

BRECK HILL RECREATION GROUND MANAGEMENT PLAN

2022-2027



Members of the Friends of Breck Hill Park with the first Green Flag Award 2022



FOREWORD

We are delighted to be able to publish the Management Plan of Breck Hill Recreation Ground

Gedling Borough Council's management and maintenance teams at Breck Hill Recreation Ground recognise the Green Flag Award Scheme as an excellent way to generate interest and raise the profile of parks and green spaces.

Generations of people have enjoyed trips to the park as a large open space nestled in the urban town of Woodthorpe that offers peace and tranquillity. It offers a variety of pursuits such as walking and exercising, children's play, meeting friends, attending events, community organised family fun days, environmental days and playing sports to name just a few. The pursuit of such leisure activities indicates that the park is 'highly valued', by locals and visitors alike.

We want our communities to feel proud of their local park, and this management plan sets out how we hope to achieve this. By improving the quality and diversity of the landscape and the facilities on offer within the park we will ensure that it can be enjoyed by all members of the community in the borough. This desire is reflected in our vision statement.

Our Vision

'To develop and sustain the substantial recreational qualities of the site confirming its reputation as a high standard green space and well loved by the community'.

This management plan is deliberately designed as a working tool to assist staff, contractors, stakeholders and the park's 'Friends' group to articulate and share their vision, understand their roles and responsibilities and plan for the future of Breck Hill Recreation Ground. Ultimately, open space belongs to all of us and we believe that the residents of Gedling Borough can, through the management plan, look forward with confidence to a positive future for one of the borough's premier parks. We are extremely proud of what has been achieved to date, and are committed to improving the park, year on year.



Councillor Viv McCrossen – Portfolio Holder for Climate Change and Natural Habitat



Friends of Breck Hill Community Picnic in the park July 2021 (Photo credit The Friends of Breck Hill)

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The Mayor of Gedling Cllr Sandra Barnes officially opens the new play facilities March 2021 (Photo credit Nathan Greenwood, GBC)





PARTNERSHIP WORKING



Park Sponsors and Supporters

The following are local individuals, Councillors, businesses, and organisations that have regularly supported the development and management of the park.

Tom Randall MP

Cllr Vivian McCrossen

Cllr Ron McCrossen

Cllr Julie Najuk

Cllr Michelle Welsh

Nottinghamshire County Cllr Mike Adams

Leader of Gedling Borough Council Cllr John Clarke MBE

Carlton Town Juniors Football Club

Co-op Mapperley Branch

Asda Arnold Branch

Gedling Lotto

Greenwood Community Forest

Mapperley Plains Primary School

Westdale Infants School

Carlton Digby School

Haywood Road Pre-School

Hollies Day Nursery

Carlton and Gedling Childminding Group

Instinct Laboratory

Gedling Climate Change Group

Bob Massey Local Historian

Marc Richmond, RHS Cert Fruit Tree Cultivation

Advance Tool Hire Ltd

Anne Jones – Historical Researcher

DIRECTIONS FROM NOTTINGHAM CITY CENTRE BY CAR

From North of Nottingham City Centre, Mansfield Road/A60

turn right to Woodborough Road/B684

turn left into Woodthorpe Drive directly after the Co-op garage park on Maitland Road

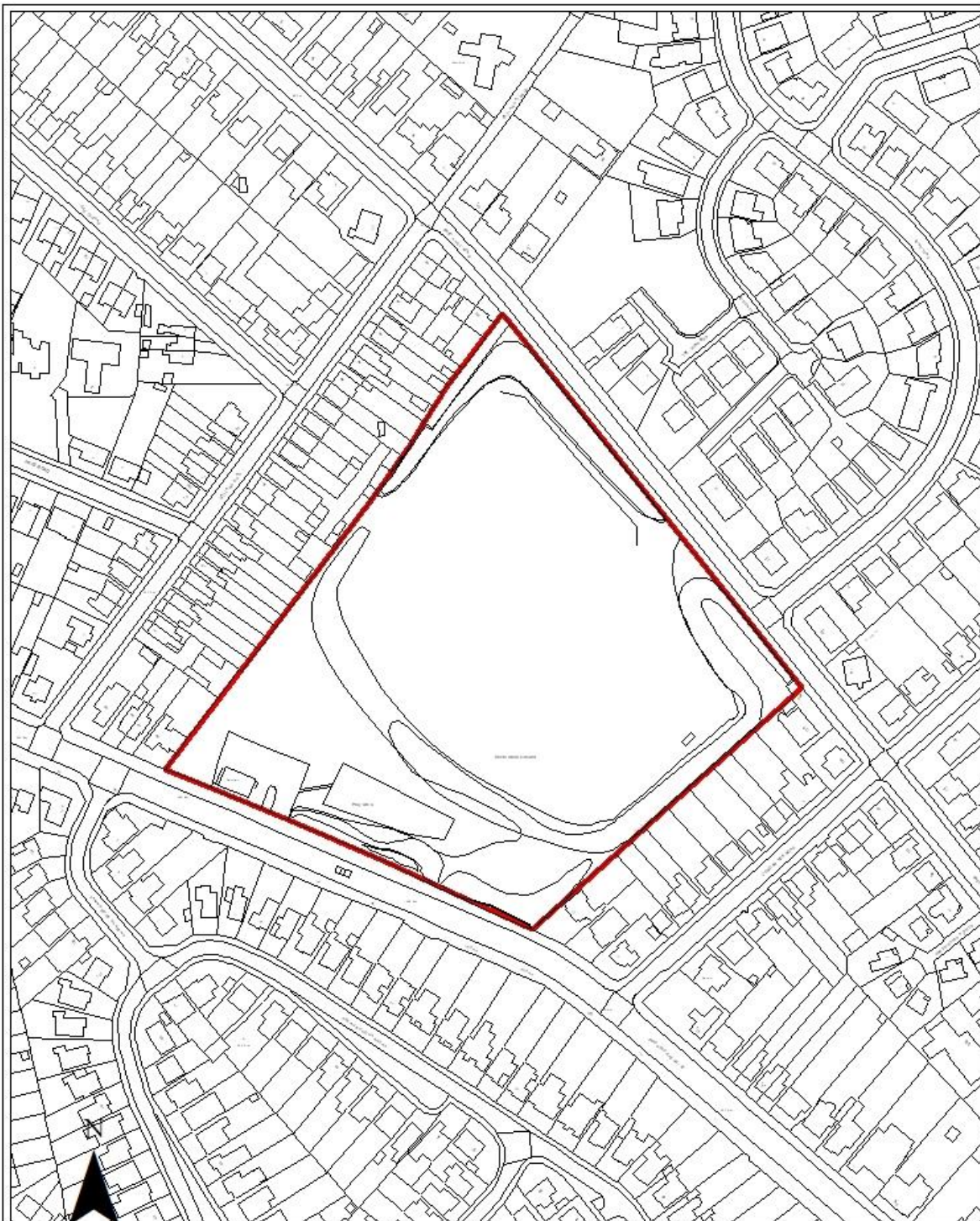
For sat navs use NG5 4GY

DIRECTIONS FROM NOTTINGHAM CITY CENTRE BY BUS

The best bus route to Mapperley is the 45, picked up from Queen St Q1 bus stop in Nottingham City Centre. Alight at the Robinson Road stop and cross Woodborough Road and turn left onto Woodthorpe Drive and it's a short walk to the park.

Alternatively, the No 25 is from the King Street K3 bus stop, and can be alighted at either Maitland Rd, Breck Hill Top or Coronation Road stops. Cross Breck Hill Road and enter the park from the Breck Hill gate.

Locality plan of Breck Hill Recreation Ground



Breck Hill Recreation Ground

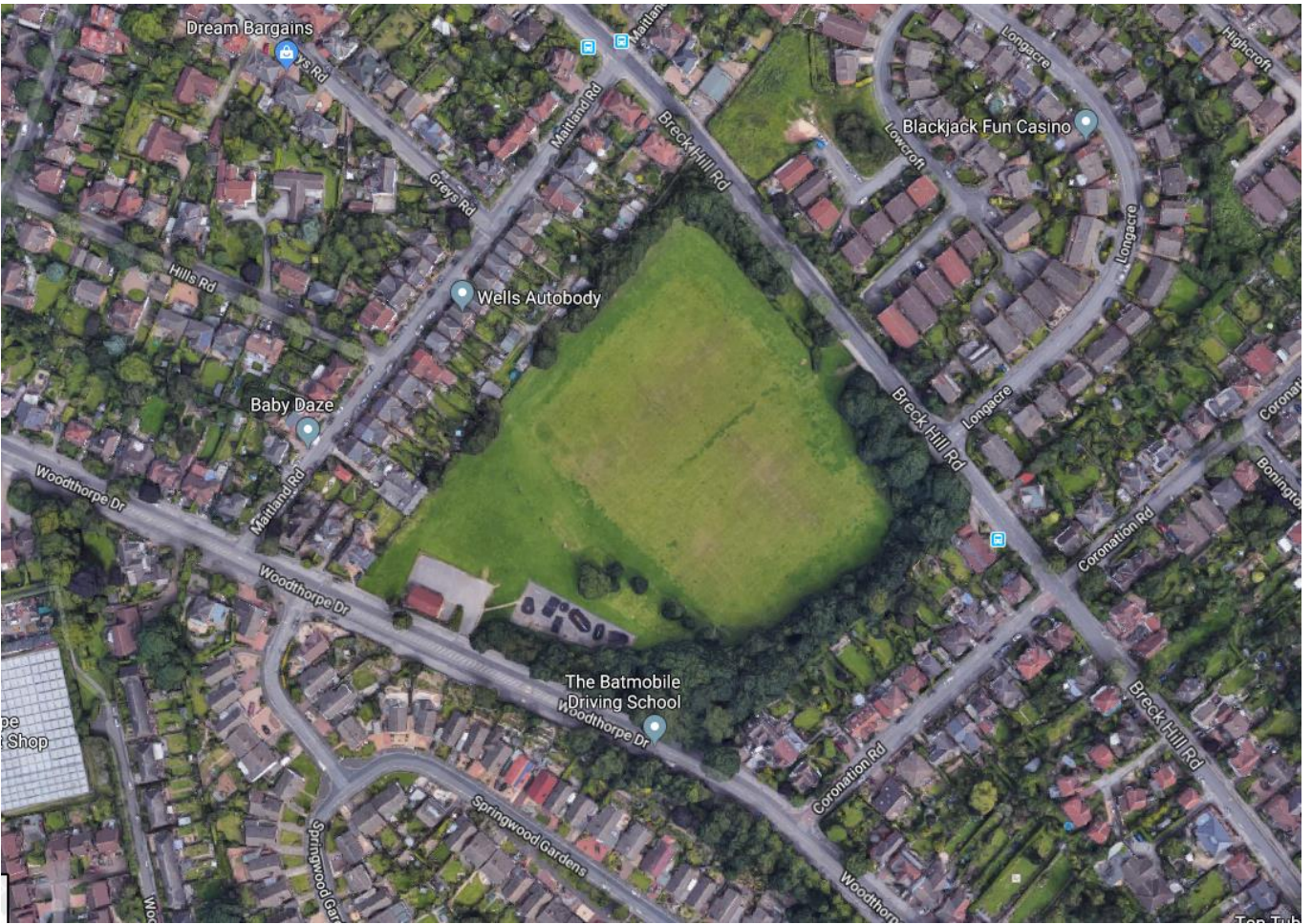
NOTE This map is provided only for purposes of site location and should not be read as an up to date representation of the area around the site.
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1:2,000

Date: 04/11/2021

Aerial map of Breck Hill Recreation Ground



BRECK HILL RECREATION GROUND A COMMUNITY ASSET

Breck Hill Recreation Ground is a significant public asset offering a range of leisure opportunities to the whole community. During 2020/21 Gedling Borough Council in partnership with the Friends of Breck Hill Park were awarded £100k from FCC Communities to completely refurbish the play facilities. Previously the play area was prone to vandalism and anti-social behaviour. An audit discovered the play area was 'hidden' behind a woodland and overgrown hedge on the boundary of the park. The woodland was thinned out and the hedge pruned back enabling visibility into the play area from the adjacent footpath and highway. The area behind the play area was also developed into a small wildflower meadow.

This document is a projection of how the park will be continually developed, managed and maintained over the next few years. In common with most management plans, it sets out the details in a five year detailed cycle over that period. It outlines the periodic operations and actions, which will ensure sustainability of the site's fabric and continuous development of its assets.

The plan will be reviewed at regular intervals to ensure that the Council's aims and objectives are fulfilled while meeting our community's needs and expectations.

We are extremely proud of what has been achieved to date, with the support of our working partners and are committed to improving this amenity, year on year, for the benefit of the community. One of our immediate priorities is to retain the Green Flag Award demonstrating a high quality green space that is well managed now and into the future.

