



Parks and Open Spaces Management and Maintenance Plan 2023

Wormwood Scrubs



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1. STRATEGIC CONTEXT

1.1 The Borough

Hammersmith & Fulham (H&F) is one of the 13 inner London boroughs situated in the central western part of London on the transport routes between the City and Heathrow airport.

It is a long, narrow borough running north to south with a river border at its south and south-west side. It is bordered by six London boroughs: Brent to the north; Kensington and Chelsea to the east; Wandsworth and Richmond-Upon-Thames to the south; and Ealing and Hounslow to the west.

Excluding the City of London, it is the third smallest of the London boroughs in terms of area, covering 1,640 hectares with a population 182,493 and an estimated 84,214 household spaces (2011 Census).



Figure 1 – H&F in its London context

The borough includes three town centres; Shepherds Bush, Hammersmith, and Fulham. Once a year the area hosts the world-famous Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race as well as the RideLondon festival of cycling, WestRun London 10K, World Polo, and the Putney and Fulham Riverside Half Marathon.

H&F is home to three professional football clubs: Chelsea FC, Fulham FC and Queens Park Rangers FC. Two private sports facilities, The Queens Club and Hurlingham Club, are also located in the borough.

There are several large shopping and entertainment venues in the borough. These include Westfield shopping centre, the Eventim (Hammersmith) Apollo, Shepherd's Bush Empire, Bush Theatre and Lyric Hammersmith. There is a major exhibition and conference facility located at Olympia London, the site of the former BBC studios at White City.

The Borough suffers with heavy traffic congestion and influenced by the London congestion charging zone, which reaches and encroaches upon, the Borough's boundaries, and the new ULEZ boundary extended to create a single larger zone bounded by the North and South Circular Roads.

In the borough, we have four key regeneration areas and the Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation Area part of which covers the north of the borough:

- ❖ [Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation area](#)
- ❖ [White City regeneration area](#)
- ❖ [Hammersmith town centre regeneration area](#)
- ❖ [Fulham regeneration area \(including Earls Court and West Kensington opportunity area\)](#)
- ❖ [South Fulham Riverside regeneration area.](#)



1.2 The H&F Vision

The key objectives for all Hammersmith & Fulham parks and open spaces have been developed with the council's wider strategic objectives in mind.

The council's vision '*to be the best council*' identifies six values which reflect what residents tell us matter most to them. These values form the primary areas of focus for the council's activities and services:



Figure 2 - H&F values

1.3 Resident-led Commissions

H&F want to put residents at the heart of decision making and have launched 17 [resident-led commissions](#) to help develop policies for the borough. Over the past four years, more than 100 local residents have helped shape the work of the council.

The Commissions listed below most directly influence or have an overlap with the delivery of the Parks Service:

- ❖ [Air Quality Commission](#) (2016)
- ❖ [Biodiversity Commission](#) (2017)
- ❖ [Parks Commission](#) (2021)
- ❖ [Climate Change and Ecological Emergency Commission](#) (2021)

2. PARKS AND OPEN SPACES MANAGEMENT IN H&F

2.1 Parks Specific Strategies and Plans

The following strategies and plans influence the Parks Service:

- ❖ [Local Plan](#)
- ❖ Parks and Open Spaces Strategy 2021-2026
- ❖ [Hammersmith & Fulham 3rd Sector Strategy](#)
- ❖ [Community Sport and Physical Activity Strategy 2017-2021](#)
- ❖ [Hammersmith & Fulham Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2016-2021](#)
- ❖ [Playing Pitch Strategy \(emerging\)](#)

Additionally, we have developed policies to cover a range of topics:

- ❖ [Tree Strategy \(draft 2022\)](#)
- ❖ [Integrated Weed Management Policy \(2020\)](#)
- ❖ [Professional Dog Walkers Licence Policy \(2020\)](#)

2.2 The Portfolio

The borough has 7.25 kilometres of riverside frontage and 618 hectares of open space. Parks and open spaces are fundamental to residents' quality of life. People who live, work and play in Hammersmith & Fulham use the borough's parks and open spaces extensively to escape city life, enjoy peaceful relaxation, play with their children, spend time with each other, appreciate nature and enjoy games and physical activity.

Clean, green and award-winning parks and open spaces where residents can relax and enjoy a variety of activities and events in an attractive and safe setting are key to delivering Hammersmith & Fulham's vision.

The H&F parks and open spaces portfolio includes:

- ❖ Parks (of varying sizes from pocket parks to Wormwood Scrubs);
- ❖ Playing Fields and Sports Pitches;
- ❖ Allotments;
- ❖ Nature Conservation Sites;
- ❖ Cemeteries and Churchyards;
- ❖ Ecological Corridors (River Thames, Grand Union Canal, and Railway corridors);
- ❖ Play areas.

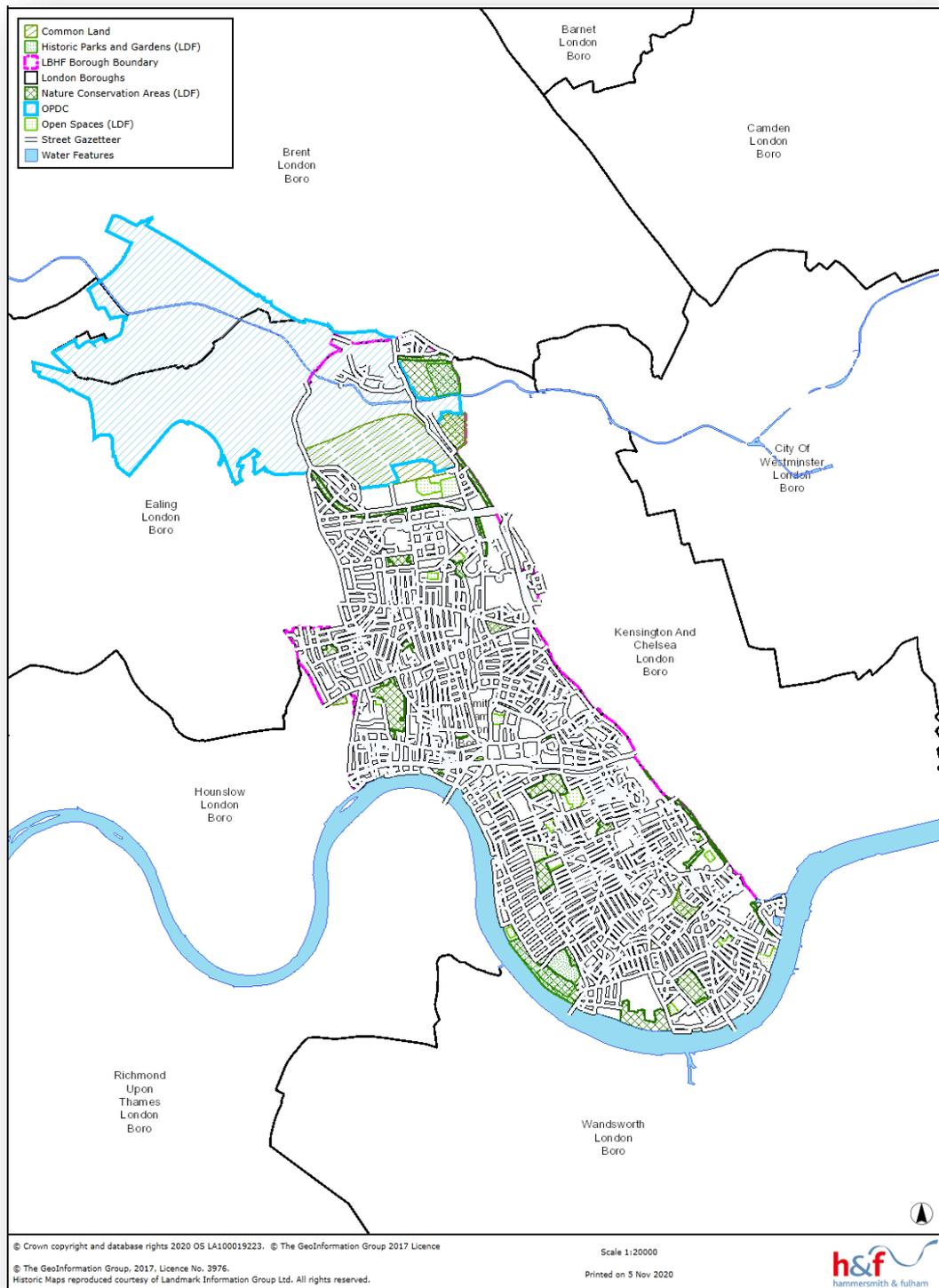


Figure 3 - H&F parks and open spaces

2.3 The Parks Team

This site is overseen by the Wormwood Scrubs Charitable Trust (WSCT), a charity with a trustee board comprised of x3 voting members, each of whom are local

councillors, along with x2 non-voting co-opted members of the local community. The park is managed by the Council's Parks Team which forms part of the Environment Department.

Key responsibilities of the Parks Team's successful management of the site entails:

- ❖ Monitoring of the ground's maintenance with idVerde and tree contractor Red Squirrel Tree Services and ensuring horticultural and arboricultural standards are maintained.
- ❖ Working with the WSCT and the local community to ensure the park's provisions are fit for purpose.
- ❖ Working with other teams across the council to facilitate events in the park.

