

Broomfield Park Wetland Proposal

Summer 2017

Public Consultation



Introduction

This document is intended to introduce the ideas and concepts for a proposed **wetland** scheme at Broomfield Park.

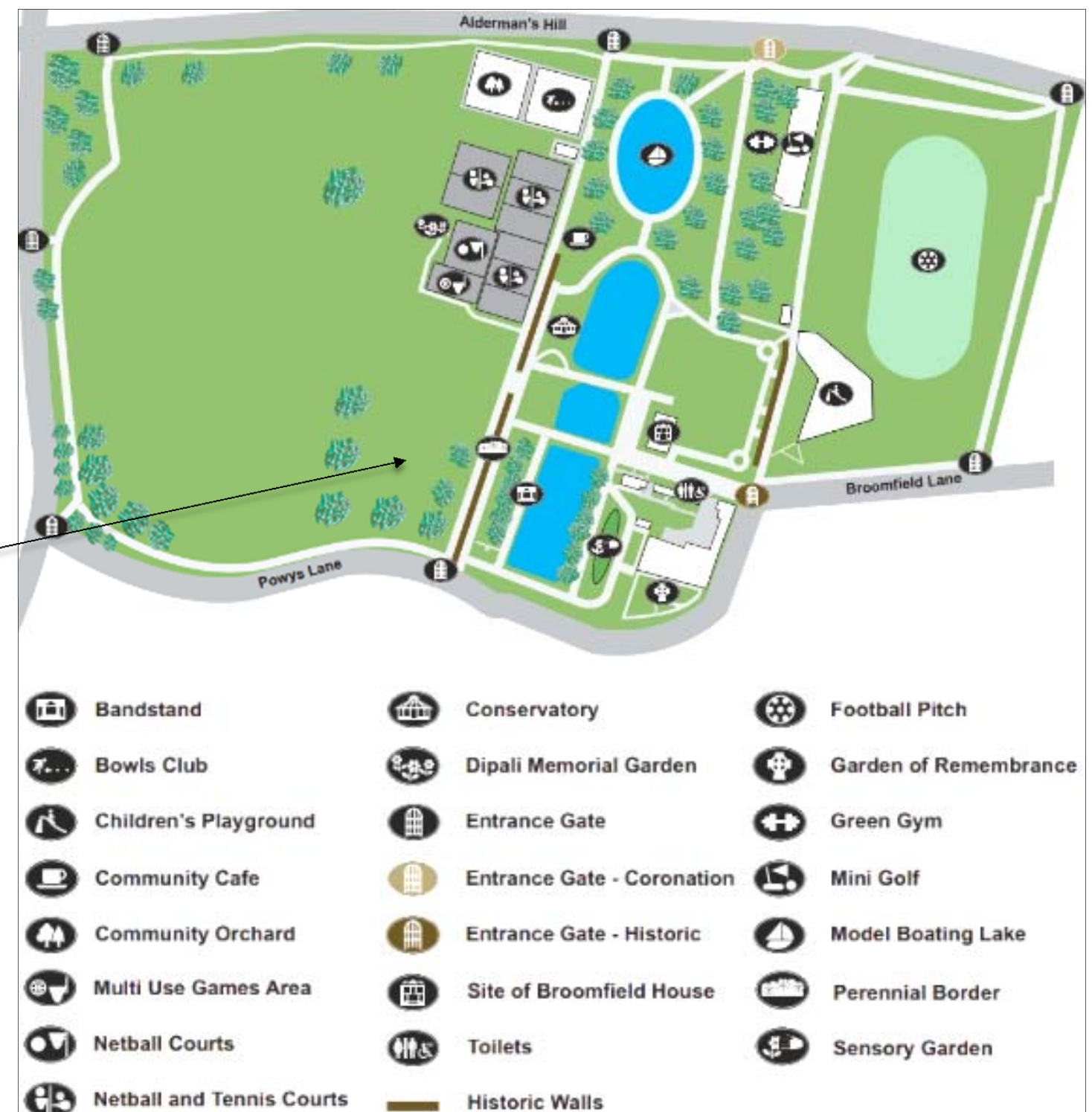
Broomfield Park is owned and managed by Enfield Council for the benefit and enjoyment of the public. The park is located in Palmers Green. The gardens and open parkland originally grew up around Broomfield House from the 16th – 20th centuries. Until 1903 the site was under private ownership.

