

Parks Update 2018

Environment

27 November 2018

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BARNES

Vine Road

Vine Road Cricket Pavilion was refurbished over the summer, 2 changing rooms, community room, public toilets, kitchen and mess room were all fully revamped to the highest spec. The building is now home to the Friends of Barnes Common. The Friends also installed a polytunnel this summer!

Status: complete

Suffolk Road Recreation Ground

The Council and Friends of Suffolk Road Recreation Ground are working together to carry out a number of improvements to Suffolk Road Rec. The improvements include the creation of a new play area that includes a mixture of natural and traditional play such as a sand pit, multi-play, a number of swings, a ground trampoline and play panels. The play area will be within a dog free area along the right hand side of the park. The Council and Friends Group are working towards a completion date of January 2019.

A second phase of improvements will see the creation of a sensory garden within the dog free area and the installation of new flowers shrubs, trees and parks furniture throughout the Recreation Ground.

Status: Ongoing

Barnes Green

'Friendly Park for All'

The Council has been working with a number of organisations, including the Dementia Action Alliance, the village planning teams and care organisations based in Barnes who work with people with dementia and their carers to deliver Richmond's first 'Friendly for All' park.

The following improvements were carried out; the existing pathways around the pond were replaced with a new flat surface that has been widened to accommodate all users. New fencing has been installed around the edge of the pond so that users can get closer to the water but remain safe. New seating has been installed at regular intervals as this was outlined in the consultation as a key component for people with dementia. Waymarkers were also installed at each entrance of the Green to help visitors familiarise themselves with their surroundings and a 'chatty chair' and a totem pole meeting point were also installed

All the new facilities have been designed so that they suit the setting of Barnes Green and will appeal to all park users. The way markers reflect the ecology of Barnes Pond. The Council are also developing interpretation boards, increasing the provision of disabled parking and a programme where people with dementia and their carers are offered appropriate led-activities in the park once a month from May to October. It is an opportunity to take part in stimulating activities, get outside for the benefit of their health and well-being, and to socialise. The programme has come directly from the public consultation with people with dementia and their carers, who said that they would like more organised outdoor activities suitable for their situation. The Council is working with care

organisations to promote the activities to the people who would benefit most. The Council is now working on similar projects at other sites including Heathfield Recreation Ground and Ham Village Green.

Status: Ongoing

Heathfield Recreation Ground

'Friendly Park for All'

Following the success of our pilot 'Friendly for All' project on Barnes Green, the Council is working on a similar project at Heathfield Recreation Ground. We are reviewing the provision of seating and looking to improve user's navigation of the open space through the installation of way markers and a sensory trail.

A funding application was made to the London Marathon Charitable Trust to upgrade the outdoor gym that exists on the site. Following a successful funding bid the new equipment will be tailored to benefit older users and help to improve mobility. It will be the second Friendly Park in the borough following the development of the concept at Barnes Green.

The Council has been working closely with the Art and Design students at the London Borough of Richmond College to design an art installation as part of the improvements to Heathfield Recreation Ground. The sculpture chosen by a panel of Council Members, officers and members of the Dementia Action Alliance is complete and installed – a large armchair which signified comfort and home.

As with Barnes Green, the Council are also developing interpretation boards, increasing the provision of disabled parking and a programme where people with dementia and their carers are offered appropriate led-activities in the park once a month from May to October. It will be an opportunity to take part in stimulating activities, get outside for the benefit of their health and well-being, and to socialise. The launch of the Friendly Parks at Heathfield was early in November when the Mayor official unveiled the sculpture.

A public meeting was held on the 19th Nov with aim of establishing a Friends of Heathfield Rec SWLEN leading on this project.

Status: Ongoing

EAST SHEEN

Palewell Common

The existing boggy wet area is being landscaped and a formal scrape has been created which will be planted up with native marginal plants. This should create a pond/wetland area which will increase the diversity of the site, linking to the woodland and provide a feature of interest for visitors to the park. Seating nearby will be installed at a later date.

Status: Ongoing

The pitch and putt golf course at Palewell Common has undergone a re-design to improve the layout and install new features throughout the course.

Status: Complete

Sheen Common

The old small depot has been removed and a turning circle and 3 disabled parking spaces and 3 drop off spaces have been created in its place. The majority of the access road has been re-surfaced and bollards have been installed to prevent any inappropriate parking. A new bar-gate and bollards have also been installed by the entrance of Sheen Common on Fife Road.

Status: Complete

KEW

North Sheen

A series of footpath improvements were carried out over recent months, with turfing being carried out this week to the bare areas. These will remain fenced off to allow them to establish. Tarmac repairs to the playground will also be taking place in the coming week to improve accessibility.

Status: Ongoing

St Luke's Open Space

The Council is continuing to discuss and revise proposals that would improve the community garden at St Lukes Open Space. The proposals are to create a new entrance on Sandycombe Road and to upgrade the existing planting scheme with new perennial shrubs. Other improvements include resurfacing and installing a permanent chess board for users to enjoy. The Council is intending to start work on this site in the Jan 2019.

Status: Ongoing

Thames Towpath

Resurfacing of section of towpath from Kew Pier to Kew Railway Bridge is currently underway to improve accessibility for all.

Status: Ongoing

MORTLAKE

Mortlake Green

Following a public consultation, the Council installed a number of new play items on Mortlake Green. Outside of the existing play area the Council has installed a new Basket Swing and Trim Trail on Mortlake Green along with a new outdoor seating area. A new space net, two play panels, a number of play/activity markings and a new interactive game has been installed within the play area.

A bespoke play train in the design of a 20th century South Western Railway locomotive was also installed.

Status: Complete

TWICKENHAM RIVERSIDE

Diamond Jubilee Gardens has artificial turf laid on the lawn area, replacing the worn out grass which could not establish due to heavy footfall and poor soil conditions (old swimming pool underneath).

Works will start on the play beach in New Year to improve appearance as it was a temporary installation which was so popular it has become permanent.

STRAWBERRY HILL

Radnor Gardens

The Council has now completed the installation of a new ramp onto the bowling green. This project was delivered in partnership with the Friends of Radnor Gardens.

The Council has also installed a historical interpretation board in partnership with the Friends of Radnor Gardens, due to be installed in spring.

A new awning to provide shade and shelter for café users was installed in November following a £20 funding application to the Village Fund.

Status: Complete

HAMPTON

Hatherop Park

The former woods yard at the rear of the site has been reduced in size and will be used as a temporary storage facility for parks furniture. We are also trialling bee hives and are in the process of agreeing a lease agreement for two local bee keepers to house their bees in a small section of the compound. The area around the compound is being landscaped and the path to Oak Avenue has been widened to improve the site lines. A new circular path will be created and finger posts to direct walkers between the Green Link between Oak Avenue and Hatherop will be installed.

The small pond has been increased in size and will be planted up with native marginal vegetation. The increased pond area will allow for a greater diversity and numbers of wildlife to use the pond and greater resilience against drought and climate change. Common reed (*Phragmites australis*) will be planted to filter water draining in from the surrounding area and in particular the railway. A new boardwalk, steps and path upgrade will be constructed over winter as well as some selective crown lifting and tree removal to allow more light into the pond improving the health and viability of the new plants. We are also seeking to reform the Friends of Hatherop Park which will also include Oak Avenue. SWLEN leading on this project.

Status: Ongoing

RICHMOND

Old Deer Car Park

Working with the Richmond Society, the Friends of Richmond Green and Friends of Old Deer Park. The project was to improve entrances from Richmond Town Centre to the Old Deer Park Car Park and provide a welcoming gateway to Richmond. The improvements sought to improve accessibility in and out of the car park for motorists and pedestrians, improved visibility and general aesthetics of the car park.

The works outlined included:

- Footpath upgrades for safety and access, including laying breedon gravel toward Richmond Green & heritage gravel to town centre
- Installing bollards along the car park to protect pedestrians from parking vehicles
- Painting existing fencing/bollards/gates to improve visual appearance
- Creating new planters and adding flowering plants to create a welcoming entrance
- Directional signage to inform user
- Decluttering of signage in the car park and rationalising design
- Replacement of metal gates and height barriers with woodscape wooden gates and posts, which are more in keeping with the surroundings.

Status: Heritage Gravel to be laid 27/28th Nov to complete

HAM

Ham Village Green

As part of the Friendly Parks for All Project, we recently installed mosaic markers at each of the entries, these depict fruit to reflect the previous land use. We are also installing a semi-circular bench as a meeting point and some uprights as markers that can be seen from all over the park, although these are still being fabricated. New waymarkers will be included on existing park furniture and we are working with Grey Court School. We recently held a sculpture competition and the winning piece as a wooden carved sculpture depicting a picnic. This will be in place in the near spring. There are also information boards about the history and ecology of the site in preparation. Information notices are going up on site today to explain the proposals.

Status: Ongoing

RICHMOND RIVERSIDE

Buccleuch and Terrace Gardens

The Council's has submitted planning permission, to convert the old toilet block into a cafe and refurbished public toilet provision following a positive public consultation. S106 from the Star and Garter development will be used to part fund this project.

Status: Ongoing

TWICKENHAM AND WHITTON

DUKE OF NORTHUMBERLAND RIVER

The installation of marginal vegetation north of Kneller Road was completed in four days as scheduled in September 2018. Around 274m of river edge habitat has now been created as part of the project, providing good connectivity for wildlife north of the A316.

The laying of the gravel path on this section has been put back to December or January. This path will be slightly narrower than that created further upstream in order to retain more natural vegetation. A longer path closure will be in place at that time, with advance notice given here and on site.

Other partners on this project include the Crane Valley Partnership, Friends of the River Crane Environment (FORCE) and the Environment Agency. A leaflet for the whole Duke's River Walk can be found on the [FORCE](#) website.

Status: For more information view the [project summary](#)  (pdf, 1106KB)

Further details will be posted as the work continues or please contact Steve Marshall in the Parks Team at steve.marshall@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk.

GENERAL PARKS PROJECTS

New Parks Framework

Continental Landscapes	Grounds Maintenance
Continental Landscapes	Sports Bookings
Continental Landscapes	Gate Locking
Continental Landscapes	Pitch and Putt
Park Guard	Park Warden/Security
Ideverde	Exterior Planting/Hanging Baskets
KPS	Tree Contractor
Park Events	The Event Umbrella
Barletts	Oak Processionary Moth Removal

Tree Planting

We will be planting over 500 trees this winter mainly on highway but also in parks. Some Friends Groups have successfully applied for GLA funding for trees also.

London in Bloom Results

- City Tour – Gold
- Large Park of the Year (Terrace Gardens) – Gold
- Park of the Year (York House Gardens) – Silver Gilt

- Common of the Year award (Barnes Common) – Gold but not overall winner as the title confusingly states
- Small Conservation Area (Pensford Field Environmental Trust) – Gold
- Churchyard of the Year (St Mary the Virgin, Lower Twickenham) – Silver
- London Village award (Lower Twickenham Village) – Silver Gilt
- London Village award (Ham & Petersham village) – Gold.
- Britain in Bloom Village award (Ham & Petersham) – Silver

Green Flag Results 2018/19

- [Buccleuch Gardens](#)
- [Cambridge Gardens](#)
- [Carlisle Park](#)
- [Crane Park](#) (joint with LB Hounslow)
- [Garrick's Lawn](#)
- [Ham Village Green](#)
- [Hampton Common](#)
- [Hatherop Park](#)
- [Kew Green](#)
- [Kneller Gardens](#)
- [North Sheen Recreation Ground](#)
- [Palewell Common and Fields](#)
- [Radnor Gardens](#)
- [Richmond Green](#)
- [Terrace Gardens](#)
- [The Kings Field](#)
- [Twickenham Green](#)
- [Westerley Ware](#)
- [York House Gardens](#)

Seeds of Change project - Walk this way

The Seeds of Change project is managed through the London Borough of Richmond Parks Department. It aims to encourage more use of parks and open spaces by local people.

New outdoor learning resources are available that can be downloaded free of charge from Richmond Council Website. There are Discovery Walks for Families as well as Learning Walks for Schools to use in any of the parks and open spaces in the borough. The walks have been designed so that the Family Walks complement the Learning Walks. They can be found here: http://www.richmond.gov.uk/services/parks_and_open_spaces/outdoor_learning_in_parks/walk_this_way

Public Space Protection Order

As of 16 October 2017, all parks and open spaces are controlled by Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs). These orders impose various restrictions to dog control and other activities in our parks and open spaces.

Dog control

The [Dog Control PSPO](#)  (pdf, 1.5 MB) replaces our existing Dog Control Orders and includes a restriction on the number of dogs that can be walked by one person. This has now been reduced from six to four.

Licences and permits

We have agreed to issuing 18 professional dog walking licences, allowing those with a permit to walk six dogs on one of six sites across the borough. Residents with more than 4 dogs can also apply for a resident permit to walk up to 6 dogs. 12 licences issued to Professional Dog Walkers.

Anti-social behaviour

The [anti-social behaviour PSPO](#)  (pdf, 14.4MB) outlines measures and restrictions to eliminate anti-social behaviour in our parks and open spaces.