

Report Title: **PARK ACTIVITIES UPDATE**

Report of: **Mark Evison, Park Manager**

1. Purpose

1.1 To inform the Committee of the recent activities carried out in Alexandra Park

2. Recommendations

2.1 That the Committee notes the report.

Report Authorised by: **Andrew Gill, Interim General Manager:**

Contact Officer: **Mark Evison, Park Manager,
Alexandra Park & Palace Charitable Trust, Alexandra Palace Way,
Wood Green N22 7AY. Tel No. 020 8365 2121.**

3. Executive Summary

3.1 This report details the activities and projects that have recently taken place in the park.

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 No specific background papers were used in compiling this report.

6. Description

- 6.1 The park has been busy with activities over recent months. The Moscow State Circus and funfair have been operating and the ever popular farmers' market continues. Other repeat events include the YMCA fun run and the annual Lakeside Art Exhibition, now in its third year.
- 6.2 The Springwatch Wild Day Out is due to take place on 5th June 2010. This event comprises a free family nature festival and a bioblitz. The BBC, Natural History Museum and Haringey Council are partners with the Trust for this event.
- 6.3 This bioblitz is a 24-hour race to identify as many different species on the site. This is the first major bioblitz in London or an urban park.
- 6.4 Volunteer activity in the park includes the monthly conservation tasks carried out by the BTCV. The volunteers have been replacing bridges and fencing and cutting back overgrown hedges.
- 6.5 The Friends of Alexandra Park have also been volunteering, including operating the information centre and organising the bird watching walk. Behind the scenes, the Friends have been developing a new park walk leaflet which should be ready in late summer.
- 6.6 The play area has benefited from three new small items of equipment, talking flowers, a land rover and a play panel.
- 6.7 The deer enclosure fencing has been extended, and the deer were moved to the new larger enclosure on 18th May.
- 6.8 The Park was entered again for the prestigious Green Flag Award. Also this year a submission was made for the Green Heritage Award. Judges will look at the extent to which applicants understand, acknowledge and share the heritage value of the site, and conserve, enhance and help people enjoy the heritage value of the site. The results of both competitions are expected in July.
- 6.9 The Haringey Council Biodiversity Action Plan has a target to declare a Local Nature Reserve at Alexandra Park. This designation recognises the importance of the site and is a possible lever to obtain more funding. Talks between the Council and the Trust are in the early stage.

7. Recommendations

- 7.1 That the Committee note the report.

8. Legal Implications

- 8.1 The Trust's solicitor was provided with a draft of this report and his advice has been taken into account in the production of this final version.
- 8.2 The LBH Head of Legal Services has been sent a copy of this report.

9. Financial Implications

- 9.1 The LBH Chief Financial Officer notes the content of this report.