

1: DRAFT MASTERPLAN THEMES



The word cloud features terms such as: nature, stream, space, park, green, area, play, children, walk, open, dog, trees, nice, playground, wildlife, place, woodland, close, quiet, safe, grass, left, local, cut, beautiful, fact, path, birds, people, year, lovely, peaceful, equipment, Hill, centre, wild, Brooklands, location, woods, feel, short, running, town, good, home, kids, access, feel, short, running, town, good, home, kids, access, feel, short, running, town, good, home, kids, access.

What we have heard so far:

The ‘wordcloud’ above was created by information gathered during the first round of questionnaires during summer 2021.

These, together with further comments, information and ideas received by the community and key stakeholders, have influenced the over arching themes.

These themes represent an emerging vision for the future of Brooklands Park and help to articulate the shared values from those who have responded to the community and stakeholder engagement process so far.

THE OVER ARCHING THEMES FOR THE FUTURE OF BROOKLANDS PARK



NATURE (WILD) FOR EVERYONE

What this means:

- BRINGING WILDLIFE CLOSE TO THE TOWN CENTRE
- CONNECTING PEOPLE TO NATURE
- ECO AREAS WITH BIRD HIDES, BUG HOTELS AND INTERPRETATION
- WILDERNESS ALONG THE STREAM CORRIDOR
- WILDFLOWER MEADOWS / RELAXED MOWING
- CLEANER WATERS
- COMMUNITY PLANTING EVENTS



PLAY (FUN) FOR EVERYONE

What this means:

- WIDER VARIETY OF PLAY EXPERIENCES THROUGHOUT THE PARK (ALL AGES / ALL ABILITIES)
- COMBINATION OF EQUIPMENT AND NATURAL PLAY
- OPPORTUNITY FOR SCULPTURAL PLAY FEATURES
- PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY FOR INCREASED HEALTH AND WELL BEING THROUGH PLAY



ACCESS (PLACE) FOR EVERYONE

What this means:

- IMPROVED ENTRANCES / BOUNDARIES
- CIRCULAR TRAILS / PATHS
- ALL WEATHER (WIDER) PATHS
- MORE SEATING
- PICNIC AREAS
- INTERPRETATION / ACCESS TO INFORMATION
- ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS
- BETTER ACCESS TO THE STREAM

WATER

The topic of ‘water’ runs through all the themes. It is something that was mentioned a lot by those who responded to the first questionnaire and by stakeholders involved so far. The existing stream, although mostly hidden, presents an excellent opportunity to celebrate the parks unique landscape qualities.

- PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT OF THE STREAM / BROOK
- CELEBRATING THE STREAM AS THE KEY ATTRACTION / FEATURE
- GETTING ACCESS TO THE WATER
- SUSTAINABLE FLOOD MANAGEMENT / DRAINAGE
- BRINGING THE LIDO BACK TO LIFE (A LONG TERM ASPIRATION FOR EAST GRINSTEAD)

Precedent images are used to demonstrate potential successful outcomes

2: DRAFT MASTERPLAN



LEGEND

- MSDC site boundary
- Existing trees
- Proposed trees
- Selective vegetation clearance
- Enhanced woodland
- Proposed wildflower rich meadows
- Existing footpath enhanced
- Proposed footpaths
- Proposed boardwalk
- Informal footpath
- Proposed wall / bridge enhancements
- Proposed bench / seating
- Existing stream
- Existing spring
- Proposed wetland
- Proposed playspaces
- Proposed wildlife viewing area
- Enhanced carpark
- Proposed footpath steps
- Contour lines (illustrative only)

- 1. Wetland boardwalk
- 2. Bridge and beach
- 3. Wildflower slopes
- 4. Adventure playspace
- 5. Informal play / feature
- 6. Better access
- 7. Carpark
- 8. The Viewpoint
- 9. Events space*

* This is the site of the old Lido / outdoor swimming pool. There is some aspiration to bring back a Lido to East Grinstead. This will need further feasibility study / a commercial business case / additional funding.

MORE INFORMATION AND UPDATES CAN BE FOUND ON:
www.midsussex.gov.uk/leisure-sport/parks/

3: POTENTIAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

There are 9 potential improvement project ideas for Brooklands Park:



1. Wetland boardwalk

- naturalising the edges of the stream creating meanders and areas of wetland planting;
- creating new timber boardwalk paths through the wetland;
- adding interesting information / interpretation / signage;
- providing seating / picnic areas; and daylighting the stream / brook at the northeast corner of the park and creating a wetland area for people and wildlife



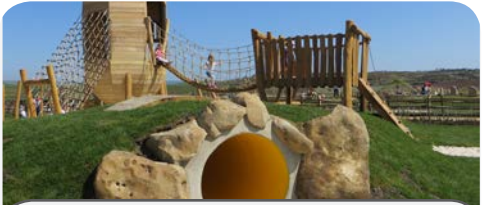
2. Bridge and beach

- improved surfacing / wider path;
- enhanced access down to the stream / brook creating a larger beach area south of the bridge;
- adding interesting information / interpretation / signage; and
- providing seating / picnic areas.



3. Wildflower slopes

- meadow rich grasses on banks / slopes;
- improved drainage;
- opportunity for bug hotels;
- potential interpretation; and
- informal picnic areas.



4. Adventure playspace

- new play equipment;
- natural play features;
- enhanced fencing / gates;
- realigned paths;
- areas of new seating; and
- enhanced planting



5. Informal play / feature

- nature play / bug hotels;
- sculpture play features;
- informal seating; and
- enhanced planting.



6. Better access / new paths

- wider / resurfaced paths;
- additional paths;
- park benches / seating; and
- improved signage at entrances.



7. Carpark improvements

- improved drainage;
- improved edging / surfacing;
- improved signage;
- tree planting; and
- new access paths.



8. The Viewpoint

- wildlife / bird viewing platform;
- interpretation / signage;
- events / activities;
- community planting / maintenance; and
- seating with a view



9. Events space

- flat area of grass for events;
- new paths / access;
- tree planting;
- seating;
- events / activities;
- potential for power supply; and
- future proofed for potential Lido / outdoor swimming pool*

* The proposed events space could lend itself well to restoring the Lido that once stood there, potentially in the form of a naturalised outdoor swimming pool. However, this will need further consideration in the context of a demand and need analysis study and more detailed commercial business case.

Precedent images are used to demonstrate potential successful outcomes