

# **Burntwood Park**

# Management & Maintenance Plan From 2024 to 2029



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Appendix A - Burntwood Park Action Plan

Appendix B - Marketing & Communications Plan

Appendix C - Annual Events & Activities Programme

Appendix D - Grounds Maintenance Code Details

Appendix E – Budget Summary

Appendix F – Site maintenance Schedule

#### SECTION 1.0 INTRODUCTION

This five-year plan has been prepared by the Historic Parks Manager and Parks Team, providing information to support the ongoing management and maintenance of Burntwood Park, from 2024 until 2029. The Action Plan at **Appendix A** details a selection of targets, which will be monitored and reviewed by Parks Management, monitoring progress of the required outcomes.

The Management and Maintenance Plan provides a useful tool for effective management of the park by detailing key site information, along with creating a vision/direction with specific measurable aims and objectives. It will ensure the future care of the park is considered and planned for, including any improvements and restoration works. This plan also sets out management aims and procedures that will ensure the park continues to be managed to a high standard, the national standard for parks and open spaces.

This plan will be accessible to the Parks Team, stakeholders, the public, on the website, and in the Beacon Park office.



FIGURE 1: Documents that feed into the five-year Management and Maintenance Plan

### SECTION 2.0 VISION STATEMENT

The district parks are all unique, valuable, and popular assets, enhancing the district's status as a pleasant place to live, work and visit, contributing to the regional and national importance as a cultural and historic destination.

This statement is to help illustrate a clear direction for the parks:

'To protect, enhance and interpret the area's compelling heritage; encourage greater use of the parks by residents and visitors in an environment which is delightful, accessible and safe; engage, entertain and educate people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds; and develop a treasure of public jewels of which the residents of Lichfield District are proud'

# SECTION 3.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

**Burntwood Park** is set in the former mining town of Burntwood in Lichfield District. Covering an area of nearly 3 hectares of open space, trees, ornamental gardens, a play area and a sports area. Burntwood Park has several unique components that can be easily described for their use and functions, these are the ornamental gardens, picnic/woodland area, play area, football area, Tiny Forest and Peace Woodland.

### 3.1 Areas of the Park

**Ornamental gardens** - the more formal area of the park with the original main entry gates/pillars leading off Elder Lane. Although just off and overlooking the main road, this area is an attractive setting with breathtaking views, bedding displays, seating and a selection of mature trees.



*Picnic/woodland area* - between the ornamental gardens and play area is an open grassed area, popular for picnicking and events. Some of the trees in this area are part of the Peace Woodland project - a collaboration between the Parks Team, Lichfield Cathedral and many volunteer groups to commemorate the 100 anniversary of the end of World War I. The area also includes existing trees and popular picnic benches.





**Play area and bike track** – these are in the heart of the park and have been popular with local and not-so-local residents since the redevelopment of the play area in 2022.





**Football Pitch and Tiny Forest** – to the north of the park is an open space where the football pitch has been recently reintroduced. One of our super tiny, super powerful Tiny Forests is in this area too.





# 3.2 Location Plan



FIGURE 2: Location Plan

# 3.3 Ordnance Survey National Grid Reference

Burntwood Park Unique licence number 100017765

# 3.4 Ward Information

Burntwood Park sits within Summerfield and All Saints ward, bordering the Highfield ward of Burntwood



FIGURE 3: Ward Map

## 3.5 Stakeholders

Stakeholders play a key role with the management of the park. It is vital all stakeholders are considered and consulted when necessary. Activities or events within the park could affect or have an impact upon stakeholders. The following diagram is not exhaustive.



FIGURE 4: Stakeholder diagram

# 3.6 Ownership

Burntwood Park is owned by Lichfield District Council.

# 3.7 Tenure/Leases/Agreements

Scout Association lease dated 2022 for Scout Hut and area with break clauses in 2031 and 2036.

Reference LDC 031 - Tree Inspector 2023-25

Reference LDC 311 - Bank of tree surgeons 2023-25

Tiny Forest agreement dated 11 November 2021, initiation period until 10/12/24, 10 retention period **[AP]** 

# SECTION 4.0 HISTORY AND TIMELINES

A former mining town, Burntwood expanded in the nineteenth century around the coal mining industry, forming part of Lichfield District. Burntwood park was opened in 1931 at a time when many houses were being built between the two World Wars.

Developing this management plan for the Green Flag application has highlighted the limited information held on Burntwood Park, hence being a key item within the Action Plan **[AP]** 



# 4.1 Chronology of the development of Burntwood Park

Burntwood Park	
Officially opened	1931
Changed ownership from Burntwood Town Council to Lichfield District Council, along with the Leisure Centre and all other parks in Burntwood.	
Peace Woodland	2019
Tiny Forest	2022
Cannock Road fence replaced	2022
New play area and bike track installed	2022
Zip wire installed	2023
Car park extended	Sept 2024
Fence erected by football area	Sept 2024
Benches and bins re-located in football pitch area	Nov 2024
Noticeboards/interpretation installed	Feb 2025

# SECTION 5.0 ACCESS AND CIRCULATION

# 5.1 Opening Times

The park is open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year; being accessible from various points around the perimeter, there are a total of 7 entrances into Burntwood Park.

# 5.2 Car Parking

The car park has recently been extended to relieve visitor parking on the residential streets.

# 5.3 Public Transport / Access via Bike and Foot

Burntwood Park is a community park in the heart of a residential area, where many park users arrive on foot. There is a bus stop alongside the ornamental gardens on Cannock Road.

# 5.4 Footpaths

Most pathways through the park are relatively wide, in good condition and accessible for wheelchairs and pushchairs.

# 5.5 Accessibility

Accessibility is an important factor within parks, considering all users with a wide range of disabilities who wish to take advantage of the health benefits of a park environment.

Seating is located at regular intervals across the park, with new installations going forwards to have additional space for wheelchairs to go alongside for inclusivity.

Most of the park can be accessed on easy to moderate slopped tarmac footpaths.

## SECTION 6.0 SERVICES & UTILITIES

There is no streetlighting within the park and we are not aware of any services running under or across the park. However, there is evidence of manholes to the historic park keeper's cottage and toilet block, along with the lease holder Scout Hut having utilities.

# SECTION 7.0 DESIGNATIONS

### 7.1 Green Belt

Burntwood Park sits within the Green Belt which controls urban growth, maintaining the area for outdoor leisure.

### 7.2 Ecological Designations

#### 7.2.1 Tree Preservation Orders

There are no designated Tree Preservation Orders on any of the park trees. All works to trees will be undertaken in line with the Parks and Open Spaces Tree Procedure.

#### 1.1.1 Forest of Mercia

Burntwood Park is included within England Community Forest, Forest of Mercia region.

### 7.3 Public Rights of Way

A public right of way leads from Cannock Road directly north through the park towards the Elder Lane entrance.



FIGURE 5: Burntwood Park, Public Right of Way

# SECTION 8.0 LIVING LANDSCAPE

The following chapter comprises the 'green' aspects of the park, detailing the general ecology and green landscape.

# 8.1 Ecology

Having a variety of trees, hedges and biodiversity areas, a survey is being completed by the Biodiversity Team to identify the current situation and schedule a programme of improvements to enhance the . quality for wildlife. Being a residential park setting this creates an important area for wildlife. It is anticipated the habitats recorded will be of relatively recent origin and contain plants of common and widespread occurrence. This section will be updated once complete [AP]

### 8.1.1 iNaturalist

iNaturalist is an app used by millions of scientists and naturalists across the world. The app enables people to record, share and verify photographs of plants and animals thus creating research-quality data which is available to view via their website: <u>https://www.inaturalist.org</u>

We are encouraging park users to register and record findings in Burntwood Park.