The park is distinguished by a mix of uses for recreation, sport and leisure.

A new wetland feature in the park would be located at the south-east corner of the open grassland near the Powys Lane entrance.

The aims and objectives of the scheme are introduced in this document as well as historical, heritage and environmental context.

There are details at the end of the document which outline how you can comment on the scheme, including a questionnaire.



Plan of Broomfield Park and facilities

Broomfield Park Wetland - Proposals

The proposal for this project is to create a new wetland habitat. The benefits of this wetland project include:

- ✓ Reduction in flood risk for properties in the local area and downstream, by increasing the storage of flood waters for extreme events
- ✓ Improvements in water quality in the Pymmes Brook catchment through natural, restorative treatment
- ✓ Opportunities for community participation
- ✓ Enhancements in biodiversity by creating diverse and interesting habitat areas
- ✓ Greater variety of land types with new views and spaces to enjoy
- ✓ Improve drainage from some water logged areas of the park



Proposed view point A (see plan overleaf). View to the east.



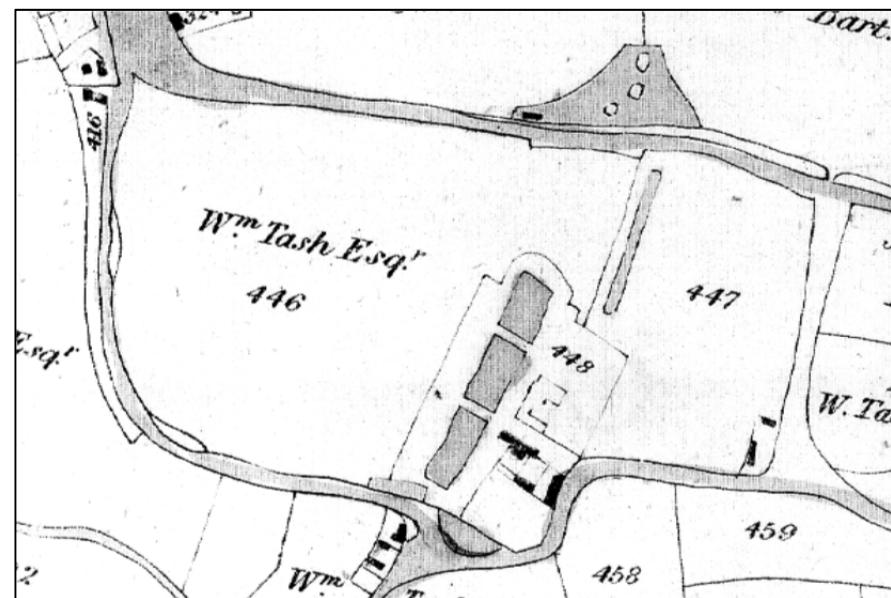
Broomfield Park Wetland Proposals

- Wetland environment consisting of two cells approximately 1500m² total area – equivalent of 5 tennis courts
 - Depth of water held 300mm – just a bit less than a bowling pin
- Does not require the removal of any trees and retains paths and other features of interest such as the terrace
 - Provides a new aquatic environment in contrast to the formal lakes to the east
 - Retains a large area of open grass parkland to the north and west

Heritage / History

There is a history of water features in the landscape in this area of the park which are documented in a Conservation Management Plan produced for Broomfield Park (2016):

1754 to 1801 – existence of a formal rectangular fishpond in the south-east corner of the parkland. Among the possibilities to consider, one is that this area which is currently surrounded by subtle earthen banks was an overflow / feeder reservoir for the water garden in the formal garden area.



Extract from 1801 Edmonton Enclosure Map

1801 to 1865 - at some point during this period the pond was replaced by a stream which extended along the southern boundary parallel to Powys Lane



Extract from the 1842, 6 Inch OS Map

1896 to 1914 – the stream was filled in at some point during this time. Today the main evidence for this feature is a blocked culvert in the west wall which suggests that the stream originally passed through this part of the wall.



