



High Peak Borough Council
working for our community

Ashwood Park

Management Plan

2023 – 2033



1. Foreword

High Peak Borough Council together with its partners recognise the value of Ashwood Park to the local and wider community and is committed to maintaining and developing, where appropriate, the services and facilities offered. Essential to this aim is engaging with the community to understand their needs and desires. With limited resources, it is of paramount importance that priorities for the development of the park are identified. This management plan will recognise the valuable work that has been done to date and focus on the future management and maintenance of the park. Taking into account sustainable considerations, the Council will ensure that any developments or refurbishments are completed in a manner which are sensitive to local community needs and the nature of the park in terms of its historic, ecological and environmental value.

2. Introduction

This plan will define the current and future management and maintenance of Ashwood Park for a 10 year period from 2023-2033. In compiling the plan we acknowledge the essential and valuable contribution from all key stakeholders, partners and community groups. Without their contribution this plan would be meaningless.

3. Purpose of the Management Plan

It is imperative that this management plan provides clear direction for the future management and maintenance of the park, ensuring that the park is conserved and enhanced in its entirety whilst balancing the needs of visitors and residents alike.

This management plan seeks to: -

- Take a holistic approach to the future management of the park by assessing professional and community requirements.
- To establish a shared vision and objectives for the park.
- Ensure community involvement within the development and management of the park.
- Establish standards that are effective and accountable to ensure clear management and maintenance objectives are identified and implemented.
- Benchmark the park and analyse the management regimes and policies against best practice.
- Prioritise resources and action to ensure effective management of the park and the success of any future developments.

4. Responsibility for the Plan

High Peak Borough Council is responsible for the overall management of all our parks and open spaces. The Service Commissioning section of High Peak Borough Council working in partnership with all stakeholders and the community has compiled this plan. Implementation of the plan will also be led by the Service Commissioning section with specific project leads as shown in the Action Plan. Likewise, the monitoring and review of the plan will be led by the Service Commissioning section. It is recognised that regular effective monitoring and review of the plan will ensure that the document evolves to meet changing priorities. However, all key stakeholders and users of the park together with the wider local community will be engaged to ensure that future revisions reflect a combination of views, needs and aspirations.

5. Strategic Context of the Management Plan

The Parks Strategy is the overarching document that sets out the strategic context which informs the management of all our parks. For this strategy to focus on the future effectively, it is important to recognise the key influencing documents and evidence base which frame the provision and development of parks. It is also equally important for people to understand the current context in which parks are managed and maintained as this will play a part in decision making and delivery of future projects which aim to maintain and enhance the parks.

The purpose of our Parks Strategy is to bring these key issues into focus and by doing so:-

- 1) Set the overarching context and direction for the management and development of our parks
- 2) Outline the approach for managing and developing parks which considers the Council's resources, management and maintenance responsibilities and the contribution of partners, community groups.
- 3) Highlight a set of principles which will guide future maintenance, investment and community engagement.
- 4) Agree priority development areas so that our parks remain high quality spaces for everyone to enjoy.
- 5) Help secure investment and external funding to enhance parks infrastructure, facilities and opportunities.

6. Site Details

6.1 Site Address and access

Ashwood Park is a long, narrow park located at the eastern end of Buxton's main shopping area. Following the valley created by the River Wye through Ashwood Dale the park creates a pleasant green corridor with woodland to either side. It is bounded by a railway line to the east and to the west by the River Wye and then a busy major road, the A6 road to Bakewell and the south. The park links Fairfield, a major residential area, at its southern end via steep steps through a short stretch of the park to Morrisons supermarket to the south or, via the full length of the park, to Spring Gardens, the town's main shopping area. The River Wye's confluence with Hogshaw Brook, which has been joined by Nun Brook just up-stream, creates an interesting natural feature at the main entrance to the park.

The postal address is as follows:

Ashwood Park, Bakewell Road, Buxton SK17 7DJ.

