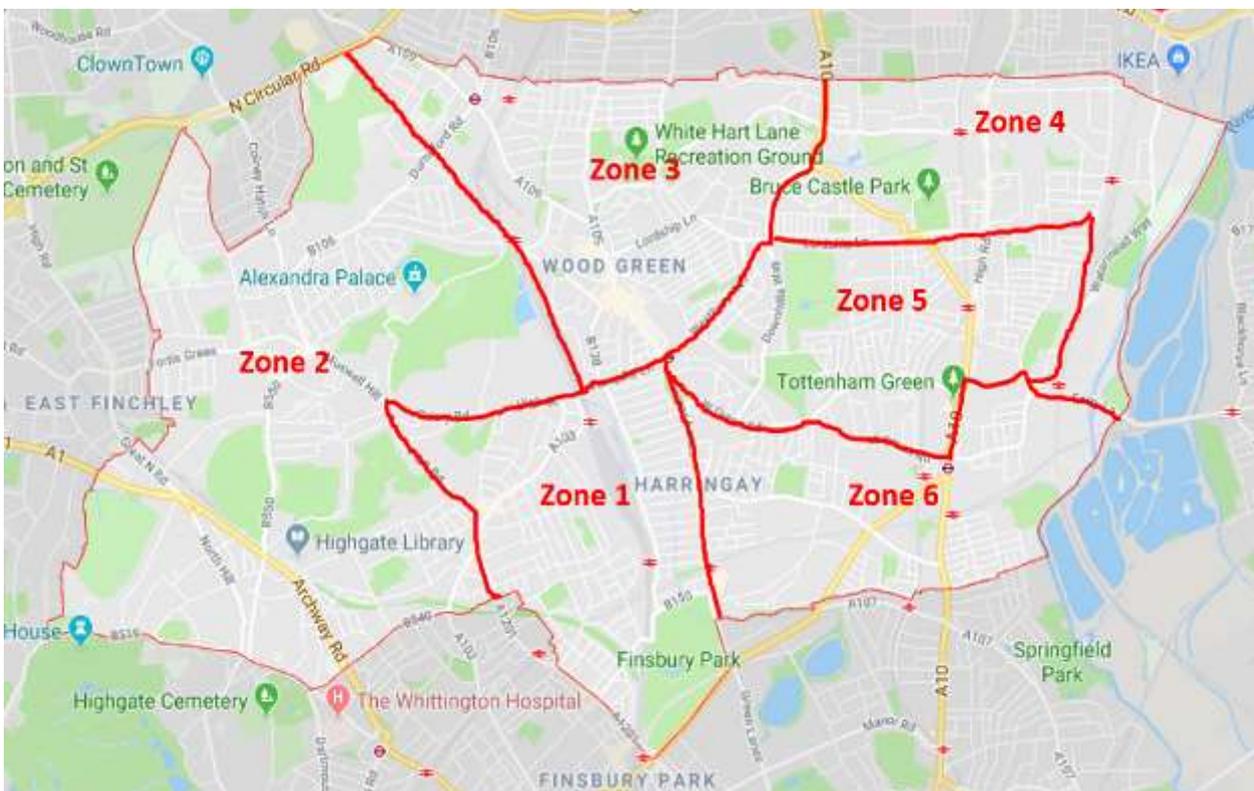


Image 19: Map of Haringey zones

### **4.3 Asset management and management of projects in parks**

The Parks and Open Spaces team now works to the same six zones as the Operations team. One officer has been allocated to lead on projects, asset management and community liaison in each zone. Each zonal officer has responsibility for:

- Regular asset inspections
- Asset related enquiries
- Non-emergency asset repairs
- Management Plan input
- Project identification
- Friends Groups liaison
- Support for Friends-led development work
- Councillor liaison
- Identification of volunteering opportunities

The allocated officer for Parkland Walk is Alistair Smith.

The Nature Conservation Officer also has responsibility for selected parks and open spaces across the whole borough including Parkland Walk.

#### **4.3.1 Park asset inspections and Spotlight visits**

In 2018 the council adopted the Mayor of London's typology for parks. Under this typology Parkland Walk is described as a local park site (A3) as it is between 2-20 hectares in area.

Since January 2019 the council has instigated a programme of park asset inspections with the frequency dependent on the type of park. As a local park Parkland Walk is inspected every quarter.

The inspections cover hard assets, including (where relevant):

- Bins, benches, bollards, lighting columns
- Signage, noticeboards, interpretation
- Paths, steps, handrails, areas of hardstanding, car parking and roadways
- Railings, fencing, gates, walls
- Play area safety surfacing and minor repairs
- Outdoor gyms
- MUGAs, tennis courts, hard sports courts
- Football goalposts
- Paddling pools
- Historic/heritage features/War memorials
- Fountains, artworks, structures, pergolas
- Waterbodies, SUDs, water leaks, drain covers
- Cycle stands, raised beds
- Bird & bat boxes

Parks assets are inspected and rated according to their condition, as follows:

A: Excellent: No action required

B: Good: No action required

C: Acceptable: No action required

D: Improvement required: Defects will be addressed as budgets allow

E: Emergency repair required: Make-safe within 24 hours. Full repair within 28 days/as budgets allow.

From 2021 we will use the Confirm database system to record the outcomes of all inspections, defects and customer enquiries. ConfirmConnect handheld devices will be the main tool for recording site inspections.

Defects can also be reported by the public, Friends, councillors and stakeholders online via the Council's website at [www.haringey.gov.uk/park-problem](http://www.haringey.gov.uk/park-problem) or by using the 'Our Haringey' smart phone app or by calling the council.

As part of our zonal approach we have also started to hold 'Spotlight meetings' with Councillors, Friends and key stakeholders of Parkland Walk every quarter. The spotlight meetings have been developed to focus on specific Parkland Walk issues within a small group and to communicate through "face-to-face" contact with a Haringey Parks Officer.

#### 4.3.2 Capital projects

A parks capital project commences once a project brief has been approved by the council's Commissioning and Client Board and a capital budget and project manager has been allocated. The project manager is usually but not always the zonal lead.

Capital projects for Parkland Walk include major bridge repair works to the four bridges with the most urgent repairs required, ie Vicarage Path footbridge, Upper Tollington Park bridge, Stapleton Hall Road bridge and Stanhope Road bridge.

Vegetation clearance work and tree removal on and adjacent to bridges is taking place between November 2020 and February 2021. The programme of bridge repairs is scheduled to take place between 2021 and 2023



**Image 20: Vegetation clearance to enable bridge inspections in advance of major repair works**

#### 4.4 Scheduled Maintenance

The following table provides a summary of the maintenance regime within Parkland Walk.

Activity	Frequency	Notes/comments
<b>Grounds maintenance</b>	Reactive	Account of bird nesting to be taken each year and site specifics.
<b>Bins, Litter and Dog Fouling</b>	Twice weekly on Parkland Walk South (with a review to reduce to once weekly in winter months).  Weekly on Parkland Walk North.	
<b>Fly tips and other hygiene issues</b>	Reactive	In response to emergency call-outs
<b>Gate locking</b>		Vehicle entrances are kept locked

Image 21: Scheduled maintenance in Parkland Walk

#### 4.5 Setting and measuring service standards

The quality of grounds maintenance and cleanliness of parks and open spaces is assessed via a simple four-point assessment system, called the Parks Quality Scoring system. The scoring categories are:

- A – Excellent
- B – Good
- C – Acceptable
- D – Unacceptable

These service standards are set out in a booklet that is made available to all grounds maintenance and hygiene operatives. The aim of the booklet is to clearly and visually illustrate the different standards. Photographs, alongside brief and simple text, provide staff with a clear means of assessing the standards they are expected to achieve.

This system has since been adopted by the London Parks Benchmarking Group who have updated the manual and are working hard to get this recognised as an industry standard within the grounds maintenance trade both on a London-wide and on a national level.

The key performance indicators (KPIs) within this scoring system are for three main areas of activity and a fourth more seasonal category:

- Grass (which includes the grass cut height, follow up and final finish)
- Shrubs (which includes pruning, weeding of beds and general appearance)

- Hygiene (which is made up of 3 separate scores of litter and bins, detritus and graffiti)
- Seasonal and other categories (horticultural seasonal work such as hedges, leaf clearance, rose bed maintenance and seasonal bedding as well as nature conservation and some infrastructure points such as pathways).

The Monitoring and Compliance Officer visits each park and open space on a regular basis to assess these aspects of the park against the service standards.

An overall score is calculated based on the percentage of A (Excellent) and B (Good) scores achieved across all categories.



Image 22: Illustrative service standards for grass cutting

The boroughwide targets and performance for these KPIs are as follows:

Category	Target A/B	Achieved 2018-19
Grass	90%	61%
Shrubs	90%	83%
Hygiene	60%	71%
Seasonal and other	55%	65%

Image 23: KPIs

#### **4.6 Monitoring the condition of equipment and physical assets**

Since January 2019 a Parks Officer carries out quarterly site inspections of the physical assets in Parkland Walk. The condition of each item is noted and where applicable repairs (or replacements) are requested.

Grounds maintenance or hygiene issues are excluded as Parks Operations undertake their own inspections, with additional inspections by the Monitoring & Compliance Officer.

#### **4.7 Tree maintenance programme**

Tree works in parks, open spaces and woodlands are usually undertaken to mitigate risks to site users and adjacent properties. For example works to trees in Parkland Walk have in the past been carried out to improve security on site by raising the canopies of the trees to increase sight levels and reducing overhanging branches into adjacent roads.

Removal of dead, dying and/or dangerous trees has also been undertaken.

Tree works on Parkland Walk are currently reactive. A tree survey was carried out in Spring 2020, the results of which will help to prioritise future works as budgets allow.

#### **4.8 Graffiti**

Art graffiti is present and renewed on the brickwork of several bridges on Parkland Walk. This is tolerated but not encouraged. Some Parkland Walk users enjoy the juxtaposition of urban street art with the relative tranquility of this local nature reserve

However, all graffiti of an obscene or offensive nature is removed within 24 hours of being reported. We aim to remove other graffiti within three working days of being reported. Small bits of graffiti can be removed by parks operatives who have access to specialised graffiti removal kits.

Park users can report graffiti using the 'Our Haringey' smart phone app, and the council website. The Council also has a 'hotline' number (020 8885 7700) direct to Veolia (the council's waste management contractor) to report obscene or offensive graffiti in parks and other public places.

#### **4.9 Maintenance of buildings, equipment and landscape**

There are no buildings on Parkland Walk but there are structures in the form of the bridges and the 'bat tunnels' at the northern end of Parkland Walk South.

There is no play equipment on Parkland Walk, though it is intended to create a natural, playful area.

Play equipment inspections are undertaken internally and through external specialist in parks and green spaces on a quarterly basis. The new play equipment on Parkland Walk will be subject to the same

Landscape maintenance is carried out by the parks service.

#### **4.10 Hygiene**

The Hygiene Team is managed by Parks Operations, covering borough wide hygiene responsibilities. Within Parkland Walk South waste bins are emptied on a twice weekly basis with a review to reduce to once weekly during winter months. Bins on Parkland walk North are emptied once a week. Any dumped rubbish that is reported to the service will be removed separately.

New 'double' bins to collect waste (including dog waste) and recyclable materials were installed along Parkland Walk in 2019. All of the dog bins of Parkland Walk were removed at the same time.

## 5. Healthy, Safe and Secure

### 5.1 Smoking

Smoking is permitted in all of Haringey's parks although priority 2 of the council's Health and Wellbeing Strategy identifies smoking as a key factor in reducing life expectancy.

There is a borough wide smoking ban in place in all children's playgrounds. Signage at playground entrances highlights this.

### 5.2 Alcohol

Alcohol is permitted in Parkland Walk.

Parkland Walk is not currently covered by a PSPO, however it may be in the future.

PSPOs are intended to deal with "nuisance or anti-social behaviour in a particular area that is detrimental to the local community's quality of life". Failure to comply with a request from an authorised person to cease drinking or surrender alcohol within the boundary of the PSPO can result in a fine. An authorised person is a police officer, a police community support officer or an authorised member of council staff.

Further details can be found at <https://www.haringey.gov.uk/community/community-safety-and-engagement/anti-social-behaviour/public-spaces-protection-orders-pspos>

### 5.3 Walking

Walking is an excellent way to adopt a more active lifestyle and the health benefits can really make a difference. It's also a great way to get out and meet people.

The parks service in partnership with other agencies such as NHS Haringey offer regular organised walks in many of the borough's parks.

In 2018 a booklet called *A Walk in the Park* showcases several walks through Haringey parks including the "Linear" Trail that covers all of Parkland Walk.

Further details on walks and walking groups can be found at <https://www.haringey.gov.uk/parking-roads-and-travel/travel/walking>

The Capital Ring Walk offers walkers the chance to see some of London's finest scenery. Divided into 15, easy-to-walk sections, it covers 78 miles (126km) of open space, nature reserves, Sites of Specific Scientific Interest and more.

The southern section of Parkland Walk is part of walk 12 of the 15 walking routes covered by the Capital Ring, running between Highgate and Stoke Newington.

The Capital Ring follows all of the southern section of the Walk and is marked on the interpretation and welcome signs. Markers also run along the Walk.



Image 24: Capital Ring walk through southern section of Parkland Walk

## 5.4 Health and safety

The health and safety of visitors to, and staff and contractors working in the Parkland Walk is given the highest priority. Health and safety within the park is managed by ensuring that:

- Play and outdoor gym equipment is installed safely and inspected regularly, with any repairs identified and prioritised through the inspection process. (Although there are no play facilities in the Parkland Walk currently, one is planned at the Milton Gate entrance).
- Infrastructure items are inspected regularly as detailed elsewhere in this document.

Additional signs have been installed at key locations to advise cyclists of the risks of inconsiderate cycling.

### 5.4.1 Raising health and safety concerns

Anyone visiting a park, and everyone involved in the parks maintenance and management are encouraged to report any health and safety concerns.

Contact phone, email and web details for the Council appear on all welcome signage, as well as the police emergency and non-emergency numbers.

When people call the Council with a concern, these are logged, assessed and assigned to a relevant team/member of staff to deal with and respond to in an appropriate timescale, using the Confirm system.

### 5.4.2 Reporting of issues by the Friends

Members of the Friends of Parkland Walk are able to report issues within the park in exactly the same way as members of the public, but they also have close links with the Park Projects Officer and with Operations staff, so will usually approach them directly.

Council officers are in regular contact with the Friends, enabling issues to be raised and discussed on an ad hoc basis.

Friends are also encouraged to report issues of anti-social behaviour and other issues through the Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator who will direct these to the most relevant person within the police to deal with them.

#### **5.4.3 Risk assessments**

The Parks & Open Spaces team ensures that prior to any works being undertaken on Council land, its consultants, contractors and other organisations prepare for approval all necessary Risk Assessments and Method Statements (RAMS) covering all proposed works operations. In addition to the usual operations, the Council requires consultants and contractors to provide specific RAMS covering potentially contaminated land, underground services and other unforeseen underground matters, such as UXO (unexploded ordnance), and measures to protect the public during any works. Contractors are further required to undertake CAT scans prior to excavations to identify underground services.

The parks service ensures that, where excavations are to take place, underground services information is obtained from utility providers and the Council's pollution team prepares contaminated land desk studies.

#### **5.4.4 Safety representatives**

The parks operations service holds a quarterly Health and Safety Working Group, which is chaired by a council health and safety specialist. It is attended by representatives of operational management, staff from both east and west areas, and trades unions. These quarterly meetings provide the opportunity to raise issues that have not been fully addressed elsewhere. The group is also a place to discuss health and safety issues and legislation, and their implications on working practices and plays a key role in generating continual improvement in health and safety standards.

#### **5.4.5 Staff reporting**

All staff are encouraged to raise health and safety issues with their manager or with the health and safety representative who can raise concerns at the quarterly Health and Safety Working Group.

### **5.5 Reporting issues with the 'Love Clean Streets' app**

The 'Love Clean Streets' app makes it quick and easy to report problems when people are out and about in the borough. Once the app has been downloaded to a Smartphone, the public can take photos of the problem and send it directly to the team responsible for fixing it using the Confirm system. They will then receive progress updates and will be told when the reported issue has been fixed.

Unlike other 'report it' style apps, 'Love Clean Streets' asks the user to choose from a list of Haringey specific categories for the problem, which ensures the report goes to the right team, first time and will be dealt with as quickly as possible.

## **5.6 Community safety and policing**

Parks in Haringey remain relatively safe places, especially during the hours of daylight. Over the whole of 2020 there were 767 reported crime or incidents reported to the police across all the parks and open spaces in Haringey. This was a 5% increase on 2019 but parks and green spaces were much more heavily used in 2020 than in 2019.

The most commonly reported crime in parks in 2020 was robbery, which accounted for about 29% of reported crimes in parks. This is more than 10% lower than in 2019. Nearly three in five of these robberies took place after dark. There were over 150 reported thefts (21% of all crimes) and 140 drug-related offences (18%) – mostly possession of cannabis.

Almost two thirds of crimes in parks were reported during British Summer Time (April to October) when the evenings are longer, and the parks are more heavily used. Over a third of all reported crimes took place when it was dark.

In Parkland Walk there were 19 reported crimes in 2020. Parkland Walk accounted for only 2.5% of all reported crimes in Haringey parks.

Over the years there have been a number of initiatives the Council has implemented to make the parks safer for all who use them. However, reductions in budgets in the last decade have limited these initiatives.

The Neighbourhood Policing Team for Stroud Green, Crouch End, Muswell Hill and Highgate wards respond as needed to any issues raised by local residents and community groups. In the event of any crime in progress or emergency, call 999.

## **5.7. Extending Neighbourhood Watch into parks**

Neighbourhood Watch groups across the borough are encouraged to adopt a local park or green space.

The Neighbourhood Watch Officer is proactive in helping to reduce crime in our parks through interventions such as asking all Neighbourhood Watch Groups to include their local park or green space in the Watch and report any issues of concern, organising a monthly dog walk in a different park every month, where dog walkers are asked about how safe they feel and encourage ongoing engagement with the police, regular communication with Friends of Parks Groups and the Friends Forum, including attending their meetings when invited, and providing monthly crime statistics to the Council and senior police officers showing crime trends and where resources are required.

## **5.8 Designing out crime**

It is widely recognised that key factors in ensuring park safety and the perception of safety are to ensure high usage and a high level of community involvement and 'ownership'.

Sensitive landscape management can also assist in reducing crime. Assessing accessibility and potential crime spots, known as ‘designing out crime’ may result in the removal of inappropriate tall shrubs and their replacement with a more suitable low growing species.

## **5.9 24-hour access**

Some park sites in the borough are locked at dusk and opened at dawn, due to historical issues or having private houses or gardens backing onto the site. Parkland Walk is not a locked site (in terms of pedestrian access), however the vehicle entrances at Holmesdale Road (locked bollards) and Blythwood Road (locked vehicle gate) are kept locked and only opened for essential works and maintenance access.

## **5.10 Dogs**

Dogs and dog walking are a valuable part of the park scene, and dog carers are probably the main daily user group in many green spaces. Their collective presence is a key ingredient of green spaces being populated and safe to use, especially at quieter times of the day and year. Dog walkers are often described as ‘eyes and ears’ of a green space.

We recognise that the vast majority of dog owners are responsible and respectful to their local community. However, we receive complaints from residents about dog fouling and the behaviour of some dogs (and their owners).

A Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) is in place across the borough to control the behaviour of dogs. The prohibitions have been designed to be as simple as possible, giving clarity and outlining expectations.

Well behaved dogs can be walked or exercised freely off lead in all large parks (over half a hectare) including Parkland Walk. This promotes healthy exercise for dogs and takes into consideration the needs of the borough’s dog owners and the welfare of dogs.

The Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) covers five areas of dog control:

- Dog fouling
- Keeping dogs under control
- Putting dogs on a lead if directed
- Keeping dogs out of designated areas (such as playgrounds)
- Limiting to six the number of dogs that one person can bring to the park

Failure to comply with the requirements of the order can result in a fine or to court if the fine is not paid within a specified timeframe.

The PSPO is in force for three years from October 2020 and can be extended for a further three years. Full details can be found at <https://www.haringey.gov.uk/community/community-safety-and-engagement/anti-social-behaviour/public-spaces-protection-orders-pspos#dogf>

## **6. Sustainability**

### **6.1 Greenest borough strategy**

Haringey's Greenest Borough Strategy was adopted in 2008 in response to growing concerns around climate change. The Strategy sets out the Council's and its partners commitment to tackle climate change under seven environmental policies to ensure achievement of their 'green' vision over a ten-year period, and details what the council, its partners and the public can do to contribute.

1. Improving the urban environment
2. Protecting the natural environment
3. Managing environmental resources efficiently
4. Leading by example
5. Encouraging sustainable design and construction
6. Promoting sustainable travel
7. Raising awareness and involvement

The management and maintenance of parks and how they are used relate back to many of the individual targets within the Strategy and are instilled in everyday working practices.

### **6.2 Pesticide use**

The council uses a range of herbicides to control weeds in parks. It remains the most effective in terms of the required resources – with two treatments per year often sufficient to prevent weed growth, as opposed to regular treatment by hand or other means.