Earthen mound (to be retained)

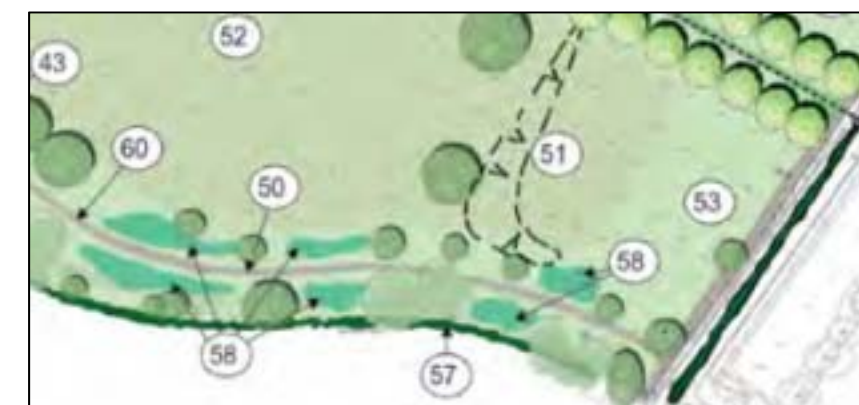


Remains of blocked culvert in west wall

Current day – the area is now covered by path and lawn area

As part of the Conservation Management Plan a series of landscape options for this area were recommended which included the following items:

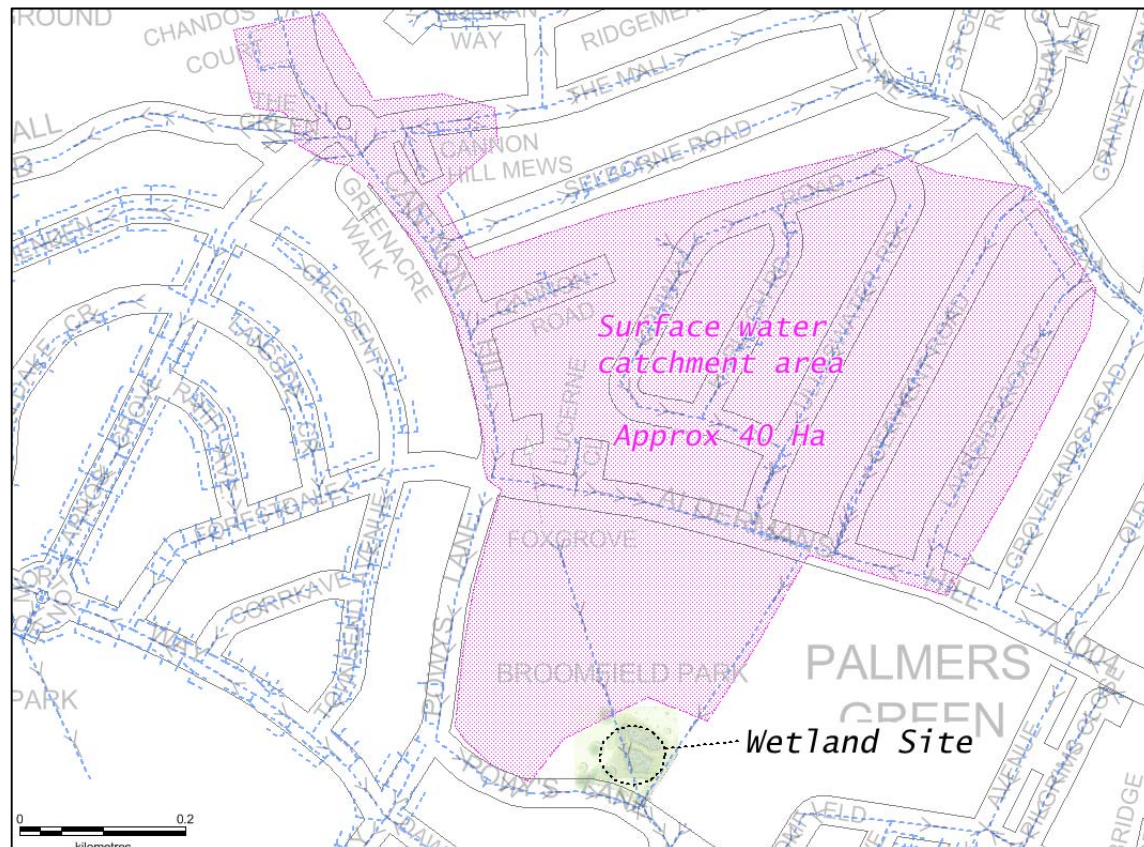
- 52 – Change maintenance regime from close-mown to long grass, twice yearly cuts
- 58 – Reinststate original drainage ditch along southern boundary to address waterlogging of parkland. Allow to develop as ecological habitat, natural SuDS



Extract from landscape strategic options (Broomfield Park Conservation Management Plan (2016))

Wetland Details

The wetland will divert flow from a surface water sewer which currently flows beneath Broomfield Park and drains a 40 Ha catchment to the north.