It should be noted however that postal correspondence relating to the park should be directed to: Service Commissioning, Buxton Town Hall, Market Place, Buxton SK17 6EL.

The park is laid out in a series of 'zones' from more formal at the northern end to re-wilded at the southern end. The northern end of the park links to the town centre. The A6 (Fairfield Road and Bakewell Road) runs parallel to the park and the main points of access are from this road. There is also a footpath in the Southeast corner giving access from Fairfield.

How to access the park:

- Pedestrian access is from the northern end from the town and from the south, both Fairfield estate and Morrison's supermarket.

- The park is accessible for wheelchair users with mostly flat, wide surfaces. There is a slight slope at the southern end. The access path from Fairfield is too steep for wheelchair users to use safely.
- The park is served by local buses.
- The train station is five minutes walk away.
- Car parking is available at Sylvan Park car park on the other (western) side of the A6. It is HPBC operated pay and display.

Ashwood Park



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6.2 Ownership and Designations

The site is situated in Buxton Central Ward and is exclusively owned by High Peak Borough Council. The park is not in a Conservation Area and there are no listings in the park, although the Hogshaw Lane viaduct which overlooks the park at the northern end, is Grade II. The trees are an essential element of the landscape setting of the park and the council will manage the trees accordingly, following the principles set out in the Tree Policy and good practice guides. No designated rights of way run through the park although there are parallel and converging routes throughout.

6.3 Local Area Information

The spa town of Buxton lies within the High Peak area of Derbyshire, is surrounded by the Peak District National Park and welcomes many visitors. There is a resident population of approximately 23,000. Several residential developments have been completed over recent times and it is likely that growth will continue strongly. The area surrounding Ashwood Park supports a significant number of the population of Buxton and the park provides a pleasant through route both to and from the town and to a major supermarket. It provides a mature green space for the densely populated area of Fairfield and is a useful resource for Fairfield Infant and Junior Schools. There are more formal areas at the northern end adjacent to The Wye Bridge Hotel (Wetherspoons) moving through to the re-wilded areas at the southern end.

7. Physical Assets

It is essential to fully understand the physical assets of the park including both natural and manmade features. This will assist in determining the strengths and weaknesses in the information base for the park. This in turn will provide a better understanding of the context of the park and inform how we might develop and effectively manage the park for the future.

Ashwood Park has a number of facilities to attract visitors and regular users which includes:-

- **Children's Play Area**

A small, fenced children's play area was installed at the north end of the park in 2006. It was originally located at the far south end of the park, but due to the fact that this area felt quite dark because of a lot of tree cover which provided limited views across the space and made it feel quite secluded, it was relocated to the more open northern end. The play space includes fixed play equipment for children aged 0-12 years.

- **Tennis Court and Basketball Court**

Two asphalt courts for ballgames are situated in the middle of the park installed using National Lottery funding. One is marked out for tennis with a net and the second is marked out for basketball and five a side football, the latter being a popular facility in the park. Both courts are permanently open for public use. Some investment will be required for both courts in the near future.



Ashwood Park Basketball Court

- **The Bowling Green and Pavilion**

A main feature since 1921 when the park was first laid out. There is a fenced off crown green with an adjacent small wooden pavilion which replaced the original ornate pavilion. This was occupied by the local Bowling Club until 2021 when they disbanded. In 2022 the Council was approached by Buxton Croquet Club who were looking for a more permanent place to play and subsequently a Licence was granted for use of the green during the 2022 season. This has proved quite successful and the club are now looking to secure a longer term lease of the green and the wooden pavilion. The building is in need of significant repair or replacement and the club are keen to pursue this as a project, working in partnership with the Council, once the lease is in place. Two stone built toilet blocks stand in the park next to the River Wye. These have supply of running water, drainage and electricity although are currently not functional as toilets. They have been included within the Licence for the Croquet Club, again with a view to bringing them back into use for the club.