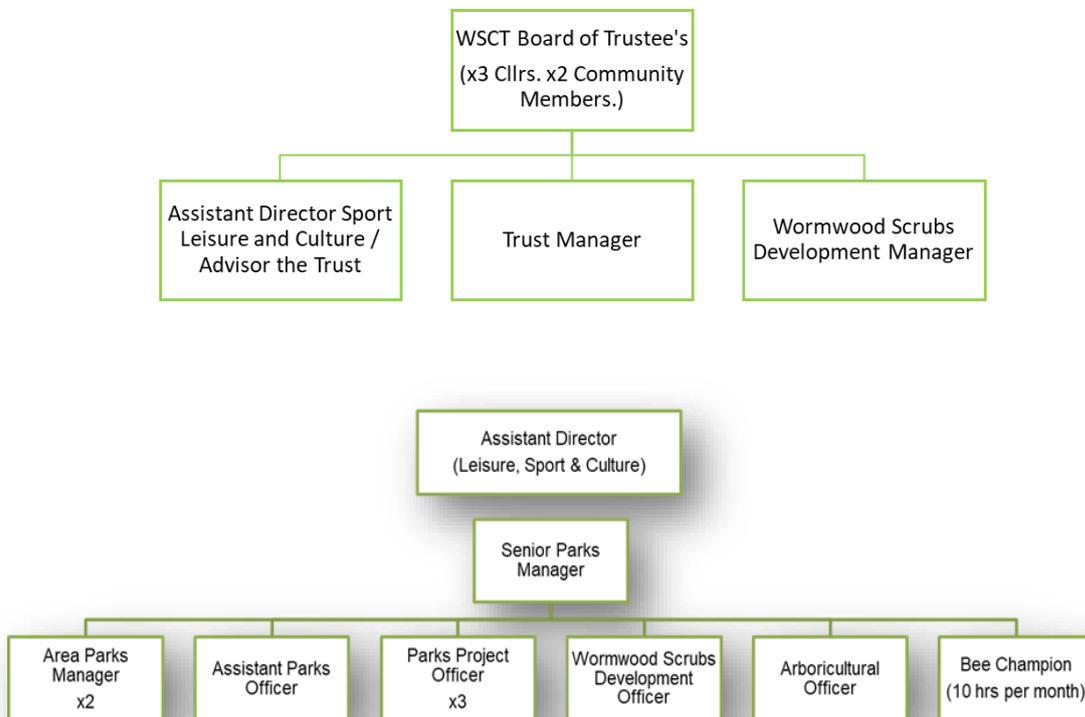


Figure 4 - Parks Team Management Structure

The portfolio is split into north and south areas, each managed by an Area Parks Manager. There is support from the assistant parks officer

2.4 Other Teams and Departments

Where relevant, the Parks Team consult and liaise with a range of other teams and departments:

- ❖ Sports Development Team and Sports Booking Service
- ❖ Events Team

- ❖ Climate Change Team
- ❖ Estate Services Team
- ❖ Economy Department
- ❖ Highways Department
- ❖ Property Services
- ❖ Education Department
- ❖ Public Health
- ❖ Communications & Consultation Teams
- ❖ Law Enforcement Team
- ❖ Parking Enforcement Team
- ❖ Planning / Heritage & Conservation Teams

Non council liaison:

- ❖ idVerde
- ❖ Kensington Aldridge Academy
- ❖ Wormwood Scrubs Pony Centre
- ❖ Hammersmith Hospital
- ❖ HMP Wormwood Scrubs
- ❖ Peabody
- ❖ OPDC
- ❖ Metropolitan Police Service
- ❖ H.M.P. Wormwood Scrubs
- ❖ Ark- Burlington Danes Academy
- ❖ Kensington Dragons FC
- ❖ Thames Valley Harriers Athletic Club
- ❖ Old Oak Community and Children's Centre

3. SITE INFORMATION



3.1 At A Glance

Name	Wormwood Scrubs (including North Pole Open Space, Woodman's Mews Play Area, and Linford Christie Stadium)
Map References	The site is within 10 TQ areas. The main ones are TQ2181NE, TQ2281NW, TQ2281NE
Location	The site is located in the north of the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham in west London
Size	76.8 Hectares

Ownership and Management

Owned by Hammersmith & Fulham Council. Managed by the Wormwood Scrubs Charitable Trust.

Significant Features

- Extensive meadows
- Extensive Scrubland and meadow mosaic
- Wooded areas and copses.
- Sports pitches
- Model Aircraft Flying Zone
- Multi use games area
- Car Parks
- Linford Christie Stadium
- Wormwood Scrubs Pony Centre
- Kensington Aldridge Academy (temporary site)
- Braybrook Street Community Centre (Peabody)
- under 8's play area section
- over 8's play area section
- BMX track
- Community Garden
- Dog exercise area

Infrastructure

- Access Roads
- Footpaths
- Shared footpath and cycle paths
- London Cycle Network Route 4 & Route 24 and Quiet Way 2 (West)- East Acton to Kensington Quietway
- Gates
- Fencing
- 2 Play areas and play equipment
- 3 outdoors gymnasia
- Bins
- Benches
- Lighting columns
- London Power Networks Substation
- North Pole Open Space electricity substation
- Signs and information boards.
- Pony Centre Paddocks
- BMX track
- HS2 Site area
- Electrical Vehicle charging points

Built Facilities

- Linford Christie Stadium



- Thames Valley Harriers building



- Hospital staff and visitor car parking
- Community meeting room at Linford Christie Stadium



- idVerde Maintenance Depot and Green Waste processing area
- Kensington Aldridge Academy
- Braybrook Street Community Centre (Peabody)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Under 8's play area section - Over 8's play area section - Ball courts
Children's Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - For younger children and families there is a dedicated play area, which is gated for under 8's. - There is also an over 8's play area section. - Ball court - Two Forest School Areas of woodland - Kensington Aldridge Academy - BMX track
Ecological Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meadows. - Scrubland - Mosaic Meadow/ Scrubland - Woodland Glade in Martin Bell's Wood - Copses and woodland area - Seasonally wet woodland - Wildlife hedging. - The canopy is well established with most trees at 45 years, a few at 100 years old. There are also bird, bat and insect boxes, together with dead wood log and brash piles.
Soil Profile	<p>The topsoils- heavy loam/ clay and imported/ made soils.</p>
Recycling Facilities	<p>All of the green waste from parks operations is recycled within the borough and re-used on the sites as mulch.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There is resident recycling in the surrounding areas.
Parking Facilities	<p>On site parking for Linford Christie Stadium users.</p> <p>There is a pay for parking area at the end of Artillery Lane and off Scrubs Lane for public use. There is also an area of parking for Hospital staff.</p>

Main Uses	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Sports and Recreation- Fitness- Dog walking- Commuting routes- lunch time relaxation- Model Aircraft Flying- School Groups
User Groups	<p>There is a Friends group, The Friends of Wormwood Scrubs. Wormwood Scrubs Pony Centre. Kensington Aldridge Academy. Thames Valley Harriers Athletic Clubs Fulham Irish Gaelic AA Kensington Dragons Football Club Hammersmith Hospital HS2</p> <p>The site is managed by the Wormwood Scrubs Charitable Trust.</p>
Social Aspects	<p>The majority of park users are local residents, commuters, schools and sports. Other users include the adjacent schools.</p>
Opening and Closing Hours	<p>The site is not locked. Linford Christie Stadium is open when there are bookings and locked at night.</p>

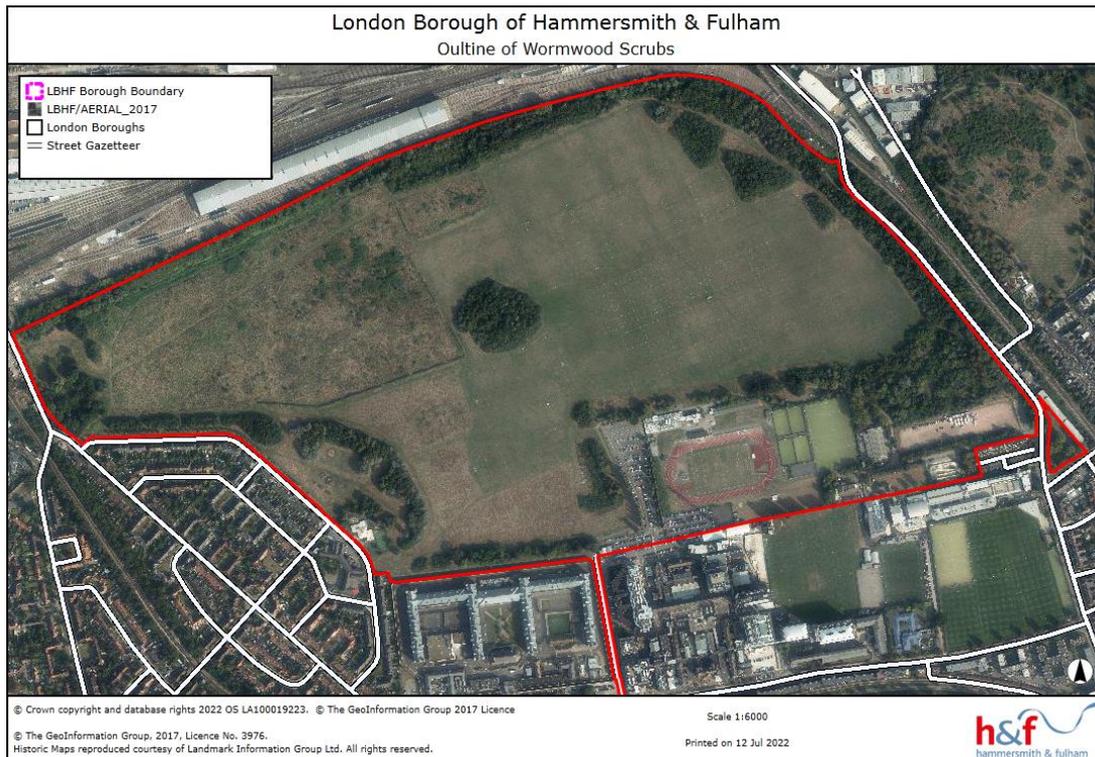


Figure 5 - Outline of the site

3.2 A Brief History of the Site

The site of Wormwood Scrubs Park has consistently been used as a public open space for grazing land, recreation and military use for several centuries. As London has developed it has provided space for large gatherings and played a part in several historic notable events. Although there has been little military use in the recent past, the Wormwood Scrubs Act remains in place to allow military use of the site in perpetuity, providing long-term protection of the site as an open space.

While the vegetation has developed and changed over the years, the generally open nature of large parts of the site provides an indication of how the historic landscape of agricultural and common land may have looked; providing the setting, and important viewing point, for several other historic buildings and landscape features in the surrounding local area.

Early history

First recorded in the 12th century as Wormholte, then Wormholtwode, and then later known as Wormewood; the origins of the name are in wyrm and holt, likely describing a wood infested with snakes.

The Anglo-saxon name of Acton ('Oak Town') and Old Oak Common, which was previously located to the north-west of the Scrubs, suggests that much of the area was still heavily wooded during the Middle Ages. The wider area surrounding the scrubs was historically part of the agricultural fringes and backwaters to London, including a mixture of common land, farmsteads and hamlets. Felling of trees and generally poor soil on the area now known as Wormwood Scrubs resulted in scrubland or 'waste' that was only suitable for grazing. The area would have provided important grazing land for manorial tenants throughout Saxon times and the Middle Ages.

Prior to the development of the railways, the Scrubs, Old Oak Common to the northwest and Little Wormwood Scrubs to the east was an extensive continuous open tract of land. The Stamford Brook (one of London's 'lost rivers') divided Wormwood Scrubs and Old Oak Common and marked the boundary between Acton and Hammersmith prior to being covered over and incorporated into the sewer network. In 1590, Old Oak Common, then referred to as Old Holt Wood, was reported to comprise around 200 acres of oak and 'thorn'.

1600s & 1700s

Most woodland in the area was cleared by the 17th century, although several oaks and elms survived in hedgerows and along lanes into the 20th century.

In the 1750s, mineral bearing springs were discovered at Acton Wells and the local area was promoted as a spa resort within easy reach of London. Acton Wells was located to the northwest of the Scrubs, within what was Old Oak Common (now Wells House Road). The Wells flourished for a short time but did not establish successfully as a spa resort.

1800s

The first half of the 19th century saw the site divided by transport infrastructure. The construction of the Paddington Branch of the Grand Junction Canal (now the Grand Union Canal) in 1801 separated the site as it is today with the land to the north. The development of the Great Western Railway in 1838 resulted in the loss of a section to the north of the Scrubs. Parishioners who had previously had commoners pasture rights were compensated for land taken for both the Canal and the Railway. The development of the West London Line (completed 1844) to the east further subdivided the site, with the land to the east of the railway now known as Little Wormwood Scrubs.

The transformation of the region through the introduction of transport infrastructure encouraged the growth of industrial development in the area surrounding Wormwood Scrubs, most notably the Park Royal area to the northeast. Several industrial facilities, such as gas works set up by the Western Gas Company in 1845 adjacent to the canal, were established to serve the wider population of London. The Kensal Green gas holders are visible from the scrubs in the current day and provide an important link to this period of development.

In 1862 large areas of the adjacent Old Oak Common (the extensive tract of land that extended from the north-west section of the Scrubs) were fenced. A small area of the Common remained and became incorporated as part of the north-western corner of the Scrubs.

The latter part of the century also saw the development of several open spaces in the area as places for recreation near London. To the northeast of the site, Willesden Garden or 'the People's Garden', is recorded from 1870. This site was run as a summer 'biergarten' by the German Club of Foley Street and had bowling greens, gymnastic ground, theatre and a large dancing platform. The site is indicated on several historic maps but disappeared after 1885, the site becoming part of the Great Western Railway Sidings and Sheds.

Little Wormwood Scrubs, to the east of the site, has been a public park since 1886 when it was acquired by the Metropolitan Board of Works and saw several improvements at the turn of the 20th century such as tree planting, the creation of paths and stream improvements. This was undertaken largely due to public pressure to lay the site out as a more formal park. The Council also prohibited '*the playing of all games except lawn tennis and games for children on Little Wormwood Scrubs*', this was deemed acceptable as it was considered that there was '*ample room for the rougher games on the larger Scrubs*'.

It appears the local importance of the 'larger' Scrubs for sports and recreation did develop during this time and between 1893 and 1896 Queens Park Rangers Football Club played there. Historic maps from the turn of the century also indicate a bandstand and drinking fountain within the southeast corner of the site.

In 1871 the St Quintin Park and Wormwood Scrubs railway station opened on the West London Railway Line along the south east boundary. This was subsequently burned down in the blitz in 1940 and not reopened.

Early military use & The Wormwood Scrubs Act

In 1812 the War Office leased 77 hectares of Wormwood Scrubs from the Manor of Fulham as a 'trooping ground' to exercise horses. By the mid-1870s, the War Office was receiving complaints from clergy about the use of the Scrubs:

"I have just returned from my farm adjoining the 'Scrubs' and there cannot be less than a thousand people congregated... there are...a number of people throwing sticks and cocoa-nuts and other games, and hundreds of boys and men gambling for pence, and the noise and halloing can be heard for nearly a mile off, and the filthy language used is shocking in the extreme..."

"On Sundays the Scrubs are the scene of the most fearful disorder, and have been for a very long

time, being a moral and social pest to all decent inhabitants. Races are run by men in a nearly nude state, booths get erected, cricket is played, it is the place of attraction for low people who carry on the game called 'three-a-penny', and such like. Indeed it would be almost impossible to

describe the disorder and immorality that is carried on there...."

In 1879, partly in response to the way the site was being used, the Wormwood Scrubs Act was passed by Parliament, which aimed to create a "metropolitan exercising ground" for the military and to provide the Scrubs for "the perpetual use by the inhabitants of the metropolis for exercise and recreation". The Act made provision for the continued use of the site by locals for exercise and recreation when not in military use and banned the military from building permanent structures on the site other than rifle butts (one survives today as a wall in the Linford Christie).

Under the Act the military are able to expel civilians from the scrubs whenever in use for training.²⁰ Several historic maps indicate the areas available for public use at all times along the north-east and east boundaries.

Wormwood Scrubs Prison

1874 saw the first phase of the development of Wormwood Scrubs Prison, which comprised a relatively small structure of corrugated iron, built using convict labour. Bricks were manufactured on site for the construction of a permanent building, which began in 1875, once again using convict labour, and was completed in 1891. The prison was designed by Major-General Edmund Du Cane, who was appointed by the newly established national Prison Commission to rationalise the prison system. Wormwood Scrubs Prison Gatehouse and Chapel are all now Grade II* Listed and cell blocks A, B, C and D are now Grade II listed. As the first 'telegraph pole' prison in England, the layout of the prison is of national importance and considered progressive in both design and in terms of the technology used in the cell blocks. The 'telegraph pole' plan is distinguished by parallel cell blocks arranged north to south to ensure every cell receives sunlight. Each block is arranged each side of a central longitudinal gallery rising the full height of the building.

1900s

During the 20th century the Scrubs played host to several important cultural and historic events. In 1908, the route for the Olympic Marathon crossed the Scrubs on the final stages of the race from Windsor Castle to the Olympic Stadium at White City. The site also played a notable role in early aviation history and advances in military technology. During 1904 the adjacent Wormwood Scrubs prison became part of the Borstal system for young offenders. The 20th century saw the notoriety and cultural significance of the prison grow; the iconic front entrance being used as a backdrop in numerous films and television programmes.

Continued encroachment from urban development saw the remains of the agricultural landscape to the south further diminished. Old Oak Common Lane, which adjoins a section of the western edge of the Scrubs, is shown to be un-metalled in early 20th Century photographs, which would have likely helped retain an element of the area's rural character.

In addition, in 1902 a workhouse and infirmary were built to the north of Du Cane Road, to the south of the Scrubs. The building was originally a corrugated iron structure which was replaced with what is now known as Hammersmith Hospital sometime between 1916/1918.

In 1910 the site was used as the start of the London to Manchester air race which was set up by the Daily Mail newspaper. The event is considered significant in aviation history as it was the first long distance race of its kind in England, the first take-off at night and the first powered flight into Manchester. Around this time the Daily Mail had also funded the creation of an airship hanger to the south of the site to house the Clément-Bayard No2, an early airship produced by automobile manufacturer Clément-Bayard which was bought by the War Office. The flight of the airship from France to Wormwood Scrubs in 1910 was the first crossing of the channel by airship and it is reported that around 3,000 people gathered to see it arrive.

HMP Wormwood Scrubs, viewed from the north from within the Scrubs 1911 saw the start of the development of the Old Oak Estate, which is located directly adjacent to the Scrubs on the south western boundary and is now a designated Conservation Area. The estate was one of the pioneering housing estates built by the London County Council and is recognised for being strongly influenced by the garden suburb movement, with the layout noted to be influenced by Hampstead Garden Suburb. The importance of the setting of the conservation areas is recognised within the Conservation Area Character Profile, with the mix of buildings and open spaces such as the edges of Wormwood Scrubs along the northern edge adding to the strong early 20th century suburban character.

During June 1915, experiments were undertaken on the site by the 20th squadron Royal Naval Air Service on the use of the precursor to the armoured tank. The American tractor manufacturer, Killen-Strait, transported one of their tractors to London to demonstrate its cross-country abilities to the British Government and Army. The demonstration of the 'Killen-Strait Tractor' took place at Wormwood Scrubs and was attended by several notable political and military figures including Winston Churchill and the future World War One Prime Minister David Lloyd George. While the Killen-Strait tractor did not prove powerful enough to enter production for military use, the experiments formed an important step in developing the 'Landship' tank, which was subsequently taken forward for use.