Councillor Viv McCrossen
Portfolio Holder for Climate Change and Natural Habitat.

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INTRODUCTION

This management plan for Breck Hill Recreation Ground has been written as a working document with the aim of providing a structure for future development, maintenance and management.

The Management Plan reflects the views of the council's parks staff, the Friends of Breck Hill Park and comments/suggestions from users and park survey data. The document is accessible to the public via publication on the Council's website.

The plan addresses both successes in the park and issues arising, whilst fulfilling the authority's aims. The park is a useful educational resource used by local schools and other groups, taking interest in the park's flora and fauna, its industrial heritage and a venue for events.

The community groups, schools and volunteers have become paramount to the future development and management of the park. Community members work closely with the Council's parks staff, together they have and will continue to be a catalyst for the creative development of the park, bringing organised activities, enjoyment and education to all visitors.

The management plan is not a stand-alone document and should be read in conjunction with other relevant policies and documentation. The plan does however bring together a wide range of information in one document and where relevant, highlights links to other, more detailed documents/policies.

Background Motivation

The maintenance of the park rests with the Council's grounds maintenance specification. New developments have been implemented during recent years including a new play area. The refurbishment followed extensive partnership working alongside the friends group.

Further motivation is the Council's continued commitment to achieve the Green Flag Award, clearly demonstrating the high quality of the park to the community and elected members.

This management plan encompasses all the criteria of a comprehensive management plan, advised by Keep Britain Tidy.

Gedling Borough Council is committed to raising and maintaining its standards within all of its parks and green spaces now and into the future.

Review and Monitoring

The purpose of reviewing the results of the management plan shows whether the correct interventions have been made, i.e. have the aims and objectives for the year been achieved by appropriate investment of resources; whether for promotion of the park, development and maintenance of the site and its facilities, or as a capital investment.

Monitoring will highlight where the successes and failures have occurred, how changes can be made and built upon; or mitigate as the case may be. The results leave space for flexibility when necessary, to fit any circumstances of change.

Reviewing and monitoring of all management practices and other circumstances impacting on the site, will occur at least annually, the timing to tie in with the Council's annual budget review exercise.

Throughout the year in the course of planned meetings, senior officers, operative colleagues, volunteers, outside agencies and partners will be kept informed by the park manager, of progress towards achieving our objectives.

The Friends of Breck Hill Park are a key partnership group involved with day to day management and development of the park. The group have raised £100k for the refurbishment of the play area and development of the wildflower area. They have also provided a site woodland management plan and have ambitious future plans for increasing the facilities for the community. The friends group members are committed individuals working to improve their green space.

SITE DESCRIPTION

Name and Location

**Breck Hill Recreation Ground,
Woodthorpe Drive, Woodthorpe,
Nottingham. NG5 4GT.**

The park is located in Woodthorpe, close to Mapperley Plains approximately 3 miles north of Nottingham City Centre. The park total area is 3.1 hectares and incorporates football pitches, a pavilion, car park, children's play area, a community orchard and woodland areas.

There are two main roads adjacent to the park, Woodthorpe Drive and Breck Hill Road. The park is surrounded by residential housing and there is a busy shopping area north of the park.

Ownership:

Gedling Borough Council, Civic Centre, Arnot Hill Park, Arnold Nottingham NG5 6LU

History of Park

Breck Hill Park was originally a farm, it formed part of the Scout Lane Farm. The area being close to Mapperley top was very exposed especially in winter and there were little or no buildings until the industrial revolution, in fact most of Mapperley was not built until after 1850. The ground was not good for farming as a large amount of the area was heavy clay. This coupled with the weather meant that the grazing of sheep and keeping of pigs were the main occupations. The clay on the land was used by the farmers to make bricks for constructing out-buildings and the farmhouse, as the weather dictated strong construction. This clay material that the farmer hated became very valuable when the

industrial revolution started. There was a huge demand for bricks and brickworks were formed throughout the Mapperley area. These eventually culminated in the Patent Brick Company buying up all the existing brickyards in the area and the main sources of clay. The main brick yard for the company was situated near the top of Woodthorpe Drive. The land on the other side of Woodthorpe Drive was part of Woodthorpe Grange and the area now called Springwood Gardens became a clay pit to feed the brick works. As this clay seam continued to the other side of Woodthorpe Drive the land that is now Breck Hill Park was sold and it too became a clay pit. Bricks were no longer constructed on this site it was just used as a source of material.

The Nottingham Patent Brick Company built a tunnel under Woodthorpe Drive to join the clay reserve at Breck Hill to the brickworks on the other side of Woodthorpe Drive. Through this, the clay was transported by steam-powered wagons on a narrow gauge line. Some of the maps and even aerial photographs from the period show this line.

The stone section of the otherwise metal fence between Breck Hill Park and the road is what is left of this tunnel. This stone and most of the stone walls in the area from this period i.e. the 1850 to 1900s are constructed of the same stone. When digging the clay there was a layer of sandstone which hardened when exposed to the air, it was used to build these walls.

As the farm and its buildings continued for a while they were on the area between the Breck Hill clay pit and the Mapperley brick works. Therefore there remained a small strip of land that was not worked by the brickworks, hence the present rise in ground level

at the top end of the Woodthorpe Drive.

When the patent brick company was taken over eventually by Ibstock brick and moved to the present site at Dorket Head, the Mapperley operation was closed in 1969. The Breck Hill site had been bought previously in October 1962 by Arnold Urban District Council for £3,000 and a long period of infilling took place. The deep pit was a landfill site and was also filled with the soil and bricks from a large railway bridge over Thackeray's Lane which was dismantled in 1972. It gained planning permission to be converted into a recreation ground in 1977, but spent a long period as rough scrubland and was not actually opened until the 1980s because so much land settling had to take place. The football pitches and pavilion were built in 2001.

One of the adjacent farms was Swinehouse Farm, often called Arno Vale Farm, it was run by the Chambers family. Jessie chambers was D H Lawrence's first girlfriend and was portrayed as Miriam in the book Sons and Lovers. D H Lawrence came to visit her at the farm, walking from Daybrook Station. When the farm was sold, 3 members of the Chambers family bought houses on Breck Hill Road. Jessie chambers married Jack Wood and they had one house, David Chambers another and Alan a third.

(Historical information kindly supplied by Bob Massey, Local Historian)

As the site was a former brickworks the topography of the landscape provides a fantastic large (quite steep) bank which is perfect for family sledging. Breck Hill park is a park for all seasons for the community to enjoy. see photos on page 18.

We are planning to use the historical information and associated photos for inclusion on the Heritage Information Lectern to be produced 2024/25.

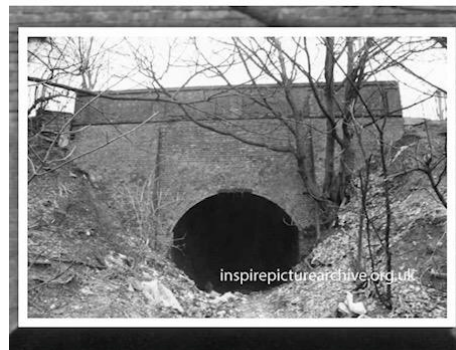


Image ID: 10419

Railway Bridge, Mapperley
Brickworks, Woodthorpe
Drive, Mapperley,
Nottingham, 1979



Image ID: 10416

Breck Hill Road Quarry,
Woodthorpe, Notts, c 1970s

Breck Hill Road
Woodthorpe, Nottinghamshire
England

A WELCOMING PLACE

Aims and Objectives

Aims

The park receives hundreds of visitors each year, with recreation, dog walking, community events and sports activities being the main attraction. It is vitally important to give a good first impression. From the approach and arrival at the park it is the Council's aim to promote a positive and appealing green space. We believe there is something for everyone.

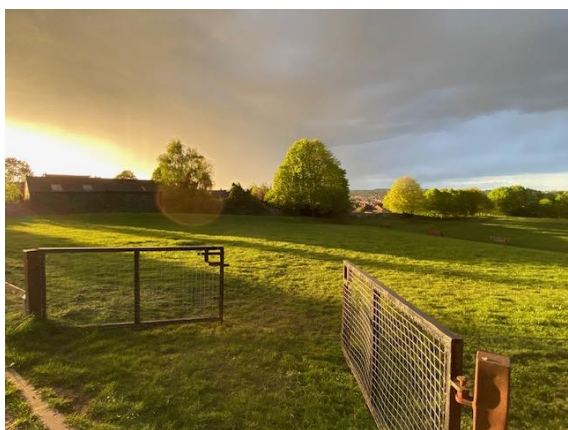
Objectives

- Welcoming site
- Good, clean and safe access for all.
- Maintain all accesses, car parks, pathways and fencing in good order mindful of DDA and visitors/staff safety
- Clear signage, both internally and externally.
- Equal access for all

Achieving the objectives

Welcoming Site

Provide a welcoming entrance into and around the park.



There are 2 welcoming signs at the main access points providing relevant park information.

Use of Signage – The large welcome signs are of an old design and there is a plan to replace them with the new design as soon as funding allows. The main park sign is very large, is situated to the right of the main entrance of the car park and is clearly visible from the main road which is an excellent advertisement for the park.

Access- Public transport serves the park. The best bus route to Mapperley is the 45, picked up from Queen Street Q1 bus stop in Nottingham City Centre. Alight at the Robinson Road stop and cross Woodborough Road and turn left onto Woodthorpe Drive and it's a short walk to the park.

Alternatively, the No 25 is from the King Street K3 bus stop, and can be alighted at either Maitland Rd, Breck Hill Top or Coronation Road stops. Cross Breck Hill Road and enter the park from the Breck Hill gate.

For more information see Nottingham City Transport website www.nctx.co.uk.

On-street parking is available on the roads adjacent to the park, i.e. Breck Hill Road and Woodthorpe Drive.

Access to the park is unrestricted and can be made from 3 strategically placed pedestrian points. Two located on Woodthorpe Drive (one of which is DDA compliant, located at the rear of the pavilion) and one off Breck Hill Road.

Two new benches were installed along the Breck Hill Road boundary in 2021 in response to park user feedback from local elderly residents.

The access from Breck Hill Road is currently constructed from a plastic grid system filled with soil. During winter months it is prone to waterlogging and becomes very muddy, therefore in January 2024 we are improving this access with a new resin bonded surface to ensure equal access for all. In addition, a new gravel footpath, located around the right-hand side perimeter from Breck Hill Road linking to the pavilion on Woodthorpe Drive. This will provide good and safe access to all facilities within the park by all users all year round.

Requirements for disabled users must be considered, all disabled people have the right to the avoidance of discrimination, 'Rights of Access - Goods, Facilities, Services and Premises'; this covers public services and providers of products. Since the 2 December 1996, it has been unlawful for service providers to treat disabled people less favourably for a reason related to their disability.

Future improvements for equal access will be the introduction of a park leaflet which will be available on the park's webpage this will provide detailed park information including accessibility and general park information.

In addition, a notice board has been installed which ensures park users are kept up to date with park matters.



Construction works of the new entrance and footpath from Breck Hill Road January 2024 (works in progress)

Breck Hill Park – A park for all seasons (photo credit The Friends of Breck Hill)



HEALTHY, SAFE AND SECURE

Aims and Objectives

Aims

Gedling Borough Council's aim is to achieve a healthy, safe and secure environment in all parks.

Parks that are well used, have a sense of local ownership, and parks that are well promoted are less likely to be prone to anti-social behaviour, as well as making visitors feel more secure.

Objectives

- Appropriate provision of Quality Facilities and Activities
- Safe equipment, facilities, staff, volunteers and users
- Personal Security
- Deal with Anti-social behaviour in an effective manner
- Control of Dogs/Dog Fouling

Achieving the Objectives

Appropriate provision of Quality Facilities and Activities

The park is already a popular destination for dog walkers and participation sports.

Future perimeter footpaths (coming in January 2024) will provide easier egress for cyclists, runners, users of mobility scooters and pushchairs.

A future BMX Pump track is being considered to improve the facilities for young people following extensive consultation by the Friends of group.

During 2015 Gedling Borough Council made a commitment towards the reduction of smoking in our communities by signing up to the Nottinghamshire County and Nottingham City Declaration on Tobacco

Control. One of the actions from this resulted in a ban on smoking in the Borough's play areas. The sign below has been installed adjacent to the access gates on the park and the campaign was launched on national 'No Smoking Day' in March 2015 to benefit from widespread publicity.



**Please do not
smoke near
children and
our play area.**

Gedling
Borough Council

Safe Equipment and Facilities

Gedling Borough Council accepts its responsibility to all users, contractors and staff for their health and safety. This duty of care is considered within all parks maintenance operations, practical volunteer sessions and park events. All activities are risk assessed and contractors are vetted for health & safety requirements.

A summary maintenance schedule is included in this plan as an appendix. (Appendix 1) This demonstrates the facilities as safe to use due to their inspection regime and associated repairs when required. A full detailed Landscape Quality Maintenance Manual is in place and available for viewing during the field assessment.

The Council operates a Health & Safety policy for the site. All reported incidents/accidents in the park are recorded immediately upon being reported and follow up management action investigated and monitored.

Our Accident, Incident and Hazard reporting procedure is now digitalised. Staff directly input on the system software called Assessnet. Paper forms are still carried by our team for use on site, the reports are then transferred to the software

appropriately. In addition, risk assessments are carried out for all activities in the park. Please see example in Health and Safety Appendix 2.

Volunteer Safety

The Council operates a volunteering policy, all volunteers are provided with a Health & Safety Handbook, induction and an information handbook about safe volunteering in our parks. Volunteers agree and sign up to the principles of our corporate Volunteer Policy adopted in 2020. Further details can be found on our Website:-

<https://www.gedling.gov.uk/council/aboutus/policies/volunteeringpolicy/>

Personal Security

Successful management of anti-social behaviour and vandalism contribute heavily towards overall safety of a park, giving it's visitors the confidence to use the space. The prompt removal of graffiti has proven to reduce the reoccurrence. We aim to remove graffiti containing offensive sexual or racial material within 24 hours and any other within 10 working days.

Our parks maintenance operatives are physically on site most days during peak periods which enables park users to feel more secure and discourages anti-social behaviour.

Our team of Neighbourhood Wardens carry out regular patrols of the park during peak periods, working on a rota basis throughout the summer with the evening shift finishing at 10pm, 7 days a week. This service is complemented by occasional patrols by Nottinghamshire Police Community Protection Officers.

The park is inspected daily during peak periods for damage and is regularly patrolled by grounds staff, the play area is inspected weekly.

Prior to the play area refurbishment it was noted the woodland adjacent to the play area and Woodthorpe Drive was in need of thinning to help rejuvenate the woodland and more importantly provide visibility from the main road into the park. This has significantly reduced ASB that used to take place regularly on the play area.

Similarly, the overgrown Pyracantha hedge in front of the pavilion has been removed to create a more open entrance, with better sight lines from the road and less shading of the street light.

Any criminal damage in the park is reported and logged with the Police and Gedling Borough's Anti-Social Behaviour team; any incidents reported are discussed during monthly ASB/Crime meetings attended by our community safety and parks staff.

The vehicular access gate used by our grounds maintenance staff and football visitors parking is kept locked at all times.

During community events vehicular access is controlled by traffic management procedures.

Control of Dogs/Dog Fouling

The park is fortunate to have a large dog walking community who work tirelessly keeping the park clean on a voluntary basis. They liaise with other dog owners and confront irresponsible owners who allow their dogs to foul without cleaning up.

Whilst the Council does not recommend this, it is an example of how important a clean park is to the dog walking community. It is also fortunate the park is trouble free from boisterous dogs.

Our Neighbourhood Wardens attend events to educate park users regarding dog fouling and litter problems, they also visit local Schools.

They will take enforcement action if necessary and if reported by the public, generally the wardens do not feel there is a problem here.

In 2023 the Friends group were successful in obtaining a Defibrillator which is now installed on the pavilion building.



Members of the Friends of Breck Hill with the Defibrillator (photo credit The Friends of Breck Hill)

WELL MAINTAINED AND CLEAN

Aims and Objectives

Aims

Gedling Borough Council is committed to providing a clean park, with well-maintained buildings and landscape.

Instances of anti-social behaviour are far higher in parks that have fallen into disrepair, and the best way to combat such behaviour in parks lies in good design, maintenance, and management rather than heavy-handed security issues.

Objectives

- Litter and waste Management
- Horticultural Maintenance
- Arboricultural Maintenance
- Building and Infrastructure Maintenance
- Equipment Maintenance

Achieving the outcome

Litter and Waste Management

Waste management inspections are in accordance with the Litter Act 1983 and dog waster bins under the Dogs (Fouling of land) Act 1996. The park is litter picked daily throughout the week during the peak season and debris is removed. This is reduced to twice a week during the winter. Waste bins are emptied by grounds staff in accordance with the Councils guidelines, as detailed in the Landscape Quality Manual available for viewing during the field assessment. Also see appendix 2, for the summary of maintenance schedule

Preventative measures are put in place on occasion, often using the resources available from Keep Britain Tidy, for example the 'Bag It and 'Bin It' stencils sprayed on the footpaths around the park (where appropriate).

The Friends of group organise regular community litter picks.

A composting system has been considered on the park but we do not believe there is a suitable position without attracting vandalism. We re-use chippings from tree pruning as mulch on site and there is a recycling bin installed adjacent to the pavilion.

Horticultural Maintenance

The Breck Hill Park Summary Maintenance Programme is at Appendix 1.

The Grounds Maintenance staff from parks and street care maintain the park to a good level of horticultural practice - see Landscape Quality Manual available for viewing during field assessment. Our grounds maintenance staff have obtained horticultural qualifications to level 2. Our parks development staff are educated to degree level in Horticulture and Conservation and work regularly with volunteers who have a keen interest in improving the horticultural standards on the park. An example of this, the friends have developed a Woodland Management Plan, adopted by Gedling Borough Council and works required will take place at regular intervals.

In addition to the above, the Friends group have planted up the area around the notice board with bee friendly nectar rich plants.

The large bank on site is no longer mown to encourage bio-diversity on the park.

Arboriculture Maintenance – Trees are visually inspected (ground inspection) every quarter for damaged branches, with findings dealt with promptly under strict health and safety guidelines by our in house staff trained in Arboriculture or by an Arboricultural Contractor. We prioritise tree works highlighted as being dead, dying or diseased. We also carry out comprehensive safety surveys every three years on all trees and action the highlighted works in accordance with the severity rating.

We have a policy to replant trees when any are felled taking into consideration reasons for the felling, i.e. disease that may be soil borne. Our policy is to plant native species ensuring stock that is of differing ages, diversity and local provenance.

The Friends of Breck Hill have worked closely with a local tree expert, Marc Richmond, to develop a Community Orchard. This was planted in January 2022. Ongoing community maintenance sessions have taken place in the form of 'fruit pruning workshops'. This has been and will continue to be a great community learning opportunity.

The Woodland Management Plan devised by an Arboriculture expert member of the Friends of group provides advice for timely woodland operations required.

Buildings and Infrastructure Maintenance

The park pavilion has a kitchen area, toilets, showers and changing rooms, it is used by the football teams and by the match officials. It is also occasionally used by the Friends group to access power for their events. As mentioned, a Defibrillator has also been installed on the outside wall in 2023.

The pavilion maintenance is the responsibility of the Council's Facilities team, this includes regular inspections and repairs where necessary.

The Council's Facilities Team co-ordinate the maintenance for the pavilion and have planned preventive maintenance schedules in place (when due) using a compliance matrix as a reminder tool. These are services such as, fixed wire, emergency light, quarterly shower head cleans, TMV services, etc. The pavilion caretaker also carries out the weekly and monthly checks, recording them on a check sheet which are then uploaded onto the Matrix system.

During these checks the caretaker will also report any reactive repairs that are required, such as, no heating, lights not working, leaks, broken guttering.

The pavilion is subject to regular building surveys, very few issues identified. There are two groups who use the pavillion; Carlton Town Juniors football club and the Friends group. Limiting the use of the building helps to keep the pavilion in good condition, rather than multiple teams/groups using it.

However, the exterior of the pavilion has been regularly targeted by graffiti. The Friends group and the Council's Arts officer are planning an artwork mural to be installed on the pavilion in the Spring of 2024. The community are involved with the agreed design.

Inspection and repair of the footpaths, fencing, signage and park furniture is carried out bi-annually in accordance with the Landscape Quality Manual available for viewing during the field assessment. A summary of the inspections is included in this document at Appendix 1.

Play Area Maintenance

Visual Inspections are carried out weekly, with a more in-depth survey/technical inspection every three months. These inspections are carried out by our in-house RoSPA trained staff in accordance with British and European standards.

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Aims and Objectives

Aims

Gedling Borough Council is committed to managing the site with a positive impact on the environment.

Objectives

- Managing Environmental Impact
- Waste Minimisation
- Chemical Use
- Peat Use
- Climate Change Adaption Strategies

There is an environmental policy in use for the maintenance and management of the park which can be viewed as a separate document during the field assessment.

In addition to this, a key aim of the Aligned Core Strategy, which is being prepared in partnership with the other authorities within Greater Nottingham, is the delivery of sustainable development. This includes policies to provide sustainable patterns of development, ensure that development is constructed to a high sustainability standard and renewable energy schemes are permitted in appropriate locations.

The policy also looks to ensure good access to parks and open spaces, reducing the need to travel. The Aligned Core Strategy has now been published. Further information can be found on the Borough Council website:

<http://www.gedling.gov.uk/planningbuildingcontrol/planningpolicy/localdevelopmentframework/greaternottinghamalignedcorestrategy/>

Achieving the Objectives Managing Environmental Impact

Chemical Use:

During 2021 The Council introduced a ban on the use of Glyphosate. Alternatives to herbicides are currently being trialled.

Further reduction in the use of chemicals to manage path edges, are also being explored with the aim of limiting the need for all herbicides.

Materials

- No peat use or products containing peat
- Avoid purchasing plants grown in peat or products containing peat
- Purchase plants and trees from locally grown suppliers

Recycled waste material

A recycling litter bin has been installed in the area adjacent to the pavilion.

Waste from tree works are chipped and used as mulch on site. In some instances, they are recycled at the local allotment site.

Use of Recycled Plastic park furniture

New benches have been installed in the area around Breck Hill Road.

The Council specify benches manufactured from moulded recycled plastic to minimise the impact on the environment and reduce the amount of maintenance.

The sustainable qualities and reduced maintenance requirements make recycled furniture a more attractive option and is being used borough wide by the Parks Department.

Climate Change Adaption Strategies

A new hedge, bee pollinator planting bed and a community orchard have been planted to increase biodiversity. The trees and plants were sourced from local provenance and are native. The planting of trees on parklands has well known ecology benefits in counteracting climate change and also helps to reduce the possibility of flooding. Further hedge planting is planned in 2024.



Beautiful Autumn colours on the park (photo credit The Friends of Breck Hill)



A single brick produced from the old site brickworks (photo credit The Friends of Breck Hill)

BIODIVERSITY, LANDSCAPE AND HERITAGE

Aims

Gedling Borough Council and the friends of Breck Hill park aim to increase the value of the park's heritage and also enhance the biodiversity of the area.

Objectives

- Management of natural features, wild fauna and flora
- Conservation of landscape features
- Conservation of buildings and structures

Wildflower Meadow Creation

During 2021 an area was developed within the park, using a mixture of seed with perennial grasses and annual wildflowers.

The parks department do recognise that this form of management not only reduces the need for mechanical maintenance, but also provides habitat and rich nectar for insects.



The Wildflower area adjacent to the play area (photo credit The Friends of Breck Hill)

In September 2022, we commissioned EMEC Ecology to carry out an ecological walkover survey of the park to assess the

biodiversity value and to recommend ecological enhancements. Current considerations are planting a mixed native hedge to replace the Laurel hedge, placing hedgehog boxes, planting a nectar bed, with something in flower all year round and erecting further bird/bat boxes. A copy of the full report is available on request or during the field assessment.

Tree Planting - introduction of new trees will have the following considerations:

- Native species with pest and disease resistance
- Pollution tolerance
- Climate change
- Water sustainability
- Value of habitat

Tree planting remains a mainstream objective of the Council and is included in the Service Level Plan for the Parks Department. As such, the Parks team have continued to plant trees where appropriate. During 2022-2024 a new hedgerow has been planted along with a new Community Orchard. Both additional features have been developed and planned by the Friends of group with assistance from the parks team. Community Orchard images below.



Aim to improve Biodiversity and habitats by:

- Leaving dead wood standing
- Creating log piles for habitats
- Erecting bird/bat boxes
- Install Bug Hotels in appropriate locations
- Plant native wildflower species

Environmental and Biodiversity

Urban greening is important to the environmental impact on the townscape; trees greatly improve the effects of:

- Carbon omissions
- Poor air Quality
- Air pollution
- Surface water run off
- Urban heat islands
- Noise pollution
- Animal and invertebrates habitats

HABITAT MANAGEMENT

Various proposals are being considered to improve the biodiversity of the flora and fauna in the park. The addition of bird and bat boxes within the woodland areas are being considered and included in the action plan.

The thinning of the woodland adjacent to the play area has resulted in much needed regeneration of the area. By carrying out the thinning the visibility into the park has also been improved ensuring the park does not suffer from its previous ASB issues.