# 8.2 Trees and Woodlands

#### 8.2.1 Woodland and Tiny Forest

Burntwood Park has several mature trees, along with the more recently planted Peace Woodland coppice area and Tiny Forest. Containing a mix of native species.

The super tiny, super powerful, Miyawki method Tiny Forest was created in 2022 in conjunction with Severn Trent Water and Earthwatch, leaving a lasting environmental legacy of the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games. This Tiny Forest represents Jamaica and is named after their national bird, the swallow-tail hummingbird.

### 8.2.2 Park Trees

Many of the trees on the main area of Burntwood Park are of similar age. The original tree planting was completed as part of the opening of the park in 1931. Longer term replanting will continue to take place as part of the tree management programme.

Trees are inspected by Lantra qualified parks staff after extreme weather events, and before large public gatherings Burntwood Park. In addition, all trees are inspected on a scheduled basis, as detailed within the council's Tree Procedure by external arboricultural inspectors, allowing the trees to be inspected in and out of leaf. Any issues are followed up with the assistance of the council's arboricultural officers if needed.

Tree data is held on a tree software system called 'Arbortrack', utilising tablets for mobile working, to track and detail surveys for each individual tree. This system records the information, generating reports for forthcoming inspections and works.

An approved Tree Management Procedure has been implemented and is available to all on the council's website at <u>Trees and hedges in our parks and open spaces (lichfielddc.gov.uk)</u>.

# 8.3 Horticulture

Summer and autumn bedding displays are planted in the ornamental garden. The summer bedding is planted from the first week in June, and the autumn bedding by the second week of October.

The horticulture schedule is recorded in section 17.2, identifying the areas of work. More details on the horticultural practices are detailed in Appendix D.

# SECTION 9.0 HARD LANDSCAPE

This section covers all the physical structures and landscaping within the site.

### 9.1 Furniture

#### 9.1.1 Fencing and Perimeters

There is a range of fencing designs throughout the park:

Furniture - Fencing / Walls / Barriers		
Ornamental garden	Main entrance gates	
	Side entrance gate off Elder Lane	
	Two entry gates off Cannock Road	
	Boundary fence along Cannock Road	
Picnic/woodland area	Hedgerow along Elder Lane	
	Vehicle entry gate to access Scout Hut and car park.	
Bike track and play area	Boundary fencing and hedgerow	
	Play area fencing	
Football pitch and Tiny Forest	Vehicle entry and pedestrian gate off Elder Lane	
area	Recreation fence fitted to reduce balls over the boundary hedge.	
	Residential brick walls to the north of the park.	
	Hedgerows	

#### 9.1.2 Benches, Bollards, and Bins

A sponsorship scheme is available to purchase a plaque to place on benches and contribute to the maintenance and future replacement of the bench. This will help to control memorial plaques and help towards future maintenance of the benches.

Furniture – Benches / bollards / bins	
Ornamental garden	Steel litter bins, dog bins and benches
Picnic/woodland area	Steel picnic benches and bins

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Bike track and play area	Recycled material benches and stee bins	
Football pitches/event area	手	Steel benches, litter and dog bins. Bollards at the padestrian entrance off Emanuel Road.

### 9.1.3 Interpretation and Signage

Site notice boards are on display off Cannock Road and Elder Lane (pitch entrance). Along with various information signs. Display noticeboards are to be installed as detailed in the Action Plan [AP]

Furniture – interpretation and signage		
Ornamental garden	Large notice board displayed on Cannock Road Welcome to Burntwood Park sign to be installed on original pillars [AP]	
Picnic/woodland area	None	
Bike track and play area	Welcome to play area sign, detailing lo	Two tactile play panels
Football pitches/event area	Large notice board displayed like Cann Park closure/gate locking information	-

# 9.2 Recreational Facilities

Burntwood Park has areas for passive recreation, relaxing, sitting, picnicking and enjoying fresh air.

Recreational Facilities - Sports and Recreation	
Ornamental garden	Seating, hard standing pathways
Picnic/woodland area	Picnic tables
Bike track and play area	Bike track, leisure mini football pitch and seating
Football pitches/event area	Football pitch and seating

# 9.3 Play Area

Burntwood Park has a popular play area that is well used.

Play Area - Equipment
Installed in 2022:
Butterfly climbing unit.
Pendulum swing
Rocker
4x bay swing, (2x flat seats, 2x cradle seats)
Mini climber unit
Sand play unit
Spinning bowls
Retained existing junior bank slide
Timber stand up see-saw
Talk tubes
Subsequently added a zip line in early 2023 parallel with the hedge.

The play area is visually checked by Street Scene when litter picking/emptying bins. Fixtures and fittings are checked according to manufacturers' guidelines on weekly and three-monthly basis, by RoSPA Basic Play Equipment trained staff. The play equipment is also inspected each year by an approved external inspector to BS EN 1176 and 1177.

# 9.4 Buildings and Structures

The only building on site is the leased Scout Hut. The original pillars and entrance gates remain in place.

#### Scout Hut

The original timber scout hut was demolished, repositioned, and built by the Scout Group. The Property Team oversee the lease to this area.

#### **Pillars and Main Entrance Gate**

Opened in 1931, the original brick pillars and gates remain in place on Elder Lane

# 9.5 Maintenance Programme

#### 9.5.1 Furniture Maintenance

The steel benches and noticeboards are checked and repainted as and when deemed necessary. The Parks Team carry out repairs, if possible, or use a regular contractor, should an item found to be defective.

All park furniture, fixtures and equipment are inspected and recorded as part of the site inspection programme with the frequencies depending on the popularity of the area and risk. Details included within Section 19.5.3.

#### 9.5.2 Recreational Facilities Maintenance

The **football pitch** is litter picked weekdays; any broken glass is removed immediately. Rabbit holes filled as soon as possible; football referees check the pitch in readiness for game play. The goal posts are checked, and repairs carried out if needed.

#### 9.5.3 Play Area Maintenance

As detailed within section 9.3 and 19.5.2 all play equipment within the park is detailed within the maintenance programme. Any defects or vandalism identified are made safe or taken out of service until made safe. The footpaths are inspected in accordance with the risk matrix and repairs carried out in order of priority and availability of spares.

## SECTION 10.0 VISITOR AND COMMUNITY NEEDS

The visitor survey is available online, where we look at: frequency of visits, average stay, travel method, reason for visit, rating of the design and appearance, maintenance of the park, accessibility, and facilities, along with identity and overall satisfaction ratings.

There is minimal use of the park by community groups and schools. With occasional visits from groups and societies for events. Therefore, the Community and Education Officer will be developing links with the local community and schools, creating educational and training resources as appropriate.

The Marketing & Communication Plan focuses on key areas for income generation along with ways of enticing new visitors to the park.

#### **10.1 Friends of Burntwood Park**

Developing a Friends Group will be beneficial to Burntwood Park, encouraging volunteers to get involved, contribute ideas, and potentially help with delivering events and activities.

### **10.2** Local Demographics/Census

It is important to know the local demographics of the catchment area of the park. This is then linked with the information about park users to identify if there are any missing audiences. This can then be used to identify barriers and strategies to attract these sectors of the community.