- **An Extensive Path Network, Seating and Signage**

The park provides several opportunities for walking or jogging through an extensive path network. The quality of these paths in parts need improving due to uneven surfaces. The park is included in the Buxton Town Team's Safer Walk and Ride Network Project (Route 2), and as a result is included within potential funding opportunities to deliver the wider project.

There is seating throughout the park and a number of benches were renewed at the millennium with the metalwork painted 'oriental red' as a theme through the park. Welcome signs are located at the three main entrances to the park, which includes a map of the park and a lockable noticeboard to provide information and updates for the community. Improvements to park infrastructure are included in the action plan.

- **The River Wye**

The river runs the length of Ashwood Park and is a key feature. The source of the River Wye is in Buxton and it then flows south-east, joining the River Derwent, then the River Trent and finally flows to the sea via the Humber. Hogshaw Brook also flows into Ashwood Park and joins the River Wye at the northern end. There are four bridges across the river, which allow access to the park from the A6 (Bakewell Road), one of which is currently closed. These bridges are the focus of a replacement project in the park in partnership with Buxton Town Team.

The northern section of the river has been re-wilded by Buxton Town Team with support from Keep Britain Tidy Waterside Care initiative. This intervention has created a habitat for aquatic flora and fauna and a point of interest for visitors. Plans are to continue this work further down the river.



Coir roll installed in the river to divert flow and create meanders

- **Mixed Woodland (with some specimen trees and shrubs)**

Ashwood Park is bordered by protected tree areas on both sides of the valley in which it sits. The Park contains many mature trees and shrubs. Mature elm trees (*Ulmus glabra*) survive in the park. Due to the elevation of Buxton, Dutch Elm Disease did not devastate these native trees. The elm is the sole foodplant for endangered White-letter Hairstreak butterflies (*Satyrrium w-album*) which has been recorded in the park.

- **Wildflower Meadow**

With the assistance of Keep Britain Tidy and their Keep Buxton Buzzing Project, the Town Team created a wildflower meadow in 2021 at the southern less formal end of the park. It has

provided a colourful flower display to attract pollinating insects into the park as well as provide a focal point for those interested in biodiversity and native insect life. Interpretation signs were also installed to inform park users and the area is maintained by the Town Team with assistance from AES. Small plots of wild flowers have been planted along the River Wye to form stepping-stones for pollinators as a corridor into the centre of Buxton.

As part of the Keep Buxton Buzzing Project, the park was assessed by an ecologist with a view to identifying areas which could be enhanced for biodiversity and the intention is to develop a structured Biodiversity Plan for the park, sitting within this main overarching management plan.



Wildflower meadow first summer after planting 2021

- **Bird & Bat Boxes**

A number of bird and bat boxes have been installed by Buxton Town Team. These will provide extra nesting sites, alongside the tree canopy, to attract birds and bats into the park.

- **Japanese Cherry Trees**

30 Japanese cherry trees were planted in November 2020, which were a gift to the Town from the Japan Society and presented to share the Japanese tradition of celebrating the cherry blossom in spring. These are thriving well in the park and provide lovely colour in the spring.

- **Troll in The Woods**

A large 'troll's head' constructed from mud and broken tiles by local school children sits in the woods in Ashwood Park. It was created as part of an education day with Derbyshire Wildlife Trust and is a home for bugs, encouraging children to appreciate the abundance of creatures and plants in nature.

- **Carved Wooden Statue**

Ashwood Park is home to 'Jack the Quarryman' a statue carved by sculptor Lorraine Botterill. The wooden sculpture was created in recognition of the contribution quarrying has made to Buxton and was funded by Tarmac, one of the current quarrying companies in the town. Further work is planned to this area of the park to enhance this Limestone Heritage display feature, to celebrate and inform about the history and importance of limestone quarrying in the area.



Jack the Quarryman

8. Historical/Heritage Information

The following section details a brief history of the site, an understanding and acknowledgement of its heritage value and how this is conserved and enhanced. This information is intended to give the reader a brief contextual flavour.