The location, character and size of the park can limit opportunities to create suitable habitats for wildlife on a large scale, however there are many small enhancements that can be implemented, such as log piles and insect hotels.

During 2019 a member of the Friends group who is employed by Natural England undertook a full site survey of the woodland areas and produced a Woodland Management plan. A copy of the plan will be available during the field assessment. The plan has been adopted by the Council

with some of the works as mentioned above having already been carried out.

The Locality and Industrial Heritage:

See site introduction and park history, page 14.

Buildings and Heritage

According to the Burra charter places that are likely to be of significance are, “those which help an understanding of the past or enrich the present, and which will be of value to future generations”. Breck Hill evokes a strong sense of place, giving heritage value to the local and wider community.

The original railway tunnel brickwork on the Woodthorpe Drive boundary of the park will be inspected and appropriate repairs carried out, in order to preserve this landscape heritage, working with our partners at Nottinghamshire County Council Highways (VIA E.Mids).

As a result of the Friends group asking members on their facebook page whether any local residents, particularly older residents have any memories or old photos of the park, some older residents recall the brickyards in operation and many people fondly remembered playing in the disused claypit and the tunnel as teenagers.

Bird boxes supplied by the Friends group have been installed in the woodland areas, more are planned.



The Friends group are planning to carry out a Bat survey using monitoring equipment

provided by Greenwood Greater Nottingham later this year.



Above Bird and Bat Boxes installed on the park (photo credit the Friends of Breck Hill)



The Nectar bed – entrance off Woodthorpe Drive (photo credit Friends of Breck Hill)



Wildflower Areas (photos credit the Friends of Breck Hill)

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Aims and Objectives

Aims

Visitors to the park often span many generations of families, who can all relate to Breck Hill Park as a place of recreation and it evokes a strong sense of place. All users have a valid say in the future of the park and are invited and encouraged to become involved.

Objectives

- Community involvement in management and development
- Appropriate provision for community

People that use or live in close proximity to parks and green spaces are known to have improvements to their mental health and improved physical health.



Mobile Pump Track at the Picnic in the Park event July 2021 (photo credit The Friends of Breck Hill)

It is difficult to obtain exact park user figures as currently we don't monitor this, however following a site based face to face

annual park survey carried out by parks staff the park attracts a large number of dog walkers, families accessing the play area, young people meeting friends after school or college and the football club.

In addition to formal sports matches being played on the grounds there are also regular informal practice sessions throughout the week all year round. It has therefore been assumed that there are in excess of 30,000 park users per annum, a figure that will continue to expand with increased facilities, improved access and egress and events in the park.



Friends of Breck Hill Park information stand at the Picnic in the Park July 2021(photo credit The Friends of Breck Hill)

Many members of the public have taken an active interest in the recent changes within the site, the Council promote the park to the local and wider community, through delivery of our marketing plan.

Achieving the Objectives

The Friends of Breck Hill Park are an active community group. To date they have produced a woodland management plan and have ensured the woodland maintenance tasks have been carried out. The group jointly applied for £100k from the FCC Communities fund to fund the refurbishment of the play area and the installation of the wildflower meadow. Future plans include the continual planting of the hedgerow and a BMX pump track. They also organised and ran their first park

event, the 'Picnic in the Park' event in July 2021.



Refurbished Play Area February 2021 (photo credit The Friends of Breck Hill)

In addition, they have carried out extensive community consultation which has resulted in them being able to create a development plan for the park, many of the agreed actions are included within the action plan in this document.

The local pre-school group have assisted the Friends group previously with Daffodil bulb planting and have been involved with the planting of the community orchard and the hedgerow.

In January 2024, school children from Mapperley Plains Primary School planted a section of hedge in a session led by Greenwood Greater Nottingham, who were supported by the park rangers. During the same week the Friends group organised a community hedge planting in the same location.

The Friends group also organised volunteers to plant and rake the orchard, litter pick and attend fruit tree pruning workshops.

Carlton Town Juniors Football club are also engaged with the Friends group and are in full agreement with the planned park improvements.

The Marketing Plan (Please see Appendix 3) is crucial for informing current users and

encouraging new users about the value of the park as a recreational and educational resource on their doorstep. The park webpage is a really useful information page to those residents new to the area and searching for recreational facilities nearby.



Community Bulb Planting (photo credit The Friends of Breck Hill)



The Friends Group information stand in the community (photo credit The Friends of Breck Hill)

In 2023 the Friends group were successful in obtaining a Defibrillator from the DHSC Fund. This has been installed on the outside of the pavilion.

The Community Payback Service have provided a regular maintenance service within the park, works included painting the

pavilion, benches, railings and gates and the ground preparation for the hedge planting.



Friends group members collecting their runner up certificate in the Pride of Gedling Awards for Environmental volunteering (Photo credit – Rob McCleary)



Community Hedge Planting (photo credit The Friends of Breck Hill)

MARKETING & COMMUNICATION

Aims and Objectives

Aims

Gedling Borough Council are proud to promote their parks and in particular the value and status of Breck Hill park. It is our aim to work in partnership with the community as highlighted in the 'Community Involvement' section to promote the Park. We have developed the park's strategic marketing plan to complement the wider management plan which will be reviewed annually.

- Marketing and Promotion
- Appropriate Information Channels
- Appropriate Educational and Interpretational Information

Objectives

- Promote the park and its facilities via dedicated webpage and promotional literature [Breck Hill Park - Gedling Borough Council](#)
- Introduced a postcard sized satisfaction survey which visitors are encouraged to fill in in order to gain user/visitor details.
- Encourage the public to fill in an online user satisfaction survey available as a link on general parks and Breck Hill park webpages
- Carry out annual face to face park surveys
- Promote the park using an on-site notice board and any specific park articles in the borough wide 'Contacts' magazine
- Continue to create links and provide activities with local schools and community groups
- To work in partnership with the groups that use our parks

- To promote the park to the local and wider community
- Liaise with the Communications Officer towards the review of the Marketing Plan/Strategy for the park.
- Head of Environment to decide on a baseline for performance indicators
- Ensure that any displayed information is current and of the highest quality, on and off site
- Display educational information about the site within the site, e.g. Interpretation panels describing the history, flora and fauna etc.
- Welcome local forest schools and local Scout/Guide groups to use the park for educational purposes.
- Friends group, Woodthorpe Community and Mapperley People Facebook pages to promote the park and community activities.

Although the status of the park and what it offers does guide the nature and content of events and activities, we are working hard on promoting the park to the local and wider community through council marketing material, Green Flag & Love Parks webpages, press releases and photo opportunities to the local media.



The Notice Board installed 2023 (photo credit the Friends of Breck Hill)

FUTURE CHALLENGES AND CONSTRAINTS

For the duration of this management plan it will be a challenging time for many local authority parks departments with continued budget reductions. Gedling Borough Council will endeavour to provide high standards of service to our park users.

Currently, one main challenge to management is to continually maintain the site to a degree, which will negate the substantial seasonal wear and tear on the grassed and formal play areas. This will entail careful evaluation year on year and exploiting available resources.

The second significant challenge is to continually support community groups with an interest in Breck Hill park and promote the park well within the wider community.

Park Maintenance Plan

The Landscape Quality Manual which contains performance criteria is set out as a Park Maintenance Specification, Schedule and Bill of Quantities. These documents will be available during the Green Flag field Assessment and are available separately from the Parks department. This document outlines all the site's current maintenance practices for the grounds hard and soft features, including guidance notes of practices carried out on site, frequency of actions; all within good Health and safety practises and COSHH regulations.

The park's grounds maintenance budget for Breck Hill park for tax year 2024/2025 is £25,000.00.



The bank used by local children after snowfall perfect for sledging! (Photo credit The Friends of Breck Hill)

MANAGEMENT

Aims and Objectives

Aims

The vision for Breck Hill Park is:

To develop and sustain the substantial recreational and educational qualities of the site confirming its reputation as one of the 'Flagship Parks' of the Borough'

Objectives

- To provide a welcoming park with excellent access for all.
- To create a clean and safe park environment.
- To maintain the park to BS7370
- To adhere to good environmental and biodiversity values when carrying out operations in the park.
- To increase the number of people who use the park and encourage more community groups to use the park.
- To promote parks events to the local and wider community and promote the park as a first class outdoor education facility.

Partners

We promote partnership working, which is vital to the future development of the park. Our partners include:

- Parks and Street Care Services.
- Community Services, Inc. Arts and Play Officers
- Technical Services.
- Facilities Management Services.
- Nottinghamshire County Council.
- Friends of Breck Hill park
- Football clubs.
- Gedling Play Partnership.
- Gedling Play Forum.
- Local and County Councillors
- Local businesses
- Local Schools. Trent University.

Local Policies

- Gedling Borough Council Carbon Management Strategy 2021-2030
- Gedling Heritage Strategy 2018
- Gedling Borough Aligned Core Strategy 2012-2028
- South Nottingham Community Safety Strategy 2013 onwards
- Gedling Borough Council Green Spaces Strategy 2021-2026
- The Sustainable Communities Strategy Vision 2026 and its 5 Priorities
- Animal Welfare Policy 2014
- Gedling Borough Council Parks Bylaws
- Gedling Borough Council – Local Planning Documents Part 2 Local Plan
- Gedling Borough Council – New Housing Development, Supplementary Planning Guidance for Open Space Provision
- Sustainability Appraisal Publication Draft – Appendix G: Appraisal of Development Management Policies
- The Gedling Plan 2023-2027
- Gedling Health and Wellbeing Delivery Plan 2018
- Gedling Sport and Physical Activity Strategy 2020-2025
- Nottinghamshire Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022-2026
- Active Notts – Getting Active together
- The Nottinghamshire Bio-Diversity Action Plan (BAP)
- Corporate Volunteer Policy 2020

Management of the Park

Responsibility for the overall management of Breck Hill park is principally with Gedling Borough Council under the direction of the Head of Environment who is assisted by the Parks Operational Manager, Parks Development Officer, Urban Park Rangers, Parks and Street Care Supervisors and Grounds maintenance operatives.

All staff work alongside one another within the same department and meet regularly to discuss maintenance and future development.

All management operations including marketing and promotion will be designed to reflect the completion of the stated aims and objectives. The park does and will continue to require a significant amount of practical ongoing maintenance, to support the newly refurbished fabric of the site; in order that its valuable community asset may be further promoted by the Council and the Friends group.

Breck Hill park has always been popular and well used by the people of Woodthorpe and the wider community.

The park has benefited from external funding from FCC Communities, DHSC, the Gedling Lotto (% of ticket sales paid to the Friends group), local Councillors and local supermarket branches reflecting its commitment to developing the resources of the site for the continued enjoyment of all its visitors. Currently the site does not suffer from targeted vandalism, though from time to time there are inevitably signs of vandalism, which are dealt with promptly by grounds staff.

The park is a fantastic resource for environmental education, indeed the local pre-school group and primary schools are keen supporters of the site and regularly get involved with environmental activities.

User feedback suggestions received by the Friends group and Council staff are considered and included in the future management/action plan for the park, a good example of this is the commitment to improve the access from Breck Hill Road and install a perimeter footpath (January 2024).

Resources for the Park

The costs associated with park management are from the budgets held by Gedling Borough Council. Breck Hill park budgets for specialist areas such as children's play equipment and young people's equipment wherever possible will be funded from grant schemes, such as the Nottinghamshire County Council's Local Communities Fund or local developer's contributions, i.e. the community infrastructure levy.

ANALYSIS AND ASSESSMENT

The analysis and assessment assists managers to take the most appropriate actions over a set period. This should achieve a balance between the needs of the site, the community, the Corporate Strategy and resources available. A SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) analysis is a well-used management technique, which clarifies the areas causing concern and those that are delivering successfully.

The following analysis focuses on the criteria for the Green Flag Award scheme. This is used above in Management Aims. The criteria are typical of almost all park sites.

