

WEST AREA COMMITTEE – 14TH JUNE 2017

Title of paper:	Broxtowe Country Park Update	
Director(s)/ Corporate Director(s):	Hugh White, Director, Sport & Culture Andy Vaughan, Corporate Director, Commercial & Operations	Wards affected: Aspley
Report author(s) and contact details:	James Dymond, Parks Development Manager James.Dymond@nottinghamcity.gov.uk Alastair Glenn, Green Space Activation Ranger Alastair.Glenn@nottinghamcity.gov.uk	
Other colleagues who have provided input:		
Date of consultation with Portfolio Holder(s) (if relevant)	n/a	
Relevant Council Plan Key Theme:		
Strategic Regeneration and Development		<input type="checkbox"/>
Schools		<input type="checkbox"/>
Planning and Housing		<input type="checkbox"/>
Community Services		<input type="checkbox"/>
Energy, Sustainability and Customer		<input type="checkbox"/>
Jobs, Growth and Transport		<input type="checkbox"/>
Adults, Health and Community Sector		<input type="checkbox"/>
Children, Early Intervention and Early Years		<input type="checkbox"/>
Leisure and Culture		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Resources and Neighbourhood Regeneration		<input type="checkbox"/>
Summary of issues (including benefits to citizens/service users):		
This report provides an update of the work carried out on Broxtowe Country Park since the recruitment of the new Green Space Activation Ranger for the site.		
Recommendation(s):		
1	That the Committee notes the contents of the report.	

1 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

1.1 Alastair Glenn has been in post as a Green Space Activation Ranger, principally covering Broxtowe Country Park, for almost one year. This report summarises the work carried out so far and is a reflection of the progress, obstacles and more importantly solutions needed to get the best from the site and its surrounding communities.

2 BACKGROUND (INCLUDING OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION)

2.1 Schools

Between October 2016 and April 2017, the Ranger has worked at the park with 1,134 pupils from local schools including Glenbrook, Horsendale, Bluecoat academy and in particular the local primary, Djanogoly Strelley Academy.

2.2 Other Activities

Each school holiday Alastair puts on drop-in activity sessions on the park including: Den building, bug hunting, outdoor games, scavenger hunts and woodworking.

At certain times of year he provides activities such as nest box making, Christmas crafts and bat walks. All open to everybody and free of cost. After the initial disappointment of low numbers, attendance is improving with each event.

The Ranger also supported big summer events at Broxtowe Country Park and Woodfield Road Park and other organisations events such as World food day at the local church and an upcoming annual Easter celebration.

He has also built relationships with the local Reverend who runs a community group and the Bilborough Youth Network, Think Forward, and Broxtowe Children's centre, helping to deliver outdoor youth play sessions.

Weekly Forest School sessions take place for an increasing group of local home educated families, and after consulting local teenagers a weekly bush craft club has started.

Appendix 1 shows example activity posters and photos.

2.3 Melbourne Park

Alastair also works at Melbourne Park and meets monthly with the newly formed Friends Group and on volunteer sessions. This has provided further useful links into the local community.

2.4 Partnerships

Partnership working with Nottingham City Homes has taken place on issues such as fly-tipping and the new Fenton Road pocket park. Regular liaison takes place with the Police and local CPOs.

2.5 BMX Track

After lots of maintenance work on the BMX track Alastair will be starting weekly bike training sessions with Ridewise with a view to having a big BMX event in the summer, This will be a key area moving forward as the BMX track links in to exactly the age group (local teens) we need to engage with on the park. The sessions booked in for the summer will be the start of rebuilding the BMX track as a much well received resource.

Dr Bike is booked in for sessions and ParkLives funding is being utilised to have BMX events to promote the track.

2.6 Park Maintenance

The Ranger has instigated a lot of park maintenance and improvements, gradually improving the overall feel of the park. Much of this has been path clearance as this what most users have said they would like improving.

One example is a woodland area that was previously inaccessible but after clearing and working with groups a new path has been installed; this fits in well with volunteer group projects and has been received really well.

He has also worked with volunteer groups on tasks such as removing invasive plant species threatening the local biodiversity, woodland management and new path creation.

2.7 Challenges / Future Developments

The Ranger currently has no storage or welfare facilities on site and a key need is to establish some local storage and use of welfare facilities.

Fly-tipping, vandalism and anti-social behaviour (e.g. motorbikes on the park) continue to be a regular occurrence at the site, with newly planted trees pulled out of the ground straight away, for example.

Heavy duty noticeboards are being installed at site entrances to promote what goes on, both on and around the site.

A Facebook page for the park has been set up and will be used to promote the park and activities on it.

<https://www.facebook.com/broxtoweCP/?rf=115706641840268>

<https://en-gb.facebook.com/BroxtoweForestSchool/>

3 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 N/A.

4 FINANCE COLLEAGUE COMMENTS (INCLUDING IMPLICATIONS AND VALUE FOR MONEY/VAT)

4.1 N/A

5 LEGAL AND PROCUREMENT COLLEAGUE COMMENTS (INCLUDING RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES, AND LEGAL, CRIME AND DISORDER ACT AND PROCUREMENT IMPLICATIONS)

5.1 N/A

6 STRATEGIC ASSETS & PROPERTY COLLEAGUE COMMENTS (FOR DECISION RELATING TO ALL PROPERTY ASSETS AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE) (AREA COMMITTEE REPORTS ONLY)

6.1 N/A

7 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

7.1 Has the equality impact of the proposals in this report been assessed?

No



An EIA is not required because it is not applicable to this update report.

8 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS OTHER THAN PUBLISHED WORKS OR THOSE DISCLOSING CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT INFORMATION

8.1 None

9 PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT

9.1 None

Appendix 1

Nottingham City Council **proud** to present
Nottingham City Council Park Rangers

For more information contact:
Broxtowe Park Ranger
Alastair Glenn on: 07703840949
alastair.glenn@nottinghamcity.gov.uk

SPRING EVENTS ON THE PARK
APRIL 2017

3rd - Mud Creations
Have a go at using nature's resources to make some amazing sculptures

5th - Den building
Explore the woods and build yourself a shelter

7th - 'Rocks' entrance opening event
The grand opening of the new entrance and a host of Easter activities and games!
Meet by the new 'Rocks' entrance! (NG8 6GT) **12pm**
Come rain or shine! Dress for the weather

Nottingham City Council Parks and Open Spaces
Find us on Facebook



Free activities this October on Broxtowe Country Park

Monday 17th - Shelter building

Tuesday 18th - Outdoor activities

Headband making, scavenger hunt etc.



Wednesday 19th - Lantern making

Perfect for Halloween and dark nights...

Thursday 20th - Woodland cook out

Bring a tin of beans, garlic bread, marshmallows etc. and cook on the fire. Hot drinks and plates provided

Meet at 12pm by the Phoenix Adventure Centre

Come rain or shine! Dress for the weather!

For more information contact Broxtowe Park Ranger

Alastair Glenn on: 07703840949

alastair.glenn@nottinghamcity.gov