Chemicals are stored, handled, used and disposed in accordance with manufacturer/supplier requirements, and a COSHH assessment is prepared for each of the substances used.

Reliance on mechanical methods of weed control (e.g. strimming) is reducing as this has an impact on both the operator and also does not address the weed at its roots.

The use of herbicides as a principal form of weed control is increasingly under scrutiny, and the parks department is routinely considering alternatives. This is particularly true of weedkillers containing the component glyphosate. This has received a lot of press coverage subsequent to court cases in the United States, but it remains licensed for use in the UK and Europe.

Officers of the council monitor developments in scientific findings. At this stage, glyphosate appears not to cause harm to humans or any animals larger than micro-organisms. This will be reviewed as part of the development of the new Parks & Green Spaces Strategy.

### **6.3 Sustainable use of materials**

The parks service refrains from the use of non-sustainable peat-based products and challenges nursery suppliers to provide alternative supplies. Where plants are obtained

from private nurseries, we request plants grown in a peat free environment.

Our infrastructure procurement policy is to use recycled materials where possible. We aim to acquire recycled plastic benches where possible; or where timber is required, we seek to use those from sustainable sources.

## **6.4 Recycling**

Although some parks have dedicated onsite recycling bins, all waste collected from parks be it from standard waste bins, or recycling bins is taken to the North London Waste Authority (NLWA) depot. Materials that can be recycled are extracted and processed accordingly.

Where possible green waste is recycled on-site; grass cuttings are left on the grass; and hedge cuttings are mulched and placed under the hedge or in other areas of the park.

In autumn when a large amount of green waste is generated, that which cannot be used or composted on site is taken to the NLWA depot for recycling. The resulting compost is then collected for use in the parks.

A monitoring system is in place to record the amount of green waste that is mulched on site and the amount that goes to NLWA for recycling, as well as recording the percentage of green waste that is recycled. The system aims for 100% recycled green waste. Leaf litter is already composted or mulched on site.

After Christmas the borough has a number of advertised sites where people can drop off their used Christmas trees.

## **7. Community Involvement**

### **7.1 Volunteering in parks**

#### **Volunteering in parks**

Haringey Council actively supports and encourages volunteering in our parks and green spaces. There are a range of mechanisms to support volunteering and community involvement.

The Friends of the Parkland walk actively encourage potential volunteers to sign up to their newsletter to receive up-to-date information about conservation workdays and other matters.

#### **7.1.1 Community Volunteering**

The Conservation Volunteers (TCV) are based at Railway Fields, N4. They deliver conservation volunteer days across the borough on behalf of Haringey Council. They also support delivery of training opportunities as well as development of site-specific conservation action plans.

During 2020, TCV delivered 100 conservation days across parks in Haringey, involving 772 volunteers. In addition, three training days were provided for Pa

Fourteen volunteer sessions were held on Parkland Walk with 117 volunteers attending. The work included management of the nature trail, meadow management at UStroud Green meadow and removing bramble and ivy from glades

#### **7.1.2 Corporate volunteering**

Haringey Council actively supports companies and corporate volunteers within our parks and green spaces. Corporate volunteering provides an opportunity for employees to be involved in a different experience whilst supporting our management and improvement of green spaces.

TCV supports corporate volunteer days across the borough with tasks ranging from habitat creation and vegetation management, to creating countryside furniture and nature trails. Additional corporate volunteer days were delivered at parks across Haringey, facilitated by Friends groups.

Specific opportunities for corporate volunteers are included within site Conservation Action Plans (section 8.4) to ensure that the sessions support wider management of the site whilst providing an engaging and rewarding opportunity for the volunteers.

### **7.2 Haringey Friends of Parks Forum**

The borough-wide Haringey Friends of Parks Forum was set up by Friends groups as an independent network in 2002. It is a coalition of over 40 Friends of parks groups and is committed to protecting and improving open space within the borough. The Friends of Parks Forum meets six times a year.

The Forum provides an opportunity for Friends Groups to work together for the benefit of Haringey's green spaces and green space users. The Forum's ['What We Do and How We Do It'](#) document describes the work of the forum and of individual friends' groups.

Amongst other things the Forum has been effective in lobbying and campaigning for

- better planning policies as they affect open spaces
- more ambitious and effective open space standards
- greater levels of on-site staffing
- giving support to individual Friends' groups

Friends Groups communicate and co-ordinate through the Forum's email list. The Friends Groups liaise closely with all council park services and have been key agents in helping to bring in millions of pounds in external funding to improve facilities for local people.

Over the years they have worked with the Council on achieving Green Flag status for many parks and open spaces. The Forum is supported by the Council and park officers attend a session during the Forum's meetings to take note of each local Friends group's issues, and to discuss wider issues of common concern. The Council is publicly committed to active partnership working with Friends groups and the Forum. Minutes of all Forum meetings are published on the Forum website.

The Forum also works with Haringey Federation of Residents Associations and the Haringey Allotments Forum. It also links up with similar grass-roots residents' Forums and networks throughout the UK through the London Friends Groups Network and the National Federation of Parks and Green Spaces.

### **7.3 Friends of the Parkland Walk**

The Friends of the Parkland Walk is a community-based voluntary organisation that aims to protect and conserve the Parkland Walk. On a voluntary basis, and in their own time, they undertake conservation and light maintenance work and litter picking.

They have also commissioned surveys of wildlife and of path usage.

The Friends of Parkland Walk is affiliated to TCV which also means the Friends can enjoy their (and the London Borough of Islington's) insurance arrangements for jointly run activities.

The Council works closely with the Friends on all matters affecting the Walk. The Friends have provided the following statement in support of this management plan update:

*'The aim of the Friends of the Parkland Walk (FPW) is to protect the Parkland Walk as a Local Nature Reserve. This often involves achieving balance between its often-competing roles linear park, footpath, and its use by cyclists and dog walkers. The FPW undertakes practical conservation activities and also is concerned with developing the*

*Walk's value as a place of education about wildlife. To this end it also organises guided walks and since 2016 has been developing a Wildlife Trail at the Holmesdale Road end of Parkland Walk South. This educational project successfully opened to the public in May 2019.*

*Our volunteers undertake tasks out of concern for our nature reserve and wildlife in general but are aware that a balance needs to be struck between our involvement and the responsibilities of the local councils. The council needs to be aware that the enthusiasm of volunteers is inherently fragile no substitute for properly resourced council input.*

*Encroachment is one of the biggest threats to the Walk. We are engaged with the relevant staff to defend the Walk against developers and others taking land away from public enjoyment. These meetings also aim to address the risk to the fabric of the Walk from illegal dumping of garden waste and building refuse from neighbouring properties. We look to the council to provide the legal backing and resources to make this work effective.*

*We believe the management plans for the Walk should reflect both the importance of the nature reserve as both a wildlife haven and a valuable green resource for human residents. The plans should be more than just an ecological study but should also take in the style of signs, entrances and other issues of clearance and maintenance of scrub and overshadowing'.*

For further information - [www.parkland-walk.org.uk](http://www.parkland-walk.org.uk)

## 8. Conservation and Heritage

### 8.1 Biodiversity and the Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP)

The term biodiversity refers to the variety of life around us, including plants, animals and the ecological interactions that take place in our environment. Haringey supports a wide diversity of wildlife and habitats ranging from woodland and wildflower meadows to ponds, streams and wetlands.

Haringey's Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) is currently under review. During 2021 a new BAP will be produced, aligned with the new Parks and Open Spaces Strategy. The new BAP will include detail on priority habitats, development of high value ecological corridors and the integration of biodiversity conservation into wider council initiatives.

Priorities within the BAP will help support updating or developing Conservation Action Plans for parks in Haringey including Parkland Walk. See section 8.4.

### 8.2 Habitat representation and nature conservation interests

Parkland Walk covers 12.9 ha of green space with a range of habitat types represented, including:

- Woodland, plantation & scrub (Metropolitan importance)
- Grassland and tall herbaceous vegetation (Local importance)
- Ruderal and mural vegetation (Borough importance)
- Wetland habitats (Local importance)
- Buildings and other structures (unknown importance)

Parkland Walk has significance and value for the following species:

- Reptiles (Local importance)
- Birds (Borough importance)
- Bats (Borough importance)
- Invertebrates (Borough importance)

#### 8.2.1 Invasive species

In September 2019 a small strand of Japanese Knotweed was discovered on the Stroud Green Meadow. Following specialist that this is best left undisturbed we will continue to monitor this strand. Treatment plans are in place for other areas of Japanese Knotweed on the Parkland Walk in particular where they impact on residents boundaries.

### 8.3 Designation status

Natural England and Local Authorities have a system of designating greenspace depending on certain characteristics and their value - locally, regionally and nationally. Parkland Walk is:

Table: Habitats in Parkland Walk

Habitat type	Area (ha)	Percentage
Native woodland	4.97	31%

Non-native woodland	1.56	10%
Bare artificial	0.80	5%
Tall herb	0.99	6%
Acid grassland	0.11	1%
Semi-imp grassland	0.14	1%
Scrub	4.87	31%
Ruderal	0.11	1%
Roughland	1.64	10%
Herb rich grass	0.54	3%
Total	15.79	100%

Image 25: Designation status

Note: Habitat type defined as per the London Survey Methodology. Source [www.gigl.org.uk](http://www.gigl.org.uk). Total area surveyed may not exactly match the park area.

## 8.4 Conservation Action Plan (CAP)

Conservation Action Plans (CAP) provide a framework for ongoing management of sites for their biodiversity value. They provide guidance on conservation actions and activities that can be carried out throughout the year and form a basis for the conservation work of TCV, Friends groups and other community organisations.

CAPs detail site specific opportunities as well as supporting borough wide conservation efforts and requirements, such as contributing to habitat creation targets or demonstrating the positive management of SINCs.

A new Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) for the Parkland Walk will be developed during 2021, whereupon existing CAPs will be aligned with the new BAP. They will detail conservation actions and requirements, including maintenance, enhancement opportunities and potential future projects.

There is a CAP in place for the Parkland Walk which can be found at the end of the ten year plan in Appendix A. This continues to form the basis for conservation activities within the park and will be updated to reflect new priorities, actions and projects.

## 8.5 Site history and heritage

### 8.5.1: Site history

Parkland Walk follows part of the course of the Edgware, Highgate and London Railway. The line from Finsbury Park to Highgate (and on to Edgware) opened in 1867. A branch from Finchley to High Barnet opened in 1872 and from Highgate to Alexandra Palace in 1873.

In the 1930s it was planned to transfer all the lines to become part of the Underground Northern Line. The sections north of Highgate to Barnet and Mill Hill were transferred in 1940. Although partly completed, the rest of the scheme was halted and then abandoned after the 2nd World War. Infrequent passenger trains continued to

Alexandra Palace, but ceased in 1954. Some freight trains ran until 1964, and the last use was by London Transport to transfer tube trains until 1970.

Schemes to use the land were developed by the neighbouring boroughs, and all included a Walk to some extent. A Haringey scheme for the south section which included considerable housing was rejected in 1979 after a public enquiry. It was said that as open space it 'had a value extending far beyond that of local interest... warranting special protection' and that the development for housing 'would prevent the benefit of rare environmental contribution being realised'. It has now become London's longest nature reserve.

Improvements were made with new entrances and resurfacing of the path. The Parkland Walk was officially opened in 1984. It is formally designated as a Local Nature Reserve and as Metropolitan Open Land. The section from Finsbury Park to Highgate is part of the Capital Ring Walk around Inner London.

Visible reminders of its railway past include the platforms at Crouch End Hill, the station house at Stapleton Hall Road for Stroud Green station, the viaduct in Muswell Hill and the brick building by Crouch Hill, which was built to house an electricity transformer for the Underground scheme but never used.

The history of the Walk is detailed in two interpretation panels located at Cranley Gardens and Crouch Hill.

### **8.5.2 Highgate bat tunnels**



**Image 26: Bat tunnels on Parkland Walk**

In January 2014 the creation of a bat roosting habitat within the disused railway tunnels at the end of Parkland Walk, adjacent to Highgate Station, was completed.

The works consisted of internal walls with associated metal grilles, doors and habitat frames to assist with the regulation of airflow and temperature providing a suitable habitat for bat roosting in bat boxes also provided.



**Image 27: Sign to bat tunnel and bat boxes**

The work was instigated and coordinated by the Council's Nature Conservation Officer with valuable support from Transport for London (London Underground), the London Bat Group and SITA Trust, who funded the work. The bat habitat is now regularly monitored for roosting bats.

The increased presence of bats in the tunnels will help towards achieving conservation and biodiversity targets within the Haringey Biodiversity Action Plan, the London Species Action Plan – Bats, and Connecting with Nature', the Mayor's Biodiversity Strategy (GLA, 2002).

## **9. Marketing**

### **9.1 The marketing approach**

Marketing the Parkland Walk involves more than simply publicising and promoting the park, it also involves listening to the users of the park. A common phrase associated with marketing is 'putting the customer at the centre of business'.

This section outline how facilities and activities at Parkland Walk are promoted and publicised and secondly how users are positioned at the centre of the business.

### **9.2 Websites**

[www.haringey.gov.uk/greenspaces](http://www.haringey.gov.uk/greenspaces)

The Haringey website contains extensive information on the borough's parks and open spaces, including Parkland Walk. Information such as location, facilities and transport links for all Haringey parks and open spaces is available.

Policy information such as the Parks and Open Spaces Strategy which draws upon a range of information and seeks to establish a long- term vision for the borough's parks and open spaces is also available.

Information detailing the Council's partnerships with Friends Groups, The Conservation Volunteers and the Metropolitan Police is available online along with links to their websites.

Detailed information on the Green Flag Award with clear links to the Green Flag park pages within the LBH site can be viewed.

The Friends also maintain a website/Facebook page:

The Friends of the Parkland Walk: <https://www.parkland-walk.org.uk/>

### **9.3 Social media**

Social Media is now a regular way of communicating information between relevant parties and beyond. Haringey Council encourages all partners to use social media when communicating with communities.

[@haringeycouncil](https://twitter.com/haringeycouncil)

Haringey Council has a Twitter feed with just under 17,000 followers and is used as a two-fold approach: to proactively release live information to keep people informed and updated and respond to queries and complaints posted by others. This is checked throughout the day and provides residents and visitors with another communication channel.

The Council also uses other forms of communication such as Facebook and YouTube.

[www.facebook.com/haringeycouncil](https://www.facebook.com/haringeycouncil)

[www.youtube.com/haringeycouncil](https://www.youtube.com/haringeycouncil)

We also like to keep our resident's in the loop about the events that are taking place, and regularly ask that stakeholders and park hirers submit details about their event on the Council website for FREE, on our "What's On" listings section at [www.haringey.gov.uk/add-event](http://www.haringey.gov.uk/add-event)

#### **9.4 Publications**

Haringey People is the Council magazine, distributed six times a year by direct mail to all households within the borough. The magazine is produced by the Council's Central Communications Team which has editorial control over the content.

<https://www.haringey.gov.uk/news-and-events/haringey-people-magazine>

Several articles are published each year promoting the borough's parks as well as the work and events that key stakeholders and partners organise in parks throughout the year.

#### **9.5 Notice board**

There are two noticeboards at the Parkland Walk located at the Oxford Road and Holmesdale Road entrances. These are used to display information about the Friends and Council services and/or campaigns.

In 2014 a new set of guidelines detailing how notice boards within parks should be used, maintained and what information can be displayed were issued with the expectation that all those with an interest and access to the notice boards will adhere to..

#### **9.6 Campaigns**

A number of annual publicity campaigns are run each year to highlight key issues affecting the borough's parks and open spaces. These include:

- Litter awareness campaign – encouraging users to dispose of their litter responsibly, focusing on specific hotspot areas at key points in the year and including enforcement action
- Neighbourhood Watches – encouraging creation of new watches and increased membership
- Trees – awareness campaign aimed at key points through the year, highlighting tree planting, tree maintenance and removal and why, national tree week
- Volunteering and Friends Groups – promoting the work groups do and the benefits they bring, and encouraging volunteering
- Love Parks Week – promoting and highlighting the borough's parks and events that take place in them

#### **9.7 Awards**

Haringey Council is committed to managing its parks under the Green Flag criteria and aims for accreditation for all its parks. In 2016 entered into the Green Flag Group Award application. By 2018 it had achieved 22 Green Flag parks and open spaces, including Parkland Walk.

Last year 22 parks managed by Haringey Council were awarded Green Flag status, an external recognition for quality parks and open spaces. Parkland Walk was one of these.

Haringey Council remains committed to the Green Flag scheme and is seeking to retain Green Flag status for the 22 parks & green spaces in 2021.

### **9.8 Tree and bench sponsorship**

A sponsorship scheme is provided where members of the public can sponsor the planting of a tree or the installation of a bench in any Council run park and open space. This can be done to commemorate a loved one or an event.

The sponsor pays for the item and planting / installation, thereafter the Council maintains it subject to certain conditions. Should sponsors wish to, they can also help in maintaining their item.

The Friends of Parkland Walk have used their own funds and have previously applied for small grants to install memorial benches along the Walk, however their current position is that they are opposed to any further memorial trees or benches on the Parkland Walk. The council recognises that Parkland Walk is not like other green spaces and supports this position other than in exceptional cases.

## 10. Management

### 10.1 Setting the Financial Scene

The parks service gross budget for 2017/18 was a total of £5.1m with a revenue income of £4.5m and operated a net deficit of £600k. According to a survey by Parks for London this represents the second lowest operating deficit in London.

Whilst the service has borne its share of austerity related budget reductions, in recent years the service has chosen to focus on generating additional income to mitigate these reductions rather than impact service delivery on the ground. The service has managed this by growing the amount of income generated through: -

- Increasing the number of park properties let
- Increasing the number paying a market rent,
- Growing the number of commercial events
- Growing the level of filming income
- Increasing the range of services offered to other organisations

A breakdown of the 2017/18 revenue budget is set out below: -

- a) Revenue Expenditure – Employees, Premises, Transport, Supplies and Services, Third Party Payments, Support Services etc

Total Parks expenditure	£5,142,184
Employees	£2,665,995
Premises related expenditure	£534,054
Transport related expenditure	£144,885
Supplies and Services	£398,471
Third Party Payments	£662,463
Support Services	£583,987
Capital Charges	£152,330

- a) Revenue Income - Customer and Client Receipts, Recharges etc

Total Revenue Income	£4,467,442
Customer and Client Receipts	£3,753,447
Recharges	£713,995

The council seeks to secure external investment from a number of sources. The council has its own ten-year capital strategy which currently includes over £11m of capital funding for parks. The service seeks to add to this sum and has secured further investment from the following sources over recent years:

Section 106  
 Community Infrastructure Levy  
 National Lottery  
 London Marathon Charitable Trust

Environmental Funds  
Greater London Authority  
Event Income

Another important part of the overall funding mix is the fundraising carried out by Friends Groups across the borough. A wide variety of groups have been able to secure funds to deliver the priorities they identified. In 2017/18 the council directly invested the following amounts: -

- b) Capital Expenditure – names of Capital schemes and expenditure on each scheme.

Park Asset Management	£377,288
Active Life in Parks	£263,477
Parkland Walk Bridges	£126,780

The Council continues to face significant financial challenges with many millions of pounds of savings to find over the coming years. A goal therefore for the service over the coming years is to maintain a stable budget position and therefore continuing with a strategy to generate additional income will be an important financial focus for the service.

## 10.2 Management structure

The Parks Service sits within the Environment and Neighbourhoods Directorate and is overseen by the Director and the Cabinet Member for Environment.

The service is organised across Commissioning and Client Services business unit.

Responsibility for the service falls to the respective heads of each business unit and they are supported by two commissioning managers and a parks manager.

The structure chart (below) shows the three core strands of the parks service which are:

- Park Operations Team – this team takes the lead on all day to day operational aspects of maintaining each green flag park.
- Active Communities Team – this team takes the lead on all event management, community activation in the park, partnership working and small grant awards. This team also secures sport related external funding
- Public Realm Team – this team takes the lead on asset management, investment in parks, policy development, nature conservation and arboriculture.

## Haringey park structure chart (April 2019)

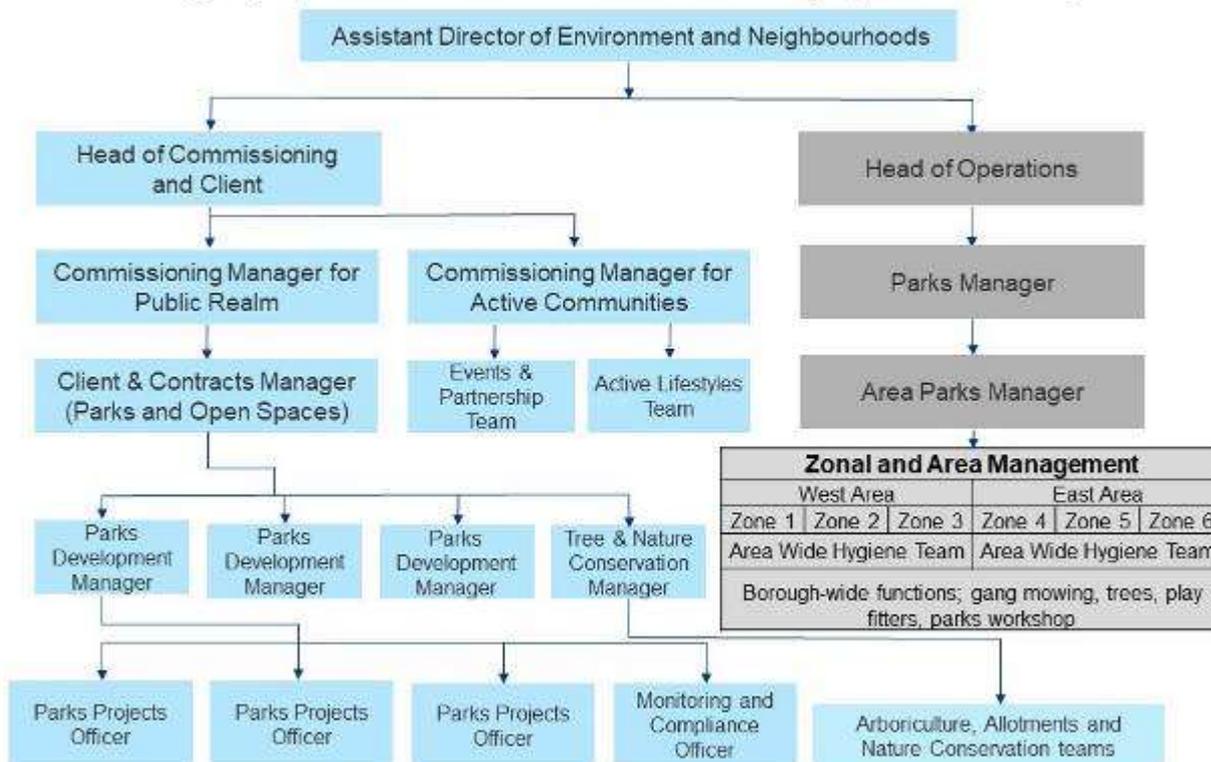


Image 28: Haringey Park structure chart

These three core teams are supported internally by colleagues across Community Safety and Enforcement, Planning Services, Regeneration, Adults and Children’s services on a variety of issues from homelessness, to new cycle routes, to improvement in existing green spaces and access and activities for older and young people.

External support for the service comes through the Friends Forum, our partners within the Police and The Conservation Volunteers alongside organisations such as Parks for London, Keep Britain Tidy and APSE.

### 10.3 Borough Plan 2019-2023

Following the local elections in May 2018 the new council and its partners have developed a Borough Plan setting out their vision and priorities for the next four years. Following extensive public consultation, it was agreed by Cabinet in February 2019.

The plan sets out the council’s priorities and the outcomes it seeks to achieve. Outcome 10 of the plan is for “a healthier, active and greener place”. The plan places importance on the role of parks and open spaces in delivering this outcome through four objectives.

Objective 10a is to “Protect and improve parks, open space, and green space, promoting community use”.

The Plan identifies several ways in which this will be achieved:

- Continue with partners to invest in our parks with over £15 million of improvements planned over the next five years, including new playgrounds and sports facilities.
- Develop a new Parks and Open Spaces strategy and consult with partners and local communities about how we will work together to protect, enhance and, where possible, extend green and open space in Haringey.
- Promote the use of our parks for a wide range of events and activities, including more community use.
- Plant more trees to make our streets and open spaces greener.
- Work with partners, including Environmental Community Groups, to maintain the borough's watercourses, maximising their environmental and health benefits

Parks are also important in delivering Objective 10b of the plan. It is to “increase the levels of physical activity across the borough” by “creating healthier places, including parks and open spaces, in line with the Mayor of London’s Healthy Streets plan...”

However, we cannot achieve the priorities in the plan on our own. We trust that our partners locally and our residents will work together with us on achieving them.

The Borough Plan 2019-2023 can be found at:

[https://www.haringey.gov.uk/sites/haringeygovuk/files/borough\\_plan\\_2019-23.pdf](https://www.haringey.gov.uk/sites/haringeygovuk/files/borough_plan_2019-23.pdf)

#### **10.4 Parks and Open Spaces Strategy**

The last open space strategy was adopted in 2006.

Work has begun on developing a new strategy for parks and open spaces. The importance of a new parks and open spaces strategy is underlined by the explicit reference to it in Borough Plan 2019-2023.

The new strategy will build on the Parks Scrutiny Review that took place in March 2018. It will be co-produced with Friends, residents and councillors. As part of the process there will be a series of workshops and a period of public consultation.

The strategy will set out the ambitions for the service over the next 15 years. It will set out approaches to the maintenance, management and usage of parks. It will also set out clear policy positions on issues relating to parks and open spaces. In some cases new policies will need to be developed (such as security in parks and licensable activity).

The strategy will also describe the funding landscape. One key element of this will be to balancing revenue funding for the service against the agreed service standards. It will also provide a context to inform the long-term capital strategy including mapping out the external funding opportunities that can be used to the benefit of the service

The timetable is for a draft 15-year strategy to have been agreed, following public consultation in June 2021 and for Cabinet to agree the document in February 2022.

## **10.5 The Greenest Borough Strategy**

Haringey's Greenest Borough Strategy responds to growing concerns around climate change. The Strategy sets out the Council's and its partners commitment to tackle climate change under a number of key environmental policies to ensure achievement of their 'green' vision over a ten year period, and details what the council, its partners and the public can do to contribute.

More information can be found here: [www.haringey.gov.uk/greenest-borough](http://www.haringey.gov.uk/greenest-borough)

## **10.6 The Health & Wellbeing Strategy**

This strategy aims to reduce health inequalities through working with communities and residents to improve opportunities for adults and children to enjoy a healthy, safe and fulfilling life, through a number of key outcomes.

Those that specifically relate to parks include increasing physical activity and improving health and mental wellbeing.

More information can be found here: [www.haringey.gov.uk/hwbstrategy](http://www.haringey.gov.uk/hwbstrategy)

## **10.7 Finance and funding**

The revenue budget for Parkland Walk sits within the overall Parks Operations.

Capital expenditure on parks and open spaces is planned at a borough level rather than at an individual park level. Match funding and other sources of external funding are sought wherever possible.

### **10.7.1 Parks and open spaces Small Grant Scheme**

The Parks and Open Space Small Grant Scheme has been running for a number of years. The scheme offers community groups associated with parks and open spaces - such as Friends of Parks groups – to bid for funding of up to £1000. The funding is to support and develop community activity to help meet the council's aims and priorities for improving the borough's parks and open spaces. The budget available in 2018/19 was £40,000 and is expected to be again in 2019/20.

More information can be found here: [www.haringey.gov.uk/parkssmallgrants](http://www.haringey.gov.uk/parkssmallgrants)

### **10.7.2 Events income**

At the end of 2013 a review of the parks events policy was conducted to inform and guide changes of how events would take place in the borough's parks, and also realign and invest income from parks events back into park improvements.

Income generated from events in parks and open spaces will be used in the first instance to meet the parks event income target in each year.

The application and booking fees will be utilised to fund the staffing costs of the booking and event management process.

Surplus income will initially be used to support and develop community led festivals and events in parks across the borough and offer training opportunities for community event organisers. £20,000 additional funding will be made available as part of the small grants scheme, as detailed above.

Any additional income generated will be ring fenced to be reinvested back into parks maintenance across the borough. Where significant sums of money are generated in individual parks the reinvestment needs of that park will be addressed first before redistributing the remainder of any funds to other parks.

All applicants to hold event will be charged a flat rate fee dependent on their event to cover the cost of the environmental impact on the park.

The environmental impact income will be kept separate from other income received in respect of events. This additional income can be used by the Friends of the park in which the event was held to address their immediate priorities for the park.

Last year there were no events in any parks or green spaces from the commencement of the first lockdown in March 2020. Parkland Walk is not suited to events other than walks, nature trails and organised events of this nature.

## 11. Improving Parkland Walk

### 11.1: Improvements undertaken since 2015

Heading	Action	Completion
A welcoming Place	Additional 'pedestrian priority/considerate cycling' signs installed at the Holmesdale Road entrance (requested by the Friends)	2018/19
	Undertook resurfacing works to 6 sets of entrance steps (identified and agreed with the Friends)	2018/19
	Cleansing of all signs, noticeboards and interpretation, including replacing damaged Perspex screens	September 2019
A clean and well-maintained park	Resolve long-standing leak near Holmesdale Road entrance	Sept 2020
	Removing rubble and unwanted items from various locations, including the Milton gate, Mount View bridge, Blythwood Road (obsolete fencing), Florence Road steps, Lancaster Road etc	September 2019
	Vegetation removal to the 4 bridges prioritised for urgent major repairs	2019 and 2020
	Vegetation cut back to all paths, steps and access routes	September 2019
	Undertook a range of asset repair works to replace all of the old-style bins with new bins on proper bases at each of the entrances, repair benches, remove graffiti, address the worst path patch repairs and remove unwanted items	November 2019
	Friends activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carry out 10 conservation sessions per year, which mainly focus on the following practical activities that would normally be carried out by the Council: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Maintaining accessibility at entrances</li> <li>○ Cutting back where paths narrow</li> <li>○ Removing invasive species - notably sycamore saplings and cherry laurel</li> <li>○ Controlling Japanese knotweed</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Manage Litter Marshal scheme - equipping volunteers to carry out regular litter picks (minimum once a week and in some areas 4 times/week)</li> <li>• Keep Parkland Walk North clear of graffiti through regular reporting via Haringey app.</li> <li>• Organise litter picks to coincide with national events</li> </ul>	Ongoing
	Cleansing graffiti from all assets such as bins, benches, concrete structures etc	September 2019

Heading	Action	Completion
Healthy, safe and secure	Boundary treatment at Upper Tollington Road entrance to deter drug use and defecation.	Nov 2020
	Heavy duty bollards to prevent unlawful access to the Holmesdale Road entrance	July 2018
	Undertook a desk study to better understand land quality issues along Parkland Walk: Made this available to contractors working at the site	November 2018
A sustainable place	Creation, by the Friends, of a new nature area and wildlife pond (The Nature Trail) at the Holmesdale Road entrance. This was enabled through a funding bid by the Friends for Tesco Bags of Help funding.	2015-18
	Reporting and resolution by Thames Water of numerous water leaks associated with Holmesdale Road and Orchard Mews (alerted by the Friends)	2018, 2019
	Repairing damaged benches and upgrading & rationalising bins to a new specification, adding bases to aid maintenance and prolong lifespan, and removing all dog waste bins	September 2019
Community Involvement	Creation, by the Friends, of a new nature area and wildlife pond (The Nature Trail) at the Holmesdale Road entrance. Regular maintenance of the Nature Trail by the Friends and TCV and managing a weekend roster.	2015-20
	Coordination with the Friends over a list of 37 issues (20 on PWN, 17 on PWS) they wanted to be addressed, plus follow-up actions to address many of these, as budgets allowed	January 2018
	Consultation with Friends of Parkland Walk, the Friends Forum and Parks teams on the design and style of future bin provision for parks and open spaces	Spring/Summer 2019
Conservation and Heritage	Undertaking Principal Bridge Inspections to the 4 bridges prioritised for urgent major repairs	April 2019
	Surveys, investigations, and procurement of design and works packages for the 4 bridges prioritised for urgent major repairs	October 2019 to Autumn 2020
Marketing and communication	Cleansing of all signs, noticeboards and interpretation, including replacing damaged Perspex screens	September 2019
	Replacing the 4 missing red marker posts and repainting all 17 (requested by the Friends)	September 2019
	Friends activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supplied information and images to the press and other interested parties</li> <li>Maintained website containing information about flora and fauna</li> <li>Participated in London National Park City festival 2019.</li> </ul>	Ongoing

Heading	Action	Completion
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engage with public through social media: Facebook 952 total page followers. Friends twitter 1,417 followers. Parkland Walk twitter 2,713.</li> <li>• Generate and circulate regular newsletters: FPW newsletter subscribers 905</li> <li>• Sponsor art project along the Walk</li> <li>• Developed interactive Google map</li> <li>• Created signage to help visitors get between the two sections effectively with QR code links to our website.</li> <li>• Promote the Walk via a number of local events such as the Crouch End Festival</li> <li>• Developed interactive Google map</li> <li>• Created signage to help visitors get between the two sections effectively with QR code links to our website.</li> </ul>	
	Coordination with Friends, Stakeholders Councillors as issues require such coordination, eg Spotlight Meetings	Ongoing/as & when
Management	Legal proceedings concerning covenants covering access to 3 Francis Place, at the Holmesdale Road entrance	2018, 2019
	Instigated legal proceedings related to encroachment issues at 101 Florence Road, flagged up by the Friends	2019/20
	The Friends of Parkland Walk initiated and undertook a survey in winter 2018/19 with the support of Haringey Council to identify places where encroachment and dumping etc. has taken place	Winter 2018/19
	Friends activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full boundary inspection every three years</li> <li>• Carry out regular small inspections at hotspots</li> <li>• Carry out footfall surveys</li> <li>• Carry out flora surveys</li> <li>• Sponsor art project along the Walk</li> <li>• Organise educational walks</li> </ul>	Ongoing
	Complete recruitment for Nature Conservation Officer	Feb 2020
	Following a request by the Friends, discussions between the Council, the Friends and Homes for Haringey have taken place to see whether it would be possible to legally incorporate a small parcel of Homes for Haringey land near the Blythwood Road entrance (6-10a Mount View Road)	2018/19

Image 29: Improvements since 2015

○

## 12. Action Plan

### 12.1 Maintenance and scheduled work programme

**This is a schedule of annual or routine tasks which are neither developmental nor fall within the remit of routine grounds maintenance or hygiene functions**

Heading	Action	Frequency	Responsible	When?
Clean and well maintained	Site inspection: asset condition survey	Quarterly	Park Projects Officer	Quarterly
	Site inspection: grounds maintenance issues	Monthly	Parks Area Manager	Monthly
	Site inspection: annual boundary check	Annually	Park Projects Officer	Annually
Healthy, safe and secure	Bridge condition safety inspections	Annual	Building Control/Structural Engineers	Annual
	Major bridge repairs	Consecutive	Parks/Highways	2021-2023
Management	Review the Park Management Plan annually	Annually	Park Projects Officer	Dec/Jan
Community Involvement	Lead 'Spotlight' meetings in the park with councillors and Friends	Quarterly	Park Projects Officer	Quarterly

### 12.2 Parkland Walk action plan

This plans how the work we would like to carry out. Budget availability and more urgent unplanned work may mean that it cannot be fulfilled. Other repairs and general maintenance may have to take precedence. The content will be reviewed at least annually at the end of each calendar year.

Heading	Action	Priority (H/M/L)	Responsible	Approx cost	Funding source	Target completion
A welcoming Place	Upgrade all site signage to the new corporate branding style	M	Parks	tbc	Parks budget	Partly completed
A clean and well-maintained park	Install new bins at each entrance	H	Parks	tbc	Parks budge	Completed
	Add timber surrounds to all the bins	L	Parks	tbc	Parks budget	As budgets allow
	Undertake a phased programme of path repairs and resurfacing works, as budgets allow (priority area is between Oxford Road and Upper Tollington Park)	M	Parks	tbc	Parks budget	As budgets allow
	Address the issue of dog fouling	M	Parks Operations/Enforcement	Officer time	Parks	Ongoing
	Friends litter picking events.	M	Friends	n/a	n/a	Ongoing
	Remove and discourage graffiti	H	Veolia, Parks	Officer time	Veolia	Ongoing
	Resolve water leak by Holmesdale Road entrance	H	Parks	Unknown	Parks	Completed
	Cut back brambles and other vegetation from path edges	H	Parks	tbc	Parks	Feb 2021
	Tidy up and establish clear boundary along Blythwood Road.	M	Parks Highways	tbc	Parks	June 2021
Healthy, safe and secure	Address insecure boundary fencing (eg Muswell Hill Centre/Risborough Close/ Cranbrook) and areas where no fencing is present.	H	Via Planning/development process, Parks	tbc	Neighbouring property owners	Dec 2021

Heading	Action	Priority (H/M/L)	Responsible	Approx cost	Funding source	Target completion
	Remove old chestnut fencing that does not mark extant boundaries	M	Parks	Tbc	Parks budget	As budgets allow
A sustainable place	Identify scope for encouraging recycling and reducing waste within the park	M	Parks	Nil	n/a	Dec 2021
	Consider interpretation signs by entrance to bat tunnels	L	Parks	Under £1k	Tbc	As budgets allow
	Review the use of chemicals as part of the new Parks & Green Spaces Strategy	H	Parks	Nil	n/a	September 2021
	Undertake a programme of tree inspections and tree works	H	Tree team and Nature Conservation Officer	Officer time	Trees budget	As budgets allow
Community Involvement	Through consultation with the Friends, update all the site interpretation boards	M	Nature Conservation Officer	tbc	Parks budgets	As budgets allow
	Neighbourhood Plan project to introduce a new play area at Milton Gate	M	Highgate Neighbourhood Forum , Park Projects Officer	tbc	CIL funding	2021
	Continue to consult the Friends and ward councillors on major bridge repair proposals, specifically regarding the look & feel of materials and accessibility aspects	H	Parks/Highways	Officer time	Council capital	Underway
Conservation and Heritage	Undertake major bridge repairs to Vicarage Path footbridge	H	Parks/Highways	£500k	Parks Capital	Autumn 2021

Heading	Action	Priority (H/M/L)	Responsible	Approx cost	Funding source	Target completion
	(currently out to tender)					
	Undertake major bridge repairs to Upper Tollington Park bridge	H	Parks/Highways	£500k	Parks Capital	Autumn 2021
	Undertake major bridge repairs to Stanhope Road bridge	H	Parks/Highways	£1m	Parks Capital	End 2022
	Undertake major bridge repairs to Stapleton Hall Road bridge	H	Parks/Highways	£2m	Parks Capital	2023+
	Principal Bridge inspections to the other bridges along Parkland walk	H	Parks/Highways	tbc	Parks Capital	From 2021
	Survey, investigate, design, procure and undertake major bridge repairs to the other bridges along Parkland Walk	H	Parks/Highways	tbc	Parks Capital	From 2021
	Review and update the Conservation Management Plan	H	Nature Conservation Officer	tbc	Trees budget	2021
	Control invasive species as required	H	Nature Conservation Officer/Parks Operations	tbc	tbc	As soon as possible, as budgets allow
Marketing and communication	Share tree survey information with the Friends and update Council databases with tree survey information	M	Tree team	tbc	Tree budget	Ongoing
	Upgrade all site signage to the new corporate branding style	M	Parks	tbc	Parks budget	Partly completed
Management	Recruit and appoint a new	H	Trees, Allotments &	tbc	Trees budget	Completed

Heading	Action	Priority (H/M/L)	Responsible	Approx cost	Funding source	Target completion
	Nature Conservation Officer		Nature Conservation manager			
	Address encroachment issues, boundary fencing issues, dumping of arisings and rough sleeping issues in a timely manner	H	Enforcement, Parks Operations, Legal Services, Property Services	tbc	Staff resources	Ongoing
	Address and resolve historic and long-standing encroachment issues and boundary fencing issues	H	Enforcement, Parks Operations, Legal Services, Property Services	tbc	Staff resources	Ongoing
	Ongoing discussions between the Council, Homes for Haringey and the Friends concerning the incorporating a small parcel of HfH owned land into Parkland Walk.	M	Parks/Friends/Homes for Haringey	tbc	Staff resources	Uncertain
	Drafting, consultation & roll-out of the new Parks restructure	H	Head of Parks & Leisure	n/a	Officer time and revenue budget tbc	2021
	Drafting, consulting, writing and adopting of the new Parks and Green Spaces Strategy,	H	Head of Parks & Leisure and all of the Parks & Open Spaces Team	n/a	Officer time and revenue funding	Feb 2022

## Appendix 1: Parkland Walk Local Nature Reserve management plan

The



Ecology Consultancy



# **Parkland Walk Local Nature Reserve**

## **Management Plan**

Report for London Borough of Haringey

Author	Jon Riley	
Job No	2009/252	
Status	Date	Approved by
Draft		
Draft		
Final	01.01.11	I.Holt

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# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Name

Parkland Walk Local Nature Reserve

## 1.2 Location

Parkland Walk comprises the course of the former Finsbury Park to Alexandra Palace Railway Line. It is approximately 3.5 kilometres in length, the majority in the London Borough of Haringey and a short but relatively broad section in the London Borough of Islington. The site is oriented approximately southeast to northwest. From Finsbury Park it passes through Crouch Hill and to Highgate where a section of the track has been subsumed into Highgate Wood. The remainder of the site comprises a short section running northeast from Cranley Gardens and under Muswell Hill Road to Alexandra Palace Park.

## 1.3 Area

15.17 hectares. Area within LB Haringey approximately 14ha (Game 2000)

## 1.4 Grid Reference

TQ 303 878

## 1.5 Access

The site is open to the public at all times with the main access being provided by the track bed of the former railway. The gate adjoining Finsbury Park closes at dusk, at the same time as the park. The site is accessible from the following locations within LB Haringey ([www.haringey.gov.uk/index/.../parklandwalk.htm](http://www.haringey.gov.uk/index/.../parklandwalk.htm) accessed 061009).