Chart 2: SWOT

A welcoming place	
Strengths	Green Flags flown at both entrances, clearly visible from the road; attractive entrances from Woodthorpe Drive particularly since the thinning of the woodland. Vehicle and pedestrian access; main sign in place and additional signage for users with pushchairs and wheelchairs; the general aspect at entrances is welcoming, new nectar bed at Woodthorpe Drive entrance with improved sight line into the site; little evidence of litter; staff commitment and thriving community group use; marketing strategy
Weaknesses	During winter, muddy entrance/access from Breck Hill Road entrance: No regular staff presence on site.
Opportunities	Identify funding opportunities for continued developments, in particular improved access from Breck Hill Road.
Threats	Lack of resources to continue improvements/developments;
Healthy safe and secure	
Strengths	Well defined accesses; regular inspection of facilities; risk assessments up-to-date; regular recorded safety checks for the playground and pavilion;
Weaknesses	No permanent site based ranger; no formal footpaths around perimeter of the park.
Opportunities	Increase 'official' presence on site; install notice board with telephone contact numbers in emergencies; Increase the number of events; develop accompanied school visits; improve and increase information at accesses; increase fitness facilities
Threats	Budget reduction to grounds maintenance and development,
Well maintained and clean	
Strengths	Condition surveys of parks buildings carried out annually; promotional programme re schools and public education being discussed; grounds maintenance specified to BS 7370; commitment from staff, Local Councillors and community members
Weaknesses	Shortage of staff at times.
Opportunities	To promote the park as a well-maintained site; opportunities to work with local schools and other visitors; possible partnerships with local youth groups/programmes
Threats	Lack of funding for general promotion and focus on everyday park events; lack of resources to fund public interest events in the park

Sustainability	
Strengths	Prohibition of peat use; active involvement of staff in promoting environmental statement and policy; Friends group and operative staff involved in discussions of draft management plan; continued improvement to woodland areas and development of community orchard and hedgerow; Prohibition of Glyphosate use.
Weaknesses	No facilities available on site for green waste composting/recycling; no regular staff presence on site.
Opportunities	To manage the park and its facilities via the Management Plan; To research further funding for education and health issues; To further involve other officers, all operatives and all other volunteers together from time to time; Promote appropriate events; Install recycling bin system; consider installation of a water fountain to reduce single use plastic.
Threats	Lack of officer/operative/volunteer time to progress and complete practical objectives

Conservation and Heritage	
Strengths	New nectar bed with flowering all year round; several woodland areas to support the increase of biodiversity; Full community support to develop wildflower/hedgerow planting; It's an attractive site with strong local historical significance.
Weaknesses	Require more detailed surveys of flora and fauna; maintenance of newly restored fabric not always comprehensive; more interpretation for visitors;
Opportunities	To promote the sites special qualities particularly the industrial history; potential to be an excellent resource for schools and other groups e.g. the development and promotion of a nature trail within a woodland; green corridor linking local green spaces; installation of bird and bat boxes.
Threats	Lack of resources

Community Involvement	
Strengths	Marketing Plan in place; Park focused events planned; Local businesses sponsor the park and provide funding for improvements; local schools are regular supporters of the park and good councillor member involvement. Keen and ambitious Friends group.
Weaknesses	Few if any young people/older people involved in the friends group; Need more comprehensive park user's numbers and visitor data to use as baseline for marketing plan.
Opportunities	Promote the park with younger people and minority groups; Set up working party to include Council members and the community; Monitor progress of the plan through 'Action Plan'; Promote as the valuable asset it is to the local people and business community.
Threats	Busy lives of volunteers means that it can be difficult to recruit regular Friends group members; lack of available funding sources to promote the park and to attract new interest.

Marketing	
Strengths	ON-site notice board installed; The marketing plan is now in place; well supported Friends Facebook page; Local businesses involved with the park; the site is very much an environmental asset;
Weaknesses	Further work required to promote the park's assets, such as a publicised site plan identifying the facilities, to include improved DDA access from Breck Hill Road entrance and perimeter footpath.
Opportunities	To include the park in other linked advertising about events, national, regional and local including Green Flag website; friends group members and staff to talk to visitors at every opportunity about what is on the park; Promote the uniqueness of the site; Promote the site to as many new groups as possible; Produce a promotional leaflet about the park to distribute locally and include on our website; promote through Green Flag award promo; the park to have its own webpage accessible from GBC main website.
Threats	Potential lack of funding to carry out the necessary research and promotions; concern re: minimal on-site parking, extra wear and tear on the site as a result of increased events and use; failure to achieve the Green Flag Award. Scarce volunteer time to work on events/promotions.

Management	
Strengths	Commitment of staff to achieve objectives in plan and to maintain the newly refurbished areas; Work on the ground is beginning to relate to the changing needs; prioritise limiting budgets for maintenance; Green Flag status a priority; regular meetings held including all involved parties.
Weaknesses	Budget reductions may influence staff morale; loss of staff due to economic climate
Opportunities	Obtain the Green Flag Award; access any appropriate further capital or revenue funding; Increase events in the park to increase visitor numbers and income; to comprehensively promote the site to the people of Woodthorpe/Mapperley and other surrounding areas. Development staff to ensure park management and friends group support
Threats	Lack of commitment, staff/staff time; material resources; To forward objectives as planned.

BRECK HILL PARK ACTION PLAN 2022-2027

Aim 1: To Provide an Accessible and Welcoming Park.								
Objectives	Action	Lead	Delivery				Resources	Comments
			YEAR 23/24	YEAR 24/25	YEAR 25/26	YEAR 26/27		
Ensure All entrances to park are clear and free from litter and debris. Ensure signage is clean and in good condition	Regular inspections	PASC Operations Manager	○	■	■	■	Existing revenue budget	To ensure a welcoming access to the park for all users and at all entrances
Provide an improved access from Breck Hill Road	Construct an improved landscape access to include improved drainage and non-slip surface	Parks Development Officer	○	■	■	■	Identify appropriate external funding, possibly CIL.	Construction of the new entrance has commenced, completion expected mid-February 2024. Funding identified from a private donator
Ensure all welcome signage is clean and appropriate	Regular Inspections	PASC Operations Manager	○	■	■	■	Existing revenue budget	To ensure informative and welcoming information signs
Provide accessible footpaths linking the park facilities	To explore the future installation of perimeter footpaths linking the park facilities	Parks Development Officer and the friends group	○	■	■	■	Identify sources of external funding	Construction of the new footpath has commenced, completion expected mid-February 2024

Aim 2: To Ensure the Park is Safe & Secure								
Objectives	Action	Lead	Delivery ✓ = Action Completed ○ = Action in Progress ■ = Action Proposed ✗ = Not completed				Resources	Comments
			YEAR 23/24	YEAR 24/25	YEAR 25/26	YEAR 26/27		
Ensure the parks paths and roadways and car park surfaces are in good condition. No slip trip or fall hazards.	Continually review pedestrian safety in the park. Prune back shrubs/trees to allow for good visibility and access	PASC Operations Manager	○	■	■	■	Existing revenue budgets	Aim to provide easy safe access and egress to all of the parks facilities.
Ensure the park is safe and secure	Regular Neighborhood Warden, Police Community Support Officers & Litter picking patrols in the Park	Community Safety Manager	○	■	■	■	Existing staffing resources	Report and share knowledge of incidents where relevant, action remedial policy
Reduce ASB	All acts of anti-social behavior are monitored discussed and actioned	Community Safety Manager/Parks Development Officer	○	■	■	■	Existing revenue budgets Officer time	Parks development officer attends monthly multi agency Community Safety meetings, where such activity is discussed and actioned.
Inspect all tree stocks to ensure they do not present a current or future hazard.	Annual visual Tree safety survey to be undertaken in-house, Carry out tree work as identified.	PASC Operational Manager & Arboricultural Supervisor	○	■	■	■	Existing revenue budgets	Ensure safety and effective maintenance of tree stock.

Aim 2: To Ensure the Park is Safe & Secure								
Objectives	Action	Lead	Delivery ✓ = Action Completed ○ = Action in Progress ■ = Action Proposed ✗ = Not completed				Resources	Comments
			YEAR 23/24	YEAR 24/25	YEAR 25/26	YEAR 26/27		
Ensure requirements of the HSAW Act 1974 are adhered to during all parks operations and activities.	Regular staff toolbox talks re Safety Issues and formal health and safety training. Risk & COSHH Assessment of all operations and activities is carried out.	PASC Manager	○	■	■	■	Existing revenue budgets and Officer time	Ensure daily risk assessments done. Ensure all parks operatives are trained in accident and incident reporting.
Provide facilities and activities that encourage the pursuit of a healthy lifestyle for all.	Welcome applications for outdoor Bootcamps. Progress potential BMX pump track for young people.	Parks development officer	○	■	■	■	Identify external funding source	Consider funding application working jointly with the friends group.
Encourage young people's sense of ownership of the building structures to reduce incidences of ASB and Graffiti	Potential artwork on the pavilion engaging young people in the design	Parks Development Officer and GBC Youth Council	○				Identify external funding and possible in-house funding	Requirement to engage with young people, the FoBH, the Football clubs and all park users. Consultation taking place February, artwork planned to be installed Spring 2024

Aim 3: To Provide a Well Maintained & Clean Park								
Objectives	Action	Lead	Delivery ✓ = Action Completed ○ = Action in Progress ■ = Action Proposed ✕ = Not completed				Resources	Comments
			YEAR 23/24	YEAR 24/25	YEAR 25/26	YEAR 26/27		
Provide a clean and well maintained park environment	Carry out a daily inspection by parks staff (during peak season-twice weekly at other times), local partners and members of the public to provide an immediate response to litter/vandalism/graffiti	Parks and street care operatives and Friends of group volunteers	○	■	■	■	Existing revenue budgets	All offensive graffiti is cleaned off within 24hrs by PASC, 7 days for all other graffiti or as soon as is practically possible.
Clean pavilion, showers and toilets	Carry out on a weekly basis by PASC staff.	PASC Staff, Facilities Manager	○	■	■	■	Existing revenue budgets	Ensure in good repair and in running order.
Clean and safe Children's Play Equipment	Inspect children's play equipment on a weekly basis and full technical audit every 3 months. Carry out running repairs as required.	PASC Technical Staff	○	■	■	■	Existing revenue budgets	
Empty and clean litterbins	Empty litter bins twice weekly	PASC Staff	○	■	■	■	Existing revenue budgets	Audit annually with a view to replacing worn out bins and positioning new bins in hot spot areas.
Provide clean and well maintained benches and seats.	Inspect on a weekly basis of all benches and seats in the park, clean as necessary	PASC Staff	○	■	■	■	Existing revenue budgets	Maintenance of benches and seats included in the maintenance schedule. In 2023 Community Payback Service carried this out.
Provide a well maintained park environment	Grounds maintenance to be carried out to BS7370 and in accordance with the Landscape quality manual	PASC Staff	○	■	■	■	Existing revenue budgets Officer time	Regularly updated Landscape Quality Manual

Aim 3: To Provide a Well Maintained & Clean Park								
Objectives	Action	Lead	Delivery ✓ = Action Completed ○ = Action in Progress ■ = Action Proposed ✕ = Not completed				Resources	Comments
			YEAR 23/24	YEAR 24/25	YEAR 25/26	YEAR 26/27		
Assistance from community sources for routine maintenance tasks to assist with well maintained and clean park	Community litter picks and maintenance of the community orchard and use of Community Payback	Parks Development Officer	○	■	■	■	Existing revenue funding – materials supplied	A great complement to existing maintenance tasks and operations.
Recycled litter	Installation of a recycling bin located adjacent to the play area	Parks development officer and the friends group	✓				The friends group to fund the bin and PASC to install	A sustainable system of litter disposal and educational recycling within the park.