Catchment Area for the proposed wetland

The wetland will act to naturally cleanse the flows which pass through it therefore replenishing water quality in Pymmes Brook Catchment and other downstream water bodies.

Wetland Features



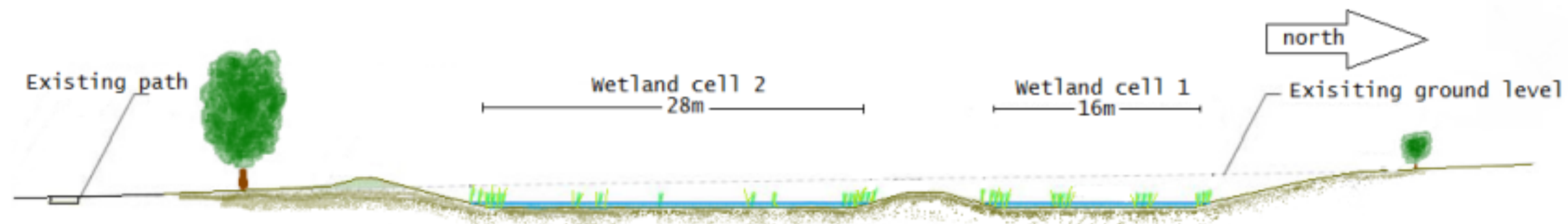
Decking to create a link throughout the site where the two wetland cells connect

Mix of planting through the aquatic zone to encourage biodiversity improvements



Range of gradients throughout the area including a land-spit, beach and wild flower margins

Viewing and seating areas with interpretation opportunities

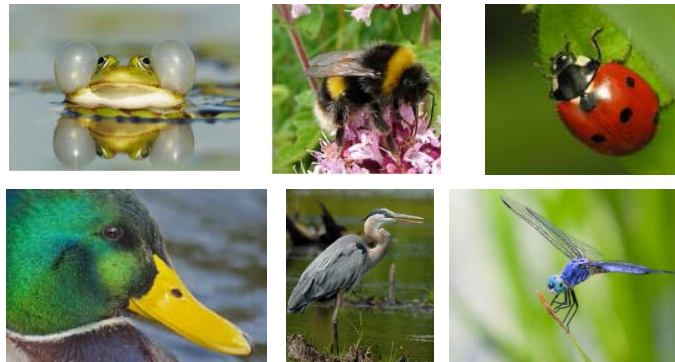


Wetland profile relationship to existing. View to the west.

Scheme Benefits

Wildlife - The scheme will aim to add ecological value to the area. Whilst the majority of the area will remain unchanged, the new wetland will provide the opportunity for a greater range in biodiversity.

The wetland will be planted with reeds, marginal flowers and grasses. The new aquatic habitat will attract amphibian, insects and birds.



Flooding - Constructed wetlands are a form of flood management which are capable of storing water during and after storm events, reducing flood risk to local properties and other downstream areas. The inclusion of this feature can also assist in draining nearby water logged areas of the park.

Water quality – The diversion of surface water sewer to a wetland environment allows for improvements to the water quality through natural restorative treatment.

Amenity – Introducing a wetland feature will increase the variety of spaces throughout Broomfield Park which will allow for users to interact in new ways.

Further Improvements

Whilst the wetland scheme is the main proposal, where possible other improvements can be implemented such as:

- Diversion of highway gullies from Alderman's Hill
- Improvements to the upper boating pond

Details of these are available upon request.

What happens next?

- This consultation runs to 15th September 2017. Please submit comments via the attached questionnaire.
- After this time comments will be reviewed.
- Planning application due to be submitted in Autumn 2017.

Go to <https://www.enfield.gov.uk/consultations> to view this document online and take part in the questionnaire.

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WWF-UK and The Rivers Trust are managing the delivery of three water management projects in the Thames and South East River Basins. The wider initiative is funded by the Coca-Cola Foundation and contributes to Coca-Cola's promise to safely return the full amount of water used in finished beverages and their production to communities and nature by 2020. Globally Coca-Cola works in over 2000 communities and supports more than 248 community water partnership projects in over 71 countries.

One of the proposed three projects involves the creation of a wetland in Broomfield Park, led by Thames21 and Enfield Council

