



# Friends of Wimbledon Park

## Conservation Management Plan & FOWP Project Plan

### 1) Conservation Management Plan<sup>1</sup>

- a. In caring for, or managing change in, historic parks, there are often many features, historic layers and diverse interests like biodiversity to consider as well as the business and economic viability of the park. Conservation management plans have been developed as tools to help pull together an understanding of what matters and why, and how to conserve and manage it. From this informed basis, plans are then used to guide programmes of restoration or to draw up proposals for improvement.

### 2) FOWP Project Plan priorities for 2014

- a. In order to implement a Conservation Management Plan for the public park, golf course and Wimbledon Club (“the park” below), FOWP produced their Project Plan. So without losing sight of the overall vision and guiding principles this allows work to be done on priority programmes, and ideas to be developed that fit this vision,. Three main programmes have been identified at the start of 2014 for development. These are:
  - b. **Wimbledon Club and the Stadium.** Martin Sumpton has been asked by The Wimbledon Club and in particular The Wimbledon Hockey Club to prepare a design brief for the works required to install a hockey pitch in the stadium and to enable multi-sports use as well as restoring the athletics’ facilities. It is also anticipated that the water sports activities could be re-housed adjacent to the stadium.
  - c. **Revelstoke Road.** A survey was carried out by FOWP concerning traffic in the road, pavements and at the entrance into the park. This was partly on behalf of Southfields Grid Residents Association (SGRA) and Wimbledon Park Residents Association (WPRA). The results supported a 20 mph speed limit, pavement changes and re-designed pathways into the park.
  - d. **Trees** are important for the landscape and biodiversity of this park and the recent tree works on the golf course, the clearance of trees in Horse Close Wood, the need to modify the type and number of trees surrounding the stadium and the blowing over of trees alongside Wimbledon Park Brook suggest that adequate Tree Preservation Orders are needed for the whole of the 60 ha park. This would help towards a common purpose that included nature conservation and landscape.

### 3) Consultation process

- a. Park owners and managers will need to be in agreement and we suggest that this would result in an overall gain that is greater than the sum of the parts.
- b. As the borough boundary roughly cuts through the centre of the park, works will require coordination and cooperation between the two boroughs and this note is an alert to this need.
- c. We regard feedback from park users, park officers and all others with an interest in the park as an essential part of developing these and other projects. We plan to include children in this exercise.
- d. Progress notes will be circulated at appropriate times and these will also be found on our website.
- e. As mentioned before the Project Plan will be used to ensure compatibility of proposed works with the Conservation Management Plan.

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<sup>1</sup> Based upon the English Heritage website.