Aim 4: To Enhance the Sustainability of the Site								
Objectives	Action	Lead	Delivery ✓ = Action Completed ○ = Action in Progress ■ = Action Proposed ✗ = Not completed				Resources	Comments
			YEAR 23/24	YEAR 24/25	YEAR 25/26	YEAR 26/27		
Increase ecological value of the park	Maintain the small wildflower area adjacent to the play area	PASC operatives and assistance from the friends group and community payback	○	■	■	■	Existing revenue budgets	Beneficial for wildlife and increased biodiversity. Increase wildflower species.
As above	Develop a community orchard and tree pruning workshops for community education	Friends of Breck Hill park with assistance from the park rangers	✓				Friends of group funding and installation	As above and to attract bees for pollination The Tree Pruning workshops will provide a valuable tree maintenance education for the community.
As above	Develop a nectar rich planting bed in the area adjacent to Woodthorpe Drive entrance	Friends of Breck Hill park with assistance from the park rangers	✓				Friends of group and PASC revenue	The bed features plants designed not just for summer pollinating insects but with something in flower all year round to provide valuable forage for early emerging insects and late season insects too. Continually monitor species, replant as necessary
Ensure the environmental sustainability of tree species within the park	Regular surveys and new hedgerow installation planned for 2022/23/24	Friend of Breck Hill and PASC Arboricultural team	○	■	■	■	Existing revenue budgets	Improved Biodiversity, priority given to native species with new planting. Identified works carried-out and next survey scheduled for 2024
Ensure the general environmental sustainability of the park	Follow good sustainable horticultural practices, such as prohibiting peat use, approved sources of limestone, recycle plastic plant pots	Parks Development Officer	○	■	■	■	Existing revenue budgets	Meeting sustainable management aims

Aim 4: To Enhance the Sustainability of the Site								
Objectives	Action	Lead	Delivery				Resources	Comments
			YEAR 23/24	YEAR 24/25	YEAR 25/26	YEAR 26/27		
			✓ = Action Completed ○ = Action in Progress ■ = Action Proposed ✘ = Not completed					
Reduce CO2 emissions	Reduction of mowing of the large bank	PASC Operations Manager	○	■	■	■	Existing revenue budgets	Meeting sustainable management aims
Encourage sustainable energy use	Install and replace when required low LED wattage energy bulbs in pavilion. Ensure all electrical equipment is turned off after use, rather than being placed on standby.	Building Facilities Manager	○	■	■	■	Existing revenue budgets	Reduce CO2 emissions
Sustainable sourcing of timber	Ensure all procured timber products meet the requirement of the Forest Stewardship Council certification, or are from an accredited scheme supplier	Parks Development Officer	○	■	■	■	Existing revenue budgets	To benefit wildlife and biodiversity
Reduce environmental impact through transportation	Source all goods as locally as possible. Recycle tree chippings on site and raked leaves to local allotment site	Parks Development Officer/Parks Operations Manager	○	■	■	■	Existing revenue budgets	To benefit wildlife and biodiversity
Evaluate and monitor air, noise, water and land pollution, and influence others to reduce such pollution.	Herbicides, chemicals, paints and other materials are all COSHH regulated and usage is kept to an absolute minimum. Use of Glyphosate prohibited altogether	PASC Staff	○	■	■	■	Existing revenue budgets	To protect the environment

Aim 5: To Conserve, Enhance and Promote the Environmental, Cultural and Heritage Value of the Park.								
Objectives	Action	Lead	Delivery ✓ = Action Completed ○ = Action in Progress ■ = Action Proposed ✗ = Not completed				Resources	Comments
			YEAR 23/24	YEAR 24/25	YEAR 25/26	YEAR 26/27		
Ensure the health of the woodland areas	Carry out operations recommended in the woodland management plan	PASC Arboricultural Supervisor and Tree Officer	○	■	■	■	Existing PASC Revenue budgets	To ensure the healthy tree stock in the woodlands
Prepare new hedgerow area and community orchard area prior to planting	Weed eradication in preparation for planting.	Friends of Breck Hill park with assistance from the park rangers	✓				Hedgerow stock supplied by Greenwood Community Forest. Friends group to supply Orchard trees..	Careful preparation will result in quicker establishment
Increase Ecological value of the site	Increase Biodiversity and pollination of the community orchard by planting native wildflowers in surrounding area	Friends of Breck Hill with assistance from the park rangers	○				Funded by the friends of group and PASC revenue budget	Cut area in early March and late September and remove arisings
As above	Relaxed mowing of the bank	PASC Operations Manager	✓				Reduced PASC resources	Wildflowers are emerging in this area, identified birds foot trefoil and speedwell present.
As above	Bulb planting at base of boundary trees, e.g. snowdrops, winter Aconites, wild garlic and native bluebells	Parks Development Officer/park rangers/community volunteers	○	■			Existing Revenue Budgets. Assistance with planting from friends group and park rangers	To increase biodiversity in the accessible woodland areas
As above	Install Bird and Bat boxes Bats Survey	Parks Development Officer/Park rangers/community volunteers	✓				Friends group funding and potential PASC Budgets	Boxes supplied by the Friends of Breck Hill, installed by PASC Tree team Bat survey to be carried out by the Friends of group using monitoring equipment provided

Aim 5: To Conserve, Enhance and Promote the Environmental, Cultural and Heritage Value of the Park.

Objectives	Action	Lead	Delivery				Resources	Comments
			YEAR 23/24	YEAR 24/25	YEAR 25/26	YEAR 26/27		
								by Greenwood Greater Nottingham.
As above	Carry out recommendations for increasing biodiversity. Replace Laurel hedge with native mix hedging	Parks Development officer/park rangers		■			Existing Revenue Funding.	Planning this proposal during 2024-25
Create Log piles in suitable areas of park	Working with community to create and maintain habitats for invertebrates, to be increased year on year and positioned in accessible woodland areas (logs can be supplied from tree prunings)	Parks Development officer/Friends of group & park rangers	■					To conserve and enhance the fauna of the park. Log pile This is an ideal community activity working with local schools and families.
Monitor bird species	Record and monitor Bird species on Park	Park Rangers and partners	■				Existing revenue budgets	
Heritage education within the park	Work with local historian to design and install a heritage interpretation panel in the park.	Parks Development officer/Arts development officer/Bob Massey – local historian	○				Existing Revenue Budget and possible external funding sources	To provide historical education to park users.
Education information about the flora and fauna on the park	Explore the potential to include educational information about the flora and fauna of the park, this could include the species of fruit trees within the	Parks Development Officer/Arts development	○				Existing revenue budgets and possible external funding	Information supplied as part of the habitat and species survey to be included in the notice board and/or interpretation panel on site.

Aim 5: To Conserve, Enhance and Promote the Environmental, Cultural and Heritage Value of the Park.								
Objectives	Action	Lead	Delivery				Resources	Comments
			YEAR 23/24	YEAR 24/25	YEAR 25/26	YEAR 26/27		
	community orchard.							
Conserve the Landscape Heritage features	Inspect and carry out necessary repairs to the historic railway tunnel brickwork	Parks development officer/Notts County Council Highways (VIA E Mids)	○				Existing resources	Conserve the landscape heritage

Aim 6: To Develop the Park as a Focus for the Local Community								
Objectives	Action	Lead	Delivery ✓ = Action Completed ○ = Action in Progress ■ = Action Proposed ✗ = Not completed				Resources	Comments
			YEAR 23/24	YEAR 24/25	YEAR 25/26	YEAR 26/27		
Encourage local community involvement in the development and management of the park.	Annual surveys conducted on the park to assess community satisfaction and obtain specific feedback from users. Identify user baseline and whether the facilities are appropriate, whether satisfied with maintenance and cleanliness and personal safety within the park. Management plan consultation with Friends of Breck Hill	Parks Development Officer/Park Rangers/Friends of Breck Hill	○	■	■	■	Existing staff resources	Community ideas and recommendations evaluated and considered on a continual basis.
Ongoing Support of the Friends of Breck Hill	Help to promote and develop the Friends of Breck Hill, increasing awareness and membership. Outreach into wider community to target relevant and local established groups.	Parks Development Officer & Park Rangers	○	■	■	■	Existing revenue budgets	Friends group promoted at all park events. Local partners and groups contacted to gather support. Local Ward and County Council members ongoing assistance.
Identify wider community involvement in the park	Carry out annual general surveys to identify wider community involvement in the park. User satisfaction survey to be used at all regular events	Parks Development Officer & Park Rangers	○	■	■	■	Existing revenue budgets	Annual Park Surveys undertaken.
Encouraging local involvement	Provide opportunities for community groups to be involved with events and activities	Parks Development Officer/Park Rangers/Friends of Breck Hill	○	■	■	■	Existing revenue budgets	Local individuals, businesses and community organisations involved in park events and maintenance. Local primary school children involved with environmental activities
Increase involvement of young people in the park	Promote projects that young people from the community can be	Parks Development					Existing revenue	Young people consultation for future facilities, children from

Aim 6: To Develop the Park as a Focus for the Local Community								
Objectives	Action	Lead	Delivery ✓ = Action Completed ○ = Action in Progress ■ = Action Proposed ✗ = Not completed				Resources	Comments
			YEAR 23/24	YEAR 24/25	YEAR 25/26	YEAR 26/27		
	involved in the development, such as the artwork on the pavilion and the proposed BMX pump track	Officer & Park Rangers and Friends of Breck Hill	○	■	■	■	budgets	local primary schools offered environmental task sessions .i.e. bulb and hedge planting
Hold regular activities and events in the park.	Working in partnership with the community and the Friends group continue to assist and organise events.	Parks Development /Rangers and Friends of Breck Hill	○	■	■	■	Existing revenue budgets	The community to identify the park as a community asset.
Encourage all sections of the community to use the park, value the community asset and volunteer where they can.	Promote the park to wider community audiences, such as Bootcamp exercise classes and businesses in the park. Continue to attempt to involve the sports clubs already using the park to be more involved with development and management	Parks Development & Park Rangers and the Friends group	○	■	■	■	Existing PASC & Leisure revenue budgets	Provide a well-used park and generate income from exercise training classes. Attract funding for development and volunteer availability for practical tasks.

Aim 7: To Increase Awareness of the Park via Marketing								
Objectives	Action	Lead	Delivery ✓ = Action Completed ○ = Action in Progress ■ = Action Proposed ✕ = Not completed				Resources	Comments
			YEAR 23/24	YEAR 24/25	YEAR 25/26	YEAR 26/27		
Promote and build wider awareness of the park.	Post events on Green Flag web site. Friends group facebook page	Comms. Officer Leisure Events and Arts Officer Parks Development & Park Rangers and friends group	○	■	■	■	Existing PASC & Leisure revenue budgets	Utilise IT systems, i.e. Internet, Facebook to full advantage.
On-site information about the park	Install a notice board	Parks development officer and friends group	✓				PASC budgets and possibly the friends group	Notice board to include up to date park information including out of hours telephone numbers for reporting issues and promote Friends group.
Promote the park and its facilities with local media	Achieve regular coverage in the local media, press, radio and television.	Comms. Officer Parks Development Officer/Friends Group & Park Rangers	○	■	■	■	Existing revenue budgets	The park has benefited from press releases in the local newspaper
Work within the approved GBC Green Spaces Strategy	The 2021-2026 strategy provides a framework for future park aspirations and open space provision decisions	Communities Officer And PASC Management	○	■	■	■	Existing revenue budgets	To provide a consistent approach to parks maintenance and development across the Borough Council's Parks and open spaces. The Strategy is available on the Council's parks webpage.

Aim 7: To Increase Awareness of the Park via Marketing								
Objectives	Action	Lead	Delivery ✓ = Action Completed ○ = Action in Progress ■ = Action Proposed ✘ = Not completed				Resources	Comments
			YEAR 23/24	YEAR 24/25	YEAR 25/26	YEAR 26/27		
Continual increased promotion	Follow actions required in the marketing plan.	Parks Development officer and Park Rangers and friends group	○	■	■	■	Existing revenue budgets	
Promote on the Council's website	Devise a specific webpage for the park, information to include how to get to the park, appropriate disability access and park facilities. Also include a user satisfaction survey. Continue to monitor to ensure it remains up to date.	Comms staff and Parks development officer	✓				Existing revenue budgets	Webpage created with a link the Friends of Breck Hill Facebook group.
Promotion of the park facilities in map/plan format	Design and produce a map/plan of the facilities on the park, publish on webpage and notice board.	Comms staff and Parks development officer	■				Existing revenue budgets	To promote the facilities on the park to existing and potential park users.
Gain user satisfaction information and monitor whether the park is meeting the needs of the wider community	Encourage park users to complete postcard sized user survey at all events and activities. Summer targeted user survey to obtain baseline data.	Parks Development Officer/Park Rangers	○	■	■	■	Existing revenue budgets	Ensure park is meeting the needs of the community.