#### **10.2.1** Social Progress Index

Lichfield was the first District Council in the UK to build a Ward Level Social Progress Index. The Social Progress Index draws together a wide range of datasets from different sources to better understand wellbeing across the district.

The Index has been developed in partnership with Social Progress Imperative, a global organisation whose mission is to use data to influence policies and investments to better serve all of humanity. The Index is made up of three dimensions – Basic Human Needs, Foundations of Wellbeing, and Opportunity. Within each dimension there are several different indicators grouped into topics. A suite of interactive dashboards have been created to allow anyone to explore and interrogate the data. The Index is updated on an annual basis, to include the latest data available. As well as providing an up-to-date view, this will also allow us to track and understand trends over time. <u>Social Progress Index Lichfield | Tableau</u> <u>Public</u>. This is therefore a very useful tool for developing the subsequent Management Plan.

# **10.3 Visitor Surveys**

Visitor surveys also capture usage, user satisfaction and concerns.

#### **10.3.1** User Surveys Results and Feedback

The results from the completed surveys are recorded and reviewed by Parks Management, taking action where necessary, using suggestions and feedback as part of developing the park further.

Over the years the team will continue to obtain data to evaluate visitors' overall satisfaction levels.

The Action Plan identifies the need to promote further feedback on and off-site, along with collating the usable data.

#### **10.3.2** User and Non-User Survey Information

Information is being collated to gain user satisfaction, patterns of use and why people do not use the park, via consultations both inside and outside the park, using questionnaires.

#### **10.3.3** Previous Consultations

Several methods are used to consult with residents and park users including:

- Approaching local groups and schools
- Presentations and on-site displays
- Setting up project steering groups, inviting various stakeholders and representatives.
- Consultation with various other organisations and authorities.
- Press releases.

#### **10.3.4** Visitor Numbers

Recently sourcing visitor data analysis reports, from Huq Industries, we are looking forward to receiving the data on Burntwood Park for 2024 <u>Footfall Data - Instant Place Monitoring Insights | Huq</u>.

# SECTION 11.0 CRIME AND SAFETY

Burntwood Park has a relatively low level of crime, with occasional reports of vandalism, anti-social behaviour. Working closely with the police and the council's Community Safety Team, the parks contribute towards various projects focusing on reducing crime and improve in communication within the district.

The main focus for the park is to encourage incident reporting to the police as it occurs, reducing the level of anti-social behaviour and disturbances.

### 11.1 Crime Statistics

The '*Police.UK*' website records incidents reported, detailing the location, the type of crime and outcome statistics.

Information is also collated within the park with Accident and Incident reporting, which records; accidents, incidents and near misses, including vandalism; and violence (verbal or physical) towards employees.

### 11.2 Incidents

Users, neighbours, and staff are encouraged to report incidents to the police. The police 101 telephone number is published on notice boards on site along with the QR code for online reporting.

All incidents witnessed by the Parks Team are reported to the police, recorded on Accident and Incident forms, shared with management, and logged on a Health & Safety database, taking further action as necessary, as per the council's Health and Safety Policy.

# 11.3 Crime

The crime figures for Burntwood Park are considered low by the police.

Working closely with the Community Safety Team and the local policing unit patrolling the area and attending routine team meetings.

#### **11.3.1** Antisocial Behaviour

The most reported incidents within the park are 'rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour'. These incidents mainly occur between 2pm and 4pm on weekdays and 6pm and midnight on weekends. Should the Parks Team identify, or be informed of, this kind of behaviour whilst on site, the situation is assessed and, if appropriate, suitably challenged to resolve. Alternatively, the police are notified accordingly. Additionally, dogs not being under control is also listed as an anti-social behaviour.

#### 11.3.2 Arson

There have been few reports of arson over the years, with small bin fires and attempts to set fire to trees, benches and play equipment. If required the fire brigade attend site to assist, and low-key arson attempts are recorded, rectified, and used to analyse trends along with the police and fire service. The Parks Team work in partnership with the fire brigade to promote fire safety during the summer period, including restricting BBQs to prevent grass fires.

#### **11.3.3** Dogs (Public Space Protection Order)

Well behaved dogs are very much welcomed within this popular family park, with a dog exclusion zone in place for the play area, which is signed accordingly. Working closely with the council's Environmental Health Department and police, if necessary, any issues of dogs being out of control or fouling are reported and owners are challenged appropriately in accordance with the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 and the Public Space Protection Order (PSPO), in connection with fouling on public land. The Parks Team have received Assertiveness Training, and Canine Behaviour Awareness Training to be able to identify problems, giving the team the skills and more confidence in dealing with issues.

#### **11.3.4** Drunk and Disorderly (PSPO)

The original 'Drinking in a Public Places' (DPP) order covering parks has since expired and has been replaced with 'Public Space Protection Orders'. There are no plans to introduce PSPO's in the council's parks in relation to drinking, at the moment, there is no evidence of current problems and no requests/evidence from the police. The key period in the year for drinking is the summer months. The team engages with potential group drinkers reminding them that they are in a family environment, using a positive approach. The team also notify the police of any potential underage drinking.

#### 11.3.5 Fly Posting

No fly posting is permitted within the park what-so-ever. Currently, any fly posting without contact details is removed immediately. Alternatively, if the party concerned are identifiable, they are contacted and instructed to remove the unauthorised advertising/notice within 48 hours to avoid further action.

#### 11.3.6 Drug Use

Drug use is evident within the park on a very occasional basis, with hypodermic needles and drug taking equipment being discovered. All staff are trained to deal with the disposal of such items, with the police being notified accordingly. Furthermore, the police carry out patrols and operations in or near to the park. Should evidence of drug dealing on site ever be identified, the police are notified immediately.

#### 11.3.7 Fly Tipping

Any reports of fly tipped waste is investigated with the support of the Environmental Health Team, prosecuting whenever possible. The higher risk areas for fly tipping are the perimeter of the car park members of the public are encouraged to report witnessing these crimes confidentially.

#### 11.3.8 Graffiti

The common form of graffiti within the park is small opportunist graffiti. Graffiti crime, in particular 'tags' and extremist symbols are reported to the police and removed accordingly (see section 17.7 for further details relating to graffiti).

#### 11.3.9 Vandalism

Vandalism/criminal damage predominately occurs during the late evening/nighttime in the warmer months. All vandalism is reported to the police and repairs, requiring additional funding, are highlighted within the budgets accordingly. Dependant on the item and repair costs, the potential for claiming on the council's insurance policy is possible.

#### 11.3.10 Violence

Low level violence occurs in the park occasionally being witnessed, usually due to small groups of young adults. Other violence witnessed is reported to the emergency services immediately. If a staff member is at risk, they are trained to walk away and report.

### **11.4 Contacting the Team/Complaints**

There are various methods of contacting the team.



Face to face with a member of staff onsite.



Phones are manned 7 days a week and connection to out of hours 01543 308867



Email parks@lichfielddc.gov.uk

Online reporting at <u>www.lichfieldddc.gov.uk</u>. This logs cases on a system called Jadu, accessible to the council to update and review.



#### **11.4.1 Complaints**

In line with council procedure, the complaints system is to ensure concerns are noted and acted upon, helping to highlight recurrent problems and issues, as well as managing the expectations of complainants.

The first stage is to clearly identify if the issue is relating to the council, others, or is a request for changes to the services provided.