In 1939, at the outbreak the Second World War, Wormwood Scrubs prison was evacuated for use by MI5 due to issues with finding suitable premises for a rapidly expanding staff. The site itself was used primarily to house four anti-aircraft guns which were not cleared until the 1950s.

Aerial photography from 1945 shows various temporary shelters, access roads and storage across the Scrubs. This includes a double row of pre-fabricated temporary housing at the Scrubs along Braybrook Street. The imagery also suggests there may have been allotments (as part of the 'dig for victory' campaign) on both Wormwood Scrubs and Little Wormwood Scrubs at this time.

Recent history

Images of the Scrubs during the 1960s show most of the site as short cut amenity grassland with shelterbelts of trees along the railway embankments. Provision for sports within the area was greatly enhanced with the development of the athletics stadium to the south of the site in 1967 (subsequently named the Linford Christie stadium in 1993).

Wormwood Scrubs was the location of the infamous Braybrook Street Murders in August 1966, which received national press attention. Three policemen were shot and killed on the residential road that runs along the southern boundary of the site by armed men after they stopped their car. A memorial stone within the Scrubs along Braybrook Street was installed in their memory.

A 'tent city' occupied the north west corner of the site adjacent to Old Oak Common Lane during the late 1970s and early 1980s. The area was occupied mostly by migrants with no alternative accommodation. Residents had access to a single-story changing block (now demolished) which remained from when the western extent of the Scrubs fell under Ealing Council management. The timber seating with metal pergola structures were demolished during the HS2 occupation of the site in 2022.

From the mid-1980s the Greater London Council, who were managing the site at the time, planted up large areas of tree whips, mainly around the periphery of the site. Some areas of grass were also left to grow long as wildlife areas providing important habitat.

During the 1980s British Rail developed plans to build cleaning depots to service Channel Tunnel trains at the north of the site. In 1986 local birdwatcher Lester Holloway set up a campaign to save Scrubs Wood, which was included within the plans along the northern boundary of the site. A pressure group petitioned the House of Lords and attracted considerable publicity. This campaign was instrumental in ensuring that a threatened population of common lizards was translocated elsewhere on the site. Some of the turf from the rail side land which contained meadow ant hills was also translocated into an enclosure at the northern end of the park. Lester Holloway's involvement in this period of change at the Scrubs is now commemorated by an area of woodland on the site now known as 'Lester's Embankment'.

Community engagement at the site has continued into the modern day and there is a Friends Group, 'Friends of Wormwood Scrubs' associated with the site. The friends are actively involved in the Scrubs and work closely with the Wormwood Scrubs Charitable Trust (WSCT), with two friends sitting as co-opted members on the WSCT governing committee.

Recent years have seen ongoing relaxed management of the site, as large blocks of scrub and rough grassland have been allowed to develop. A programme of hedge planting has been undertaken in recent years marking a boundary around the area of scrub in the west of the site, partly to reduce footfall over this ecologically sensitive area.

Varied social and recreational use of the site has also continued. For instance, eastern section of the site remains an important area for sports in the local area. The site has hosted the annual football marathon fundraising event run by the charity Tackle Africa is now in its 24th year. Tackle Africa raises money to deliver HIV and sexual health information and services to young people in Africa.

A designated model aircraft zone remains in the western section of the site and is an important site for this pursuit within West London.

4. DAY TO DAY MANAGEMENT OF THE SITE

4.1 Why do we have a Management Plan for the site?

This Management Plan articulates the vision for the improvement of the site, its management and maintenance and provides detailed objectives and action plans to direct Hammersmith & Fulham's Parks Team, along with the Wormwood Scrubs Charitable Trust to achieve this vision.

The objectives of the management plan are aligned to the criteria for the Green Flag Award administered by Keep Britain Tidy.

Effective management of parks and open spaces is a continuous process which should take into consideration issues that arise. As a consequence, this management plan is a 'live document', which will be reviewed annually and updated as necessary to ensure it reflects the needs of the park's various users.

This management plan is not exhaustive and is to be read in conjunction with Hammersmith & Fulham Council's *Parks and Open Spaces Strategy 2021-2026*.

The objectives for the sustainable management and future development of the council's parks and open spaces are structured around the eight key criteria set by the Green Flag Award.

In addition to this document management and maintenance of biodiversity on the Scrubs will be guided by the Biodiversity Masterplan 2023. This plan has been developed to mitigate the loss of trees and habitat by the HS2 work carried out in recent years.

This is a 10-year plan that will increase biodiversity on the Scrubs and will also set out a 10-year maintenance plan to ensure long term benefits

4.2 On Site Relationships

In order to effectively manage the site, we recognise the importance of building long-term relationships with various key stakeholders. There is a clear communication line between stakeholders with the Parks Officer and the Law Enforcement Team (LET) which helps to address concerns as and when they arise.

Inter-departmental relationships

- ❖ Law Enforcement Team

The Parks Team have a strong working relationship with the Law Enforcement Team (LET). The LET is responsible for enforcement of bylaws, PSPO's, dog control issues and anti-social behaviour. The two teams share intel frequently and meet monthly to discuss ongoing or escalated issues and possible resolutions.

❖ **Events**

The site hosts minor events throughout the summer and is frequently used for filming and film crews. Most years there are late Summer, events such as 'Pretty Muddy Race for Life'. Various stakeholders have lobbied both LBHF and WSCT to host larger scale events on site, which has led to a review of infrastructure required to facilitate vehicular and pedestrian access points and routes into and around the Scrubs. In addition, an Events Strategy is being developed to ensure the condition of the site is not damaged by increased use and high footfall and that events are suitable and appropriate for the space.

• **Highways, Parks and Waste Management**

Ensuring that the previously mentioned infrastructure review is properly implemented, the Events strategy is being developed in conjunction with the LBHF Highways team. This relationship is key to mitigating ecological impacts on site entrance routes.

❖ **Physical activities and Sports**

Physical activities and sports are encouraged throughout the year, Linford Christie Stadium is in daily use for small and major sporting fixtures.

Park Run uses the site on weekends, and the extensive grass sports pitches are booked for winter and summer sports.

Seasonal bookings are taken year-round for sports such as: football, Gaelic football, baseball and American football. These bookings are managed by the LBHF sports development team, in conjunction with the WSCT.

Contractor relationships

❖ **Grounds Maintenance Contractor**

A new GM Contract began on 1st February 2022 awarded to the incumbent contractor Idverde.

The contract has new specification which responds to the recommendations of the residents commission and the Councils Vision including:

- New Key performance indicators (KPI's)
- New Monitoring systems with default clauses
- Social value commitments Mainly around employment of local people and disadvantaged groups
- Apprenticeships and Staff training

- New Park ambassadors role to inform, educate and consult with the local community, the council and the Trust
- Consultation and resident satisfaction survey
- Improving volunteering opportunities
- Improving Biodiversity opportunities and management
- Improving waste recycling targets
- New Green Fleet (electric vehicles)

~~Grounds maintenance of Wormwood Scrubs is carried out by idVerde.~~

~~Regular joint monitoring visits are carried out between the Parks Officer and the idVerde site ambassador. Monthly and quarterly meetings are held with senior representatives from both parties.~~

~~idVerde work together with the council and the Friends Group to facilitate and improve the park. This management plan is working document towards this goal.~~

❖ **Waste Management**

The litter in the park is cleared 7 days a week by idVerde.

❖ **Playground Maintenance and Inspections**

Daily visual inspections are carried out by idverde's mobile gardening/litter picking team and quarterly inspections are carried out by an independent organisation. Daily maintenance includes cleansing and graffiti removal.

Any damages or defects identified during these inspections are reported to the council and instruction for repairs are issued to a suitable contractor.

❖ **Tree Management**

There are estimated to be 6,000-8,000 trees of varying sizes and ages across the site. Many are self-sown and natural regeneration is encouraged in the wooded areas.

The site does not sit within a conservation area. Most of the wooded areas form part of the Local Nature Reserve.

Trees works are carried out by Red Squirrel Tree Services. The works carried out, are recommended by the Tree Officer as part of the survey programme undertaken every 3 years

Community Payback Scheme

As part of our grounds and maintenance contract, idverde are required to deliver a degree of 'social value' impact works. These works include a number of ad hoc maintenance and repair projects. These works are opened up to local volunteers and facilitated by trained professionals.

Community Group Relationships

❖ Friends Group

Wormwood Scrubs has a well-established Friends of Wormwood Scrubs (FoWS) that meet with council officers and the Wormwood Scrubs Charitable Trust several times a year.

They discuss biodiversity, community and other concerns and requests and share them with Park staff to help to improve the site. The FoWS and the Parks team also liaise with the LET so targeted patrols can be scheduled and undertaken.

They liaise with local residents and resident associations, such as The Woodmans Mews RA.

The local community are invited to join regular volunteering sessions such as litter picking, tree planting and hedge laying.

5. GREEN FLAG CRITERIA

This section presents the aims and objectives for the site. The format is closely aligned to the key criteria set by the Green Flag Award:

1. A Welcoming Place
2. Healthy, Safe and Secure
3. Well Maintained and Clean
4. Environmental Management
5. Biodiversity, Landscape and Heritage
6. Community Involvement
7. Marketing and Communication
8. Management

In the following pages we will demonstrate how we manage the site to meet each of the Green Flag Award's key criteria.

