

Alexandra Palace & Park Advisory Committee On 3 July 2007

Report Title: **HERITAGE LOTTERY LANDSCAPE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT UPDATE**

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

1. Purpose

1.1 To inform the Committee of the progress of the park project.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That the Committee note the report.

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

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

3. Executive Summary

3.1 With the exception of the approach roads, the contractor led portion of the project is complete, some direct expenditure items remain to be completed and this will be achieved before the end on the project in December 2007.

3.2 The new Park Manager started on 8th May 2007.

3.3 The lease negotiations for the park facilities are complete and they are now in the process of opening for the summer season.

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 Park Manager, Mark Evison commenced employment in May 2007.
- 6.2 The replacement (under warranty) of the failed anti-skid coating at the Bedford Road entrance is due to be carried out week commencing 25th June and should be completed within 10 days.
- 6.3 The tendering of the Pitch and Putt, Lakeside Café and Grove Kiosk has been completed and the negotiations on the lease terms of all three facilities are now complete.
- 6.4 Mr Ciro Amoruso is running the Grove Kiosk and it opened for drinks and snacks on 17th June.
- 6.5 The Lakeside Café is being operated by Mr Ahmet Yener and it opened on 23rd June with a snack and drink service accompanied by some light Jazz music. Once construction of the kitchen is complete he intends to offer an enhanced range of hot food, snacks and drinks.
- 6.6 The Pitch and Putt course has been laid out and the new greens have been seeded. It is hoped by Golfwise that their operation can commence in late July once the new grass has become sturdy enough to support regular play.
- 6.7 The new flower beds on the South Front were planted up at the end of May, our first floral display consists of various seasonal summer bedding with some hardy planting being planned for a winter display later in the year.
- 6.8 Further works shortly being implemented are:
- coir roll planting for the lake;
 - tree planting to screen new water treatment works (Funded by Thames Water);
 - footpath repairs in the Grove;
 - interpretative signage;
 - replacement bus shelter;
 - additional closed top litter bins.
- 6.9 LBH Highways are currently preparing detailed costing for the engineering works at the park approach roads. The latest draft scheme for the Muswell Hill entrance will be displayed at the meeting.
- 6.10 The Information Centre in the Grove is now open, initially for a trial period on Tuesday and Thursdays, 12.00pm to 2.00pm. It is hoped that the Friends of Alexandra Park will assist in increasing the opening hours.
- 6.11 City & Country Farmers' Markets Limited have renewed their contract for regular markets up until the end of March 2008.
- 6.12 A tour of the park for members of the Advisory and Consultative Committees has been arranged for 10th July, meeting at 5.45 pm under the BBC mast. Dominic Cole will lead the tour which will concentrate on the changes made to the park as part of the project.

7. Summary and Conclusions

7.1 n/a

8. Recommendations

8.1 That the committee note the report.

9. Legal and Financial Implications

9.1 The Acting Director of Finance and the Trust's Solicitor have been sent copies of this report.

10. Equalities Implications

10.1 n/a

11. Use of Appendices/Tables/Photographs

11.1 Sketch showing proposal for the layout of the Muswell Hill entrance will be displayed at the meeting.