

Report Title: **Muswell Hill Entrance footbridge proposals**

Report of: **Mark Evison, Park Manager, Alexandra Palace Charitable Trust**

**1. Purpose**

1.1 To inform the committees of the proposals by London Borough of Haringey's Recreation Services and ask if the committees have any advice they wish to offer the Alexandra Palace and Park Board.

**2. Recommendations**

2.1 That the committees note the content of this report.

2.2 The committees consider what advice, if any, they wishes to offer the Board.

Report Authorised by: **Mark Evison, Park Manager**.....

Contact Officer: **Mark Evison, Park Manager, Alexandra Palace & Park,  
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**3. Executive Summary**

3.1 Officers from Haringey Council's Recreation Services have been implementing an improvement project for the Parkland Walk. Alexandra Park is at the northern end of the Parkland Walk and funds have been allocated for improvements to a footbridge within the Alexandra Park and Palace conservation area.

3.2 The proposals are to remove the remaining sections of fibreglass canopy on the footbridge and install an open weld-mesh canopy.

**4. Reasons for any change in policy or for new policy development (if applicable)**

4.1 N/A

**5. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**

5.1 N/A

## **6. Background**

- 6.1 Officers from Recreation Services have been implementing an improvement project for the Parkland Walk over several years. Alexandra Park is at the northern end of this site and funding has been allocated for improvements to the Muswell Hill Pedestrian entrance.
- 6.2 To date, a section of damaged and unsightly chainlink fence has been replaced with black metal railings, and some sections of the old fibreglass canopy on the footbridge have been removed.
- 6.3 A metal 'weld-mesh' replacement canopy is proposed for three reasons:
  - the existing fibreglass canopy is old, discoloured and unsightly
  - a frame is required to maintain the stability of the railings on each side of the bridge.
  - a mesh structure is proposed to prevent objects from being thrown off the bridge.
- 6.4 Officers from Recreation Services have consulted the Planners and have been advised that planning permission is required because this proposal is located within in the Alexandra Park and Palace conservation area.
- 6.5 The Park Manager is in favour of this improvement as it will remove the existing eyesore and reduce the shelter available from the weather and will hopefully deter those likely to act in an anti-social manner.
- 6.6 As this proposal requires a planning application the Advisory Committee must be consulted under Section 9(3) of the Alexandra Park and Palace Act. The Alexandra Palace and Park Board should have due and proper regard to any advice and use their best endeavours to give effect to such reasonable recommendations as are expedient in the interests of the charity and consistent with the trusts.
- 6.7 The functions of the Advisory Committee are laid out at paragraph 19 of Schedule 1 of the Act and the committee is required "to promote the objects of the charity and assist the trustees in fulfilling the trusts by considering and advising" on a number of matters.
- 6.8 Paragraph (v) of Schedule 1 relates to planning proposals on land that is within the ownership of the trustees and subject to the trusts upon which it is held.
- 6.9 The Consultative Committee can consider this item under the first object of its constitution: "To give representatives of appropriate local and national organisations the opportunity of full discussion on general matters affecting Alexandra Palace and Park."
- 6.10 Although the committees may decide to advise the Board of the impact this proposal may have on the park and palace, members are reminded that they may as groups, societies or individuals, comment on the proposals as part of the planning process.

- 6.11 Once the Board has considered any advice from these committees, a planning application will be submitted by officers. The project will only take place once planning permission has been secured. It is estimated that the project will be completed by Christmas 2011 and all works will be carried out by the Council's contractors.

**7. Recommendations**

- 7.1 That the Committee notes the content of this report.  
7.2 The Committee considers what advice, if any, it wishes to give to the Board.

**8. Legal Implications**

- 8.1 The Council's Acting Head of Legal Services has no comment on this report.

**9. Financial Implications**

- 9.1 The proposed works are part of scheme being implemented by Haringey Council. In addition to officer time, the trust will bear the costs of any planning application.  
9.2 The LBH Chief Financial Officer notes the contents of the report.

**10. Use of Appendices/Tables/Photographs**

- 10.1 Appendix 1: Scheme drawing.