- Entrances within N4: Finsbury Park, Oxford Rd, Florence Rd, Lancaster Rd, Stapleton Hall Rd, Blythwood Rd, Upper Tollington Park and Mount Pleasant Villas.
- Entrances within N6 and N8: Crouch End Hill, Crescent Rd, Holmesdale Rd, Stanhope Rd, Milton Park and Northwood Road.
- Entrances within N10: Cranley Gds, Muswell Hill Rd underpass, St James' Lane, Muswell Hill and Hillfield Park.

The main access points in LB Islington are from Crouch Hill and Blythewood Road

## 1.6 Vice County

V21 Middlesex

## 1.7 Map Coverage

1:25000 Sheet 173 London North

## **1.9 Land Tenure**

Most of Parkland Walk LNR is owned by the London Borough of Haringey, the stretch alongside Highgate Wood is partly owned by London Underground Ltd. and partly by the City of London (Game 2000). A short section between Blythewood Road and Hanway Avenue is owned and managed by LB Islington.

## **1.10 Status**

Parkland Walk forms part of Parkland Walk, Queens Wood and Highgate Wood Site of Metropolitan Importance for Nature Conservation and was designated in 1990 as a statutory Local Nature Reserve. Parkland Walk is also designated as Metropolitan Open Land.

## **1.11 Public Rights of Way**

The Parkland Walk LNR is not currently designated a PROW.

## **1.12 Planning Authority**

London Boroughs of Haringey and Islington

## **1.13 Sources of Information**

The main sources of ecological records for the site are the Nature Conservation Officers in the London Boroughs of Haringey and Islington

## **1.14 Boundaries**

Most of the boundaries of the site are formed by adjacent properties and are owned by the freeholders of these properties. Abutments, fences and retaining walls are present where the site is adjacent to roads or crosses them on bridges. These structures are owned by the respective local authorities.

## **1.15 External factors**

The main external factor affecting the site is encroachment from adjacent properties where residents have extended their gardens into the site at some locations. The legal status of these garden extensions is complicated and they are discussed in this plan only in terms of their effects on ecology or recreational value of the site. The historic sale and lease of land as garden extensions to neighbouring properties although limited has also reduced the area of land directly manageable by LB Haringey, these areas are therefore not covered by the plans prescriptions. The dumping of refuse over garden boundaries and fly-tipping at entrance points to Parkland Walk, and anti-social/criminal behaviour are both further significant issues.

## 2. Description

### 2.1 Physical

#### 2.1.1 Topography

The topography of the site rises to the north. The final section to the north of Highgate Wood is within the Northern Heights and reaches almost 100 metres above sea level. The lowest point is near Finsbury Park at about 45m (Game 2000). This gradient broadly reflects the old railway line, which ran on an embankment in the south and in a cutting in the north but with a major viaduct traversing a dip to the east of Muswell Hill in the north.

#### 2.1.2 Geology and soils

Much of the site is underlain by London Clay which is overlain by periglacial sands and gravels at Muswell Hill and sandy loams of the Claygate Beds near Highgate Underground Station. Natural geology has been much modified by the construction of embankments and the track bed itself, and through the construction of drains on the slopes of cuttings.

### 2.2 Biological

#### 2.2.1 Flora

The following vegetation description for Parkland Walk LNR has been taken from the Phase 1 habitat survey carried out by Ecology Consultancy Ltd for Mayer Brown in 2006/7 to inform proposals for resurfacing the main footpath at the site.

##### *Overview*

The predominant habitat at Parkland Walk is secondary woodland. Substantial areas of scrub and localised but significant areas of neutral grassland are also present. Patches of bramble *Rubus fruticosus* under-scrub, tall herbaceous vegetation and smaller linear areas of neutral grassland occur throughout but are more prevalent in the southern part of the site. Ruderal and mural plant communities, and flushes and other small wetland features are infrequent and of very limited extent. Habitats and vegetation present are described in greater detail below. In each case those present in the southern part of Parkland Walk LNR, from Finsbury Park to Archway Road are described first, and those in the northern part, from Muswell Hill Road to Muswell Hill are described subsequently.

##### *Woodland*

Recent secondary woodland is present throughout but there is considerable variation in dominant species. The canopy comprises extensive stands of sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*, ash *Fraxinus excelsior* and pedunculate oak *Quercus robur*, the former often with abundant arboreal ivy *Hedera helix*. Stands of self established wild cherry *Prunus avium* are also present, most notably close to the entrance on Holmesdale Road, and stands of silver birch *Betula pendula* are occasionally present. Fruit trees occur occasionally and include a group of mature pear trees *Pyrus communis* on an embankment between Ella Road and Mount View Road in LB Islington. Planted beech *Fagus sylvatica* is dominant on part of a large south facing cutting in LB Islington. The woodland shrub layer is usually poorly developed but there are some sections where it is dense or species-rich. Holly *Ilex aquifolium* and Highclere holly *Ilex x altaclerensis*, hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, elder *Sambucus nigra* and English elm *Ulmus procera*, cherry laurel *Prunus laurocerasus*, garden privet *Ligustrum ovalifolium* and bay *Laurus nobilis* are locally frequent as are saplings of holm oak *Quercus ilex* and ash. At the time of survey the ground flora appeared to mainly species-poor and dominated by ivy, bramble, wood avens *Geum urbanum* and cow parsley *Anthriscus sylvestris*. Some areas of more diverse vegetation were recorded or reported (D. Bevan Pers. com). These include relatively diverse woodland edge flora including three species of violet *Viola spp.*, crow garlic *Allium vineale* and wood sedge *Carex sylvatica* was noted either side of Northwood Road on both sides of the track. Lady fern *Athyrium filix-femina*, which is locally rare, has been recorded in woodland north of Crouch End Hill. Woodland bulbs – bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, ramsons *Allium ursinum* and wild daffodil *Narcissus pseudonarcissus* have been naturalised in the woodland ground flora in some areas of the site within LB Islington.

Recent secondary woodland also forms the predominant habitat in the northern part of Parkland Walk between Muswell Hill Road and Muswell Hill, again with considerable variation in dominant species. Close to Muswell Hill Road the canopy comprises stands of sycamore with a bramble dominated ground flora and poorly developed shrub layer. The woodland immediately south of St James' Lane is more varied and includes a number of mature pedunculate oak with an understorey of elder, hawthorn, and young specimens of yew and sycamore. Also present are small stands of silver birch, ash and wild cherry. The woodland to the north of St. James' viaduct is dominated by sycamore with occasional ash and with a sparse, predominantly elder shrub layer. The ground flora is dominated by cow parsley, ivy and bramble with locally abundant hybrid bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta* x *H. hispanica* and occasional remote sedge *Carex remota* which is infrequent in the borough.

### *Scrub*

Scrub in the southern part of Parkland Walk (Finsbury Park to Archway Road) includes quite extensive areas of garden privet and mature hawthorn as well as bramble of varying height and density. Areas of planted native scrub such as guelder rose *Viburnum opulus*, hazel *Corylus avellana* and dogwood *Cornus sanguineus*, as well as a large area of naturalised wild plum *Prunus domestica* are present in the Islington section of Parkland Walk. English elm is occasionally present and most abundant in the Islington section.

In the northern part of Parkland Walk, close to Muswell Hill Road, scrubby areas are variously dominated by garden privet, bramble and Russian vine *Fallopia baldschuanica*. A small area of wild plum scrub is present in the woodland to the south of St. James' Lane and stunted tree and scrub species are present on the viaduct over St. James' Lane.

### *Grassland*

The most significant areas of neutral grassland are present between Upper Tollington Park and Stapleton Hall Road. These appear to be dominated by false oat-grass *Arrhenatherum elatius* and contained a range of bulky broad-leaved species such as hogweed *Heracleum sphondylium*, creeping thistle *Cirsium arvense*, common knapweed *Centaurea nigra*, Michaelmas daisy *Aster x salignus*, creeping buttercup *Ranunculus repens* and cut leaved crane's-bill *Geranium dissectum*. The locally uncommon species zigzag clover *Trifolium medium* and lucerne *Medicago sativa* have also been recorded and an introduced colony of yellow flag *Iris pseudacorus* has persisted in damp conditions at the base of the embankment along Florence Road (DB pers. com.). Nests of yellow meadow ant *Lasius flavus* were also noted in this area. The damaging effects of fire, erosion and scrub invasion are apparent.

An area of eroded acid grassland is present on a south facing cutting to the east of Mount View Road in LB Islington. This appears to be dominated by red fescue *Festuca rubra*, common bent *Agrostis capillaris* and squirrel-tail fescue *Vulpia bromoides* and included locally abundant sheep's sorrel *Rumex acetosella*.

Elsewhere grassland comprises thin intermittent strips along the edge of the path and at a number of access points from the surrounding streets. This includes grassland along the access path from Lancaster Road which comprises planted native species such as bush vetch *Vicia sepium*. All these areas are of limited extent.

The extent of grassland in the northern part of Parkland Walk is very limited. It is present on St James' Viaduct. Abundant species included creeping bent *Agrostis stolonifera*, false oat-grass and Yorkshire fog *Holcus lanatus* with broadleaved species such as ribwort plantain *Plantago lanceolata*, creeping buttercup and dandelion *Taraxacum species*. The grassland

also contains naturalised crocus *Crocus chrysanthus*. A further small area of grassland dominated by creeping bent and Yorkshire fog was present within woodland close to the access point to St. James' Lane.

#### *Tall herbaceous vegetation*

In the southern part of Parkland Walk tall herbaceous vegetation is most abundantly represented as a 'roughland' mosaic of nettle *Urtica dioica*, cleavers *Galium aparine*, cock's-foot *Dactylis glomerata*, false oat-grass and bramble. This mixture of vegetation is present along much of the path edge south of Stapleton Hall Road and also occurs quite extensively at some access points. Elsewhere it comprises occasional stands of nettle, hogweed, rose-bay willowherb *Chamerion angustifolium* and cow parsley. Japanese knotweed *Fallopia japonica*, an invasive species subject to legislation under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), occurs as scattered colonies throughout, although no very extensive stands are present.

A large population of giant horsetail *Equisetum telmateia*, which is an uncommon species in the borough, is present along a seepage bordering the rear of properties on Church Crescent in the northern part of Parkland Walk. Three stands of Japanese knotweed have been reported in this area by local people who are involved in managing the northern part of Parkland Walk, but were not visible at the time of the survey as the above ground parts of the plant had been removed.

#### *Mural vegetation*

Scrub and herbaceous vegetation was frequently present in the masonry of bridges and retaining walls. Dominant species comprised butterfly bush *Buddleja davidii* and ivy. A small colony of locally rare black spleenwort *Asplenium adiantum nigrum* is present on a bridge abutment at Mount View Road (LB Islington).

The north facing wall of St. James' viaduct supports a varied fern assemblage comprising hart's tongue *Phyllitis scolopendrium*, maidenhair spleenwort *Asplenium trichomanes*, soft shield fern *Polystichum setiferum* and male fern *Dryopteris filix-mas* (DB pers. comm.).

#### *Wet habitats*

Wet habitats recorded comprise a small wet hollow close to the Holmesdale Road entrance and small spring/mains water leak close to Ridgeway Gardens. An area of wetland vegetation at the path edge west of Crouch Hill Road including water mint *Mentha aquatica* and Himalayan balsam *Impatiens glandulifera* was reported by David Bevan.

### *Ruderal vegetation*

Ruderal vegetation is present mainly in eroded areas e.g. in the grassland at Mount View Road and in some of the drier sections of the path surface. Tree mallow *Malva arborea* was recorded in path edge vegetation at Blythwood Road and close to Finsbury Park, the only known locations for this species in the borough.

## 2.2.2 Fauna

### *Bats*

Parkland Walk is known to be of importance for bats, in particular significant Natterer's *Myotis nattereri* roosts are closely associated with the site. The linear nature of the site provides a commuting and foraging corridor for bats linking extensive areas of woodland of importance for bats to other areas likely to be of value for foraging such as Alexandra Palace and Finsbury Park. Surveys carried out by Ecology Consultancy in 2006 and 2008 in the Islington section of Parkland Walk provided records for common pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pipistrellus*, soprano pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pygmaeus*, Natterer's bat, noctule *Nyctalus noctula* and brown long-eared bat *Plecotus auritus*. Nathusius pipistrelle *Pipistrellus nathusii* was also recorded just off site. Daubenton's bat is also known to hibernate in nearby tunnels.

### *Birds*

A ten year study of the birds of Parkland Walk recorded a total of 58 species while a total of 18 breeding species were recorded in 1978 and 17 in 1983. Changes in species composition over the survey period indicated a shift from a scrub nesting to a woodland nesting assemblage (Bantock. C 1984 from Game 2000). The London Ecology Unit (LUE) survey conducted in 2000 recorded 15 species over a 2½ day period including good numbers of song thrush *Turdus philomelos*. Other notable records include those for tawny owl *Strix aluco*, bullfinch *Pyrrhula pyrrhula* and grey wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*. In addition, the Haringey BAP species green woodpecker *Picus viridis* has been recorded in Parkland Walk. With the exception of tawny owl all the above species are regarded as being birds of conservation concern (BoCC) in the UK on account of rapid serious population declines. Other BoCC and BAP species - dunnock *Prunella modularis* and house sparrow *Passer domesticus* have been recorded at the site (Game 2000, Ecology Consultancy 2008).

### *Invertebrates*

The Islington Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) mentions several sightings of stag beetle *Lucanus cervus* (UK AND London BAP) in Parkland Walk, but notes that none have been reported since the mid 1990s. Several more recent records have been reported in the vicinity of the site (GIGL 2007). White-letter hairstreak *Satyrrium w-album* (UK and London BAP priority

species) has been recorded in elm scrub at Blythwood Road in LB Islington in 1998 (Game 2000). Both species are also included in the Haringey BAP.

The area of acid grassland on the steep, south-facing cutting in the LB Islington section is known to support a noteworthy invertebrate assemblage. The three species recorded within the acid grassland are *Formica cunicularia*, *Andrena cineraria* and *Nomada lathburiana*, the former an ant and the latter two wasps. The first two species are considered Nationally Local<sup>1</sup> and *Nomada lathburiana* has Red Data Book (RDB) category 3, Rare<sup>2</sup> (although this species has recently been recognised as increasing). This area has previously supported small copper butterfly *Lycaena phlaeas ssp. eleus* which is unlikely to be common in either borough.

### *Reptiles*

Slow worm *Anguis fragilis* have been recorded at one location within Parkland Walk (habitat either side of steps to Milton Park), and were seen in 2002 (David Bevan pers. comm.).

### 2.2.3 Evaluation

The following geographic frames of reference have been used to evaluate the significance of habitats and species described above:

- International;
- National (i.e. England/Northern Ireland/Scotland/Wales);
- Regional/county (i.e. metropolitan - Greater London);
- District (i.e. London Borough);
- Local; and
- Within zone of influence only (which might be the project site or a larger area).

In accordance with the IEEM guidelines<sup>3</sup> a range of criteria have been considered in assigning ecological value:

- Presence of Sites or features designated for their nature conservation interest. Examples include internationally or nationally designated sites such as Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and Sites of Special Scientific Interest SSSIs, locally designated sites such as Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) and Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation Importance (SINCs);
- Biodiversity value, for example, habitats or species which are rare or uncommon, species rich assemblages, species which are endemic or on the edge of their range,

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<sup>1</sup> **NATIONALLY LOCAL** species are those which, whilst fairly common, are evidently less widespread than truly common species, but also not qualifying as Nationally Notable having been recorded from over one hundred, but less than three hundred, ten-kilometre squares of the UK National Grid.

<sup>2</sup> **RDB 3 "RARE"**. Taxa with small populations which are not at present endangered or vulnerable but which are at risk.

<sup>3</sup> Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management. (2006). Guidelines for Environmental Impact Assessment in the UK. <http://www.ieem.org.uk/Home.htm>

- large populations or concentrations of uncommon or threatened species, and/or plant communities that are typical of valued natural/semi-natural vegetation types;
- Secondary and supporting value, for example, habitats or features which provide a buffer to valued features or which serve to link otherwise isolated features;
  - Social value in regard to the extent to which a site and its wildlife provide a resource that people use or enjoy;
  - Presence of legally protected sites or species;
  - Presence of UKBAP, London and/or Islington/Haringey BAP habitats and species;

<b>Table 1: Habitat value at Parkland Walk</b>	
<b>HABITAT</b>	<b>SIGNIFICANCE AND VALUE</b>
Woodland, plantation and scrub	<p>Much of the habitat within the Parkland Walk comprises recently regenerated secondary woodland, with areas of plantation and scrub. None of the woodland is ancient and the majority has rather limited plant diversity (although as noted above some areas are remarkably rich in woody species). Some trees and areas of woodland are of interest as they may provide roosting and foraging habitat for bats, nesting and foraging habitat for birds and general habitat for a variety of invertebrates including stag beetles. The extent of woodland is sufficient for some species of woodland bird such as tawny owl to be present. Bat surveys in 2006 and 2008 recorded 6 species of bat commuting and feeding within the Parkland Walk, the bat interest of the site can be largely attributed to the presence of a near continuous wooded corridor.</p> <p>The Parkland Walk is 3km linear green walkway which acts as a wildlife corridor, from areas at the south end near the recently re-landscaped Finsbury Park, to the open spaces near Alexandra Palace at the north. Parkland Walk provides a connection to other important local woodland habitats in north London, such as Queen's Wood (ancient woodland) and links green sites across this area of north London. It has value as a green corridor within an otherwise urban environment.</p> <p>For these reasons the woodland, plantation and scrub at Parkland Walk are considered to be of <b>metropolitan</b> importance.</p>
Grassland and tall herbaceous vegetation	<p>The areas of semi-natural grassland and tall herbaceous vegetation that occur within Parkland Walk are of recent origin and are of limited extent and diversity. Due to their rank nature and low species diversity, most are highly unlikely to support a notable invertebrate assemblage, although such habitats can support a variety of widespread species. The south facing acid grassland bank in the Islington section is an exception as it does support a relatively specialised assemblage of invertebrate species.</p> <p>While of limited intrinsic interest the remaining areas of open habitat are of interest in the context of the site as a whole. They are examples of habitats that were formerly more widespread in Parkland Walk but which have decreased due to succession to scrub and woodland. They increase habitat and species diversity in an otherwise wooded site and are of value to foraging birds and bats, and also to hedgehog and slow worm (if still present).</p> <p>Parts of the site recently colonised by scrub or overhanging trees have potential to be managed to return them to grassland or tall herbaceous habitat, thereby increasing opportunities for plants and invertebrates that require open, well lit habitats. (If carried out such management should focus only on areas that were grassland until relatively recently and that are of a southerly aspect, it should not take place in areas that support established woodland.</p> <p>For these reasons the grassland and tall herbaceous vegetation in the Parkland Walk</p>

Table 1: Habitat value at Parkland Walk	
HABITAT	SIGNIFICANCE AND VALUE
	section fo the Application Site is considered to be <b>local</b> importance.
Ruderal and mural vegetation	Ruderal and mural habitats are of limited extent and are not exceptional examples of their type. However, they are of interest at the borough level because they support plant species which only occur at Parkland Walk or at a small number of sites in Haringey. Despite the proponderance of woodland Parkland Walk is likely to be among the better sites for ruderal species in the borough and is therefore considered to be of <b>borough</b> importance.
Wetland habitats	The wet areas at Parkland Walk are of very limited signifnace at the borough level as Haringey contains large areas of riparain, marshland and open water habitat of metropolitan importance. They are of <b>local</b> importance as they add diversity to habitats present at Parkland Walk.
Buildings and other structures	Buildings and structures (primarily bridges) are known to be of interest for the plant communities they support. They have potential interest as bat roosts but their importance in this respect is <b>not known</b> .

Table 2: Species value at Parkland Walk	
SPECIES	SIGNIFICANCE AND VALUE
Reptiles	<p>A localised population of slow worm has been recorded at one location at Parkland Walk and suitable habitat is present elsewhere (though surveys indicate that animals are absent from these areas). The population is considered unlikely to be present at the borough level as areas such as Tottenham Marshes, reservoir embankments, railway linesides and allotments all include much more extensive areas of reptile habitat (although presence had not been confirmed).</p> <p>As such the recorded population at Parkland Walk is of <b>local importance</b>.</p>
Birds	<p>Several species of conservation concern have been recorded either on site or within 1km buffer, including song thrush, house sparrow and lesser spotted woodpecker, all of which are included on the Red List of Birds of Conservation Concern. It has been reported that a total number of 58 species of breeding bird have been recorded within the entire Parkland Walk corridor over a 10 year period. Summarised breeding data between 1978 and 1983 shows 18 breeding species in total for 1978, and 17 for 1983.</p> <p>Fuller (1980,1982<sup>4</sup>) provided a framework for evaluating the conservation importance of sites in the UK based on their breeding bird assemblage, with &gt; 85 breeding species indicating national importance, 70-84 species being of regional importance, 50-69 of county importance, and 25-49 species of local importance.</p> <p>Using the above criteria the site does not meet criteria for local value, but it is unlikely that Fuller's assessment takes account of the site's urban location and the heightened value of recorded diversity in this context. The diversity of species present and the occurance of woodland specialists indicates that Parkland Walk is of <b>borough</b> importance for birds.</p>
Bats	Natterer's bat, a rare species in London, are known to roost at Highgate Woods and the Parkland Walk corridor is an extremely important commuting and foraging

<sup>4</sup> Fuller, R. J. (1980). A method for assessing the ornithological interest of sites for conservation, *Biological Conservation*, 17, 229-239.