5.1 A Welcoming Place

Welcoming

Where are we now?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• There are 10 main entrances to the site, please Appendix 2 Main entrances. There are 4 entrances to Linford Christie Stadium. There is one entrance to Artillery Lane via DuCane Road and one entrance from Artillery Lane into the Car Park.• There is a high footfall during commuter and school times.• Vegetation is kept lower at entrances to increase sight lines into the site.• Signs are provided at 5 main entrances to welcome and inform people.
How can we improve?
<p>Curate and improve signage more effectively across each entrance.</p> <p>Ensure that contact information and maps are updated.</p> <p>Ensure that vegetation is cut back from the entrances to improve sight lines.</p> <p>Ensure leaf litter is collect from the entrances.</p>
How are we going to achieve this?
<p>Continue regular maintenance and add new stock as required, if funding is available.</p> <p>Conduct an audit of all signs and their locations.</p> <p>Co-design new entrance/orientation signage with local school children.</p> <p>Remove outdated signage.</p>



Good and Safe Access

Where are we now?

- The paths are maintained to be free of trip hazards and accessible for most desired routes with heavy footfall.
- Various woodchip lined access areas within the wooded areas.
- A built red brick woodland path through the eastern woodland off Scrubs Lane.
- Visitor Parking available on site in two car parks.
- Daily defect inspections by idVerde.
- Daily LET patrols.
- Clear multilateral communication to help to address concerns and actions.

How can we improve?

- ❖ A reduction in Crime and incidents
- ❖ Improve access along the red brick path on the eastern boundary
- ❖ Reduce vegetation back from Highways regularly
- ❖ Reduce vegetation back from path north of HMP Wormwood Scrubs

How are we going to achieve this?

Continued support for the services provided and appropriate communication and actions.

Figure 6 – View from the north central access gate looking south.



Signage

Where are we now?

- New site signs were installed in 2010 and are now looking faded and have obsolete information in many of them.
- New information boards for the Friends of Wormwood Scrubs were installed in 2021.



- Graffiti removed and signs cleaned annually by idVerde.

How can we improve?

- ❖ To consider signage replacements at several entrances 2022/23, as part of the planned improvement works across the 3 main access routes: Braybrook St., Wulfstan St., and Scrubs Ln.
- ❖ Consider some interpretative signage for wildlife
- ❖ Review location and style of existing signage. Remove unnecessary signage and combine where possible to reduce visual clutter.
- ❖ Clearly demarcate the model Aircraft Flying zone on site with new, tall boundary poles.
- ❖ Include accessible, directional signage to guide users around the site and away from the most sensitive areas.

How are we going to achieve this?

- Design new interpretive and educational signage as part of the biodiversity Masterplan 2023.
- Redefine or change the outline of the Model Aircraft flying zone and signage.

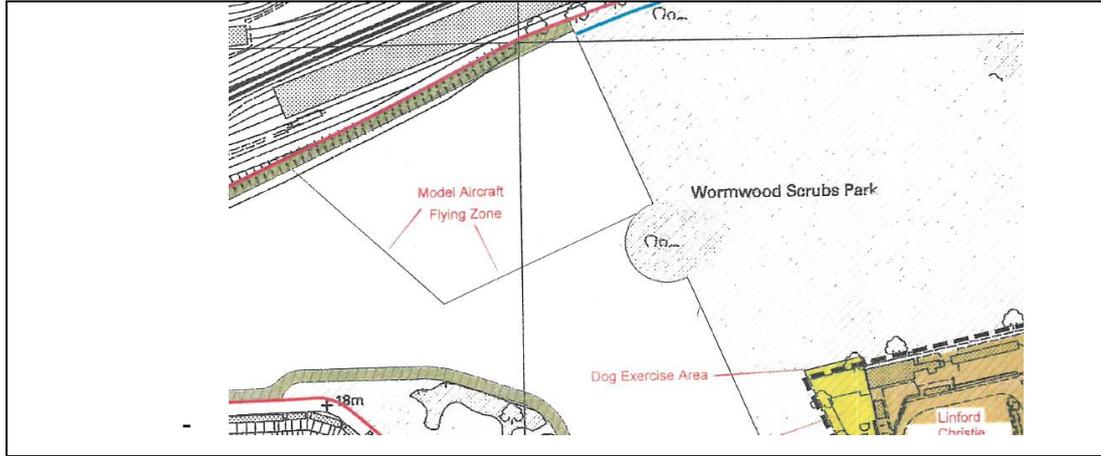


Figure 10 – Temporary signs as an interim measure.



Equal Access for All

Where are we now?

- The pedestrian and vehicular entrances to the park are suitable for disabled access and completely step free.
- Many of the paths into the site become muddy in excessively wet weather and therefore are not suitable for wheelchair access and those with mobility issues.
- Paths and park furniture are monitored by the Parks Officer to ensure it is safe for use.

How can we improve?

- ❖ To continue to monitor and action works recommended by guidelines and statutory requirements.
- ❖ Improve Play areas with more accessible units and surfaces. This work is scheduled to be undertaken in Winter of 2023.
- ❖ Scheduled site entrance improvements at: Braybrook St. Wulfstan St and Scrubs Lane (pictured below) have been designed to deliver year-round access, especially during Winter when the site can be quite muddy. In

addition, accessible park benches will be located at the new Braybrook St. And Wulfstan St. Entrances.

How are we going to achieve this?

Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation (OPDC) Grant funding to improve access to site entrances 2022/23.



5.2 Healthy, Safe and Secure



Appropriate Provision of Quality Facilities and Activities

Where are we now?

- The play areas are visually inspected daily *idVerde*, and every 3 months full formal inspections are carried out by a play specialist contractor. Recommended works are carried out accordingly to make safe.
- LET patrol the area daily to deter and reduce ASB as well as undertaking weapons sweeps. The team also enforce bylaws and liaise with the community and Police.
- All ballcourts and sports areas are maintained and cleansed by *idVerde* daily. Including daily sweeping of synthetic grass surfaces.
- There is a Personal training, outdoor fitness and group exercise licensing scheme in parks.
- Dog exercise area by the large car park at the end of Artillery Lane.
- Physical and sporting activities are encouraged on the site by our Sports Development Team.
- BMX area run by a community-based group and participation at low or no cost, with the track free to use by the public.
- Piloting small-scale events in 2022/23 are encouraged and coordinated on the site by our Events Team and the WSCT.

How can we improve?

- ❖ Improve entrances and access, installing fully accessible signs and benches.
- ❖ Improve Play area provision, by replacing equipment and installing a brand new playground on Braybrook St.
- ❖ Ensure clear sight lines in and out of the playgrounds.
- ❖ Improve Forest School Areas and add permanent signs
- ❖ Improve the dog exercise area fencing or reconfigure it
- ❖ To follow recommendations and guidelines, subject to funding

How are we going to achieve this?

Continued monitoring, maintenance, and improvements subject funding.

- Reduce vegetation encroaching on entrances and reducing the effect of lighting columns and CCTV vistas
- Improve access routes to facilities.
- Repairs path defects annually.
- Review the placement of benches and move where needed.





Safe Equipment and Facilities

Where are we now?

- The park has a total of 98 benches, 3 of which are memorial benches.
- There are 93 waste bins.
- There is a bench donations scheme:
<https://www.lbhf.gov.uk/arts-and-parks/parks-and-open-spaces/donated-benches-scheme>
- *idVerde* repaint benches and treat the timbers with linseed oil annually to extend lifespan.
- Sports equipment such as goal posts, nets are inspected and maintained by *idVerde*.
- Repairs to play equipment are carried out as recommended by a play contractor.
- Any defective equipment is reported and made safe or taken out of use by *idVerde* daily.
- Under 8's and over 8's elements in the play areas.
- End of life play equipment is removed. Replacement equipment is usually undertaken when a capital project is available.
- Dog exercise area.

- 2 Public Car Parks.
- London Cycle Network Route 4 & Route 24 and Quiet Way 2 (West)- East Acton to Kensington Quietway
- Cycle loops for secure cycle parking.
- BMX track used and serviced by the community and free to use with training run by a community group.
- Model Aircraft Flying Zone with a short grass take-off and landing area.
- Wormwood Scrubs Pony Centre with paddocks and roofed training area.



- Multi- use games area ballcourt.
- Linford Christie Stadium with 5 synthetic grass ball courts, 1 basketball court and a 400-metre running track. High jump, long jump and shot-put area. 1 full sized rugby pitch. Changing rooms and toilets. Grandstand.



How can we improve?

To continue to monitor and action required works and keep in line with statutory requirements.

Improve response times to fix damaged items.

Improve communication methods for users to report damaged items to facilities management team.

How are we going to achieve this?

Continued maintenance budget.

Develop Facilities and equipment in conjunction with the emerging site Masterplan and time scales.

Ensure all items of furniture and equipment are suitably robust for the site with a clear maintenance plan and that the life span of each item is proportionate to the cost.

Ensure appropriate signposting across access signage to report faulty items.



Personal Security

Where are we now?

- Daily LET patrols and inspection of equipment and waste bins.
- Lighting columns on surrounding footways
- 5 CCTV cameras.
- The site is not locked and often used late into the evening.
- Most areas are not lit at night.

How can we improve?

To review incidents and listen to recommendations.

- Request more regular LET patrols.
- Move benches to more open areas and out of encroaching tree cover.
- Continue to cut vegetation back from paths for sight lines.

How are we going to achieve this?

Act on recommendations by LET and Metropolitan Police, subject to funding.
Continue regular maintenance of encroaching vegetation.



Control of Dogs/Dog Fouling

Where are we now?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• There is a professional dog walking licence scheme• There is a dog exercise area.• LET patrol the park and help to liaise with dog walkers to encourage, inform and enforce dog related issues via proposed Dogs Public Spaces Protection Order.• /dverde remove dog fouling deposits when found.• The Friends positively engage with dog walkers to encourage friendly dog walking, and organised a dog show event in 2022.
How can we improve?
<p>Continue to work with partners to positively influence dog walking. Introduce a Public Spaces Protection Order in relation to dogs.</p>
How are we going to achieve this?
<p>Officer time and liaison with park users. Implement a Public Spaces Protection Order Review the Professional Dog Walking licence, improve related signage and enforce the terms and conditions.</p>

5.3 Well Maintained and Clean



Litter and Waste Management

Where are we now?

