

# Hunter Park – Enhancements

# Twyford Parish Council

The Two Parks initiative was started by the Parish Council in 2019 with community engagement sessions designed to contribute shared thinking to create long term strategy for Hunter Park and Northfields. A community workshop took place at the Parish Hall in July 2019 and examined both parks, their current uses, constraints and opportunities. The results from the workshop made a number of recommendations on how to develop the emerging opportunities for both parks.

The output of this community engagement activity has allowed the Parish Council to engage with a landscape architect who developed a visual masterplan for Hunter Park. From this visual masterplan the Parish Council is prioritising a number of areas which it progress during the coming years and anticipate completing a number of these in time for the park's 60<sup>th</sup> birthday in April 2024.



## Priority Works - aim to complete within about 2 years

Map Reference	Proposal	Status
L, X, N	1.2m wide all weather footpath that runs around perimeter of the park. With item X (rear of tennis courts), item N1 over trees roots on southern boundary and through allotment site being the priority.	<b>In Progress.</b> This is a significant project and would likely be achieved in phases over several years. The priority being on area of exposed tree roots on the southern boundary. Work will start on this area and the footpath through the allotment site in early 2023.
W1, Y1, A2	Older children's natural play area with equipment made from natural materials set within a sand or safety bark surface. Emphasis on challenge including swing ropes, climbing surfaces, scramble nets etc. Younger children's area to be renovated.	<b>Complete.</b> The old basketball court was replaced with updated basketball facility, multi-sport kick wall, traverse climbing wall and climbing stack. The younger children's area has been updated and some equipment renewed and refreshed. Smaller items of sensory equipment to supplement existing equipment to be installed during 2023.
B2	Picnic and/or sitting area with associated tree and shrub planting.	<b>Complete.</b> Three picnic tables have been installed.
J2	Proposed externally accessible 3 x 4m disability toilet – assess the viability of providing a public toilet facility.	<b>In Progress.</b> A temporary "portalo" was installed for summer 2022 and will in place again from March 2023. This will allow the Council to under further the needs and demand for such facilities and assess the viability for permanent facility.
Z	Proposed relocation of cricket nets with exact orientation/location to be pegged on ground and confirmed	<b>In Progress.</b> Sources of funding ongoing, before any work can commence.
J1, K1, L1	Area of mown grass transformed into wildflower meadow.	<b>In Progress.</b> Area of grass left long with paths cut through the grass. 4 wildflower beds sown in 2022 some germination affected by drought and further sowings planned.
M	Suggested avenue of deciduous trees at equal 15m centres running around perimeter of cricket pitch.	<b>Unlikely to proceed.</b> However, ad-hoc planting of trees will be considered in other suitable locations
N	Proposed native mix hedges to improve setting of footpath and to screen chainlink fences	<b>Complete.</b> Beech hedge planted to screen chainlink fence. Drip hose installed but saplings affected by drought. Replacement saplings may need to be planted early Spring 2023.
G	Mixed size/type of existing timber posts replaced with matching posts	<b>Complete.</b> New knee high fence installed. Additional work in to improve surface in access gaps required.

## Secondary Works - aim to complete within about 5 years

Map Reference	Proposal	Status
A & B	Access road - create safe 1m wide pedestrian route	Yet to be considered
C	Existing litter and dog bins - consider replacing with new bins at end of perimeter circuit footpath. New bins more sympathetic to park setting.	Under consideration
S	Carefully tidy existing scrub and replant with native shrub species as required	Trees on the NW boundary have received attention.
G1	Boundary scrub/understorey - retain and selectively remove self-sown sycamore saplings and bolster with new native species planting.	<b>In Progress.</b> This area forms part of the 'outdoor classroom' for the primary school and some clearance has taken place. The self-sown sycamore saplings need to be removed.
B1	Potential location for picnic bench or seats overlooking cricket pitch. Litter bin provided.	<b>In Progress.</b>
Y	Manage scrub/understorey and where possible introduce native species	<b>In Progress.</b>
M2	Retain existing recent native hedge planting and where gaps bolster with native evergreens to increase year-round screening	Native in-fill hedging planted along this boundary.
U	Occasional native trees to bolster tree cover and ensure successional growth	<b>In Progress.</b>
P1	Areas of shade tolerant native planting to provide screening and wildlife cover	Area tidied up and logs arranged for informal seating.
E2	Areas running along boundaries - maintain and bolster as required the native hedge planting to improve screening and enclosure	Native in-fill hedging has been planted along this boundary.
F2	Existing mown grass paths extended to meet perimeter path	Mown grass paths are in place in this area
L2	Area of scrub - carefully remove sycamore saplings but retain best of native species and bolster with new native planting where gaps occur	Native in-fill hedging has been planted along this boundary.

For further details including the background to the community engagement activities that took place to help shape this plan please visit: [www.twyfordhants.org.uk/hunter-park](http://www.twyfordhants.org.uk/hunter-park)

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