**Table 2: Species value at Parkland Walk**

SPECIES	SIGNIFICANCE AND VALUE
	<p>route for this colony.</p> <p>The 2008 bat surveys recorded six species of bat commuting and foraging within the Islington section of Parkland Walk. These included noctule bat which is known to be declining in London, and Natterer’s bat which is rare in London. Natterer’s activity recorded in Parkland Walk during the dawn survey suggests that the bats were travelling through this section of the site when returning to roost. Common and soprano pipistrelle were recorded feeding continuously in Parkland Walk throughout the dusk survey. Brown long-eared bats were also recorded foraging in the Parkland Walk section of the site. The disused Highgate Tunnels at the end of the Parkland Walk are an important hibernation site.</p> <p>The Parkland Walk is integral in relation to commuting and foraging bats, particularly the important Natterer’s colony in Highgate Woods. For this reason the Parkland Walk is considered to be of at least <b>borough</b> importance to bats.</p>
Invertebrates	<p>There are recent local records for stag beetle and white-letter hairstreak, both UK and London BAP priority species and Nationally Scarce (b), within 1km of the site. The Islington Biodiversity Action Plan mentions several sightings of stag beetle within the entire Parkland Walk corridor, but notes that there have been none since the mid 1990s. White-letter hairstreak has been recently recorded within the Parkland Walk corridor.</p> <p>Phase 1 habitat surveys (2007, 2009) identified limited decaying or dead wood at Parkland Walk, stag beetles or other deadwood species. Elm <i>Ulmus spp.</i> is the larval food plant for white-letter hairstreak and the Phase 1 survey recorded a small area of elm within and immediately to the west of the Islington section of Parkland Walk.</p> <p>Noteworthy species <i>Formica Cunicularia</i> (a mining ant), <i>Adrena Cineraria</i> (Ashy Mining Bee) and <i>Nomada Lathburiana</i> (a Cuckoo Bee that preys on <i>A. cineraria</i>) have been recorded on a south-facing bank of acid grassland within the Islington section of Parkland Walk. The first two species are considered Nationally Local and <i>N. lathburiana</i> is Red Data Book (RDB) category 3 (Rare). According to guidance for assessing sites for invertebrates (Plant 2000<sup>5</sup>), sites containing viable populations of RDB 3 (Rare) species are of national significance. However, recent data suggests that <i>Nomada lathburiana</i> has been better recorded than formerly, and is now increasing. Edwards and Telfer (2002<sup>6</sup>) state recent data indicates that the status of this species could be downgraded.</p> <p>For these reasons the Parkland Walk is therefore more likely to be significant at the <b>borough</b> level.</p>

The site **as a whole** is also evaluated using criteria recommended by the GLA<sup>7</sup> for selecting sites of nature conservation importance in Greater London.

<sup>5</sup> Plant, C. (unpublished) Criteria Used to Define Significance of Invertebrate Habitat. Colin Plant Associates (UK) Consultant Entomologists

<sup>6</sup> Edwards, R. & Telfer, M. (2002). Provisional atlas of the aculeate Hymenoptera of Britain and Ireland. Part 4. Biological Records Centre, Huntingdon.

<sup>7</sup> Greater London Authority. (2002). Connecting with London’s Nature: The Mayor’s Biodiversity Strategy.

**Table 3:** Evaluation of the site's importance for nature conservation according to GLA Criteria

GLA Criteria	Remarks
Representation	Parkland Walk consists mainly of secondary woodland which has developed through natural colonisation. It is typical of recent secondary found in London but is exceptional in terms of its extent and overall diversity. Associated habitats: grassland, tall herbaceous vegetation scrub etc are also typical of their location.
Habitat rarity	None of the habitats present are rare, however, all woodland is covered by the London BAP for woodland.
Species rarity	None of the species recorded are rare at the national level. Some species of bats and invertebrates present are uncommon at the regional level and several plant species at the borough level.
Habitat richness	The site is dominated by woodland and regarded as habitat poor although small areas of non woodland habitats are present.
Species richness	The majority of the site is species poor but in its entirety is moderately rich. Approximately 300 plant species have been recorded over a number of years which is significant at the borough level. The site also supports moderately diverse bat and bird assemblages and is of interest for invertebrates though the there has not been a thorough site-wide assessment of invertebrate diversity
Size	Given its location the area of secondary woodland at the site is exceptionally large.
Important populations of species	The site supports important numbers of bats and birds.
Ancient character	The habitats at the site have developed through natural succession largely over the last 50 years. Some trees appear to be older but no ancient habitats are present.
Fragility	Woodland is not a fragile habitat, other habitats are vulnerable to succession
Recreatability	The habitats present are theoretically recreatable over approx 50 years but the site's size, soils and topography mean that this is not feasible.
Typical urban character	The site supports excellent examples of urban habitats and illustrates succession and species recruitment in an urban environment.
Cultural or historic character	The site is culturally valued. It is of historic significance in terms of former use as a railway and the successful campaign to protect it from development and designate it as an LNR.
Geographic position	The site is a good example of an ecological corridor. It links with significant areas of open space at its SE and NW ends and is clearly of value for foraging and commuting bats.
Access	The site is formally accessible by the public
Use	The site is publicly accessible and is well used for recreation. It is also a statutory Local Nature Reserve
Potential	The site is already of considerable nature conservation value. There is potential to enhance its value through limited woodland management and creation or maintenance of open habitats in a small number of areas.
Aesthetic appeal	The site has considerable aesthetic appeal both from within and when viewed from outside.



## 3. Policy

The following section sets out general policies that inform the remainder of the management plan which is more site specific. These policies were developed by the London Wildlife Trust (LWT) to inform the management of their reserves and have been adapted below. They include policies on ecological principles as well as those on health and safety and volunteering. These policies may not reflect current LWT policy and it is anticipated that they will have to be reviewed and amended to reflect LB Haringey's requirements.

### 3.1 General principles on ecological issues.

#### 3.1.1 *Continuity of habitat and community assemblages*

It is not always possible to manage a habitat to benefit equally each of the different fungal, plant and animal groups. Priorities towards a particular species, assemblage of species (community) or habitat may have damaging consequences for others. In the context of Parkland Walk this means that the management proposed does not seek to alter the predominantly wooded nature of the site. In certain areas management is recommended to increase the species or structural diversity of the woodland to benefit associated organisms, where clear opportunities exist. Management to maintain or reinstate non woodland habitats is also recommended in areas where these habitats are currently or were recently present and where they are in areas where the target habitat is likely to have greater value than allowing continued succession to woodland.

#### 3.1.2 *Prevention of local extinctions*

To prevent accidental local extinctions, particularly of invertebrate species, and to encourage natural recolonisation, practical management tasks will, where possible, be limited in size of area and duration effected. For example, in the case of grassland management this may involve cutting different areas or even parts of the same area on a two or three year rotation to ensure that standing material is available over the winter months for hibernating invertebrates.

#### 3.1.3 *Survey and monitoring*

A survey is carried out to establish baseline ecological interest and monitoring to assess the effects of management. It is important that protocol adopted is designed to assess the effects of management rather than gather large amounts of species data. For example, moth surveys are of interest in establishing the value of the site and the management requirements for important species, but are too specialised and expensive to be carried out on a regular basis. Conversely butterfly transects carried out regularly over a number of years will yield information on the effectiveness of management of open habitat for invertebrates and can be

carried out cheaply by non-specialists. Bird and bat monitoring should be carried out on an annual basis and vegetation surveys regularly but less frequently. Records should be sent to the local biodiversity records centre (BRC) - Greenspace Information for Greater London (GIGL). Of equal or greater importance to species survey and monitoring is monitoring the quality and timeliness of management and the condition of features such as bird and bat boxes.

### 3.1.5 Invasive plant species

In a sense much of the vegetation at Parkland Walk comprises invasive species as most of the woodland is dominated by sycamore, which is generally regarded as non-native and can have an adverse effect in some native woodland types. Clearly this is not the case at Parkland Walk which is a highly urban area where the local flora is characterised by mixture of native and cultivated 'exotic' species all of which can potentially colonise available areas. Sycamore has not reduced the conservation value of a pre-existing woodland type as none was present (although along with pedunculate oak it has outcompeted silver birch in some areas), and it is co-dominant with a number of native species including pedunculate oak, bramble and ivy. Its expansion has not resulted in the loss of grassland or herbaceous vegetation of greater intrinsic nature conservation value than the woodland currently present. The management recommendations relating to sycamore are to reduce its dominance in areas where doing so will enable a more mixed canopy to develop. There are no recommendations to significantly reduce its abundance.

Japanese knotweed is often highly invasive and damaging to plant communities in a variety of habitats. It is also a nuisance in amenity plantings and hard landscaped areas, and it can spread to adjacent properties. It is included in Part II of Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) in respect to Section 14(2) which makes it an offence to plant or otherwise cause these species to grow in the wild, although it is **not** an offence to have it on your land per se. Due to the potential for on and off site spread (for instance on tools and tyre treads, or with cut vegetation or litter being removed from site) Japanese knotweed eradication is recommended in areas where regular management is being proposed. It is also recommended that it is controlled close to property boundaries were it is likely to spread off-site.

A few non-native species of garden origin, such as cherry laurel *Prunus laurocerasus* are dominant to the detriment of other species, but only in very small areas. More generally the presence of non-native species adds to the uniqueness of the site. Even in London, few woodlands are likely to contain species such as bay *Laurus nobilis*, fig *Ficus carica*, jasmine

*Jasminum officinale* in relative abundance among over fifteen non-native shrubby species. In some areas recommendations to retain this diversity have been made.

### **3.1.6 Planting and other introductions**

Natural regeneration and colonisation is the preferred option for conserving and enhancing woodland habitat. However, additional planting has been recommended in some areas, mainly to screen unattractive boundary features. There are no recommendations for animal introductions although parts of the site could be used for reptile translocations if correctly managed.

### **3.1.7 Ivy**

Arboreal ivy is an important feature at the site as it provides a valuable late nectar source, a food plant of holly blue butterfly and other invertebrates, a foraging resource for birds, and shelter for some nesting birds. Ivy is occasionally perceived as a threat to trees but rarely damages healthy specimens. It may prove to be an invasive element in the ground flora of some woodlands, such as at the margins of ancient woods. There is little indication that ivy is damaging the ground flora at Parkland Walk, or that removing it would result in colonisation by additional species. Moreover, controlling ivy by mechanical means would be extremely arduous. Ivy control has not been recommended but arboricultural inspections should include monitoring trees with heavy ivy cover close to the pathways and site boundaries.

### **3.1.8 Dead wood**

This is an essential habitat for many species of birds, invertebrates, bats, bryophytes and fungi. Removal of dead wood and 'tidying-up' leads to relatively sterile conditions and takes away an essential part of the woodland ecology. The aim is to provide as much standing and fallen dead wood as possible without compromising other management aims or safety. Currently there is little deadwood in Parkland Walk, although standing dead silver birch trees, and logs remaining from the replacement of steps, are present in some areas. As such, all timber produced through woodland management should be retained on site in order to build up a supply of deadwood in varying stages of decay.

Standing dead wood is also in short supply throughout the site due to the recent origin of most of the woodland. All standing deadwood should be retained. Where it is necessary to thin the canopy, for instance to favour a particular species, consideration should be given to killing selected trees in a standing position by ring-barking (i.e. removing a strip of bark around the trunk, which kills the tree but leaves it standing). If this is not appropriate trees should be felled leaving a long stump to provide nesting sites for some species. However, public safety must always take precedence in areas of high public use, consequently any trees

which are in a demonstrably unsafe condition must be made safe (though not necessarily felled) especially where they are near boundaries or footpaths - although a precautionary approach erring on the side of minimising habitat damage must be taken. Information should be provided for visitors about the role of dead wood in the reserve.

### ***3.1.9 Use of Pesticides***

Pesticides are damaging to the environment to a greater or lesser extent, and can be a danger to the public. Consequently their use should be restricted to only necessary tasks, and only if other management methods are inappropriate or have failed. It is not considered appropriate to use herbicides for routine management such as path clearance but their use will be necessary to treat the stumps of felled trees and scrub or manage invasive species. Use must be in accordance with the relevant pesticide policy.

### ***3.1.10 Review of Management Plan***

This management plan is written to cover the next 5 years and should be reviewed at the end of this period. In addition, the plan should be reviewed annually by the site staff and the Friends of Parkland Walk to ensure that the work is being carried out and that it is having the desired effect.

## **3.2 General principles on amenity issues**

### ***3.2.1 General safety***

Safety is a priority as there is free public access to the site. All boundaries, steps, bridges, footpaths and other visitor facilities need to be inspected regularly and any necessary remedial action taken immediately. Regular inspections must also be carried out of all trees near boundaries and footpaths, to ensure they are in a safe condition, i.e. not about to fall over or shed dead branches onto an area frequently used by the public. Appropriate action should be taken but in recognition that standing dead wood is an essential feature of the woodland ecosystem (see 3.1.8 Dead Wood). Vegetation should be regularly cleared to maintain sightlines in areas which may become very enclosed and create a real or perceived threat to the public. This is most likely to be the case at access points which are often quite steep and narrow and bordered by dense vegetation.

### ***3.2.2 Access***

The reserve has unrestricted pedestrian access to the public 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Consequently the local authority has a responsibility to ensure that all footpaths and other visitor facilities are in good condition. There is evidence of informal access from residential properties, with alternative routes to the main path present in much of the site. Some of these routes, particularly along slopes through woodland, offer a different experience of the site

and do not appear to have caused excessive erosion or disturbance. Conversely informal access in grassland habitats and down slopes has led to erosion and should be discouraged.

Due to the topography of the site disabled access in to the nature reserve is limited with no DDA compliant access from Highgate to Crouch End.

### ***3.2.3 Litter***

Litter makes a site look untidy and uncared for and can spoil the enjoyment of visitors. Some litter can also be unsafe, or lethal to small mammals and some invertebrates. Litter will be cleared on a regular basis. Hazardous waste (syringes) must be removed from the site regularly and safely.

### ***3.2.4 Dogs***

Dog walking is likely to be among the main recreational activities at the site but the associated issue of fouling is also evident, and disturbance to wildlife and the threat of uncontrolled dogs to people, may also be an issue on occasion. The dominant vegetation at Parkland Walk suggests that soils are relatively nutrient rich and nutrient inputs from dog waste are not likely to have a significant effect on vegetation in most areas. It is a more significant issue from a recreational and educational perspective and properly maintained dog bins are necessary to ensure that dog owners can dispose of dog waste in a responsible manner as easily as possible. Relevant byelaws and information on responsible dog walking at the site should be included on information boards.

### ***3.2.5 Fires***

Fires are not likely to be a major issue at the site except in drought conditions. Fires should be tackled only by the fire service who should be aware of all vehicle access points.

### ***3.2.6 Firearms***

All incidents of people carrying firearms should be immediately reported to the police; no action should be taken by staff or volunteers against individuals carrying firearms.

### ***3.2.7 Signs and interpretation boards***

Interpretation of the site should be addressed by a separate strategy and is not covered in this management plan.

### ***3.2.8 Graffiti***

Aim to remove obscene and/or racist graffiti within 24 working hours of it being reported and all other reported graffiti within 3 working days.

### **3.3 General principles on management practice**

The following policies relate to management activities carried out by staff or volunteers and are included for guidance only. They will need to be updated and expanded to reflect LB Haringey policy.

#### ***3.3.1 Health, safety and risk assessment***

It is essential that all activities take place with adequate consideration of health and safety. Management of the site for nature conservation poses a number of potential risks, which any one working there must be aware of. All tasks must be carried out with a specific risk assessment to highlight any particular dangers, which must be reviewed annually. All tools must be used only after an initial safety induction. Works must be led by an individual with authority to ensure that all health and safety measures are implemented and with the ability and resources to deal with any accidents.

#### ***3.3.2 Use of powered tools***

There are occasions when use of powered tools is necessary, e.g. strimmers, chainsaws, etc. Powered tools must only be used by a certificated operator having all due regard for health and safety. All power tools must be kept in good working order and stored appropriately when not in use. Vegetable-based chain oils, such as BioSafe, should be used in their operation.

#### ***3.3.3 Use of Pesticides***

There will be a presumption against the use pesticides, although exceptions will be made (see 3.1.9 above). Pesticide use must accord to all relevant Health & Safety and COSHH guidelines, and LB Haringey Policy.

#### ***3.3.4 Tree-felling***

Tree felling must only be done in accordance with the legislation relating to tree felling licences which are issued by the Forestry Commission. Tree felling is a specialist activity and can be very dangerous. Any felling should be supervised by experienced persons and only if there is no danger to people or property. If there is any doubt the work should be carried out by specialised contractors. Chainsaws should only be used by fully qualified operators.

#### ***3.3.5 Movement of felled trees***

Felled or windblown trees should be left in situ unless they cross official paths. If large trunks need to be moved this should be usually be carried out through human effort – aided with a mechanical winch if necessary.

### ***3.3.6 Burning***

There should be a presumption against burning. All cut materials from management works should preferably be removed from site or used to create habitat piles, dead hedges and other barriers.

### ***3.3.7 Management of volunteers***

Much of the practical management work of the reserve could potentially be undertaken by volunteers and there is an active voluntary interest in the site through the Friends of Parkland Walk and BTCV. Volunteer involvement is to be encouraged at the site and it should take place in accordance with LB Haringey equal opportunities, health and safety, and volunteer policies.

## 4. Aims

The principal aims of site management are set out below. They are deliberately broad to cover both the ecological and recreation aspects of the site. They reflect the preceding policy section and form a basis for the more detailed information on conservation features, management objectives and management procedures provided in the following sections.

1. To preserve the largely semi-natural habitats and informal 'rural' atmosphere of Parkland Walk
2. To retain the predominantly wooded nature of Parkland Walk
3. To promote the structural and species diversity of woodland where appropriate
4. To increase the extent of non woodland habitat in appropriate locations
5. To provide additional opportunities for faunal species (birds, reptiles and bats) where appropriate
6. To ensure that high standards of amenity management are maintained
7. To improve aspects of public safety and security where possible
8. To record and monitor wildlife at Parkland Walk in sufficient detail to inform the management of the site
9. To increase and promote the educational value of the Parkland Walk
10. To encourage amenity use for recreation, improved health and well-being, and enjoyment

# 5. Prescription

## 5.1 Compartments

Parkland Walk (excluding the section in LB Islington) has been divided into 12 compartments which reflect the distribution of habitats and management issues within the site (these compartments are not indicative of property or Metropolitan Open Land boundaries). Several compartments have been divided into sub-compartments, usually on the basis of habitat, in order to more accurately pinpoint where a particular management activity should be carried out. For each compartment a brief description is provided and conservation features and issues, and a list of management aims and activities are provided in tabular form.

### 5.1.1 Compartment 1

This compartment comprises the entrance from Finsbury Park (via a railway bridge) and from Oxford Road. It is one of the principal access points to the site. Dense sycamore and ivy dominated woodland is present to the rear of houses on Florence Road. Further woodland is present adjacent to works next to the railway line, from which the shrub layer has been removed to discourage drug use and prostitution. Areas of nettle dominated vegetation are present close to path edges and similar vegetation has been cleared from the slope to the works. The compartment also includes amenity grassland, planted native scrub and a single very large cobnut tree *Corylus sp.*

Conservation features and issues	Management aims	Management required to achieve aims
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Access points to the site do not allow good views to the main path. If allowed to encroach vegetation may create a sense of insecurity.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure open views from the two access points to the main path are maintained.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to manage under scrub and tall herbaceous vegetation around both entrances and below trees to maintain low vegetation along paths and provide open views.</li> <li>Remove lower branches from trees and prune shrubs as required to maintain sight lines.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This part of the site is or has previously been frequented by drug users and prostitutes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Slope to works to remain open to remove cover potentially encouraging drug use.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manage under scrub and tall herbaceous vegetation, remove lower branches from trees and prune shrubs as required to limit vegetation cover.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The compartment is well maintained but not a particularly attractive introduction to the site.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase diversity of grassland and low herbaceous vegetation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sow bare areas and under trees with an appropriate grass seed mix and plant native bulbs. Manage to maintain sward – ‘summer meadow’ management cut/trim from August to January.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Surface of slope and steps from Oxford</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that steps maintained (hoggin is</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Level and/or replace surface of hoggin as necessary.</li> </ul>

Conservation features and issues	Management aims	Management required to achieve aims
Road may become hazardous. Hoggin on steps is becoming muddy and uneven. Sleepers may become slippery.	level and non-slip, surface of sleepers is non slip)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replace or cover surface of sleepers with chicken wire or staples as necessary.</li> </ul>

### 5.1.2 Compartment 2

Compartment 2 extends from Compartment 1 to Osborne Road, it is on embankment and includes a bridge over Upper Tollington Park. Vegetation consists predominantly of open sycamore-dominated woodland with frequent or occasional ash, wild cherry, pedunculate oak and silver birch, and locally dominant planted lime *Tilia sp.* The shrub layer is moderately diverse with frequent garden privet, hawthorn, hazel and holm oak, as well as occasional garden escapes such as fig, firethorn *Pyracantha sp.* stag's horn sumach *Rhus typhina*, Virginia creeper *Parthenocissus sp.* and Japanese honeysuckle *Lonicera japonica*, which occur mainly at the woodland edge close to the path. The ground flora is species poor and dominated by cow parsley but includes winter heliotrope *Petasites fragrans*, which was not seen elsewhere at the site. The narrow strip of vegetation along the path edge is dominated by bramble, nettle, cow parsley and cock's foot.

Conservation features and issues	Management aims	Management required to achieve aims
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diverse assemblage of woody species at woodland edge</li> <li>• The path is enclosed, there is a very narrow strip of path-side vegetation in places.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To maintain the diversity of shrubby species as woodland matures</li> <li>• To increase extent of 'roughland' vegetation along the main path.</li> <li>• To improve views along the path</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fell approx 10 no. semi mature sycamore close to path edge</li> <li>• Fell approx 10 no. (same trees as above) semi mature sycamore close to path edge.</li> <li>• Cut back path-side vegetation on each side of the path on alternate years, remove arisings.</li> <li>• Mark and retain specimen of tree mallow if still present.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a very limited supply of deadwood in the compartment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To increase the amount of deadwood at ground level</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use material from felling operations to create log-piles</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are few or no opportunities for hole nesting bird/rooting bats</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To provide opportunities for birds and bats.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Install 1 hole fronted bird box, 1 nuthatch and 1 open fronted bird box on suitable trees in suitable locations – mature limes are large and boxes could be attached in public view but sufficiently high to reduce chance of vandalism.</li> </ul>

Conservation features and issues	Management aims	Management required to achieve aims
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lime tree with heart rot close to steps from Upper Tollington Park is a potential health and safety risk.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure that potentially hazardous trees are adequately monitored and managed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Arboricultural inspection and remedial work if required.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attractive masonry at ends of parapets of bridge over Upper Tollington Park.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To expose masonry</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remove shrubby vegetation at each end of the bridge, manage regrowth on alternate years, remove arisings.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential for sight lines from steps from Upper Tollington Park to be lost</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure that path-side vegetation does not obscure sightlines from or to the access point.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain open vegetation along steps and at entrance, cut and remove bramble every year.</li> <li>Ensure that a proportion of young holly are retained to maturity.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Surface of steps from Upper Tollington Park may become hazardous. Hoggin on steps is becoming muddy and uneven. Sleepers may become slippery.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that steps maintained (hoggin is level and non-slip, surface of sleepers is non slip)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Level and/or replace surface of hoggin as necessary.</li> <li>Replace or cover surface of sleepers with chicken wire or stables as necessary.</li> </ul>

### 5.1.3 Compartment 3

Compartment 3 comprises the remaining grassland and areas recently colonised by trees and scrub on the embankment parallel to Florence Road. It extends from Compartment 2 to Lorne Road. It has been divided into four sub-compartments.

Sub-compartment 3a: The grassland is species-poor and dominated by false oat grass with a limited and range and cover of broadleaved species such as mugwort *Artemisia vulgaris*, creeping thistle *Cirsium arvense*, creeping cinquefoil *Potentilla reptans*, nettle, coltsfoot *Tussilago farfara*, yarrow *Achillea millefolium*, hogweed *Heracleum sphondylium* and field bindweed *Convolvulus arvensis*, in addition to species mentioned in paragraph 2.2.1 above. There are two young pedunculate oak trees close to the edge of the grassland with potential to develop into very fine mature trees. The grassland in the compartment is notable as it comprises one of the largest areas of open habitat remaining at the site. Because of its open, partly south facing aspect and potential for expansion and restoration, it is one of the most suitable areas for grassland management at the site.

Sub-compartment 3b: Areas of semi mature woodland are present towards the base of the embankment on both sides of the path. These are dominated by sycamore with pedunculate oak, ash, silver birch all present in small numbers. Small areas of planted scrubby woodland comprising alder

*Alnus glutinosa*, grey willow *Salix cinerea*, hazel and silver birch are also present at the base of both sides of the embankment.

Sub-compartment 3c: Scrub invasion at the grassland margins comprising bramble with herbs such as mugwort, nettle and rosebay willowherb. A small area of dense pedunculate oak regeneration is also present at the eastern end of the extant grassland area.

Sub-compartment 3d: A small area of wetland vegetation dominated by yellow iris.

Conservation features and issues	Management aims	Management required to achieve aims
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The extant grassland area in sub-compartment 3a includes a number of coppice stools which if unmanaged could rapidly shade out the remaining grassland in the compartment.</li> <li>The extant grassland is vulnerable to tree and scrub invasion as there is currently no regular management to remove seedlings.</li> <li>Grassland was formerly more extensive in the compartment but has been reduced over time by scrub invasion.</li> <li>The extent of grassland is very limited and vulnerable to shading from surrounding trees, particularly as they mature and canopy spread increases.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remove trees from the extant grassland area.</li> <li>To create a sward dominated by grassland species with only a few small, scattered seedlings of woody species (&lt;1 per 4m<sup>2</sup>).</li> <li>To restore areas of grassland recently colonised by bramble etc to a mixture of species poor grassland, nettle and scattered bramble.</li> <li>To reduce shading of extant and restored grassland habitat.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Re-coppice and stump treat sycamore and pedunculate oak regrowth in extant grassland.</li> <li>Cut grassland (September and March) and rake of arisings on grassland on either side of embankment in alternate years. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pull/dig out seedlings that persist</li> <li>(Avoid damage to yellow meadow ant hills).</li> </ul> </li> <li>Remove encroaching bramble and pedunculate oak, initially at the margins of grassland and at the top of the embankment. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Subsequently extend clearance into areas of longer established bramble on the sides of the embankment to the W of extant grassland.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Remove or coppice 10 no over-hanging semi-mature trees at the margins of woodland surrounding the grassland/scrub complex. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Retain timber as habitat piles at woodland edge</li> <li>Retain potentially good pedunculate oaks at E and W ends of grassland on the Lancaster Road embankment. Also retain dead silver birch.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Erosion of grassland</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To reduce erosion and</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Block access points from base of</li> </ul>

Conservation features and issues	Management aims	Management required to achieve aims
<p>due to dogs and informal access.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wetland habitat is very limited at the site and the small wet area is vulnerable to encroachment by willow and bramble scrub.</li> </ul>	<p>associated impacts on plants and yellow meadow ant.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain the current extent and diversity of the wetland area.</li> </ul>	<p>cutting on Lancaster Road.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Signage to highlight adverse effect on dog and human use of grassland area?</li> <li>Review to see if dog bin installation is necessary.</li> <li>Clear bramble and coppice willow close to wet area.</li> </ul>

#### 5.1.4 Compartment 4

Compartment 4 extends from compartment 3 to Stapleton Hall Road. It is on embankment and largely covered by scrubby woodland dominated by sycamore, with frequent pedunculate oak. The compartment is accessible via steps from Florence Road and Lancaster Road. There is a large garden extension behind properties on Lancaster Road.

Sub-compartment 4a: Relatively mature pedunculate oak are present at the eastern end of the sub-compartment. Ash is locally dominant and planted lime, wild cherry and silver birch are occasional or rare. Standing dead trees of sycamore, wild cherry and silver birch are relatively frequent. The shrub layer is well developed, perhaps due to the gaps created by dead trees, and contains frequent hawthorn (some large), elder, bay, wild plum, holly, holm oak, bramble, young ash, sycamore and so on. The ground flora is dominated by ivy. Within the woodland on the Lancaster Road side of the embankment there is a stand of Japanese knotweed. The structural diversity of the woodland with open areas, dense regeneration, dead wood, large oaks and remnant hawthorn scrub below the developing sycamore canopy is likely to provide excellent foraging opportunities for birds and bats. The local abundance of bay is also of interest.

Sub-compartment 4b: Scrubby and tall herbaceous vegetation is well developed at points along the top of the embankment towards Stapleton Hall Road and comprises a mixture of bramble, old man's beard, butterfly bush *Buddleja davidii* and nettle. Close to Stapleton Hall Road, a large area of the Florence Road side of embankment is dominated by old man's beard *Clematis vitalba*.

Sub-compartment 4c: Vegetation around the access point from Lancaster Road comprises a mix of young sycamore, ivy, bramble, rough grassland and a few introduced shrubs and planted wildflowers.

Conservation and issues	features	Management aims	Management required to achieve aims
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Structurally varied woodland in sub compartment 4a is likely to become more homogenous as sycamore matures.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Retain small gaps, dead wood, areas of scrubby growth to encourage diversity and foraging opportunities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fell or ring bark 15 (or more) sycamore to create gaps and dead wood and prolong life of mature hawthorn.</li> <li>Retain felled timber in woodland as log piles or as fallen.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Standing deadwood is a valuable ecological resource but a potential hazard.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Retain all standing dead wood where there is no need to fell it for health and safety reasons</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inspect trees to assess potential risk. Fell if necessary but leave as much standing trunk as possible for invertebrates.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mature trees and diverse woodland structure, and adjacent off-site woodland creates favourable conditions for birds and bats.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide opportunities for roosting bats</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Install bat boxes on mature pedunculate oak trees.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Access from Florence Road is narrow and woodland adjacent to steps on the embankment obscures views.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To create more open woodland either side of steps and open up views of the path at the top.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fell sycamore within 10m of steps, ensuring that hazel, pedunculate oak and hawthorn are retained.</li> <li>Treat stumps</li> <li>Coppice hawthorn and hazel if required</li> <li>Retain dead wood on site as log piles</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Surface of steps from Florence Road may become hazardous. Hoggin on steps is becoming muddy and uneven. Sleepers may become slippery.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that steps maintained (hoggin is level and non-slip, surface of sleepers is non slip)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Level and/or replace surface of hoggin as necessary.</li> <li>Replace or cover surface of sleepers with chicken wire or stables as necessary.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Path-side vegetation close to Stapleton Hall Road is unattractive and species-poor.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create a larger and more varied area of open path-side vegetation close to Stapleton Hall Road.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brush cut old man's beard annually (initially for 3 years), extending clearance to create a larger area of open vegetation of approximately 300m<sup>2</sup> either side of path E of access from Florence Road</li> <li>Coppice butterfly bush every 5 years.</li> <li>Fell dead silver birch by path in this area.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Path-side vegetation east of Florence Road is narrow and will potentially be lost as</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain a structurally diverse mix of bramble, nettle and rough grassland at path edges</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fell 20% of young sycamore to reduce shading, treat stumps</li> <li>Retain cut timber as log piles</li> <li>Brush cut a 2m strip of path-side</li> </ul>

Conservation and issues	features	Management aims	Management required to achieve aims
	sycamore matures.		vegetation, cutting either side on alternate years, with additional summer clearance as required.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vegetation close to paths from Lancaster Road is relatively varied but likely to become increasingly dominated by ivy, bramble etc.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain herbaceous element of flora along paths.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fell 20% of young sycamore to reduce shading</li> <li>Cut all scrubby vegetation in Sub-compartment 4c on a 5 year rotation</li> <li>Carry out additional summer clearance to maintain access along path and pavements</li> </ul>

### 5.1.5 Compartment 5

Compartment 5 extends from Stapleton Hall Road to Mount Pleasant Villas and is on embankment. It is accessible via steps from Mount Pleasant Villas. The Mount Pleasant Villas side of the embankment adjoin allotments.

The slopes of the embankment are covered almost entirely by sycamore dominated woodland with small stands of wild cherry. There are some relatively old, multi-stemmed sycamore trees and abundant arboreal ivy. The shrub layer is poorly developed, holm oak, hazel, garden privet and elder are the most frequent species with others such as hawthorn and dog rose occurring infrequently towards the path edge. The ground flora is very poor being dominated by ivy and Algerian ivy *Hedera algeriensis*, Japanese knotweed is present on the Ossian Road side of the embankment. There is very little standing or fallen deadwood.

Path-side vegetation at the top of the embankment is relatively broad in much of the compartment (but narrower at the western end) and is dominated by bramble, nettle, cow parsley and large bindweed *Calystegia sylvaticum*.

Conservation and issues	features	Management aims	Management required to achieve aims
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The wooded embankment and the adjoining allotments provide opportunities for foraging birds and bats but nesting/roosting sites are limited.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide additional sites for nesting birds and foraging bats.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Install 3 open fronted, 1 nuthatch and 2 hole fronted bird boxes, and 5 bat boxes (1x1FS, 2x2FN, 2x1FD) on mature pedunculate oak trees.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The woodland is even aged and much is</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve diversity in terms of age structure, and</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ring bark 10 no sycamore trees on Mount Pleasant Villas side of</li> </ul>

Conservation and issues	features	Management aims	Management required to achieve aims
species poor.		density and diversity of shrub layer. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create additional dead-wood.</li> </ul>	the embankment.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Areas of path-side vegetation are narrow in places and width will decrease as trees mature.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain path edge vegetation at current extent in most of compartment.</li> <li>• Increase width of path-side vegetation in the west.</li> <li>• Increase species and structural diversity throughout.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fell young sycamore with DBH of &lt; 20 cm within 4 m of path edges and treat stumps .</li> <li>• Retain timber on site as log piles.</li> <li>• Increase width of path-side vegetation to ~ 2m minimum, or more where current extent is greater or tree felling provides an opportunity to widen it.</li> <li>• Cut path-side vegetation on alternate years with additional summer clearance to maintain access.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Surface of steps from Mount Pleasant Villas may become hazardous. Hoggin on steps is becoming muddy and uneven. Sleepers may become slippery.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that steps maintained (hoggin is level and non-slip, surface of sleepers is non slip)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Level and/or replace surface of hoggin as necessary.</li> <li>• Replace or cover surface of sleepers with chicken wire or stables as necessary.</li> </ul>

### 5.1.6 Compartment 6

Compartment 6 is small, disturbed area situated between Mount Pleasant Villas and the eastern end of the LB Islington section of Parkland Walk. It is adjacent to Blythewood Road where there are gates allowing vehicle access onto the site for maintenance. This area is supports a range of vegetation types and it is understood that large poplar trees *Populus sp.* trees were previously present in the compartment. The compartment is south facing and provides opportunities to create open habitat of value to invertebrates.

The path side vegetation is a mixture of bramble, nettle, ivy, Japanese knotweed and snowberry *Symphoricarpos sp.* with occasional young sycamore, plum *Prunus sp.* and holm oak trees. Woodland habitat along part of the boundary with Blythewood Road comprises stands of young pedunculate oak, ash and sycamore, and a stand of poplar trees. Woodland to the north of the path includes a triangular area dominated by ash and sycamore with scattered specimens of holly, hawthorn, hazel (large) and holm oak, a sparse ivy-dominated ground flora and abundant dumped garden waste. A narrow fringe of trees and scrub containing large Lombardy poplar *Populus nigra*

*italica*, yew, hazel, sycamore, pedunculate oak, false acacia *Robinia pseudoacacia*, wild cherry and dog rose extends along garden boundaries to Mount Pleasant Villas.

Conservation features and issues	Management aims	Management required to achieve aims
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sheltered, south facing un-wooded habitat likely to be of value for invertebrates.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To increase the extent and diversity of open habitat in the compartment.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remove scattered young trees within bramble etc. along the path edge</li> <li>Eradicate Japanese knotweed</li> <li>Remove poorly managed poplar stems and young woodland close to Blythewood Road gate to increase extent of open vegetation and amount of sunlight reaching it. Retain cut wood in nearby woodland.</li> <li>Treat stumps of trees completely removed i.e. not poplar stumps</li> <li>Coppice poplar regrowth.</li> <li>Intensive bramble management (brush cutting followed by removal of root stocks for three years annually throughout path-side habitat)</li> <li>Subsequently cut path-side vegetation on alternate years with additional summer clearance to maintain access.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gates and boundary fencing along Blythewood Road are of different materials.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To use the same boundary treatment throughout Parkland Walk.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Replace damaged post and rail as necessary.</li> </ul>

### 5.1.7 Compartment 7

Compartment 7 comprises habitats adjacent to the old railway platforms to the east of Crouch End Hill. The site is in a cutting at this point and the slopes are dominated by woodland. The compartment contains 4 sub-compartments.

Sub-compartment 7a: This comprises scrub and woodland on the north slope of the cutting. Large sycamore trees are present on level ground at the top of the slope, while tree cover on the slope is dominated by smaller sycamore and ash trees. Several additional species occur in low numbers: pedunculate oak, lime, Norway maple *Acer platanoides*, holly, holm oak and field maple *Acer campestre*. The scrubby component is extremely diverse with a mixture of native and non-native species comprising elm, hazel, garden privet, false holly *Osmanthus heterophyllus*, Chinese privet

*Ligustrum lucidum*, hawthorn, elder, lilac *Syringa vulgaris*, Oregon grape *Mahonia aquifolium*, *Cotoneaster sp.*, cherry laurel, *Amelanchier sp.* and others. The ground flora is relatively rich and includes pendulous sedge *Carex pendula*, male fern *Dryopteris filix-mas*, bracken *Pteridium aquilinum* and hedge woundwort *Stachys sylvatica*, in addition to the usual ivy and bramble. Vegetation at the platform edge comprises young trees and scrubby vegetation, with ivy growing onto the platform itself. There is a small open area at the base of steps to Crouch Hill Road with surrounding vegetation comprising rough grassland, nettle, and bramble which supports hop *Humulus lupulus* and large bindweed. An attractive informal path, which links Vicarage Path to the steps and to the main path, is present in the woodland. This sub-compartment is of interest for its species diversity and southerly aspect, which provides opportunities to create sunny, sheltered edge habitat for invertebrates.

Sub-compartment 7b: This compartment comprises woodland on the opposite side of the cutting. It is north-facing and grows through a layer of rubble and broken masonry. It is dominated by sycamore and ash with arboreal ivy, and a few silver birch. The shrub layer is relatively diverse but dominated by bramble and with frequent cherry laurel and butterfly bush. The ground flora is species poor, dominated by ivy and nettle and with scattered Japanese knotweed.

Sub-compartment 7c: This is an area of tall ruderal vegetation and scrub dominated by bramble with rosebay willowherb, golden rod *Solidago sp.*, Michaelmas daisy, hogweed, creeping thistle and couch grass *Elymus repens*, as well as areas of butterfly bush and willow *Salix sp.* scrub.

Sub-compartment 7d: this comprises the vegetation at the path edge, growing along the base of the platforms. It comprises bramble, large bindweed, great willowherb *Epilobium hirsutum*, mugwort, Michaelmas daisy, comfrey *Symphytum sp.* and others.

Conservation features and issues	Management aims	Management required to achieve aims
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vegetation on the south-facing slope is being shaded by encroaching trees.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To retain the diverse scrubby component of the vegetation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remove all young ash/sycamore (DBH &lt; 150mm) from the slope of the cutting with ongoing management as required.</li> <li>Fell 5 no larger ash and sycamore, retaining logs in the woodland.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>South-facing edge habitat is poorly developed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To increase structural diversity of edge habitat along the platform.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coppice 50% of suitable woody species – hawthorn, ash, hazel, elm etc. – on a 5 year rotation.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trees on the north facing slope shade the south facing slope</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To increase direct sunlight reaching the south slope.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fell 7 no sycamore, retaining those that screen unattractive buildings at the top of the cutting.</li> <li>Logs to be retained on site.</li> </ul>

Conservation features and issues	Management aims	Management required to achieve aims
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ruderal vegetation at the base of the north facing slope is being shaded out by bramble and other scrubby species</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To retain diverse tall ruderal vegetation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Eradicate Japanese knotweed from adjacent woodland</li> <li>Brush cut all and dig out bramble roots</li> <li>Subsequently, brush cut and remove arisings of 50% of the sub-compartment in alternate years.</li> <li>Subsequently coppice stands of butterfly bush and willow at 5 year intervals</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Path-side vegetation is relatively diverse but dominated by bramble.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To retain varied tall ruderal community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cut path-side vegetation on alternate years with additional summer clearance to maintain access.</li> <li>Include vegetation around base of steps when clearing the northern path edge</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Steps to Crouch Hill Road constructed of wood</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To maintain safe access from Crouch Hill Road</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inspect regularly and repair as necessary.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Disused structure built into bridge</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide additional bat roosting sites</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate converting structure into a bat roost.</li> </ul>

### 5.1.8 Compartment 8

This comprises the longest near-continuous woodland area at the site. It extends from Crouch Hill Road almost to Northwood Road and is on a mixture of cutting and embankment. The majority is sufficiently wide for a substantial belt of woodland to have developed, but the central section is very narrow and the vegetation is limited to little more than a single line of trees in some places.

Sub-compartment 8a: This is one of the most impressive wooded sections of Parkland Walk with tall, even-aged trees covering the slopes to the path edge and forming a closed canopy above the path. The path is straight and there are clear views for a considerable distance. The dominant species are ash, sycamore and pedunculate oak, all other species are rare and include silver birch, false acacia, lime, Lombardy poplar and a single exceptionally tall pear. The shrub layer is well developed with abundant holly and frequent hazel, elder and hawthorn. The ground flora is dominated by ivy and low bramble but includes large numbers of male fern, as well as other less frequent fern species. Sumps and runnels have been created as part of recent work to upgrade the path, these are water filled for part of the year but heavily shaded as they are at the base of the north facing slope. The steps from Crescent Road are in good condition.