- The site has 93 litter bins emptied daily.
- The litter is collected daily from the park to a performance specification.
- Green waste is left as habitat piles where suitable. Where excessive, it is processed on site for composting and returned for use as mulch, forest paths or habitat piles.
- When litter picking, idVerde separate out recyclable waste for recycling.

How can we improve?

Review the number of bins on site and rationalise if necessary. It may be possible to remove some of the bins altogether or relocate to more appropriate locations.

Encourage users to take their rubbish home with them

Install recycling bins on the site.

Continue to work with contractors to ensure daily collections.

How are we going to achieve this?

Subject to resource, funding, and public awareness

- Install recycling bins at key locations for use.

- Reduce contaminants of waste entering the green waste recycling process and increase and improve the processing of green waste.
- Carry out more regular volunteer-led litter picks.

Horticultural Maintenance

Where are we now?

- The grass, shrubs, hedges and all horticultural and ecological are maintained by *idVerde*.
- There are small pockets gardened areas.
- The hard surfaces are swept to remove weeds and detritus.
- Weeding is carried by *idVerde* using a mixed approach of manual removal and an application of mulch as required or available.
- Elements of horticultural maintenance are carried out by the Friends of Wormwood Scrubs helping with volunteering efforts.

How can we improve?

Improve and increase appropriate planting, where agreed to be suitable.
Expand volunteering opportunities by developing a programme of volunteering days

How are we going to achieve this?

Funding opportunities, volunteers, officer time, funding made available from funding bids.

- Advertise volunteering days in advance
- Plant more areas of Spring bulbs to improve the aesthetic and biodiversity value of areas.

- Consider an Orchard area.

Arboricultural Maintenance



Where are we now?

- Trees are inspected every 3 years by the Parks Tree Officer. Recommendations from tree reports are categorized into priorities 1 and 2. Priority works are carried out within recommended timeframes.
- Tree works where possible are phased so that only urgent works are carried out in the first round of works and a period of up to 3 months for less urgent works to be carried out. This is to reduce the impact of canopy change on wildlife and air pollution.
- Scheduled and ad-hoc tree works are carried out by Red Squirrel Tree Services.
- The Parks team run a [Tree donation scheme](#) that encourages suitable tree species to be chosen, planted and maintained for two years.

- A comprehensive list of the trees currently at the site is available upon request.
- Natural regeneration is encouraged on site, particularly in wooded areas.
- Woodchip us used to line forest paths.
- Small linear log sections are used to line woodchip paths.
- Larger logs are used on site to form benches.
- Log piles are installed around the site to improve biodiversity and as hibernacula and basking in the meadows for Common Lizards.

How can we improve?

Seek funding in the future to further diversify the tree stock.

Encourage local residents to make tree donations and water newly planted trees.

How are we going to achieve this?

In order to acquire more interest in the tree donation scheme we can increase promotion via our website and notice boards.

Diversify the tree species.

Work in conjunction with the Tree Strategy (draft)

Proactive woodland management to enable more self-regeneration

Pending funding and planting opportunities.

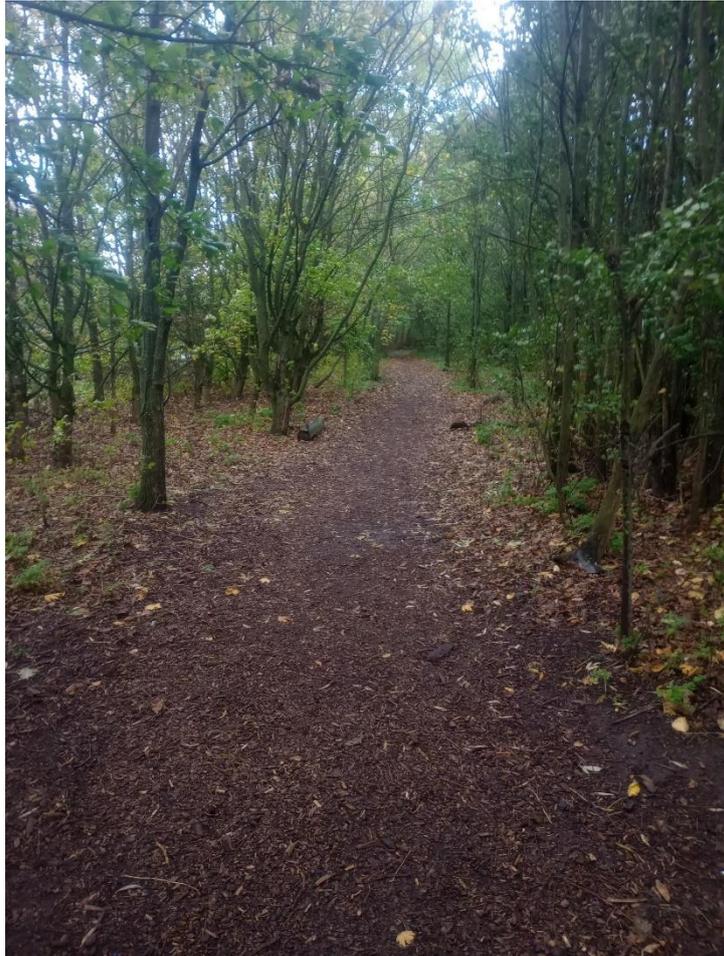


Figure 14 - Mapping of the established trees throughout the site

Building and Infrastructure Maintenance

Where are we now?

- The park furniture and infrastructure are monitored and works actioned by the Parks Team with *idVerde* reporting any defects and making safe.
- Annual painting and treatment of benches by *idVerde*.
- Annual gully cleansing by *idVerde*.
- Reports and defects identified by the park users can be reported via the council's 'report it' app. This links directly to the Confirm database which can be accessed by Park Team staff to make safe or arrange repairs.
- The Wormwood Scrubs Pony Centre and paddocks are managed by the Wormwood Scrubs Pony Centre .

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Kensington Aldridge Academy is managed by the school.• The Old Oak Community Centre is managed by Peabody.• The Wormwood Scrubs Maintenance Depot is managed and maintained by idVerde.• Linford Christie Stadium and buildings are managed the Facilities and Contract Manager.• The infrastructure of the site is mainly managed by the Parks and other teams on behalf of the WSCT.
How can we improve?
Continue to maintain, replace or increase the sustainability and suitability of the infrastructure.
How are we going to achieve this?
Monitoring, liaison, and funding opportunities To manage the buildings and infrastructure in line with the merging site Masterplan.

Figure 15 – The under 8's play area

Equipment Maintenance

Where are we now?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Playground and outdoor gymnasium equipment is visually inspected by idVerde on a daily basis. Any identified defects or issues are reported to the Parks Team and if deemed necessary the item of equipment is decommissioned.• Adhere to LBHF Play Area Safety Policy.• Quarterly inspections are carried out by an independent accredited playground inspection company.• Reports are logged on Playmapping (an online playground management software system) which the council holds a license for. Issues are ranked very high, high, undesired and acceptable.

- Annual painting and treatment of benches by *idVerde*.
- Signs are washed annually by *idVerde*.
- Graffiti removal undertaken by *idVerde* .
- Street furniture such as bins, benches, gates and bollards are monitored by the Parks Team.
- Reports and defects identified by the park users can be reported via the council's 'Report It' app. This links directly to the Confirm database which can be accessed by Park Team staff.

How can we improve?

Continue to maintain, replace or increase the sustainability, suitability of the infrastructure.

How are we going to achieve this?

Monitoring, liaison, and funding opportunities

5.4 Environmental Management



Managing Environmental Impact

Where are we now?

- No weed killers are applied on the site where not required. Hand weeding, mulching, sweeping of paths is used to control weeds.
- All green waste is either composted on site or taken to the green waste composting heap within the borough and processed by *idVerde*.
- All new lighting projects will embrace the latest LED technology which subject to lighting design reduces energy consumption by around 50%, in turn this also reduces our carbon outputs as well.
- Where LEDs are installed, the directional properties of this light form, significantly reducing light spillage.
- Choosing recycled, recyclable or reusable materials where possible.
- Site users are encouraged to recycle and to take recyclables home for domestic recycling when recycling bins are not yet installed within the site.

- No artificial fertilizers are applied to the grass areas other than where required to sports areas by exception.
- The topology and heavy clay soils allow for surface water to run off site and cause issues for the Hospital and surrounding drainage networks.
- The 'Wet Woodland' by the Pony Centre is a sustainable urban drainage system (SUDS) where excess rain run-off is attenuated to reduce local flooding.

How can we improve?

Design and implement swales and SUDS areas to reduce surface water run-off from site.

Trial raising the height of cut on 4 north pitches to retain and allow to increase Butterfly friendly plants within the pitches.

Apply best practices and review.

How are we going to achieve this?

Monitoring, liaison, and funding opportunities

Design and implement swales and SUDS areas to reduce surface water run-off from site. The Swales could possibly lead to a small pond to create new habitat and solve a run-off problem.

Trial raising the height of cut on 4 north pitches to retain and allow to increase Butterfly friendly plants within the pitches and monitor the effect on wildlife and any detriment to sports play.

Reduce contaminants of waste entering the green waste recycling process and increase and improve the processing of green waste.



Figure 16 – Spring bulbs extending the flowering period for people and pollinators, also breaking up soil compaction.

Waste Minimisation

Where are we now?