<u>Complaints against the council</u> - The council holds a corporate software recording system to register all compliments and complaints. Operated in accordance with the council's Equalities Policy. Initially, complaints are dealt with informally by the line manager to resolve the issue, however, should a resolution not be found the details are then forwarded to a senior manager for investigation. Should the customer still not be satisfied with the outcome, the Chief Executive will proceed with the issue and possibly establish a complaints panel to consider the complaint.

On the completion of each stage feedback is welcomed giving customers the opportunity to either express their satisfaction with the outcome, or request the complaint be moved to the next stage of the complaints procedure.

All the information provided by customers during the process is treated confidential, protected under the Data Protection Act and GDPR 2018.

<u>Complaints against others</u> – the Parks Team endeavour to resolve disputes on site, however, if the complaint is a criminal matter the police are contacted without fail.

<u>Request for service changes</u> – Service users are encouraged to provide feedback making suggestion of altered services, which is reviewed by the Park Manager.

# 11.5 Conflicts of Use

An assessment of the main conflicts of use has been taken from previous visitor surveys. This list was collated from interviews with the park staff and anecdotal evidence highlighting:

- Older people and teenagers
- Teenagers and young children
- Conflict on play areas
- Cyclists and pedestrians
- Ecology / safety
- Safety / aesthetics
- Grounds maintenance standards and costs
- Sports and passive recreation
- Dog walkers / children's play area

### 11.6 Byelaws

There are no byelaws covering parks in Burntwood. The majority of historic park byelaws crossover with criminal law and can therefore be dealt with appropriately by the police, as needed. A safety sign along with contact details are available in the noticeboard.

# SECTION 12 VOLUNTEERS

#### Volunteer vision statement:

"Helping local people to enjoy and learn by taking positive action for the Parks' environment, wildlife, heritage, and communities. Making sure volunteers have the chance to enjoy and learn in a safe and rewarding environment".

During 2018 and 2019 Parks worked in partnership with Lichfield Cathedral to create two Peace Woodlands, one in Beacon Park and one in Burntwood Park. Volunteers from various groups were involved, including our Countryside and Parks Conservation Group (CPCG) volunteers who bring a wealth of experience as over 10 years as a group (see below information in 12.1 regarding CPCG volunteers).

We run two annual thank you events that invite all volunteers to come and enjoy a few hours of games, quizzes, and refreshments, which provides an excellent opportunity for the volunteers to network and showcasing their projects.

The Parks Team work with many other groups including, residents' associations, Friends of groups, the Canal Trust, Mens Shed, Transition Lichfield, Litter Legends, and local charities.

We collate volunteer data, demonstrating the valuable asset to both the volunteers and the parks.

# 12.1 Countryside & Parks Conservation Group (CPCG)

The Countryside & Parks Conservation Group has been running for over 10 years. The group formed in February 2011 bringing together like-minded enthusiastic individuals from across the district to deliver a range of conservation tasks. A logo was developed, a uniform designed, and a mailing list compiled. The group initially met once a month across a variety of parks and open spaces then during 2014 moved to two events a month. The group now regularly completes about 25 work parties a year.



We have a diverse mix of local volunteers, some retired, some working. Depending on the seasons the group might be found planting and laying hedges, clearing scrub, managing reedbeds, coppicing a woodland or sowing wildflowers. CPCG events have enabled features such as wildlife ponds, bug hotels, and loggeries to be introduced in parks. With over 100 people on the mailing list, the group continues to provide strong community involvement in our parks.

One of the many benefits of the group is the connection it provides to our wider community. Over the past ten years we have developed ever stronger partnerships with The Lichfield & Hatherton Canal Trust, Burton Conservation Trust, Staffordshire Wildlife Trust, Lichfield Cathedral, and various friends' groups, residents' associations, corporate groups, the NHS and many more.

The parks team have assisted a group of CPCG volunteers with training, whereas volunteers are now able to use a range of power tools and provide emergency first aid.

### 12.2 Volunteer statistics across parks

Volunteer support for parks just keeps going from strength to strength.

Year	Number of Volunteers	Contributing Volunteer Hours
2010	68	193
2011	61	446

2012	171	841
2013	440	2,477
2014	90	1,073
2015	118	1,894
2016	68	3,200
2017	68	4,111
2018	90	4,800
2019	155	4,483
2020	20	364 up to March (Remainder of the year cancelled due to Covid)
2021		Covid impact
2022	148	4,751
2023	158	6,054
2024	166	7,375

### SECTION 13.0 EVENTS PROGRAMME

Burntwood Park hosts annual 'Play in Parks' community days, attracting hundreds of people each year.

These events are organised by the local Burntwood Town Council and are important for the park and local community providing free opportunities to local families during the school holidays for several years.



The Community and Education Officer, along with the Event Officers, produces an annual events programme for various parks across the district, aiming to:

- Create a conduit for volunteers to participate in parks.
- Increase existing user numbers and attracting new audiences to the park.
- Provide a range of activities considering the benefits of health and wellbeing,
- Reducing the cost of parks by increasing income and encouraging 3<sup>rd</sup> party events that suit the local economy.

Due to the number, scale, and fluidity of event bookings within Burntwood Park a separate events summary is detailed within **Appendix C.** 

# **13.1 Events and Festivals Policy**

In 2021 the parks department were involved in the council developing an Events and Festivals Policy to facilitate the continued delivery of high-quality events and festivals in the district with clear guidelines on the council's needs. Event organisers go through a series of stages to meet the council's expectations.

A new LDC Events Manager was appointed in 2023 to deliver the policy across the district.



Burntwood Park : Management and Maintenance Plan 2024 - 2029

# SECTION 4.0 EDUCATION

The council's Community and Education Officer, based within the Parks Team delivers an array of educational activities based around the environment and historical themes, along with working towards elements of the council's health and wellbeing strategy.

# 14.1 Key principles of Education within parks

The overall aim is to increase the use of the park for formal and informal education purposes including schools, scout and guide groups, volunteers, work experience and lifelong learning. Core education activities are developed which are appealing to schools, but also provide activities that are attractive to harder to reach groups. The unique selling points in parks are biodiversity and outdoor space.

#### SECTION 15.0 MARKETING

Facebook,

council

Instagram

channels.

There is a joint approach to marketing within Lichfield District Council, whereas Parks work in partnership with the Communications Team to develop and coordinate marketing materials.

The Communications Team also assist with the development of the webpages Parks in Burntwood -Burntwood Park (lichfielddc.gov.uk).

We have access to social Lichfield District Council WhatsApp Following Q Search media offerings on the Х, \*\*\* Easter Distant Videos More + and Youtube Featured Intro Id District Council is a local authority in St Recent vide Page - Government organisation District Council House, Frog Lane, Licht +44 1543 308000 anquiries@lichfielddc.gov.uk B Ichfielddc.gov.uk Price range - LL See All Photos Posts 2; Filters Lichfield District Council

### 15.1 Marketing and Communications Plan

Parks are incorporated within the council wide 'Marketing and Communications Plan for the District', highlighting areas for improvement to both increase visitor numbers, potential revenue, increasing awareness of the parks and improving the visitor experience.

### SECTION 16.0 MANAGEMENT

Burntwood Park is owned and managed by Lichfield District Council, within the Resident and Business Directorate. The Parks Team contributes towards the Directorate Service Plan, with various actions outlined feeding into the council's yearly action plan and financial forecast.

The parks department also cover various other parks in the district within the Parks Management remit, consisting of parkland, cemeteries, country parks, reservoirs, play areas, woodland, sports, and amenity areas.

### 16.1 Staff Structure

The Parks Team have been flexible over the years, being adaptable to suit the needs of the council and the service users, from adjustment to roles to revised shift patterns.



FIGURE 6: Staffing structure

#### 16.1.1 Historic Parks Manager (HPM)

Burntwood Park is managed by the Historic Parks Manager (HMP), who directly manages the department, ensuring site Management and Maintenance Plans are followed and updated, along with various council policies and procedures.

### 16.1.2 Community and Education Officer

The Community Education Officer leads on developing, delivering, and promoting the educational element and community involvement within parks.

#### 16.1.3 Park Rangers

There are two specialist park rangers responsible for more detailed areas within parks, requiring indepth knowledge, skills, and experience. These Rangers also assist the Park Attendants and Parks and Open Spaces Supervisor, however, each Ranger posts has individual roles and responsibilities.

- Park Ranger (Safety) covers trees, play equipment and general park safety.
- Park Ranger (Countryside) deals with the woodland management and countryside regime.

The Rangers and Supervisor also work the same shift pattern as the Attendants, ensuring safety, promote site presence, ensuring visitor satisfaction and reducing lone working.

#### 16.1.4 Community Gardeners

Two Community Gardeners are employed on a full-time basis based in Beacon Park, undertaking horticultural works within ornamental areas, community involvement/engagement, and run the horticultural area.

#### 16.1.5 Park Attendants

The attendants' core duties include providing a high profile, welcoming presence in all parks, through visible site presence and supervision. Supporting community events and carrying out general park-keeping duties. In addition, the attendants are required to assist with the delivery of the parks maintenance and management systems.

#### 16.1.6 Park Attendant Supervisor

The Park Attendant Supervisor covers the duties of the attendants, plus the day-to-day supervision, assisting and distributing key tasks, in addition to supervising the Park Rangers, sharing duties at times of absence and peak periods.

#### 16.1.7 Casual Attendants

Casual employees are recruited to support the team over the summer months and occasionally through the winter, assisting with the cleanliness of the parks, and event marshalling.

Regardless of the temporary nature of the post, the casual staff also forms part of the public face of the park, a staff notice board and regular memos and briefings keep the casual attendants informed of issues and council policy and expectations.
#### 16.1.8 Event Manager and Officer

Responsible for overseeing and developing the events portfolio, income generation and the Marketing & Communication Plan the Event Manager and Event Officer are based with the Communications Team.

#### 16.1.9 Health and Wellbeing Activator – Health and Wellbeing Team

A Health and Wellbeing Activator role, based within the Wellbeing Team, promotes healthier lifestyles in parks and other areas in the district.

#### 16.2 Working Hours

The team cover the parks during the core hours of 08:00 to 20:00 in the summer and 08:00 to 16.52/17.22 in the winter. Working annualised hours, the full-time staff work 45 hours per week for 26 weeks and 29 hours for the remaining 26 weeks.

# SECTION 17.0 GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

Landscape works are undertaken by the council's Grounds Maintenance (GM) Team (the direct section within the council) delivering an agreed specification. Grounds Maintenance works and frequencies are monitored and adjusted as needed, in accordance with seasonal needs by the GM Supervisor and the HPM.

# 17.1 Pest Control

The site experiences very occasional pest issues, including wasp nests. Working alongside the council's Environmental Health Team and various contractors, methods of removal are put into place, if necessary.

# 17.2 Grounds Maintenance Specification

The table below shows the ground maintenance works on site, which is available in an annual format followed by both the GM and Parks Teams.

Service Area Key GM = Grounds Main	tenance Tean	n. Parks = Park Rangers	/Attendants. SS = Street Scene		
Area	Code	ltem	Description	Annual Frequency	Service Area
Ornamental	A3	Grass	Cut Grass, full area	16	GN
area	A10	Street furniture	Strimming around obstacles	16	GM
	A9a	Grass	Edge beds (hand shears)	8	GM
	A9b	Grass	Mechanical, ornamental area paths	1	GM
	B1	Litter	Litter collection	260	SS
	B3	Dog Waste Bins	Check and Empty if required	52	SS
	B4	Litterbins	Check and Empty if required	156	SS
	C1	Flower beds	Prep - rotavate	1	GM
	C2	Flower beds	Apply fertiliser and dig in	1	GN
	C3	Flower beds	Plant spring/autumn ornamental plants	2	GN
	C5	Flower beds	Remove "spent" plants/clear beds	2	GN
	C6	Flower beds	Autumn bulb planting	1	GN
	C7	Flower beds	Water flower beds	5	GN
	E1	Hedgerows	Cut hedgerows	1	GN
	E2	Hedgerows	Cut ornamental hedges	2	GN
	M1a	Main entrance gate	Repaint gate every 5 years	0.2	Park
	D2a	Moss control	De-moss pathways	1	Parks
	M1a	Sweeping	Pedestrian sweep pathways	1	Parks
	M1a	Benches	Paint benches 5 yearly, or as needed.	0.2	Park
Picnic area	A3	Grass	Cut Grass, full area	16	GN
	A10	Street furniture	Strimming around obstacles	16	GN
	B1	Litter	Litter collection	260	SS
	B3	Dog Waste Bins	Check and Empty if required	52	SS
	B4	Litterbins	Check and Empty if required	156	SS
	E1	Hedgerows	Cut hedgerows	1	GN
	M1a	Benches	Paint benches 5 yearly, or as needed.	0.2	Parks
Play area and	A3	Grass	Cut Grass, full area	16	GN

Service Area Key GM = Grounds Main	tenance Tear	n. Parks = Park Range	ers/Attendants. SS = Street Scene		
Area	Code	Item	Description	Annual Frequency	Service Area
bike track	A10	Street furniture	Strimming around obstacles	16	GM
	B1	Litter	Litter collection	260	SS
	B3	Dog Waste Bins	Check and Empty if required	52	SS
	B4	Litterbins	Check and Empty if required	156	SS
	E1	Hedgerows	Cut hedgerows	1	GM
	H1c	Safety surface	Rake sand	52	SS
	H1d/e	Safety surface	Top up sand	1	Parks
	G7a	Leisure goals	Repaint 5 yearly, or as needed	0.2	Parks
Football pitch	A3	Grass	Cut Grass, full area	16	GM
area	A10	Street furniture	Strimming around obstacles	16	GM
	B1	Litter	Litter collection	260	SS
	B3	Dog Waste Bins	Check and Empty if required	52	SS
	B4	Litterbins	Check and Empty if required	156	SS
	E1	Hedgerows	Cut hedgerows	1	GM
	M1a	Benches	Paint benches 5 yearly, or as needed.	0.2	Parks
	G1,2,3	Football pitch	Spike, roll, and harrowing pitch	20	GM
	G4	Football pitch	Apply approved sand top dressing	2	GM
	G5	Football pitch	Mark pitches weekly (Sept to May)	40	GM
	G5a	Football pitch	Initial seasonal mark out pitches	1	GM
	G6	Football pitch	Fertiliser and reseed	1	GM
	G6a	Football pitch	Level, fertilize & seed goal mouths.	1	GM
	G7	Football pitch	Assemble/disassemble & repaint goals	1	GM
	G8	Football pitch	Spring and Autumn feeding	2	GM

Further details relating to the above codes are attached at **Appendix D**.