Sub-compartment 8b: This is the narrow section of the compartment extending from Eleanor Rathbone House on Avenue Road, to Stanhope Road. It is dominated by ash and sycamore, and a line of mature planted lime trees to the rear of properties on Avenue Road also form an important part of the canopy. The shrub layer is limited, though a hawthorn screen has been successfully established beneath the lime trees. Due to the narrowness of vegetation, the boundaries of adjacent properties are intrusive and often very unattractive, and the boundary of the site is unclear due to the presence of redundant fencing and possible encroachment by nearby properties. The vegetation widens at Stanhope Road and is dominated by nettles and bramble. Steps from Stanhope Road are currently in good condition.

Sub-compartment 8c: This comprises wooded embankment from Stanhope Road to stepped access from Milton Park. It is dominated by ash and sycamore, and pedunculate oak is frequent with several large specimens but mostly subordinate to the aforementioned species. Silver birch is locally abundant but is being replaced by ash, sycamore and pedunculate oak. Other species occur very rarely and include wild cherry, rowan *Sorbus aucuparia* and Swedish whitebeam *Sorbus x intermedia*. Trees are better branched and more robust than those in sub-compartment 8a, presumably due to the greater amount of light able to reach trees on an embankment. The shrub layer is variable and better developed on the northern slope where the frequent or abundant species are young holm oak, hawthorn, elder, holly, plum, bramble and seedling ash. The south slope supports abundant hazel close to Milton Park but is otherwise very sparse. The ground flora is species-poor being dominated by ivy, nettle, cow parsley and green alkanet *Pentaglottis sempervirens*, but is more species rich along the path-edge in those areas where nettle is absent. There are large garden extensions at the base of the cutting adjoining properties on Milton Park, and there is recent garden planting at the top of the embankment, presumably intended to provide privacy to nearby properties.

Conservation features and issues	Management aims	Management required to achieve aims
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Small sections of path remain poorly drained.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that the new hoggin surface is drained throughout.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Add hoggin as required to remove dips.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Geotextile is visible at the edges of sumps and drains.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that all materials are fully surfaced with hoggin.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Add hoggin where necessary.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Large amounts of tipped garden waste around pear tree close to Crouch End Hill.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prolong the life of tree as long as possible.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remove dumped waste inform residents/contractor that dumping must cease.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Various unattractive boundary features in sub-compartments 8a and 8b.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As far as possible to disguise the narrowness of the site in this area and the intrusiveness of</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate ownership of redundant fencing and remove.</li> <li>Screen views of garage blocks etc. by additional planting (holly).</li> </ul>

Conservation features and issues	Management aims	Management required to achieve aims
	adjacent properties.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid damage to ivy where this already hides boundary features.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dumped material very visible at the top of the cutting in sub-compartments 8a and 8b.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That there is no dumped material at the site.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remove all material during the winter months when most visible.</li> <li>• Additional clearance as required.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regeneration of pedunculate oak in areas formerly dominated by silver birch in sub-compartment 8b.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To encourage development of good quality stand of pedunculate oak.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remove 50% (average) of ash and sycamore on the Claremont Road side of the embankment,</li> <li>• Treat stumps</li> <li>• Retain logs on-site as deadwood habitat.</li> <li>• Remove holm oak saplings as these are likely to compete with pedunculate oak.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The shrub layer on the eastern part of the Milton Park side of the embankment is poorly developed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a shrub layer of 50-75% cover to provide wildlife habitat.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shrub planting using a mix of native and non native species (holly, hazel).</li> <li>• Remove garden planting at the top of the embankment.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Milton Park steps have poor sight lines and are enclosed by sycamore and cherry laurel.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide more open habitat around steps.</li> <li>• Favour well established hazel in the woodland close to the steps.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remove sycamore and cherry laurel within 10m of steps.</li> <li>• Retain sycamore logs on site as deadwood habitat.</li> <li>• Coppice hazel within 5m of path 50% every 5 years.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is large amounts of fly tipped rubbish at the base of Milton Park steps.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That there is no dumped material at the site.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remove all material during the winter months when most visible.</li> <li>• Additional clearance as required.</li> </ul>

### 5.1.9 Compartment 9

This small area consists mainly of scrubby habitat either side of Northwood Road. Habitats present are ash and sycamore woodland, dense mainly non-native scrub, open bramble scrub and nettle dominated tall ruderal vegetation, stands of Japanese knotweed, and garden extensions. Vegetation adjacent to the bridge over Northwood Road has been cleared to enable repairs and stop tree roots damaging the bridge abutments. Steps have recently been built to formalise access from Northwood Road and the adjacent vegetation has been cleared. Slow worm were previously present in open vegetation at the top of the embankment, it is not known if they are still present.

Sub-compartment 9a: This comprises bramble and ruderal habitat and nearby tree regeneration towards the top of the embankment immediately east of the Northwood Road Bridge. Slow worm were previously recorded in this area.

Sub-compartment 9b: This comprises habitat to the west of Northwood Road. It comprises ash and sycamore dominated woodland with a dense understory of garden privet, cherry laurel and elder. Scrubby vegetation predominates in the narrowest part of the sub-compartment and is dominated by garden privet, bramble, butterfly bush and nettle. There are sections of redundant chestnut paling among the vegetation. Japanese knotweed and garden extensions are present on the Claremont Road side of the embankment.

Conservation features and issues	Management aims	Management required to achieve aims
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Slow worm may be present in the compartment.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To determine whether slow worm are currently present.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reptile survey or access to recent confirmed records for presence or absence.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The extent of habitat suitable for slow worm is diminishing due to shading and scrub encroachment.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To increase the extent of slow worm habitat at the site.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remove a 5m strip of regenerating trees towards the top of the embankment immediately east of the Northwood Road Bridge where they shade bramble and ruderal vegetation.</li> <li>• Treat stumps</li> <li>• Retain deadwood on site</li> <li>• Cut path-side vegetation on alternate years with additional summer clearance to maintain access.</li> <li>• Include vegetation within 3 m of new steps when clearing vegetation on the Milton Park side of the embankment.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dumped vegetation is unattractive.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That there is no dumped material at the site.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remove it.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scrub in the narrowest section of sub-compartment 9b overhangs path at about head height.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create more open access</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain a 2 metre strip of low vegetation along path (the entire width of vegetation at the narrowest point).</li> <li>• Coppice butterfly bush plants within 4 m of the path on a 5 yearly basis, avoid coppicing garden privet where possible. Grub out or treat cherry laurel. Remove cut material from site.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Boundaries are unattractive.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rationalise and screen boundary features.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remove chestnut paling.</li> <li>• Plant climbing species (ivy) at</li> </ul>

Conservation features and issues	Management aims	Management required to achieve aims
		base of fences.

### 5.1.10 Compartment 10

This compartment extends from Stanhope Gardens to Holmesdale Road where the former track bed enters a tunnel at Highgate Station. The compartment includes an extensive area of bramble and ruderal vegetation around the tunnel portal. The woodland is varied and comprises stands of tall ivy covered sycamore, silver birch, ash pedunculate oak. The railway architecture, including retaining walls as well as the tunnel, is impressive.

Sub-compartment 10a: This comprises a narrow strip of sycamore dominated woodland with little understorey or ground flora, and through which property boundaries are clearly visible. New development on the final plot adjoining the site on Holmesdale Road is very intrusive and the adjacent on-site woodland is eroded with much bare ground. A small wet area is present close to a residential property known as Francis Place, but it is overgrown with mock orange *Philadelphus sp.* and shaded by nearby trees and has no aquatic vegetation.

Sub-compartment 10b: This occupies a former playground which has been colonised by ash, sycamore and ivy. It is little used and no management is required.

Sub-compartment 10c: This consists of woodland on the upper embankments of the tunnel portal and over the tunnel entrance. On the Shepherd's Hill side the woodland comprises pedunculate oak, ash, sycamore and silver birch, and includes some large, well formed trees. There is a good stand of silver birch over the tunnel entrance. Woodland adjacent to Holmesdale Road is relatively sparse but the ground flora is heavily shaded due to its orientation. It is dominated by sycamore with occasional silver birch, lime, goat willow *Salix caprea* and crack willow *Salix fragilis*, with bramble and ivy at ground level.

Sub-compartment 10d: This consists of bramble, ruderal vegetation and colonising trees on the lower part of the embankments of the tunnel portal and along the track bed. On the south facing slope vegetation is more extensive and contains bramble, nettle, false oat-grass and cock's foot, as well seedlings or regenerating coppice of ash and sycamore. Vegetation on the north facing slope is of similar composition. There is a small stand of semi-mature trees directly in front of the tunnel entrance, mainly sycamore but including a large silver birch.

Conservation features and issues	Management aims	Management required to achieve aims
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Various unattractive boundary features in sub-compartment 10a.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As far as possible to disguise the narrowness of the site in this area and the intrusiveness of adjacent properties.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Screen views by additional planting (holly, hazel, ivy).</li> <li>• Avoid damage to any ivy which already hides boundary features.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wet area of potential interest but heavily shaded and overgrown.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To establish an area of seasonal standing water and marginal vegetation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remove surrounding vegetation including up to 5 no overhanging trees</li> <li>• Treat stumps</li> <li>• Retain dead wood on site as log piles</li> <li>• Dredge to increase water holding capacity</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Railway architecture is obscured by vegetation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To ensure that views of the tunnel and retaining walls are maintained.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remove a proportion of obscuring vegetation, retaining any notable species (silver birch, fig etc.).</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remaining ruderal and grassy vegetation is a notable feature but being lost to succession.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To increase the extent of ruderal vegetation.</li> <li>• To limit the cover of bramble to approx 50% cover in the compartment.</li> <li>• To control colonising species to achieve a low density of woody species - a few small, scattered seedlings (~1 per 4m<sup>2</sup>).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brush cut all and dig out bramble roots.</li> <li>• Re-coppice and treat stumps of sycamore and ash within the extant ruderal area.</li> <li>• Subsequently brush-cut and remove arising of 50% of the sub-compartment in alternate years.</li> <li>• Subsequently coppice willows on the north facing slope at 5 year intervals.</li> <li>• Pull tree seedlings as soon as visible.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remaining ruderal vegetation is being shaded by trees on the southern embankment.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To reduce shading of ruderal vegetation in the lowest part of the tunnel portal.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fell 15 no. sycamore on the lower part of the embankment.</li> <li>• Retain felled timber in woodland.</li> <li>• Plant hazel to strengthen wooded boundary.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tunnel has potential as a bat roost.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide additional opportunities for roosting bats.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate placing bat boxes in the tunnel.</li> </ul>

### 5.1.11 Compartment 11

This compartment comprises habitat extending north westwards from Muswell Hill Road to St. James's Lane. It consists of a narrow area of woodland with an extensive area of bramble under-scrub, and includes smaller areas of scrubby and tall herbaceous vegetation. Japanese knotweed is present and has been controlled by the Friends for a number of years.

Sub-compartment 11a: This consists of a narrow strip of habitat extending westwards from Muswell Hill Road. Most comprises stands of sycamore and silver birch with a bramble dominated ground flora and poorly developed shrub layer. Small areas scrub dominated by garden privet, bramble and Russian vine *Fallopia baldschuanica* occur in the central part of the sub-compartment. A large population of giant horsetail *Equisetum telmateia*, which is an uncommon species in the borough, is present along a seepage line on the steep south facing slope bordering the rear of properties on Church Crescent. A small stand of Japanese knotweed is also present at this location. An air raid shelter is present near the entrance from Muswell Hill Road.

Sub-compartment 11b: This area comprises a south facing slope dominated by bramble, and contains few other species such as bracken, ivy and cow parsley, all at low abundance.

Conservation features and issues	Management aims	Management required to achieve aims
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presence of herbaceous vegetation with giant horsetail.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To retain population of giant horsetail.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remove 50% of sycamore along opposite side of path to increase light reaching the northern bank.</li> <li>• Brush cut bramble and Russian vine annually in late summer (avoiding Japanese knotweed), removing arisings from site.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Japanese knotweed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To eradicate Japanese knotweed at the site.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to manually control Japanese knotweed</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The south facing bramble slope (sub-compartment 11b) is the only significant area of non-woodland habitat of potential value for reptiles.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To increase the structural diversity of the habitat i.e. variation in height and density of bramble.</li> <li>• To increase species diversity i.e. at least 20% of the sub-compartment to be dominated by grass or herbaceous species.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brush cut and remove bramble from 75% of sub-compartment on a three year rotation (25%/year). Remove remaining 25% on lower and central part of slope annually. Remove arisings from the site.</li> </ul>

### 5.1.12 Compartment 12

This compartment comprises the remainder of the northern section of Parkland Walk. With the exception of St. James' Viaduct it is almost entirely dominated by woodland and mature scrub.

Sub-compartment 12a: This is the broadest part of the compartment, occupying a broad cutting immediately to the south of St James' Lane. It is dominated by pedunculate oak (with good numbers of mature trees) with an understorey of elder, wild plum, hawthorn, young specimens of yew and sycamore, and a ground flora dominated by bramble, ivy and cow parsley. Also present are small stands of silver birch and wild cherry. Much of the woodland is very open, in part due to recreational

pressure, but sapling trees are present away from the most heavily used areas. A small area of grassland dominated by creeping bent and Yorkshire fog is present within woodland close to the access point to St. James' Lane.

Sub-compartment 12b: Approximately half of St. James' Viaduct is dominated by stunted scrub and woodland. The remainder comprises grassland containing abundant creeping bent *Agrostis stolonifera*, false oat-grass, Yorkshire fog with broadleaved species such as ribwort plantain, creeping buttercup *Ranunculus repens* and dandelion *Taraxacum species*. The grassland also contains naturalised crocus *Crocus chrysanthus*. A varied fern assemblage comprising hart's tongue *Phyllitis scolopendrium*, maidenhair spleenwort *Asplenium trichomanes*, soft shield fern *Polystichum setiferum* and male fern has been recorded on the north facing wall of the viaduct.

Sub-compartment 12c: The woodland to the north of St. James' Viaduct is dominated by sycamore with occasional ash and with a sparse, predominantly elder shrub layer. The ground flora is dominated by cow parsley, ivy and bramble with locally abundant hybrid bluebell *Hyacinthoides x massartiana* and occasional remote sedge *Carex remota*, which is infrequent in the borough. Japanese knotweed is present at the access point to Muswell Hill.

Conservation features and issues	Management aims	Management required to achieve aims
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Relatively mature trees in sub compartments A and C provide suitable sites for bat and bird boxes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To increase the opportunities for breeding birds and roosting bats.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Install 8 bat boxes in 2 groups of 4 on suitable trees in sub compartment 12a and 12c (1x1FS, 2x2F, 2x2FN and 3x1FD).</li> <li>Install 4 hole fronted, 2 nuthatch and 6 open fronted bird boxes on suitable trees.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grassland along the path edge is relatively diverse and provides foraging habitat for invertebrates.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To retain open grassland at least 1.5m wide along northern edge of path.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remove scrub shading the 1.5m grass strip. Brush cut annually to control bramble.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Japanese knotweed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To eradicate Japanese knotweed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to manually control Japanese knotweed.</li> </ul>

## 6. Projects

### 6.1 Woodland and arboricultural management

#### 6.1.1 Crown lifting

Crown lifting has been proposed in order to maintain sight-lines. Work should be carried out following advice from the borough's arboricultural officer, as to the extent of branch removal and whether the work can be carried out by parks maintenance staff/ volunteers or a trained arborist.

Crown lifting is proposed in the following compartments and sub-compartments: 1.

#### 6.1.2 Tree felling

Tree felling has been proposed in order to increase the width of edge habitats along paths, provide gaps and favour certain species within woodland, and increase the amount of dead wood. A small number of trees that are an obvious health and safety risk have also been identified. Tree work should be carried out following advice from the borough's arboricultural officer, as to whether the work can be carried out by parks maintenance staff/volunteers, or requires a trained arborist. In woodland situations a long stump (1-1.5m) or monolith (if safety permits) should be left to increase the amount of standing dead wood at the site.

All trees to be felled should be assessed for their potential to support roosting bats. Any tree considered to have value for bats, due to the presence of holes, splits or heavy ivy cover, or considered to be of notable value for nesting birds, should not be felled for reasons other than safety. Any tree with roost potential should be felled only after the presence of bats has been determined<sup>8</sup>. If bats are present, work may require a European Protected Species (EPS) License from Natural England. In other cases, where the risk of bats being present is sufficiently low, section felling may be necessary to avoid killing bats in the process of tree removal. Tree felling should be carried out in the winter, outside of the bird nesting season. Refer to Appendix 1 for legislation pertaining to bats and nesting birds.

Tree felling is proposed in the following compartments and sub-compartments: 2, 3a, 3b, 3c (young oak regeneration), 4a, 4c, 5, 6, 8c (includes young holm oak), 9a, 10a, 10c, 11a,

#### 6.1.3 Tree coppicing

Coppicing is proposed to encourage the maintenance or development of scrub or woodland edge habitat, to reduce shading, or as precursor to stump treatment where coppice regrowth is not desirable. All stems should be felled to within 10 centimetres of ground level in the late autumn.

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<sup>8</sup> Trees posing an immediate risk to public safety can be felled immediately, ideally in sections

Depending on the size, stem felling should be carried out with hand tools or chainsaws, the former can be carried out by volunteers/parks staff assuming appropriate health and safety procedures are followed. Depending on the diameter of material it can either be retained on site as log piles, or thinner arisings removed from site. The frequency of re-coppicing should be determined by the rate of regrowth, but where access is not affected should be carried out on a five year basis as a minimum.

Coppicing is proposed in the following compartments and sub-compartments: 3b, 10d

#### ***6.1.4 Stump treatment***

Stumps remaining following felling or coppicing (where regrowth is not wanted) should be treated with an appropriate herbicide so that regrowth does not occur.

Stump treatment is proposed in the following compartments and sub-compartments: 2, 3a, 3b, 3c, 4a, 4c, 5, 6, 7, 8c, 10a, 10d, 10c and 11a.

#### ***6.1.5 Logs and brash***

All trunks and branches from tree felling should be retained on site. They should be left as large timbers that cannot be readily moved or rolled down slopes, and in partially shaded areas where they can provide the best conditions for invertebrates. Where possible, twiggy material (brash) should be retained on-site and used for site management (screening, blocking informal access points and paths etc.. However, excessive amounts could be unsightly and a fire risk and should be chipped and removed from site.

The creation of log piles is proposed in the following compartments and sub-compartments: 2, 3b, 4a, 5, 7a, 8c, 10a, 10c and 11a,

#### ***6.1.6 Arboricultural inspection***

A walk over inspection of the entire site should be carried out annually by the borough's arboricultural officer, so that there is an up to date risk assessment of potentially hazardous trees near the path and boundaries. Certain trees were regarded as hazardous at the time writing this plan and require immediate assessment.

An annual arboricultural inspection is proposed throughout the site, immediate inspection is considered necessary in the following compartments and sub-compartments: 2, 4b,

#### ***6.1.7 Ring barking***

Ring barking is proposed in order to increase the amount of standing dead wood at the site. It is appropriate only in areas away from path edges or site boundaries and for sycamore, which is abundant. Trees can survive ring barking for several years. In order to succeed a de-barked area

width 20cm and depth 2cm is recommended, with material between the upper and lower cuts prised out with a chisel. It may be necessary to repeat or deepen the cut to kill the tree.

Ring barking is proposed in the following compartments and sub-compartments: 4a, 5

## **6.2 Scrub management**

### ***6.2.1 Scrub coppicing***

Coppicing of scrubby vegetation should be carried out as described in 6.1.3 above

Coppicing of scrubby vegetation is proposed in the following compartments and sub-compartments: 3d, 4b, 7a, 7c, 8c, 9b, 10a, 10d

## **6.3 Under-scrub/ bramble management**

### ***6.3.1 Bramble removal***

The removal of bramble is proposed in some areas in order to increase the extent of grassland and tall herbaceous vegetation. Mechanical control is considered preferable to the use of herbicides in order to avoid killing any non-woody species among the bramble. Initially all the above ground parts should be cut with brush cutters to ground level with the arising removed (following procedures in 6.3.2 below). Root stocks should then be removed using a mattock. Regrowth should be controlled through a combination of cutting off the tops in autumn and removing roots in the early winter for three subsequent years. After this, depending on results, grassland management or ongoing cutting in alternate years can commence.

Bramble removal is proposed in the following compartments and sub-compartments: 3a, 3c, 3d, 4b, 6, 7c, 10d.

### ***6.3.2 Annual management***

Annual management of under-scrub is required in order to encourage development of grassland and ruderal vegetation, maintain access along the path, maintain or improve sight-lines at entry points to the main path, and to remove cover for anti social activities. Clearance should be carried out to ~10 centimetres above ground level, using a brush cutter with arisings removed from the site. Work must be carried out in accordance with LB Haringey's health and safety protocols for using brush cutters. As a minimum this should ensure that adequate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is provided and used, that the works area is checked for glass and other hazards before works commence as far as is

possible, and that the public are excluded from the works area. Clearance should be carried out in the early winter (Nov/Dec) outside of the bird nesting season, and after birds have had an opportunity to forage for blackberries.