Aim 8: Implementation of Effective Management								
Objectives	Action	Lead	Delivery ✓ = Action Completed ○ = Action in Progress ■ = Action Proposed ✘ = Not completed				Resources	Comments
			YEAR 23/24	YEAR 24/25	YEAR 25/26	YEAR 26/27		
Ensure a viable financial base for maintenance and development – Short term	Continue to attract capital funding for improvement through section 106/CIL and external funding bodies such as Big Lottery 'Awards For All' and Notts CC Supporting Local Communities scheme	Parks Operational Manager Parks Development Officer	○	■	■	■	Existing PASC revenue & capital budgets. 106 contributions	Update 106 database Record capital bids at earliest opportunity. Search/source grant monies that may be drawn down by the community.
Ensure a viable financial base for maintenance and development – Long term	Consider long-term management in all works and factor in costings where available	Parks Operational Manager Parks Development Officer	○	■	■	■	Existing PASC revenue budgets	In conjunction with the Green Spaces Strategy identify areas for future 106 and Capital realms projects
Ensure a viable financial base for maintenance and development – Quality assessment	Review management practices to ensure efficient working methods	Parks Operational Manager Parks Development Officer	○	■	■	■	Existing PASC revenue budgets	Lean management principals
Ensure a viable financial base for maintenance and development – Income streams	Explore opportunities for revenue generation (e.g. commercial bootcamp classes, hiring pavilion, regular ice cream or coffee van concessions)	Parks Operational Manager Parks Development Officer	○	■	■	■	Existing PASC revenue budgets	Income from concessions, hire of parkland for fairs etc.
Ensure effective implementation of management plan	Management plan shared with all PASC staff and Friends of Breck Hill	Parks Development Officer	○	■	■	■	Existing staff resources and volunteers	Monthly Parks Development/Parks Operations/Parks Rangers meetings to progress tasks in

Aim 8: Implementation of Effective Management								
Objectives	Action	Lead	Delivery ✓ = Action Completed ○ = Action in Progress ■ = Action Proposed ✗ = Not completed				Resources	Comments
			YEAR 23/24	YEAR 24/25	YEAR 25/26	YEAR 26/27		
								place and regular contact with the Friends of Breck Hill
Ensure effective implementation of management plan – Identify current and future priorities	Regular site walkabouts with Parks Operational Manager/Parks Development officer, Rangers and PASC supervisors. Members of the Friends Group, GBC staff, and other stakeholders as appropriate, to monitor progress and identify outstanding priorities.	Parks Operational Manager Parks Development Officer, Parks Rangers, PASC Staff	○	■	■	■	Existing PASC revenue budgets	Monthly Parks Development/Parks Rangers meetings to progress tasks in place
Ensure effective implementation of management plan – Green Flag preparation	Annual review of Management Plan and Action Plan progress	Parks Development Officer, Parks Rangers, PASC Staff	○	■	■	■	Existing PASC revenue budgets	Monthly meetings to discuss management plan to ensure sections are reviewed on a rolling basis and updated as the year progresses
Ensure effective implementation of management plan – Partnership working	Regular meetings between park staff, Neighbourhood Wardens, Leisure and Arts Officers to discuss progress	Parks Operational Manager Parks Development Officer, Parks Rangers,	○	■	■	■	Existing PASC revenue budgets	Encourage and develop effective partnership working practices

FINANCE AND RESOURCES

Grant Funding – FCC Communities and local GBC and County Councillors

The park has benefited from funding from the above partners, which has contributed substantially to the refurbishment of the children's play area and provided new benches. The Friends group has attracted funding from local businesses and a personal grantor. These funds have been used to provide develop the community orchard and a recycling bin. The Friends group have also had a customer-originated donation from Co-op and Adsa and Gedling Lotto (small regular donations).

Revenue Funding

The breakdown of the Maintenance/Management budgets required for the park's regular maintenance is outlined in the Landscape Quality Manual.

Staffing Structure

The parks development function is managed by the Head of Environment with the assistance from the Parks Operations Manager, the Parks Development Officer and 2 full time Urban Park Rangers

Parks and Street Care also manage the grounds maintenance function. A dedicated team has been established to work with the Parks Development staff.

Work Programme

The Grounds maintenance specification and work programme are detailed in the Landscape Quality Manual which is available from the Parks and Open Spaces Department and a copy will be available for viewing during the green flag application field assessment.

MONITORING AND REVIEW

We are pleased to develop this management plan for the park and as such the aims and objectives delivered should be specific, measurable, attainable, realistic and timely, by all involved in the operational process.

An annual review and evaluation of the operational progress will be carried out in September to feed the output results into the authority's annual business plan for the service area. The process will also give opportunity to assess whether further revenue funding and other resources are necessary, for the current and subsequent financial years. For example, funding and/or other staff may be required to carry out marketing surveys to assist in the completion of the marketing strategy for the park. This exercise will require repeating, for different events, on a regular basis so that baseline information can be recorded and analysed. Subsequently, the results of those surveys may mean alterations to the present grounds maintenance regime.

The exercise is also invaluable in providing structure for planning, future accessing of external capital and revenue funding and fitting the timetable to the normal work programme on site for operative and ranger staff as well as for the friends group and other partners.

Although the plan will be reviewed annually, every 5 years, it will be comprehensively revised to ensure its content remains relevant and up to date with the Council's policies and aims. This revision will also accommodate the changes to the fabric of the park since following any refurbishment/development works, as it grows and matures and shows the effects of the various activities.

APPENDIX 1 – SUMMARY OF MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

Breck Hill Park - Summary Work Program	
Daily Tasks - 363 Days of Year	Performance Criteria
Litter pick and site patrol (Mon-Fri) during peak season. Twice weekly during off peak season	Litter to conform to Environmental Protection Act Code of Practice Cat 2 zone
Inspect signage and entrances are free from any blockages	
Weekly Tasks	
Clean Pavilion, including showers, toilets and kitchen	
Inspect Children's play area	In accordance with EN1176 and 1177
Litter picked (Mon and Fri)	
Bi-annual Tasks	
Inspection and repair of all pathways, fencing, signage and park furniture	
Annual	
Annual inspection of buildings and structures - maintain as necessary	
Tree visual inspection	
Seasonal Tasks	
April – June	
Remove weeds along building lines and path edges	Max 5% herbage
Grass cutting - amenity grass – fortnightly	Max height 75mm - min 25mm
Mark out Football pitches	
Tree inspection	Ground inspection
July – September	
Remove weeds along building lines and path edges	
Grass cutting - amenity grass – fortnightly	Max height 75mm - min 25mm
Repairs to goal areas as necessary	
Mark out 2 Senior Football Pitches	
Tree Inspection	Ground Inspection
October – December	
Continue grass cutting as necessary	
Continue weed removal along building lines and path edges as necessary	Max cover 5%
Tree Inspection	Ground Inspection
Inspect and cleansing of Bird Boxes (when installed)	
January – March	
Commence grass cutting when necessary	see above
Weed removal as necessary	Max cover 5%
Tree Inspection	Ground Inspection

APPENDIX 2 – Health & Safety

Form HS2: RISK ASSESSMENT - HAZARDS AND CONTROL MEASURES

Page 1 of 2

Workplace	Borough wide parks and open spaces during Covid Pandemic		Section	PASC - Parks	Manager	J Richardson
Activity No.	P1-P12	Activity Description	Planting using hand tools, litter picking, weeding, brushing hard and soft surfaces, raking, mulching, hedge laying, Pruning of small/medium shrubs and trimming back vegetation (does not include working at height), bagging up green and general waste, installation of bird boxes (not working at height), species surveys recording, volunteer led walks,		Activity Location	Borough Wide (working at a 2m distance away from highway or watercourse)

No.	Nature of Hazard	Associated Risks	Severity Number	Exposure Number	Risk Number
1	Contact with hazardous substances, e.g. Dog Faeces.	Exposure to Taxicara virus	6	3	18
2	Improper use of hand tools	Physical injury	6	3	18
3	Slips, trips and falls, uneven ground and vertical obstacles	Physical injury	6	3	18
4	Adverse Weather Conditions	Wet clothing, illness, sunburn or hypothermia	3	3	9
5	Contact injuries	Physical injuries	3	3	9
6	Sharp objects on land	Physical injury	3	3	9
7	Collison with vehicle	Physical injury	3	3	9
8	COVID 19	Sickness or death associated with COVID	9	2	18
No.	Current control methods in place to reduce the risk number		Severity Number	Exposure Number	Risk Number
1	Staff or volunteer supervisor to inspect and clean any identified prior to activities taking place.		4	3	12
2	Training on correct use and storage of tools when not in use. Council Officers to provide a Toolbox talk/guide to all volunteers at the beginning of each session. First aid kit available on site and		2	3	6

	volunteers trained in emergency procedures to follow if incident occurs.			
3	Ground inspection. PASC staff or volunteer supervisor to inspect all areas. Make sure working areas are easy to access, on level ground and no vertical obstructions. First aid kit available on site and volunteers trained in emergency procedures to follow if incident occurs. Advice volunteers to wear Suitable footwear at all times to suit ground conditions and weather.	4	3	12
4	Cancel activity in extreme weather, advised to wear suitable clothing for the activity, e.g. sunscreen, waterproof clothing	1	1	1
5	Volunteers trained in safe use and storage of tools and safe personal working space. First aid kit available on site and volunteers trained in emergency procedures to follow if incident occurs.	2	2	4
6	All participants advised to wear protective gloves and suitable footwear. Grassed areas to be inspected by staff or volunteer supervisor prior to work commencing. If sharp needles are found then volunteers report to staff or volunteering supervisor, volunteers instructed not to handle without appropriate training. First aid kit available on site	2	2	4
7	Only PASC staff permitted to drive Council vehicle, 5mph speed limit whilst in public park and use hazard warning lights and horn to warn public. Stop vehicle to allow public access and egress.	2	2	4
8	Wipes, gloves and hand sanitizer gel made available at all sessions, tools wiped down before and after use, tools assigned to individual volunteers for duration of session to minimise chance of spreading infection. Small groups; 6 or less only, and encouraged to maintain 2m social distance rules where possible.	4	3	12

Manager	J Richardson	Signature	J Richardson	Date	31 st August 2020
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Is further action still required?

If Yes, continue overleaf

YES		NO	
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If No, Complete the first review box overleaf

OUTSTANDING SIGNIFICANT RISKS

Page 2 of 2

No.	Significant Risk	Required Action To Reduce Risk	Person Accountable	Target Date	Date Complete
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APPENDIX 3 – Breck Hill Park Marketing Strategy 2022-2027

Aim: To produce an effective marketing campaign that will encourage present and new visitors into the park to fill their leisure hours. It will promote the strong commitment that the Council has to its parks and open spaces.

These marketing actions are built into the overall management aims for the site.

Aim: To Encourage the Involvement of Local People						
OBJECTIVE	ACTION	DELIVERY	SUCCESS CRITERIA	RESOURCES	OFFICER RESPONSIBLE	OUTCOMES
Ensure high profile of the park locally and Borough wide	Develop web and social media platforms specifically for Breck Hill park to include park facilities, photos and history information	Webpage to be developed during 2022/2023, to include link to user satisfaction survey (2023 update: now completed) Facebook Page created by the friends group.	Constant source of information. Hits to website/pages Customer feedback	Officer Time	IT Section Parks Development Officer and Communication staff	Specific site information available for existing and potential users
	Use of the post card satisfaction surveys for use at all events and activities	Ongoing	Satisfied customer feedback, with useful information e.g. recommendations for future events/facilities	Officer time	Park Development Officer/ Friends Of Group	Gain satisfaction reviews of all visitors
	Develop links with partners to promote the park wherever possible	Ongoing	User survey Increased customers	Officer Time	Park Development Officer	Improved partnership working

Aim: To Encourage the Involvement of Local People

OBJECTIVE	ACTION	DELIVERY	SUCCESS CRITERIA	RESOURCES	OFFICER RESPONSIBLE	OUTCOMES
	Promote Parks satisfaction survey on webpage	Will be ongoing when webpage completed.	Completed surveys received with suggestions for improvements by visitors, reach wider community	Officer time	Parks Development, IT staff	Gain satisfaction reviews of visitors, obtain improvement requirements
	Carry out face to face surveys with park users with assistance from friends group	Annually in summer	Completed surveys received with suggestions for improvements by visitors, reach wider community	Officer time	Parks Development, friends group	Gain satisfaction reviews of visitors and improved partnership working
Assist with the promotion of community groups who use the park regularly	Establish a small series of activities with community groups connected with the park designed to attract local people (funding permitting)	Throughout the year	Increased community cohesion. Possible Income generation, assist to reach wider audience	Officer Time From existing revenue budgets	Parks development and Friends of group	Successful annual events
	Encourage the development of specialist subgroups through specialist events e.g. gardening groups	Seasonal	Landscape improvements and maintenance	Officer Time From existing revenue budgets	Parks development, friends group	Successful themed events

Aim: To Encourage the Involvement of Local People

OBJECTIVE	ACTION	DELIVERY	SUCCESS CRITERIA	RESOURCES	OFFICER RESPONSIBLE	OUTCOMES
Establish the park as a community resource e.g. for sports clubs	Invite local clubs to use the facilities	Ongoing	Sports facilities well subscribed Well used park overall	Existing Budgets	Park Development Officer, Leisure Sports Development	Increased community use of the park

Aim: To Establish Breck Hill park as a visitor attraction within the area

OBJECTIVE	ACTION	DELIVERY	SUCCESS CRITERIA	RESOURCES	OFFICER RESPONSIBLE	OUTCOMES
Build Local Awareness	Press releases for all major events in the park	Ongoing	Increased attendances at major events	Officer Time	Various officers responsible for individual events and communications staff	Activities and events well publicised
	Consult with the public to establish needs & establish alternative ways to consult	Ongoing	Improvements following consultation Positive comments from consultation	Officer Time	Parks development	Reach wider audience and council informed of visitor expectations
Promote the park through events, activities and exhibitions	Utilise cross marketing opportunities at facilities and events across the borough to exhibit the park	Ongoing	Literature in Leisure Centres, Libraries & Theatre Information at events	Existing revenue	Parks development	Promotion at shows and events in Borough

	Continue to investigate innovate ways to draw people into the park. E.g. small scale events e.g. wildlife conservation activities, increase in facilities	Ongoing	Attendance Feedback	Officer Time	Various officers responsible for individual events	Increased visitor numbers
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Aim: To Establish Breck Hill park as a Visitor Attraction Within the Area

OBJECTIVE	ACTION	DELIVERY	SUCCESS CRITERIA	RESOURCES	OFFICER RESPONSIBLE	OUTCOMES
	Interpret and promote conservation and heritage value through on site interpretation signage	Ongoing	Users informed of the conservation and heritage value of the park	Existing revenue budget/assistance with friends group funding	Parks development	Improved facilities/ information sharing.
Raise the profile of the park	Obtain the Green Flag Award	Annual	Achieving and maintaining Green Flag Award	Officer Time Existing revenue budgets	PASC Manager, Parks Development Officer	Achieve Green Flag award during period of plan
	Design and produce a series of high quality promotional information, guides and literature for the park in a range of languages, large type and other appropriate formats.	Ongoing where funding allows	Produce park leaflet	Officer Time Existing revenue budgets	PASC Manager, Parks Development Officer, Parks Rangers	Reference material available in accessible format for all
	Publish the parks Management plan on the webpage	Planned for 2022/23	Published plan is current	Officer time	PASC Manager, Parks Development Officer,	Plans on website
Establish users of the park	Devise and carry out visitor satisfaction surveys	At all events, available on webpage and annual face to face surveys	Feedback from users Improvements following survey Number of survey's completed	Officer time	Parks Development Officer, rangers	Reach wider community members

APPENDIX 4 – Judges Feedback from field assessment 2022 – Responses to recommendations are included in the ‘Recommendations’ column.