# 17.3 Grounds Maintenance Responsibilities

Grounds Maintenance Department complete various works, working closely with the Parks Team to carry out several items identified above, ensuring all areas/items are addressed.

The Historic Parks Manager has a close partnership with the Grounds Maintenance Supervisor ensuring issues are addressed promptly. Along with working together to forward plan maintenance requirements.

# 17.4 Waste Removal

Waste removed from site is taken to Energy Recovery Facility (ERF) generating energy from waste Energy Recovery Facility in Staffordshire | Veolia Staffordshire

## 17.4.1 General Litter Removal

Litter bins are emptied 5 times a week, and the site litter picked daily (Monday to Friday).

# 17.5 Dog Waste

Dog waste bins are currently emptied weekly by Street Scene. All dog waste is disposed of via the street cleansing skip.

The park is covered by a PSPO for dog control, which was updated in 2024, excluding dogs from within fenced play areas and dog fouling. Patrols are programmed by the Environmental Health Team whenever and wherever deemed necessary to challenge fouling.

# 17.6 Hazardous Material

Hazardous material such as broken glass and needles are removed immediately by trained members of staff. Fly tipping is assessed and removed by the Parks or Street Scene Team or an external firm, if identified as asbestos. In all cases an Accident and Incident form is completed and recorded in order to identify trends and reported to the relevant authorities where necessary.

# 17.7 Graffiti Removal

It is aimed to remove all graffiti when discovered. If the area is too large to remove by the Parks Team, the Street Scene department are able to attend to larger issues. Any offensive graffiti which is too big to be removed immediately is covered or painted over in the interim. All graffiti is logged as an incident, in accordance with the council's Accident and Incident reporting procedure, along with reporting to police reporting any potential tags.

## SECTION 18.0 FINANCES

Supported by the sections Business Advisor/Accountant, the revenue budget for the management and maintenance of the park is managed by the Operational Services Manager and Historic Parks Manager.

A budget summary is attached within **Appendix E.** 

#### **18.1 Other Potential Funding Sources**

Central funds	For unexpected high-cost items
External funding (Local grants)	Local Parish Council grants and CIL
External funding	Forestry Commission
(National and Regional grants)	English Heritage
	Aggregates Levy
	Landfill Tax
Revenue from activities	Football pitch hire
Sponsorship	Flowerbeds
	Specific events
	Benches
	Bins
	Trees and shrubs
Hiring the Park for more activities	Events – Park Hire
Leases	Scout Hut

# 18.2 Sports Charges

The pitch and land hire fees are determined each year by the Corporate Director, as part of the directorate annual fees and charges review.

## 18.3 Licenses

Burntwood Park does not hold a Premises License, therefore all land hirers are to ensure the required Premises or TEN is applied for, along with any PRS and PPL requirements.

## SECTION 19.0 HEALTH AND SAFETY

Public safety on Lichfield District Council owned land is managed by the Historic Parks Manager, in conjunction with the council's Health and Safety Manager, Environmental Health Officer, Insurance Officer and Operational Services Manager.

## 19.1 Risk assessments

Burntwood Park is inspected by the Parks Team. The play area is checked weekly.

Full role and site-specific risk assessments have been compiled and updated on an annual basis unless risks identified in the interim.

The Community and Education Officer completes risk assessments for activities and events, in line with the Events Programme.

Method statements, risk assessments and public liability insurance details are requested from all contractors who work on site. The officer responsible for co-coordinating the works ensures the details are strictly followed; a contractor permit document is issued, to ensure the safety of the public, staff, and contractors.

Risk assessments, insurance and other relevant documents are compulsory for all public and private events taking place in the park. Regular meetings with Event Officers and event organisers take place involving the council's Health & Safety and Environmental Health Managers for large scale public events.

# 19.2 First Aid

First aid to the public is not obligatory within public parks; however, all members of the Parks Team have received either First Aid at Work or Emergency First Aid training and will always assist anyone if needed. A First Aid at Work qualified member of the team is always on duty to help colleagues on site. A few members of staff have also received further training in Paediatric and Mental Health First Aid.



The nearest defibrillator is just along Cannock Road at Burntwood Methodist Church, Cannock Road, Burntwood, WS7 0BJ. Obtaining a defib for Burntwood Park has been identified in the Action Plan.

In 2023 various staff members of staff received bleed kit training in conjunction with the Knife Angel statue being displayed in Lichfield.

# 19.3 Insurance

The district council's insurance is a combined policy covering Public and Employers' Liability, Buildings, Contents and Vehicles along with professional indemnity to carry out play inspections for others. The district council has a dedicated Insurance Officer who deals with all enquires relating to insurance cover and claims.

Details of new equipment and facilities are provided for the relevant insurance cover to be established.

In addition, any disposed of assets are notified to remove them from the insurance register.

The Insurance Officer assists with the approval of events organisers and contractor policies.

Professional indemnity cover is also in place where staff attend various parish councils and other organisations to assist with play inspections.

# 19.4 COSHH Assessments (Control of Substances Hazardous to Health)

Under the Health and Safety Policy, the council is required to examine the workplace to ensure that neither the employer, employees nor any other person (whether at work or not) are exposed to any substance that may be hazardous to their health arising from any of the practices carried out or any substances used.

To do this an assessment of the risks to health must be made and include the following information:

- i. The nature of the risk whether it is a substance or something that evolves from a practice that is carried out.
- ii. The product and its active ingredients.
- iii. The safe use of the substances.
- iv. First aid procedures.
- v. Emergency procedures.
- vi. Safe disposal.

During the examination of the workplace, the council must determine whether employees are exposed to hazardous substances and if their health is affected. If it is, then the health of the employees will be monitored and recorded.

The COSHH assessment will be:-

- i. permanently recorded.
- ii. revised whenever there are any changes.
- iii. brought to the attention of all employees.

COSHH procedures have been reviewed to ensure that new products are reviewed under COSHH guidelines and details sent to appropriate officers. This has included ensuring correct storage and labelling of all substances, including cleaning chemicals, ensuring all staff have access to COSHH sheets, and are aware of how to use the chemicals.

When such substances are used by contractors, they are required to also comply with COSHH legislation.

## 19.5 Inspections

Park staff regularly inspect areas within the park, as part of their day-to-day activities, reporting issues to the Parks and Open Spaces Supervisor. High risk issues are sectioned off, where applicable, and immediate rectification completed. All medium and low risk faults are recorded for the Parks Team to rectify accordingly.

#### **19.5.1 Tree Inspections**

A survey of the district council owned tree stock included cataloguing all stock and its health etc. A software system, Arbortrack, is used to plot each tree and to individually record issues and inspection details.

All trees are inspected by a qualified external arboricultal officer on a frequent basis to ensure all seasons are covered, as per the council's tree procedure. Should any concerns be raised within this period re-inspections will be scheduled sooner. In the interim the parks staff, whom are Lantra qualified, attend to trees which are reported to be or identified with issues. The district council's Arboricultural Officers or external experts will then be consulted, if needed.

A procedure for dealing with emergency tree work is in place where the Historic Parks Manager is informed immediately; arboricultural advice sought and approved tree surgeons to attend. All tree incidents are subsequently reported on the council's Accident and Incident forms and followed up by the Health and Safety Team if necessary.

#### 19.5.2 Play Area Inspections

Staff are qualified to RPII Play Inspector Operational level, whereas a robust play inspection software system is used to record inspections, maintenance works and the annual inspection. These records are reviewed and processed by the Safety Ranger and Park Supervisor on completion to action.