- All green waste is either composted on site or taken to the green waste composting heap within the borough and processed by *idverde*.
- Choosing recycled, recyclable or reusable materials and where possible.
- Repairing and maintaining street furniture and using obsolete materials as habitat.
- When litter picking, *idVerde* separate out recyclable waste for recycling.

How can we improve?

Apply best practices and review.

Install recycling bins

How are we going to achieve this?

Monitoring, liaison, and funding opportunities



Chemical Use

Where are we now?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• We have an Integrated Weed Management Policy• No weed killers are applied generally on site• Hand weeding, and mulching, are used to control weeds.• No artificial fertilizers are applied to the grass areas other than where required to sports areas such as fine turf• The site is not gritted in Winter.
How can we improve?
Apply best practices and review.
How are we going to achieve this?
Monitoring, liaison, and funding opportunities

Peat Use

Where are we now?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No peat is used on the site.
How can we improve?
Continue.
How are we going to achieve this?
Continue.

Climate Change Adaptation Strategies

Where are we now?

- More than 25% of the site managed as meadow.
- More than 12% woodland tree canopy cover on the site.
- More than 11% of the site managed as Scrub/ meadow mosaic.
- More than 1,500 linear metres of the site maintained as wildlife friendly hedging.
- Paths designed to allow water to soak away into the park
- SUDS scheme beds in the wet woodland area of the site to take adjacent surface water run- off.
- Plants selected to tolerate average London rainfall
- Regular mulching of shrubs to help improve soils and buffer extreme weather conditions
- Bulb planting in seasonally dry rain shadow areas.
- Long grass areas, helping to reduce wear, compaction and operational carbon footprint providing habitat.
- 4 Electric Vehicle Charging Points

How can we improve?

Additional SUDS schemes and seasonal wet areas.

Apply best practices and review.

Pond

Increase tree canopy with native tree species

Manage woodland to allow more diverse understory to develop.

Continue to eradicate Japanese Knotweed.

Relocate the Gaelic football pitches and return that area to Meadow.

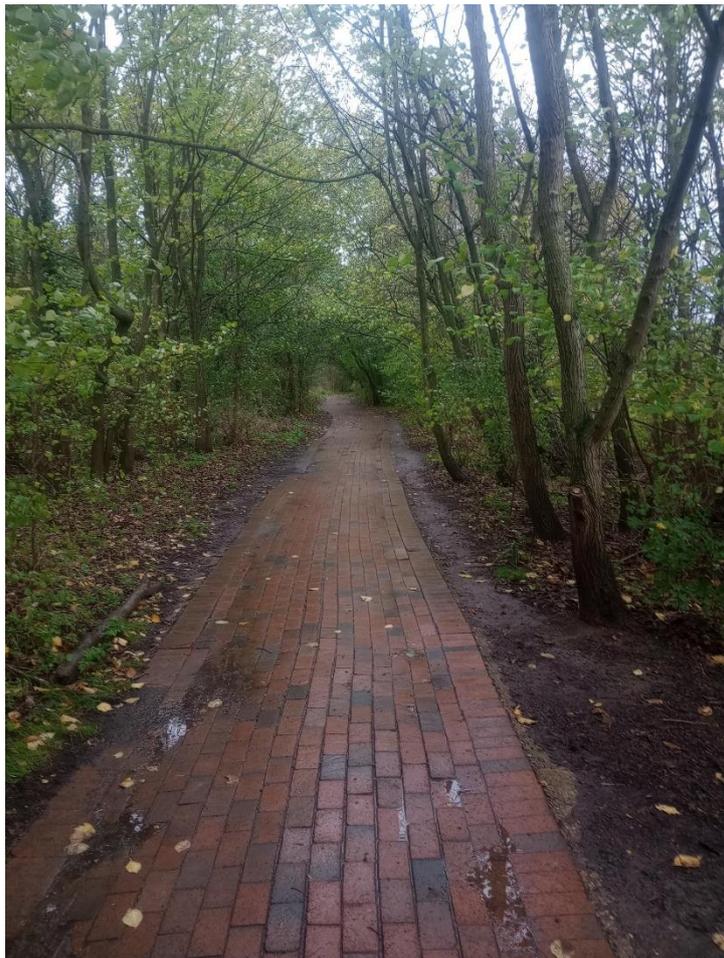
How are we going to achieve this?

Monitoring, liaison, and funding opportunities and work with volunteers and the Friends.

Implement the bio-diversity Masterplan 2022/23

Figure 17 – Bird boxes to attract smaller bird species such as sparrows.

5.5 Biodiversity, Landscape and Heritage



Management of Natural Features, Wild Flora and Fauna

Where are we now?

- A well established and diverse tree and shrub canopy.
- Many wooded areas with trees of a similar age and very low light levels for the herb layer or natural regeneration.
- Native and naturalized planting sympathetic and accessible to pollinators.

- Dead wood piles as habitat
- Bird boxes
- Bat boxes
- Bug hotels
- Log piles for Stag beetles and others.
- New wildflower area in 2022 for butterflies
- Friends and idVerde running wildlife and nature discovery activities including bat and bird walks, nature discovery.
- Monitoring of key indicator group species such as Bats, Birds, Butterflies, Mammals and Reptiles.
- 2 Forest school areas.
- Areas of hedge laying.
- Parts of the site designated as Local Nature Reserve.
- Parts of the site is designated as Site of Importance to Nature Conservation.

How can we improve?

Maintain and sustain planting to improve diversity of flora and fauna.

To act on recommendations to maintain and improve habitats.

Develop an annual volunteer work sheet.

Approve and deliver the Biodiversity Masterplan for the Scrubs. A draft version of the plan is currently being developed which will aim to improve, enhance and manage existing habitats through a 10 year maintenance and management plan and deliver additional features to diversify habitats.

How are we going to achieve this?

Monitoring, liaison, and funding opportunities and work with volunteers and the Friends group

Work to the Contract specification on habitat management and consider necessary improvements or changes to the habitats.

Partnership working with idverde, RSPB.

Working with Corporate Volunteers, Community Volunteers, the FoWS.

Further hedge laying in Autumn 2022.

Cut and collect areas of the meadow and selected young tree removal in the meadows 2022.

Manage and implement control measures of invasive non-native species.
Deliver the Biodiversity Masterplan.



Figure 18 –

Conservation of Buildings and Structures



Where are we now?

- The site does not sit within a Conservation Area.
- A part of the site is Metropolitan Open Land
- Most of the Site is Common Land
- The majority of the sites lies with the OPDC planning authority area.
- There are no listed buildings, structures, or buildings of merit.
- There is a memorial to the 3 Police officers killed in 1966
- Historic firing butts wall at Linford Christie Stadium.

How can we improve?

Positive management of features

How are we going to achieve this?

Work with colleagues in Planning Department to establish and maintain best practice.

Figure 19–

5.6 Community Involvement



Community Involvement in Management and Development

Where are we now?

- The Friends group established working with the council to help apply for funding to facilitate improvements and deliver community events within the site.
- Friends and community groups assist with volunteering task by idVerde via the Parks Ambassador role and Community and Ecology Adviser on site.
- Friends of Wormwood Scrubs website and events.



- Community Garden.



- WSCT Trust Manager for the site.
- Regular on-site engagement with the Parks Ambassador role and Community and Ecology Adviser.

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Active adjacent stakeholders include: local schools, residents.
How can we improve?
Continue regular liaison and dialogue with all key stakeholders.
How are we going to achieve this?
Officer and community time Development of a stakeholder engagement plan for the site 2022/23.

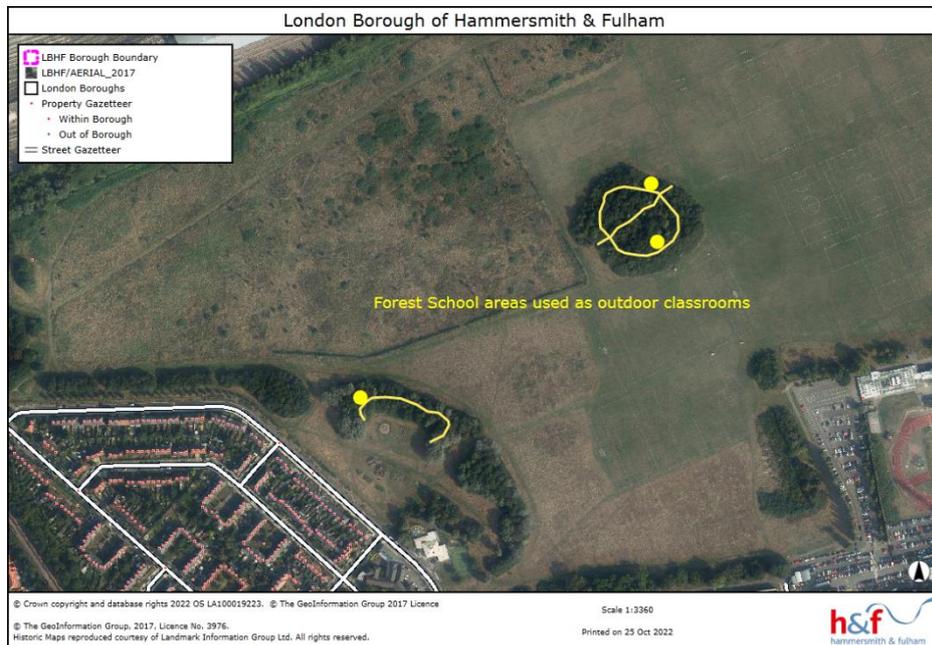
Figure 20 – .



Appropriate Provision for Community

Where are we now?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• We manage all facilities for the benefit of the community• Wormwood Scrubs Pony Centre used by people varied abilities, varying disabilities.• Car Parking for Hospital staff and visitors• Car Parking for Site visitors.