FEEDBACK REPORT: 2022-23

Name of Site	Breck Hill Park
Managing Organisation	Gedling Borough Council
Date of Assessment	20 April 2022

OVERALL RESULT	Pass	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fail	<input type="checkbox"/>
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NOTES ABOUT THIS REPORT
<p>Strengths and recommendations are provided for each criteria. Photographs are included, where appropriate, to support the feedback from the judge(s) in relation to both strengths and recommendations. Please refer to the Raising the Standard guidance manual here for further information on the criteria.</p>

DESK ASSESSMENT

(Management plan and supporting documentation)

Criteria	Strengths	Recommendations	Response to Recommendations
Presentation	Overall, a well-presented management plan, easy to follow and relates to the Green Flag criteria, however felt that it lacked detail in relation to Breck Hill Park.	Felt that there were a number of minor inconsistencies such as Head of Parks referenced page 29 etc. MP requires more details including a layout plan of the site and a schedule of asset would be useful	Inconsistencies reviewed and amended. Layout plan and further information requested are being considered.

Criteria	Strengths	Recommendations	Response to Recommendations
		<p>Potentially a brief insight into the neighbourhood in which the park sits in based on Census information.</p> <p>The plan would also benefit from some additional supporting pictures to illustrate the history and demographics etc.</p>	
Health, Safety & Security	<p>Plan acknowledged that the site had issues with Anti-Social Behaviour and how this was a problem. The plan details how this has been addressed and continuing areas of work. Plan notes areas of the site where improvements are required in terms of H&S and how the Team intent to address these as part of the action plan process</p>	<p>More before and after photographs, to demonstrated and evidence the changes that the volunteers and staff have achieved.</p>	<p>Duly noted and will be included.</p>
Maintenance of Equipment, Buildings & Landscape	<p>Details inspections programme for tree management, play area and other facilities. Refers to the Landscape Document and the key aspects within this.</p>	<p>No details provided on the pavilion on site including how the space is managed, the users and responsible for different aspects of maintenance</p> <p>No details within the main text on other inspections such as parks infrastructure. Further details on how these are responded to would be of interest.</p>	<p>More information has been added within this section.</p> <p>Details within main text parks infrastructure maintenance refer to the Quality Maintenance Manual which is available for viewing during field assessment</p> <p>A summary maintenance schedule is included as an Appendix.</p>
Litter, Cleanliness, Vandalism	<p>Explains the process for graffiti removal, litter picking schedules, linking into National Campaigns such as Keep Britain Tidy</p>	<p>Further details on how equipment is maintained and repaired</p>	<p>As above, along with park infrastructure inspection, the equipment maintenance is</p>

Criteria	Strengths	Recommendations	Response to Recommendations
	<p>Details work undertaken in particularly around tree management and how this has helped to improve visibility into the park and therefore improve personal security into the park</p>		<p>covered within the Quality Maintenance Manual available for viewing at the field assessment. More information is included in the action plan, page 40. A summary maintenance schedule is included as an Appendix.</p>
Environmental Management	<p>Refers to the Woodland Management Plan created by member of the Friends group. Good to hear that the Council is setting a target of Net Zero by 2030.</p>	<p>Be interested to see the key actions from the Woodland Management Plan translated into the overall Action Plan for the site. Net Zero – potential to provide further actions on how the Team is delivering this on the park in relation to its management as well as potential carbon capture e.g., use of electric vehicles, tree planting, meadow creation schemes.</p>	<p>The woodland management plan is available as a separate document and can be viewed during the field assessment or upon request.</p> <p>Tree/hedge planting/meadow creation is explained in the management plan.</p>
Biodiversity, Landscape & Heritage	<p>Provides examples of how the space is being developed to explain the Biodiversity and Heritage of the site as well as provided details on why the character of the landscape is as it is i.e. a former brickworks.</p>	<p>As indicated within the plan, interesting to see how this is translated on to the site as part of interpretation boards</p>	<p>The History Interpretation Panel is a ‘work in progress’ and due to be completed/installed on site in 2024.</p>
Community Involvement	<p>Details good community involvement especially with the Friends of Breck Hill. This is reflected in the partnership working with the consultation on the open space, development of new facilities such as the play area and the community orchard. Indicated that it is an ideal site for sleighing</p>	<p>Interested to see how other groups such as the Football Club relations to the park and the wider community involvement/Friends’ group</p>	<p>This is explained in the management plan under the ‘Community Involvement’ section.</p>

Criteria	Strengths	Recommendations	Response to Recommendations
Marketing & Communication	Plan details how the Gedling Borough Council and Friends of Breck Hill intend to undertake a marketing and communication plan for the site. Facebook page present for the Friends group, detailing the activities they have been undertaking	Will be good to see this translated onto the Borough Council's website and provide details of the park more proactive promotion on social media would be useful	The Friends group post regularly on Facebook. The park webpage also links to the Friends Facebook page.
Overall Management	Overall, the management plan is a good starter plan for the new site and provides a good bases for further development.	Next step is to provide specific details of the park, its facilities, how manages what, details of other organisations such as the football clubs that use the site and iron out the inconsistencies within the plan. review the swot analysis link to more consultation evidence. Lack of resources and budget reductions is sighted as a weakness in practically all the criteria – How is this being mitigated?	General comments are being considered. Reduced budgets are a reality and unavoidable. This is no longer included as a weakness in all the criteria.

FIELD ASSESSMENT

Criteria	Strengths	Recommendations	Response to Recommendations
A Welcoming Place	<p>The park has a welcoming feeling to it with access points on the two main roads</p> <p>Good to see details of accessible entrance point indicated at the step access.</p> <p>An offer of accessible play equipment is on site</p>	<p>Felt larger welcome signs were required into the space. The gated entrances are ideal for preventing children especially from going out on to the busy roads, it could create a feeling of private space rather than a public park.</p> <p>Indicated within the plan and acknowledged on visit, that improvements were required to the access point of Breck Hill Road</p> <p>Proposed hard surfaced path would be a welcomed feature to the site increase accessibility</p> <p>existing notice board looked in bad condition and not in use consider replacing.</p>	<p>Larger welcome signs will be considered when funding is sourced.</p> <p>New entrance works and footpath planned for 2024.</p> <p>A new notice board has been supplied and installed.</p>
Healthy, Safe & Secure	<p>Park is an inviting space, with a good play area, open aspect, which has been improved with tree works opening up the visibility of the park from Woodthorpe Road.</p> <p>Feeling of a safe space to be in, well used whilst judges onsite.</p> <p>New equipment and infrastructure onsite including play area and benches.</p> <p>Odd pieces of dog foul seen, site has a good mix of dog bins and general waste bins</p>	<p>Issue with graffiti on the pavilion, fences and container within the park, which detract from the overall feeling of the site.</p> <p>Acknowledged by the group and they are intending to plant a hedge line and undertake a mural art project to help tackle these problem areas. Will be good to see how this is achieved in the future.</p> <p>More proactive clearance from the building and container should be prioritised. Maybe consider a community art project.</p>	<p>Most of the Graffiti has been painted over, the hedge planted and there will be a mural painted on the pavilion in Spring 2024.</p>
Well Maintained & Clean	<p>Site was lovely and clean on inspection, no litter seen during visit.</p> <p>Tree management seems in good order with plans in place to continue to care for the trees. Orchard newly planted and cared for by volunteers.</p> <p>Equipment and play area are all in good condition. Newly installed with well thought out plans for additional facilities to come e.g. Pump Track</p>	<p>The management of the building seemed to let the park down, appears of graffiti on it, along with work required on gutters, loose tiles. Some general maintenance of the facility was required by responsible organisation.</p>	<p>The pavilion repairs have been carried out by the Council's Facilities Team.</p> <p>The outside of the pavilion has been painted to cover the graffiti and a new art mural is planned Spring 2024</p>
Environmental Management	<p>No signs of chemical use on the site, reflecting the notes within the management plan.</p> <p>Locally sourced orchard plants reflecting local fruiting</p>	<p>Overall good systems in place and will continue to develop as the technology improves.</p>	

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	<p>varies.</p> <p>Waste management systems in place, with the Friends group funding the provision of a recycling bins onsite to help educate, instruct, and encourage recycling onsite. Although acknowledged the issues that come with this. Starting to consider climate change adaptation through the use of battery powdered machinery and other systems coming into play.</p>		
Biodiversity Landscape & Heritage	<p>Great to see the team working toward increasing the areas of cut and drop especially on the steep banks. As well as the development of the wildflower area alongside the play area.</p> <p>Currently no heritage or landscape interpretation onsite.</p>	<p>It was felt that the areas of left to grow could be increased especially around the football pitch, increasing the biodiversity as well as increasing the character of the open space. No obvious signs of bird or bat boxes onsite. These could be introduced as appropriate.</p> <p>Potential voluntary opportunity to cut and collect increasing wildflower meadows within the area, whilst volunteers learning new skills.</p> <p>Plans were discussed by the Friends group/Parks Team on interpretation boards that will provide historical information about the site. This will be good to see once funding is in place. As part of this consider details on the views across the valley indicating places of interest.</p>	<p>The areas left unmown have increased on the site.</p> <p>Bird and Bat boxes have been installed.</p> <p>The volunteers though the Friends group are actively involved with the maintenance and management of the Wildflower areas and community orchard.</p> <p>The History Interpretation Panel is in progress.</p>
Community Involvement	<p>Good strong community involvement and engagement from the Friends group, lovely to see their enthusiasm and commitment to improving the site for all. As well as the close working relation with the council team. The group have a good insight into the needs of the wider community, following a successful consultation process and are looking at improving the provision for the various target groups.</p> <p>The group acknowledge the other nearby facilities and how the site fits into this i.e. by not providing like for like. Group have undertaken research and working with other 'expects' to help with the development of schemes such as 'Flo Skatepark' and the pump track and local schools</p>	<p>Be good to see how the current plans are implemented in the future.</p> <p>Good to see how other regular users of the site, link into the friends' group e.g. football team going forward.</p>	<p>The Football Club have regular contact with the Friends group and are included in all development plans and actions, particularly in relation to the pavilion.</p> <p>The implementation of the actions identified in the action plan are updated within the action plan.</p>

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	in the design of the play area.		
Marketing and Communication	Friends group have set up a facebook page communicating to the wider community as well as holding various events on the park. Good channels of communication used to target new audiences.	Look forward to seeing the marketing & communications plan in action and how this develops and increases knowledge and use of the park over the forthcoming years.	
Management	Overall, the site is well managed and cared for with all partners working well together. It is in good condition with significant investment in the infrastructure and management over the last few years following the development of the Friends group.	Good luck with your future plans for the park and its continued improvement and management of the facilities.	

Summary and additional comments:
 (Highlighting the result, and the main areas of strength and recommendation)

Well done to all involved, it is a lovely welcoming site with a great community spirit. Well done in particular to the Friends group and your commitment over the last few years working in partnership with the council to drive forward significant infrastructure improvements.

As indicated in the visit, there are areas of improvements to be made, including tackling the ongoing issues of graffiti around the park, as well as providing additional provision such as the pump track and the interpretation boards. The schemes proposed, seem well thought through so continue with the good work and good luck with your plans over the forthcoming years.

It was lovely to meet you all and see your enthusiasm for the park and its position within your community.