A weekly inspection of the play equipment is undertaken by the trained Parks Team personnel, following the RPII criteria along with manufacturers' recommendations.

The play areas are also inspected annually, by an external approved inspector. All equipment is photographed, and any defects are recorded. From 2019 the annual inspections have also been recorded on the software system.

Routine quarterly inspections and maintenance of all play equipment is completed by trained staff, in accordance with the manufacturer's guidelines.

A small selection of common replacement parts is available on site. For specialist larger items details are listed in the play equipment folders to ease ordering.

When vandalism occurs, the equipment is made safe for immediate use as appropriate. Otherwise, any unsafe item is removed from service until replacement parts are available.

#### **19.5.3 General Site Inspections**

Site inspections are carried out and recorded; quarterly, bi-annually, or annually, depending on the use of area, popularity, and seasonal demands (detailed within Beacon Parks Site Assessment file within the Team Office). Site inspections are carried out by the Parks Team reviewing and actioning any works within the area including walls, fences, gates, bollards, barriers, footpaths, benches, signage etc. Aiming to include all cyclic site inspections on the site inspection software.

#### **19.5.4 Equipment inspections**

All equipment is checked by the appropriate agent. Following a comprehensive inventory on the park, a full list of inspections are undertaken as detailed within the work programme - **Appendix F**.

# 19.6 Partnership Safety

The Parks Team work closely with several agencies promoting safer parks and educating the public including:

- Fire safety including BBQ's and smoking during dry weather.
- Working with the police educating health implications from drinking alcohol during the hot weather.

# 19.7 Complying with Legislation

#### **19.7.1 Freedom of information**

Lichfield District Council has a Freedom of Information Policy (FOI), whereas a nominated officer covering Parks, Grounds Maintenance and Streetscene processes requests. All employees receive training on Freedom of Information.

It is important, with additional events and volunteers along with the increased use of the website as a tool, that FOI is considered, and all staff given the appropriate training.

#### **19.7.2 Data Protection Act/GDPR**

This act is designed to cover all; collected, stored, processed, and distributed personal data. The council has appropriate policies, procedures, and security measures in place to ensure compliance with requirements and staff should ensure they are aware of and follow.

#### **19.7.3 Fraud Prevention**

The authority has a duty to protect public funds it administers; therefore, any information provided may be used to prevent and detect fraud. Also, information may be shared with other bodies responsible for auditing or administering public funds for these purposes. This information is detailed on any forms requested personal information.

#### 19.7.4 Safeguarding Children and Adults at risk of abuse or neglect

Lichfield District Council has a duty of care for Children and Adults at Risk of Abuse or Neglect, ensuring that they are protected and kept safe from harm, during activities connected with the council, following the <u>council's policy</u>.

The Parks Team have undertaken Safeguarding Children and Adults at Risk of Abuse or Neglect training, with enhanced sessions on Child Sexual Exploitation.

All agencies and individuals organising activities on Burntwood Park are asked to sign up to the council's safeguarding policy. In addition, organisations dealing with child activities are requested to submit their child protection policies.

Staff training requirements regarding safeguarding has been reviewed, in accordance with the roles and responsibilities in parks, whereas it was confirmed DBS clearance is not required for the Parks Team, except for the Community and Education Officer due to the nature of the role.

In 2023 staff attended a Dementia UK Masterclass, with a view to improve awareness and assistance in the park and improving events.



#### 19.7.5 Audit

All departments within Lichfield District Council are regularly audited by both internal and external auditors.

# SECTION 20.0 COUNCIL POLICIES

A Parks Tree Procedure has been developed and available on the website. Policies and strategies from other departments within the council will also be drawn upon to aid the management of the park.

# 20.1 Health and Safety Policy

Available on Lichfield District Council intranet and hard copy format, the main objective of this policy is to ensure compliance with the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, including:

- Recognising the development of positive safety, being supportive of health and safety, ensuring adequate control of risks are in place.
- Ensuring a systematic approach to identify risks and allocate resources to control them.
- Recognise and evaluate hazards within the council's full range of activities and provide information to be followed as standard safe systems of work.
- Supporting employees to enable them to fulfil their roles and responsibilities effectively through effective health and safety training, supervision, instruction, and guidance.
- Minimise financial losses which arise from avoidable unplanned events.
- Support quality initiatives aimed at continuous improvements.

# 20.2 Personnel and Payroll Policies

Various policies are available on the intranet, covering human resources issues and general employment law, including:

- Fraud and corruption issues
- Equal opportunities
- Code of conduct
- Disciplinary policy
- Grievance Policy
- Managing relationships at work
- Performance Management
- Attendance Management & sickness policy

# 20.3 Licensing Policy

Providing a unified system for regulating 'licensable activities' i.e., the sale and supply of alcohol, and the provision of entertainment, plays, music, and hot food.

# 20.4 Procurement Policy

The Procurement Section within the council provides advice, to ensure compliance with the 'Contract Procedure Rules'. Further advice and guidance is also available on the council's internal website for officers for purchasing.

The Procurement Team assist with the contract finder portal, recent tenders include seeking seasonal concession holders, tree inspectors, tree surgeons and event suppliers, all of which include environmental impact on the park and potential social impact opportunities.

## SECTION 21.0 NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND LOCAL STRATEGIES

National, regional, and local legislation impacts on this Management and Maintenance Plan. Looking at parks playing a large part towards building sustainable communities, enhancing people's quality of life in towns and cities, and contributing to the cleaner, safer, greener agenda.

# SECTION 22.0 TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

A comprehensive Training Plan is in place for the parks, which identifies training and development of staff and volunteers.

Training needs are identified as part of individual and team discussions, in addition to the new annual Objectives and Key results (OKR's) replacing the original PDR programme. The OKR's focus on 4 ambitious objectives alongside a set of key results for each grade.

- **Our finances** Deliver best value for the people of Lichfield District, whilst living within our means
- **Our people** Be the local employer of choice with high levels of staff satisfaction.
- **Our community** Working together to make Lichfield district a stronger, more prosperous, active, and green place.
- **Our organisation** Be the very best district council in the UK.

It is important that any training received is used and shared. By developing a 'cascade' system, allowing individuals to undergo training and then pass the information onto their colleagues on a one-to-one basis or in team meetings etc.

Lichfield District Council has a partnership with Staffordshire County Council with an online e-training programme.

# SECTION 23.0 SUSTAINABILITY

There are other possible improvements in relation to the sustainability of the park, aiming to provide the opportunity to set a best practice example and constantly look for ways to reduce waste. This is a joint approach with the Grounds Maintenance Department, who are keen to discuss developing their sustainable practices, and to work with the park to look at options and joint projects.

# 23.1 Peat Use

The Parks Team bulk buy seasonal bedding plants along with Grounds Maintenance Department obtaining good value. Grown in Levington Professional peat free, bark-based compost.

We continue to ensure all additional shrub and tree purchases are from peat free sources also.

# 23.2 Chemical Use

All non-essential chemicals have been withdrawn from use on site. This included a change to spraying practice to hand pulling and hoeing.

# 23.3 Recycling

Recycling is always a priority in parks and ventures are always considered and delivered where appropriate, e.g. building bird boxes from recycled pallets and re-using play equipment.

Events are encouraged to recycle; the Lichfield District Council Waste Team can provide recycling wheelie bins.