- BMX training.
- 2 X Forest school zones.



- Various Sports training, predominantly ball sports.
- Major school sports days and sporting venue.
- Annual Tackle Africa sporting event.
- 'Race for Life' venue.
- Park Run for free on weekends.
- 3 X free to use outdoor gymnasia
- Cycle routes.
- Play areas.
- Model Aircraft Flying Zone.
- Popular with Birdwatchers.
- Community Garden.
- American Baseball League
- Thames Valley Harriers Athletic Club
- Kensington Dragons FC
- Community Room in Linford Christie Stadium
- Gaelic Football Pitch
- A large number Bookings on grass pitches 2022:
- 11 aside – 95 bookings

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 9 aside – 15 booking• 7 aside – 1 booking• Baseball pitches – 18 weekends bookings (usage of 73 pitches in total, an average of 5 pitches per Saturday)• Gaelic – 39 bookings• Lacrosse – 15 bookings• Friends group noticeboards.• 4 Electric vehicle charging points.• We regularly engage with the Friends group and other stakeholders to ensure their needs are met and reviewed regularly
How can we improve?
<p>Continue regular liaison and dialogue with key local stakeholders to ensure provision is appropriate and suitable.</p> <p>Provide a toilet and café facility for the wider community of users on-site.</p>
How are we going to achieve this?
<p>Make improvements subject to requests and funding.</p> <p>WSCT to support The Thames Valley Harriers in re-developing their clubhouse on the Linford Christie Stadium site to facilitate a café space, with a toilet that is open to the public.</p>

Figure 21 – The Friends of WS running community activity days.



5.7 Marketing and Communication

Marketing and Promotion

Where are we now?

- WSCT management and engagement with interested parties and stakeholders.
- The Friends' website: <https://www.friendsofthescrubs.uk/>
- Social network groups also used by Friends: Next Door,
- <https://www.lbhf.gov.uk/arts-and-parks/parks-and-open-spaces/park-friends-groups>
- Posters / Banners on site
- H&F Website / Social Media
- Events / Consultation exercises

How can we improve?

To engage in new ways and formats to encourage inclusivity for the space.
WSCT to develop an inclusivity framework for users of the space.

How are we going to achieve this?

Continue regular liaison and dialogue with key stakeholders.

Appropriate Educational and Interpretational Information



Where are we now?

- The Friends a noticeboard signs in the park help promote community participation and provide contact details for events in the park.
- 2 Forest School areas available for free use to local and borough wide schools.
- Free community sports coaching on site.
- Kensington Aldridge Academy on site.
- BMX training on site.
- Horse riding training on site.
- Marked running circuit for Park Run and others free to use.
- Some wildlife interpretation

How can we improve?

To continue review and modernize how information is conveyed. To install new signs in 2023 for Forest schools.

Consider more wildlife interpretation and educational signs.

To develop an 'ecology hub' on the Scrubs

How are we going to achieve this?

Ongoing community involvement, funding and officer time

Conduct a site audit to understand the most appropriate location to place an ecology hub. Implement an income generation plan to secure funding and begin development of this prospective asset.

5.8 Management

Implementation of Management Plan

Where are we now?

- The WSCT, The Friends of Wormwood Scrubs, idVerde , RSPB and the Parks Team have combined to write and implement this management plan with aspirations for the park.
- This management plan will be reviewed annually.
- Regular feedback is provided to the grounds maintenance contractor to ensure continuous improvement
- External contractors are managed to deliver capital works projects
- The Parks Team co-ordinate with other Council teams to deliver relevant services on the site (sports, events etc.)

How can we improve?

To continue effective dialogues and communication

How are we going to achieve this?

Officer and stakeholder time



6. SITE IMPROVEMENTS

6.1 Annual Operational Activities

This is a list of activities undertaken on the site over the last year.

Description	Objective	Date Completed	Funding Source
Monitoring of Grounds maintenance and infrastructure	To maintain the quality and of the site	Ongoing	Revenue
Maintenance of play areas	To maintain the safety of the equipment following quarterly inspections	Ongoing	Revenue
Site management plan	To maintain the quality of the park and review the management plan	Annual	Revenue
Tree works	Continue the 3 yearly tree survey and carry out recommended works	Ongoing	Revenue
Liaison with the stakeholder group	To liaise with the Friends group as required	Ongoing	Revenue

6.2 Key Improvements Delivered

This list of improvements has been delivered in recent years in conjunction with the Friends group and other stakeholders.

Description	Objective	Date Completed	Funding Source	Value
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COVID-19	Installing public health banners, Social distancing markings, temporary fences, locking areas, and making the site secure when required.	2020	PUBLIC HEALTH	
COVID-19 BANNERS AND INFORMATION	TO INFORM THE PUBLIC OF VACCINATION SITES AND TEST SITES AND OTHER COVID-19 RELATED INFORMATION	2020-2021	PUBLIC HEALTH	
COVID-19 TESTING AREA	TO PROVIDE A SAFE AREA FOR COVID-19 SYMPTOMATIC TESTING	2021	PUBLIC HEALTH	
SIGNS TO INFORM AND DISCOURAGE ACCESS TO THE MEADOWS FOR BIRD NESTING SEASON	SIGNS TO INFORM AND DISCOURAGE ACCESS TO THE MEADOWS FOR BIRD NESTING SEASON	2021	WSCT	

ACCESS ROAD FROM SCRUBS LANE	TO RESURFACE THE ROAD FOR SAFE ACCESS	2021	WSCT	
INSTALLATION OF NEW FOWS (FRIENDS OF WORMWOOD SCRUBS) NOTICEBOARDS	TO HELP TO IMPROVE ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION	2021	WSCT	
BULB PLANTING	TO CREATE A 200 M LONG BULB PLANTED AREA ALONG THE RED BIRCK PATH WEEK IN THE EASTERN WOODLAND	2021	WSCT- FOWS VOLUNTEERING	
DEMENTIA GROUP BULB PLANTING	TO CREATE A 100 M LONG BULB PLANTED AREA TO FLOWER DURING DEMENETIA WEEK IN MAY IN THE NORTH EASTERN WOODLAND	2021	PUBLIC HEALTH	
TREES- WHIP PLANTING IN THE EASTERN WOODLAND BOUNDARY	TO FURTHER DIVERSIFY CANOPY	2021	HS2	

SIGNS TO INFORM AND DISCOURAGE ACCESS TO THE MEADOWS FOR BIRD NESTING SEASON	SIGNS TO INFORM AND DISCOURAGE ACCESS TO THE MEADOWS FOR BIRD NESTING SEASON	2022	WSCT	
TREES	TREE REPLACEMENTS UNDERTAKEN	2022	WSCT/ HS2	
HEDGE LAYING	To thicken up the eastern section of the wildlife hedge along the edge of the eastern meadow	2022	HS2-IDVERDE/ FOWS/VOLUNTEERS	

6.3 Plan for Future Improvements

This is a list of aspirational improvements for the site which have been drafted in conjunction with the Friends groups and other stakeholders. We will work with our partners to secure funding to deliver them in future years.

AREA	DESCRIPTION OF WORKS	FUNDING SOURCE	PROPOSED DATE FOR WORKS
Wildlife hedge	FURTHER HEDGE LAYING, SOUTHERN BOUNDARY OF THE MEADOW	WSCT	2022
Bio-diversity Masterplan	MEADOW MANAGEMENT, WOODLAND MANAGEMENT, CREATION OF SUDS FOR INCREASED BIODIVERSITY AND IMPROVED DRAINAGE, IMPROVE ACCESS ROUTES, INSTALL INTERPRETATION AND DIRECTIONAL SIGNAGE, EXTEND AREAS OF WOODLAND, PLANT FRUIT AND FLOWERING TREES, IMPROVE STRUCTURE OF HEDGES.	HS2	2023
SITE ENTRANCE IMPROVEMENTS	UTILISE FUNDING FROM THE OPDC TO IMPROVE ACCESS AT 3 MAIN ENTRANCE POINTS ON THE SCRUBS. PATHS ARE TO BE FORMALISED AND MADE FROM A DURABLE ECOLOGICAL MATERIAL	OPDC	2023
INSTALL NEW PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT ON BRAYBROOK ST.	INSTALL SEVERAL PIECES OF NEW EQUIPMENT TO PROVIDE A GREATER PROVISION OF PLAY ITEMS FOR 8 TO 12-YEAR-OLDS	HS2 COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT FUND	2023

INSTALL NEW TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SYSTEM ON WOODMAN'S MEWS	COMPLETE THE INSTALLATION OF A NEW TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SYSTEM TO IMPROVE SITE SECURITY AND REDUCE THE RISK OF UNAUTHORISED ACCESS AND TRAVELLER INCURSIONS	WSCT	2023
INSTALL NEW ACCESSIBLE BENCHES AT X2 ENTRANCES	TO CREATE A WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT AT ENTRANCES FOR ALL	WSCT	2023
DEVELOP A CAFÉ SPACE ON THE LINFORD CHRISTIE STADIUM SITE	IN RESPONSE TO A RECENT CONSULTATION, DELIVER A CAFÉ FACILITY WITH ACCESSIBLE TOILETS.	Thames Valley Harriers / WSCT	2023
CONDUCT A SITE FEASIBILITY STUDY – EVENT VEHICULAR ACCESS	TO DEVELOP AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE LEAST ECOLOGICALLY IMPACTFUL SITE ENTRANCE TO DEVELOP FOR VEHICULAR ACCESS	WSCT	2023
TREE PLANTING	X20 GUSERVA PAPERBARK MAPLES PLANTED WITH VOLUNTEERS	GUSERVA INTERFAITH	2022