Annual management of bramble and other under-scrub species is proposed in the following compartments and sub-compartments: 1, 2, 3b, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9a, 9b, 10d, 11a, 11b,

### ***6.3.3 Japanese knotweed***

Stands of Japanese knotweed should be marked and avoided during clearance to avoid accidental spread. There is a goal of eradication.

## **6.4 Management of grassland and tall herbaceous vegetation**

### ***6.4.1 Cutting***

Management of grassland and tall herbaceous vegetation is proposed in order to maintain a stand which is largely free of woody vegetation. Most plant species present in existing grassland or those proposed to be created by sowing (see 6.7.2 below) are summer flowering. Cutting should therefore be carried out in late summer (August/early September) and again in spring (March/April). In order to provide habitat continuity for invertebrates it is generally recommended that only a proportion of a particular stand is cleared in a given year. Recommended proportions vary in different compartments and are specified in the management aims and actions in each compartment provided in the preceding section. Due to the small size of most areas and generally steep slopes, management should be carried out using trimmers and brush cutters, following procedures for use provided in 6.3.2 above. Arisings should generally be removed, but in some cases it may be considered that there is an insufficient amount of material for this to be necessary.

Cutting is proposed in the following compartments and sub-compartments: 1, 3a, 6.

### ***6.4.2 Tree seedling removal***

Tree seedling removal is proposed where seedlings persist in the sward despite management. They should be pulled or dug out annually until the target density stated in the preceding section is achieved.

Tree seedling removal is proposed in the following compartments and sub-compartments: 3a, 7c, 10d.

### ***6.4.3 Japanese knotweed***

Stands of Japanese knotweed should be marked and avoided during clearance to prevent accidental spread. There is a goal of eradication.

## **6.5 Access and security**

### ***6.5.1 Path edge management***

Clearance of bramble along path edges is proposed to ensure that the full width of the path can be used so that pedestrians and cyclists have adequate space although some pinch points should be maintained to control the speed of bicycles. Generally a 2 metre wide strip of bramble should be cleared each year on both sides of the path, or on alternate years as specified in the preceding section. Clearance should be carried out according to procedures described in 6.3.2 above. Additional brush-cutting during the summer to remove any nettle and bramble overhanging the path should take place in June/July or as necessary.

Path edge management is proposed in the following compartments and sub-compartments: 1, 2, 3b, 4, 5, 6, 7d, 9a, 9b, 11a, 11b.

### ***6.5.2 Maintenance of sight lines***

Bramble management to maintain sight lines should be carried out according to procedures described in 6.3.2 above.

Bramble management to maintain sight lines is proposed in the following compartments and sub-compartments: 1, 2, 4a, 4c, 5.

### ***6.5.3 Path maintenance***

The main path at Parkland Walk has recently been resurfaced with a hoggin type material and is currently in good condition. Over a period of time it is likely that some areas will accumulate mud and leaf litter or become eroded. The path should be inspected annually, any muddy or eroded areas should be scraped clean and refilled with hoggin in the early winter.

Path maintenance is proposed throughout the site.

### ***6.5.4 Step maintenance***

Stepped access to Parkland Walk is currently in good condition but over time it is likely that the tread of steps will become muddy and uneven and the tops of the railway sleepers forming the risers will become slippery. It is therefore proposed that steps should be inspected annually, any muddy or

uneven areas should be scraped clean and refilled with hoggin in the early winter. Tops of risers should be covered in chicken wire or staples as necessary.

Step maintenance is proposed in the following compartments and sub-compartments: 1, 2, 4a, 4c, 5, 7a.

#### ***6.5.5 Informal paths and access points***

In locations where access is not considered desirable it is proposed that it should be blocked with fencing or dead hedging or a combination of both as appropriate.

Blocking access is proposed in the following compartments and sub-compartments: 3a, 3d

#### ***6.5.6 Internal fencing***

Internal fencing may be necessary to protect areas from ecological damage as part of routine management however where this is not the case all internal fencing including redundant chestnut paling should be removed from site unless it marks the property boundary.

### **6.6 Invasive species**

#### ***6.6.1 Japanese knotweed***

The eradication of Japanese knotweed is recommended for the whole site although priority is recommended mainly where there is a risk of causing its spread through management work. Although unlikely, this could occur in the management of bramble and tall herbaceous vegetation to achieve more open habitat. This will involve the use of brush cutters and removal of cut vegetation from the site.

It is recommended that removal of Japanese knotweed is controlled through spraying with a Glyphosate based herbicide over at least three seasons in the late summer. Glyphosate is broad spectrum, systemic herbicide and will therefore damage adjoining vegetation if not applied with great care. Work must be carried out by an experienced, suitably qualified person.

Activities such as bramble management (see 6.3.1 above) are scheduled to take place in the autumn, allowing Japanese knotweed spraying to take place in advance of manual clearance. Nonetheless, it is recommended that sprayed stands of knotweed are carefully marked and retained during clearance to limit the chance of accidental spread.

Removal of Japanese knotweed is proposed in the following compartments and sub-compartments: 6, 7b, 11a (manually), 12c (manually).

## **6.7 Planting**

### **6.7.1 Bulb planting**

Native bulb species such as wild daffodil *Narcissus pseudonarcissus*, ramsons *Allium ursinum* and bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta* should be planted in the autumn, in woodland edge locations, at the correct depth and distance for a given species and after there has been sufficient rainfall to thoroughly dampen the soil. Consideration of the presence of glass, needles and other hazards in the soil and leaf litter is required.

Bulb planting is proposed in the following compartments and sub-compartments: 1.

### **6.7.2 Meadow grassland seeding**

Due to the disturbed, nutrient rich and partially shaded nature of compartments where sowing is proposed, a relatively coarse, shade tolerant species mix is recommended, such as Emorsgate Seeds EM10 tussock mixture. Sowing timing, rates and initial after care should follow recommendations for the mixture (see <http://wildseed.co.uk/mixtures/view/10>).

Meadow grassland seeding is proposed in the following compartments and sub-compartments: 1.

### **6.7.3 Trees and shrubs**

Additional planting has been suggested in order to screen boundaries. In such areas only native species have been recommended and the material used should be of UK (preferably the London Basin Natural Area) provenance. Transplants (1+1) 45-60 cm high should be planted due to their low cost and relative ease of establishment. Planting should be carried out between November and February once soil is thoroughly wet, but not frozen. Possible planting sites should be checked to ensure that soil depth is sufficient. Stems and roots of bramble, ivy and other perennial species should be carefully removed. Planting pits should be larger than the root system of the plant. The base of the plant should be positioned so the base of the stem is slightly below the surrounding soil level, to allow a small dip to remain once the soil is backfilled around the roots, so the plant can be easily watered. Plants should be watered and weeded for two years and replaced as necessary until sufficient numbers have been established.

Additional native shrub planting is proposed in the following compartments and sub-compartments: 8b, 8c, 9b, 10a, 10c.

## **6.8 Surveys and Monitoring**

Monitoring is proposed for species groups that can be identified by non-specialists and that are considered most likely to provide information on the effects of management if carried out regularly and over the entire 10 year period of the plan. In all cases the inferences drawn from management can only be indicative as there are a great number of additional variables that will affect the distribution of species at the site.

### **6.8.1 Birds**

Bird monitoring is proposed in order to assess the effects of woodland and scrub management. While only limited clearance is recommended, the presence of additional small areas of scrub and standing deadwood may be reflected in the distribution of territories of some species. The presence of nest boxes may also result in a positive change in the numbers and diversity of breeding species. It is recommended that an approach based on the discontinued Common Bird Census is adopted.

A territory-mapping approach should be used to estimate the number and positions of territories of each species present at the site during the breeding season. Eight to ten visits should be made between late March and early July and all contacts with birds, either by sight or sound plotted on 1:2500 maps. Each bird's species, with sex and age where possible, and also activity such as song or nest-building should be noted. It should then be possible to match the distribution of bird territories with habitat features.

### **6.8.2 Plants**

All sub-compartments where grassland or scrub management, or significant amounts of tree felling are carried out should be monitored to assess changes in flora. Recording should take place annually in April and June noting all species, an indication of their abundance (using the DAFOR scale), and actual numbers for notable species.

### **6.8.3 Butterflies**

Butterfly recording may provide interesting observations on the effects of creating more open habitats. Monitoring should use Butterfly Conservation's methodology.

A fixed-route walk (transect) is established at a site and butterflies are recorded along the route on a regular (weekly) basis under reasonable weather conditions for a number of years. Transect routes are chosen to sample evenly the habitat types and management activity on sites. Care is taken in choosing a transect route as it must then remain fixed to enable butterfly sightings to be compared from year to year. Transects are typically about 2-4km long, taking between 45 minutes and two hours to walk, and are divided into sections corresponding to different habitat or management units.

Butterflies are recorded in a fixed width band (typically 5m wide) along the transect each week from the beginning of April until the end of September, yielding, ideally, 26 counts per year. Transect walks are undertaken between 10.45am and 3.45pm and only when weather conditions are suitable for butterfly activity: dry conditions, wind speed less than Beaufort scale 5, and temperature 13°C or greater if there is at least 60% sunshine, or more than 17°C if overcast. Due to the vagaries of the British weather, it is rare in practice to achieve a full set of 26 weekly counts. However, a small number of missing values can be estimated using other counts during the season.

#### **6.8.4 Bats**

Bat activity may also provide additional information on the effects of management and provide an indication of good positions for erecting bat boxes. A protocol based on the National Bat Monitoring Programme should be adopted. The location of 12 marked stopping points along the site should be identified, reflecting habitat type, the location of management activities (including bat boxes), and off site commuting routes. Monitoring visits should be carried out on two evenings in July. At each of the 12 stopping points heterodyne ultrasonic detectors should be used to listen for common and soprano pipistrelles for two minutes then re-tuned for noctule, natter's and serotine bats whilst walking to the next stopping point. The survey should start twenty minutes post sunset.

#### **6.8.5 Slow worms**

The absence or presence of Slow worms on the Parkland Walk should be determined through surveys carried out in the optimum months of April, May and Sept.

Artificial refugia should be located in all suitable areas at a density of 10 per hectare (or more) and be left in place for 10 days before being monitored at least six times on warm sunny days. Visits should take place between 09.00 and 10.00, and 16.00 – 19.00hrs.

The presence of Slow worms can be used to further guide management prescription which could include the raising of mowing heights, clearance of heavy scrub and creation of artificial hibernacula. Continued monitoring can help establish whether or not management has been successful.

## **6.9 Bird and bat boxes**

### **6.9.1 Bird boxes**

Bird boxes are proposed to provide additional sites for tree nesting species. The number and proportion of hole and open fronted boxes specified varies in different compartments, and is specified in the management aims actions in each compartment provided in the preceding section. It is recommended that Schwegler woodcrete boxes are used as these require the least maintenance. The following models are most appropriate: 1B hole-fronted 32mm entrance hole, 5KL Nuthatch boxes and 2H open-fronted 120mm opening. Ideally boxes should be positioned so they face in an easterly or westerly direction. They should be at least 3 metres above ground level, and ideally considerable higher. They should be attached to the tree using Schwegler fixings. Old nests should be removed annually between October and January.

Bird boxes are proposed in the following compartments and sub-compartments: 2, 4a, 5, 12a, 12c.

### **6.9.2 Bat boxes**

Schwegler 'woodcrete' bat boxes offer considerable advantages over wooden boxes as they are long lasting and, due to the density of materials, provide relatively stable temperatures favoured by bats. The following models are recommend and the numbers of each should be decided by an experienced bat ecologist: 2F for smaller bats including brown long-eared bat, 1FS large colony box especially suitable for brown long-eared and Nathusius bats, 2FN for Noctules and 1FD for small bats including Pipistrelle and Daubenton's.

Boxes should be situated on a tall mature trees at least four metres above the ground (five or six metres or even higher for noctule bats) with the access facing south west or south east. Six boxes over a 20 by 20 metre square area, facing differing aspects, should be provided at each location to increase the chance of occupancy. Boxes should be sited in sheltered woodland edge locations, away from possible frost pockets and areas where they are unlikely to attract vandals. Boxes should be monitored for evidence of use and cleaned annually (by a licensed bat worker if bats are found to be using them). If they are not occupied in two years they should be moved to a new location. Inspection and maintenance of bat boxes should be carried out in April and October, when they are least likely to be in use.

Bat boxes are proposed in the following compartments and sub-compartments: 4a, 5, 12a and 12c.

## **6.10 Litter**

Litter should be removed from path edges and other readily accessible areas on a weekly basis. Dumped or blown-in litter should be removed annually from the whole site during the winter when it is most visible.

Any hazardous waste identified at the site should be removed only by trained local authority staff or a contractor.

## **6.11 Structural Assets**

As a former railway line the Parkland Walk LNR has several structural assets (mainly bridges) which ideally should receive routine annual maintenance works or preventative measures to protect long term structural integrity.

Highways current regime of inspection for these structures includes a Superficial Inspection yearly, General Inspection every second year and a Principal Inspection every 5 to 6 years.

Clearance of trees and shrubs is proposed around all bridges to a desired distance of 10m (minimum 5m). These areas should then be kept clear by brush cutting every second year.



**Parkland Walk draft management plan 2009 - 10 year management schedule**

Management tasks	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10
<b>Compartment 1</b>														
Amenity grassland management	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Arboricultural inspection	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bramble under-scrub management				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bulb planting				✓	✓		✓							
Crown lifting	✓				✓									
Path edge management		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Path inspection	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Replacement of information boards					✓									
Step inspection	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Tussock mixture grass cutting				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Tussock mixture grass seeding				✓	✓		✓							
Vegetation clearance maintenance of sightlines	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Compartment 2</b>														
Bramble/under-scrub management				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Arboricultural inspection	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bird box erection/inspection				✓	✓									✓
Ensure proportion of holly retained till maturity														
Immediate arboricultural inspection				✓	✓									
Level and replace surface of hoggin as necessary														
Log piles	✓				✓	✓								
Maintenance of sightlines	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Path edge management		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Parkland Walk draft management plan 2009 - 10 year management schedule														
Management tasks	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10
Path inspection	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Replace/cover sleepers with chicken wire as necessary														
Stump treatment	✓				✓	✓								
Tree felling	✓				✓	✓								
<b>Compartment 3 all sub compartments</b>														
Signage to highlight adverse effect on dog and human use of grassland area					✓									
Path inspection/maintenance	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Sub-compartment 3a</b>														
Block unwanted access point					✓									
Coppicing	✓			✓	✓				✓			✓		
Stump treatment	✓				✓									
Sward cutting	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Tree seedling removal	✓			✓	✓		✓		✓		✓		✓	
<b>Sub-compartment 3b</b>														
Log piles	✓				✓									
Path edge management		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Stump treatment	✓				✓									
Tree coppicing	✓			✓	✓				✓			✓		
Tree felling	✓				✓									
<b>Sub-compartment 3c</b>														
Bramble removal	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						

Parkland Walk draft management plan 2009 - 10 year management schedule														
Management tasks	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10
Log piles	✓				✓									
Stump treatment	✓				✓									
Sward cutting	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Tree felling	✓				✓									
<b>Sub-compartment 3d</b>														
Bramble removal	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Scrub coppicing	✓			✓	✓				✓			✓		
<b>Compartment 4 all sub compartments</b>														
Path edge management		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Inspect trees				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Sub-compartment 4a</b>														
Tree felling	✓			✓	✓		✓							
Log piles	✓				✓		✓							
Stump treatment	✓				✓		✓							
Ring barking	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Bird box erection/inspection				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bat box erection/inspection				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Maintenance of sightlines	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Step inspection	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Sub-compartment 4b</b>														
Level and replace surface of hoggin as necessary														
Replace/cover sleepers with chicken wire as necessary														

Parkland Walk draft management plan 2009 - 10 year management schedule														
Management tasks	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10
Scrub coppicing	✓			✓	✓				✓			✓		
Sward cutting	✓			✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Under-scrub removal	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
<b>Sub-compartment 4c</b>														
Log piles					✓		✓							
Maintenance of sightlines	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Step inspection	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Stump treatment	✓				✓		✓							
Tree felling	✓				✓		✓							
<b>Compartment 5</b>														
Bat box erection/inspection				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bird box erection/inspection				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Install security fencing					✓									
Level and replace surface of hoggin as necessary														
Log piles	✓				✓		✓							
Maintenance of sightlines	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Path edge management		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Replace/cover sleepers with chicken wire as necessary														
Ring barking	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Step inspection	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Stump treatment	✓				✓		✓							
Tree felling	✓				✓		✓							

Parkland Walk draft management plan 2009 - 10 year management schedule														
Management tasks	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10
<b>Compartment 6</b>														
Bramble removal	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Coppice poplar regrowth	✓							✓			✓			✓
Japanese knotweed removal			✓		✓	✓	✓							
Path edge management		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Replace heavily damaged post and rail with black railings				✓	✓									
Stump treatment	✓				✓		✓							
Tree felling	✓				✓		✓							
<b>Compartment 7 all sub compartments</b>														
Bramble under-scrub management				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Investigate converting disused structure built into bridge into bat roost					✓									
Path edge management					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Sub-compartment 7a</b>														
Tree felling	✓				✓		✓							
Stump treatment	✓				✓		✓							
Log piles	✓				✓		✓							
Step inspection	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Scrub coppicing	✓			✓	✓				✓					✓
<b>Sub-compartment 7b</b>														
Tree felling	✓				✓		✓							
Stump treatment	✓				✓		✓							

Parkland Walk draft management plan 2009 - 10 year management schedule														
Management tasks	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10
Log piles	✓				✓		✓							
Japanese knotweed removal			✓		✓	✓	✓							
<b>Sub-compartment 7c</b>														
Bramble removal	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Bramble under-scrub management				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Scrub coppicing	✓			✓	✓				✓			✓		
<b>Compartment 8 all sub compartments</b>														
Add hoggin where necessary														
Remove dumped waste and inform residents/contractors that dumping must cease				✓	✓									
<b>Sub-compartment 8a</b>														
Immediate litter removal	✓				✓									
Immediate path repairs	✓				✓									
Investigate ownership of redundant fencing and remove.				✓		✓								
Maintain existing ivy screens and plant additional ivy as screen views of garage blocks				✓		✓	✓	✓						
<b>Sub-compartment 8b</b>														
Immediate litter removal				✓	✓									
Investigate ownership of redundant fencing and remove.					✓									
Maintain existing ivy screens and plant additional ivy as screen views of garage blocks				✓		✓	✓	✓						

Parkland Walk draft management plan 2009 - 10 year management schedule														
Management tasks	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10
Remove holm oak saplings as likely to compete with pedunculate oak				✓	✓		✓		✓		✓		✓	
Scrub planting				✓	✓		✓		✓		✓		✓	
<b>Sub-compartment 8c</b>														
Log piles	✓				✓		✓							
Remove garden planting at the top of the embankment				✓	✓									
Scrub coppicing	✓			✓	✓				✓					✓
Scrub planting	✓													
Stump treatment	✓				✓		✓							
Tree felling	✓				✓		✓							
<b>Sub-compartment 9a</b>														
Immediate litter removal				✓	✓									
Log piles	✓				✓		✓							
Reptile survey or access to recent confirmed records of presence or absence		✓	✓		✓									
Stump treatment	✓			✓	✓		✓							
Tree felling	✓			✓	✓		✓							
<b>Sub-compartment 9b</b>														
Path edge management		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Scrub coppicing	✓			✓	✓			✓			✓			✓
Scrub planting				✓	✓	✓	✓							
<b>Sub-compartment 10 a</b>														

Parkland Walk draft management plan 2009 - 10 year management schedule														
Management tasks	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10
Dredge wet areas to increase water holding capacity			✓		✓									
Fell trees to allow more light to reach wet area	✓				✓		✓							
Log piles					✓		✓							
Screen views by additional planting (holly, hazel, ivy)					✓	✓	✓							
Scrub coppicing	✓			✓	✓			✓			✓			✓
Scrub planting				✓	✓	✓	✓							
Stump treatment					✓		✓							
<b>Sub-compartment 10c</b>														
Log piles	✓				✓		✓							
Scrub planting				✓	✓	✓	✓							
Stump treatment	✓				✓		✓							
Tree felling	✓				✓		✓							
<b>Sub-compartment 10d</b>														
Bramble under-scrub management				✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bramble removal	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Investigate placing bat boxes in the tunnel			✓		✓									
Scrub coppicing				✓	✓			✓			✓			✓
Stump treatment	✓				✓									
Tree coppicing				✓	✓									
Tree seedling removal	✓	✓							✓		✓		✓	
<b>Sub-compartment 11a</b>														

Parkland Walk draft management plan 2009 - 10 year management schedule														
Management tasks	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10
Bramble under-scrub management				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bramble removal	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Log piles	✓				✓		✓							
Manual Japanese knotweed removal			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Path edge management		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Stump treatment	✓				✓		✓							
Tree felling	✓				✓		✓							
<b>Sub-compartment 11b</b>														
Bramble under-scrub management				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Path edge management		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Sub-compartment 12a</b>														
Bat box erection/inspection			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bird box erection/inspection				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Sub-compartment 12b</b>														
Bramble under-scrub management				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Sub-compartment 12c</b>														
Bird box erection/inspection				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bat box erection/inspection				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Manual Japanese knotweed removal			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