ARLEY WOODS AND BANKFIELD GREEN MASTERPLAN

The site is seen as a valuable area of open space and a key component of the infrastructure of Hough Green with the potential to be developed as a high quality contemporary landscape park serving many of the recreational, sustainable transport and environmental needs of the neighbourhood.

Building on the existing mature landscape mosaic of grass, meadow and woodland plantation, and introducing a sensitive and subtle layer of infrastructure designed to facilitate a more diverse range of uses, the site will be transformed from 'playing field' to 'Park' with its own identity and value for the local population.

The existing parkland character, typified by open grass sward and plantation woodland, will be captilised on with key views being enhanced and landscape quality improved. A site wide infrastructure of new paths will blend into the landscape and provide extensive recreation routes through and around the parkland setting.

An extensive re-design of existing surfacing, lighting, and signage will be accompanied by the placing of contemporary furniture and feature structures throughout which will uplift and enliven the park and create opportunities for imaginative and 'accidental play', rest and relaxation and create a personality and true sense of place.

Environmental Sustainability: Design, products and services for this project will comply with HBC Environmental Sustainability Targets and Landscape Institute's Climate Change and Landscape policy paper 2021.

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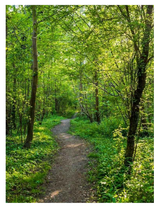
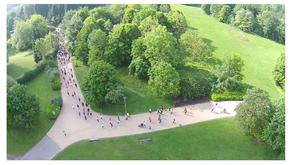
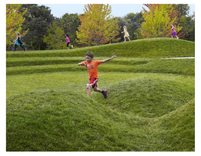
Cycleway and Access

The northern boundary will be widened to 5.0m and will function as both a green transport route and a recreational element of the park. This shared pedestrian and cycle route will include seating and links to neighbouring streets and greenspace. Adjacent spaces will be improved to help to 'green' the route further and the open space will have a low steel rail boundary to protect from un-authorised vehicles whilst retaining its open aspect. Car parking will be provided for sports pitch users to address congestion in residential car parking areas on match days.

Landscape Character

The existing character areas of grassland, meadow and woodland will be developed to create a high quality parkland landscape setting for people passing through the site and recreational users. The open grasslands will be retained and enhanced as a mosaic of varied grass and wildflower sward with filtered views between them created through careful management of the edges to woodland blocks. The woodlands themselves will be sensitively managed to improve structure and composition and a new network of generous paths will be sensitively laid out across the site interspersed with shaded 'groves' of specimen trees to encourage users to linger and enjoy the open space.

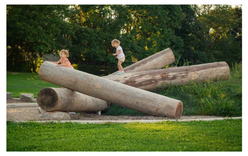


Furniture and Features

Alongside a revision of existing access controls, signage and street lighting, the park landscape will be subtly enlivened by the placing of contemporary furniture and feature structures. Monolithic in style and utilising playful shapes and designs, the features will bring added interest to the landscape experience whilst providing a practical and robust suite of both furniture and 'accidental' play opportunities for users across the site. These structures in the wider landscape also relate to the concept of natural play which is fully realised in the proposed 'Natural Play Hub'.

Sport, Recreation and Play

The park will retain it's original important function as a venue for organised sports with improvements to access, parking and grass-pitches. In order to diversify recreational and sports use further the new path infrastructure will provide loops to encourage use of the site by walkers and runners. The upgrade of the existing MUGA court and inclusion of a Service Point will provide potential for future development of facilities for all users. In addition, the concept of 'Natural Play' will be developed through low key and subtle interventions across the site alongside the development of a 'Natural Play Hub'. Interventions will comprise landform, tree planting and inspiring natural play features.



Notes:

Key:

- Boundary Railing - Phase 1
- Principal Entrance Point improvements: Access controls, surfacing, signage.
- Secondary Entrance Point improvements: Access controls, surfacing.
- Existing Footpath (refurbished)
- New Footpath (tarmac construction)
- New Woodland Footpath (no-dig construction)
- Key view (enhanced)
- LC Lighting Column
- Bench Seating
- Feature Furniture
- Natural Play Features
- Amenity Grassland
- Meadow Grassland
- Woodland (Existing)
- Standard Tree (Existing)
- Standard Tree (Proposed)
- Standing Water

Existing Woodland*:

WD 1	Broad Leaved Semi-natural
WD 2	Broad Leaved Semi-natural
WD 3	Broad Leaved Plantation
WD 4	Broad Leaved Semi-natural
WD 5	Broad Leaved Semi-natural
WD 6	Broad Leaved Plantation
WD 7	Broad Leaved Semi-natural
WD 8	Broad Leaved Plantation
DS1 - 5	Dense Scrub

Existing Grassland*:

G1	Semi-improved Neutral
G2	Improved

* Refer to CWT Site Description and Management Form (CWT 09/07/2020)

Scale: 0 25m

N

REVISIONS

HALTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

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Strategic Director
Community & Environment Department
Open Space Services
Picow Farm Depot
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WA7 4UB

ARLEY WOODS AND BANKFIELD GREEN

MASTERPLAN

Scale: NTS	Date: MAY 2021
Drawn by: MMc	Checked by:
Plan No: L/344/B/002	Rev: