



Our Vision for North Sheen Recreation Ground

September 2016





- Talks from local historian for children 12pm and 1.30pm
 - Dressing up in Edwardian children's clothes
- ✤ Dog Show registration (£1 per entry) 12.30; show 2pm
- * Exhibition about the 129 servicemen who lived near to North Sheen Recreation Ground who lost their lives in WW1 including map showing where they lived





Overall Vision



answering the varying needs of different user groups, e.g. children, teenagers, adults, footballers, players of basketball /table tennis and dog-walkers; no single user group dominating usage to the detriment of others; using feedback from Rec user survey

Local =

appealing to users in the local vicinity; users arriving on foot; not seeking users from further afield (apart from sports fixtures)

To be an excellent multi-use local park we are all proud of, playing a positive role for local users and the environment

Environment =

positive, visible role for flowers and trees, enhancing the Rec's stress-busting qualities and supporting habitats for bees, butterflies and birds



Excellent =

as good, if not better than the best multi-use local parks (evaluated by Richmond Council user satisfaction surveys)

Playing a positive role =

being an uplifting place to visit – improving the quality of local users' lives; being good neighbours to those who live near the Rec

We are all proud of =

we all enjoy visiting the Rec and want to keep it as good as it can be



Vison: Events



Major Event =

- Event with over 50 attendees going through Richmond Events process
- Broad appeal to all age / interest groups
- Example: FWW
 Commemoration
 Family Day
- Avoiding competing (timing etc) with other local events
- Co-ordinating with any Richmond Council events e.g. Mini-Fest
- Obtaining relevant sponsorship

Events to act as a focus for our activities, local awareness and Friend recruitment – 1 major event every 2 years; minor event 1 per year

Minor Event =

- Event with under 50 attendees
- More focused appeal with particular groups
- Example: Easter Egg Hunt in playgrounds
- Obtaining relevant sponsorship

All Events

- Free entry / voluntary contributions only (unless exceptional need to charge for specific activity)
- Promote all Friends activities in sport, playgrounds, environment, etc
- Recruit new Friends



Flowers

- Have a definite positive effect on how uplifting the Rec is for users
- Encourage engagement with our environment
- Provide food for bees, birds, butterflies, etc

New developments

Vision: Environment

Positive, visible role for flowers and trees, supporting butterflies, bees, birds and other wildlife; promoting this via education

Trees

- Sustaining the current tree population: 87 @ July16
- Ensuring diversity and wildlife habitats
- Mainly located on Rec edges

Flower Planting Plans Autumn 16 (timing TBC)

- Perennial flowers by North Rd entrance
- Flowering shrubs by Darell Rd entrance
- Flowering shrubs by Marksbury Ave entrance
- Bulbs by Dancer Rd entrance, S.E. corner and daffodils in grass margins (planted by Friends)
- Keep FWW memorial poppy flowerbed

Education for local school children + other user groups

- Themed walks on trees /wildlife
- Leaflets / info available via café + website

Tree Planting Plans for Autumn 16: (to be agreed)

- Fruiting trees for N.W. Corner
- 2-3 sorbus for Marksbury entry
- New trees to have cage protection from strimmers/ dogs

Wildlife

- Record butterfly, bee, bird and other wildlife species
- Install bird nesting boxes
- Encourage habitats





New developments



Vision: Sports / Fitness

Sports activities - current

- Table tennis (bats / balls available in café)
- Basketball hoop
- Football via Kew Park Rangers
- Informal ball games / other sport usage

Encouraging informal / free-to-access sport and fitness activities

Sports activities - planned Outdoor Gym – 2017

- 95% grant from London Marathon Trust
- On-going activation plan to encourage use
- Sited in Senior playground (fenced off)
- On grass with matting
- Subject to successful consultation and grant application



New developments

Vision: Playgrounds



Junior Playground

Including:

- equipment for under-3s
- equipment for disabled children
- paddling pool lining to be renewed in next financial year (?April 17 onwards) – capable of being used for 3+ months without gaps of more than 1 day

Encouraging:

- Imaginative play
- Agility
- Co-operation
- Activity

Encouraging play for all children that is active, fun, safe, inclusive, social ; with paddling pool

Playground ancillaries

- Include benches for parents
- Increased number of rubbish bins in Junior playground
- Be fenced off with gates
- No dogs, no smoking
- Drinking fountain (sited on Pavilion wall)

Senior Playground More challenging equipment including:

- Zip wire
- Climbing wall
- Tunnel slide
- Balance log trail
- Spidernet
- Swings



New developments

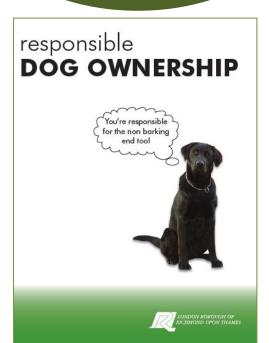
Vision: Dogs



Responsible dog-walkers

- Complying with
 Richmond Council's
 "Responsible Dog
 Ownership" leaflet:
 - Picking up after their dog
 - Complying with dog-free areas (i.e. the playgrounds)

 Increasing awareness of this leaflet with activities / display Encouraging responsible dogwalkers to enjoy the Rec in harmony with other Rec users



Enjoy the Rec

- Form a Rec dog-owners club
- Run a Rec dog-show (in conjunction with Friends' event in Summer 2017)
- Start / link with existing activities for dogowners, as required e.g. puppy-training classes
- Always have water available for dogs to drink – thanks to café for doing this!



Vision: Friends Organisation



Organisation

- With a published constitution that details Friends':
 - Objectives + Scope
 - Committee elections
 - Conditions of membership

Inclusive organisation that acts as a catalyst working with Richmond Council to achieve our Vision for the Rec

Catalyst

 Not actually running the Rec (that is the responsibility of Richmond Council), but seeking to represent users' views on future developments and improvements

Working with Richmond Council

- Aiming to improve communications with Richmond Council
- One main point of communication between Friends and Richmond Council

Inclusive

- Free membership
- All Rec users can become a member, subject to Friends Constitution
- Expanding membership; particularly more active members willing to join in events etc
 - Working with sub-groups and a Champion in each area reporting back to the Committee

Friends' Vision

 Based on survey of users' views (as conducted in 2013 – to be repeated approx every 3 years)



Transparency of operation

- Constitution and minutes published on Friends' website
- Friends' details only used for Friends organisation purposes

Other local organisations

- finding out what they want from the
 Rec / how they could help us
- Darell School
- Other schools as appropriate
- Café (café lease is managed by Richmond Council)
- Kew Park Rangers
- Kew Gardens
- Kew Society / Kew TW9
- SWLEN / other local parks
- Other local social organisations

New developments

Transparency of

operation via inclusive

communications with

Friends and other local

organisations

Vision: Communications



Inclusive Communications Website

- Email
- Facebook Page
- Twitter account
- Notices on the Rec gates
- Friends' noticeboard in café and in Rec
- Local magazines
- Target is primarily local users living in immediate vicinity of the Rec