## 23.4 Energy Use

The open space has no utility supplies on site.

# 23.5 Water

The open space has no water supply within the park.

# SECTION 24.0 MANAGEMENT AIMS

The Management Aims incorporate areas of the council's **Strategic Plan** and **Directorate/Department Service Plan** creating a focused approach.

## 24.1 Key Management Aims.

- 1.0 Update Management Plan, as needed.
- 2.0 Monitor and update H & S procedures.
- 3.0 Manage financial budgets.
- 4.0 Assist Property & CLL to manage leases & agreements on site.
- 5.0 Facilitate Training Plan.
- 6.0 Seek opportunities for digital developments.
- 7.0 Manage accessibility on site.
- 8.0 Register and record site furniture details.
- 9.0 Manage site inspection records.
- 10.0 Energy and service provision on the park.
- 11.0 Seek further opportunities of sustainability.
- 12.0 Manage Woodland Management Plan.
- 13.0 Develop tree programme on site including tree software.
- 14.0 Continue to review Grounds Maintenance specification on site.
- 15.0 Work in Partnership with the Biodiversity Team to enhance Biodiversity on site.
- 16.0 Community engagement and involvement in parks.
- 17.0 Work with fellow officers to manage Marketing and Communication on site.
- 18.0 Work with fellow officers to ensure delivery of a varied events programme.
- 19.0 Identify opportunities to further enhance leisure facilities and opportunities on site.
- 20.0 Continue to promote community safety.

# 24.2 Green Flag status

Aiming to achieve Green Flag status to national recognised standard and serve as a link to other parks and open spaces around the country sharing ideas and resources. The award looks at:

Green Flag Award Criteria
A Welcoming Place
Healthy, Safe and Secure
Well Maintained and Clean
Environmental Management
Biodiversity, Landscape and Heritage
Community Involvement
Marketing and Communication
Management

## REFERENCES

- Marketing and Communications Plan, Lichfield District Council, Parks (annual)
- Operational Services Service Plan
- Protecting children and vulnerable adult's executive summary

## **FIGURES**

- Figure 1 : MMP Document Structure
- Figure 2 : Location Plan
- Figure 3 : Ward Map
- Figure 4 : Stakeholder Diagram
- Figure 5 : Public Rights of Way
- Figure 6 : Staffing Structure

#### Burntwood Park MMP 2024-29 Action Plan

Management/Green Flag Aim	Outcome	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
1.0 A Welcoming Place (welcome,	good & safe access, signage, equal access for all)					
Site signage	Review suite of signs, update/replace as necessary					
Elder Lane main entrance gate	Expose, restore and enhance main entrance pillars and gate					1
Elder Lane formal entrance	To install dropped kerb					í
Site noticeboards	Install notice/display boards					
To install pathways	Install path from Emmanuel Road to Elder Lane	$\checkmark$				1
Bike racks	Review possibility to fit bike rack to encourage cycling to the park					i
Accessible data	Site to be surveyed to identify areas for improvement and share data					
Highway signposting	Review need for signposting from highway					i
Improve planting	To enhance ornamental planting area					
Introduce herbaceous & shrub areas	To introduce a variety of planting schemes					
Pathways	To seek quotes/finance to replace tarmac pathways with edging					
						1

2.0 Heathy, Safe and Secure (app prov quality facilities & activities, safe equipment & facilities, personal security, control of dogs/fouling)								
Events	Engage with event organisers to clarify needs.	~						
Healthy Activities	H&W and CEO to deliver activities	~						
First Aid	Source Defib for site							
Seating	Identify areas needed and re-locate	~						
Football	Recreate football pitch & introduce academy	~						
Tiny Forest	Address issues (Earthwatch suggest remove fence)	~						
Police/Community Safety	Invite to team meetings if required							
Signage	Safety posters in notice boards to encourage community reporting							
Dog control/fouling	Awareness and signage on site							
Dog control/fouling	Enforcement Officers to engage/attend							

3.0 Well Maintained and Clean	(Litter & Waste Man, Hort and Arb maint, building/infrastructure maint, equip maint)					
Health & Safety	Site safety signs on display	$\checkmark$				
Tree Procedure	To update Procedure & webpages					
Tree works	Inspections works and re planting in place	~				
Main entrance pillars	Exposed and restored					
Street Scene review	Catch up with attendant findings/patterns					

# Appendix A

#### Burntwood Park MMP 2024-29 Action Plan

Review provision for recycling	Recycle bins / public signage			
Love Parks Week	Partnership with Burntwood litter Hero's campaign			
Composting	Identify composting on site opportunities			
Community support	Community engagement, volunteer support			
Community Gardeners	Create CG event to engage volunteers			
Tiny Forest	Obtain Plan from STW/Earthwatch and planned maint.			
Tiny Forest	Engage with Tree Keepers	~		

4.0 Environmental Management	(Env impact, minise waste, chemical use, peat use, climate change adaption)			
Peat use	To ensure seasonal bedding supplier continues to use peat free compost	~		
Waste	Introduce recycling on site			
Event Environmental Impact	Work with council Events Manager on reducing env. impact of events			
Carbon Reduction	To be part of the councils Carbon Reduction programme	~		
Event Waste	To work with council Events Manager on increasing recycling at events	~		
Peat use	To ingrain 'peat free' across the park including events, new plants/trees	~		
Policies	Identify council 'environmental policy'			
Vehicles attending site	Street Scene 'zero emissions vehicle'	~		
Environmental methods	Review GM methods			
Chemicals	Ensure continue with no chemicals			
Climate consideration	Rain, drought, winds, heat,			

5.0 Biodiversity, Landscape & Heritage (natural features, wild fauna & flora, landscqpe features, buildings & structures)							
Biodiversity	Habitat/biodiversity survey	~					
Biodiversity	Complete habitat recommendations from survey						
iNaturalist	Link survey to webpage, showing sightings and encourage others- to use.						
iNaturalist	Training and posters						
Tiny Forest	Capture data to share on website						
Heritage	Research history of site to develop information on site and webpage						
Tree network	Create biodiversity treelines	$\checkmark$					
Biodiversity	Volunteer bulb and meadow flower planting						

6.0 Community Involvement (manage and develop comm involvement, apropriate provision for the community)

Beacon Park : Management and Maintenance Plan

#### Burntwood Park MMP 2024-29 Action Plan

# Appendix A

Create a Park Friends Group	Reach out and engage interest, promote forging a group.	~		
Community Engagement	Burntwood Litter Heros	~		
Community Engagement	Burntwood Scout Group	~		
Community Gardening	Engage interested parties in helping enhance gardens			
Events	Urge volunteers to assist with events and activities			
Surveys	Promote site surveys on site, seeking ideas.			

7.0 Marketing and Communication (Marketing & promo, approp channels, approp educ. & interpretational info)								
Events & Marketing Plan	Ensure Parks highlighted within council plan	$\checkmark$						
Marketing	Develop marketing material with Comms.	$\sim$						
Social media	Share social media posts	$\checkmark$						
Huq	Review data, looking at trends							
Educational	Tiny Forest events							
Website	Review and update webpages							
Educational	Link to volunteers and history groups							
Educational	Initial Community Gardener event - grow your own							

8.0 Management						
Management Plan 2024-29	Develop MMP and ongoing updates	✓				
Green Flag	Make application and update documents accordingly	$\checkmark$				
Member support	Member support for Action Plan					
Finance	Identify funding streams for enhancements					