8.1 The history of the site as a public park

Ashwood Park was developed on a piecemeal basis as a public park. By 1879 the upper northern end, where Hogshaw Brook meets the River Wye, had been laid out as a formal park which was actually an extension of Sylvan Park and this included a small footbridge crossing the River Wye, a large tree-covered lawn, some planted borders near The Midland Hotel (now The Wye Bridge Hotel) and a bowling green. This landscape, which forms an attractive foreground to the setting of the buildings, and particularly the Midland Hotel, survives largely intact.



View of the northern end of Ashwood Park

The southern boundary of the conservation area runs along the limit of the original edge of Sylvan Park. Sandwiched between Bakewell Road (A6) and the River Wye on its western flank, and by the Midland Railway line on the east side of the valley, the park had little room for facilities. Photographs dated 1923 show the area newly planted and laid out. The gardens then included small, timber kiosks, rustic benches and pretty, white-painted, rustic timber bridges which crossed the river. (Source: Buxton Conservation Areas Character Appraisal April 2007 HPBC)

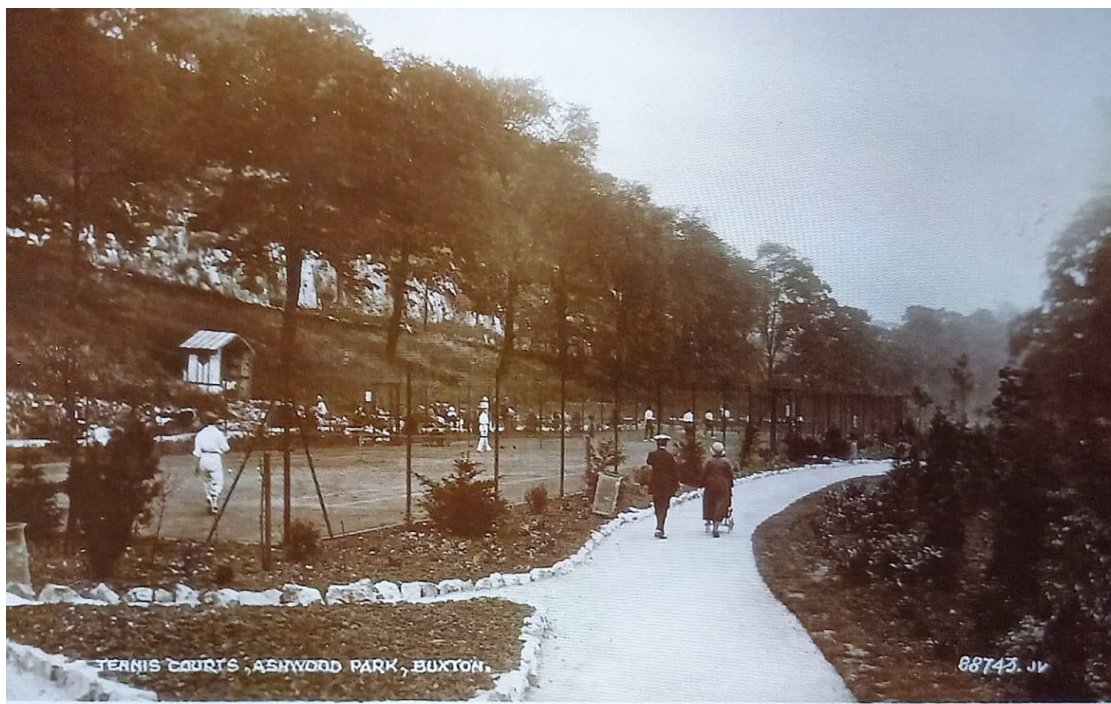


View towards southern end of the park showing timber kiosks and one of the pretty, white-painted, rustic timber bridges – bandstand in the background

Ashwood Park was finally laid out in its entirety as a public park in 1921 (Source: Buxton and the High Peak from the Board Collection – Bentley, Langham and Wells). Old photographs show a croquet lawn, bowling green, small wooden kiosks, a bandstand and ornate bridges over the River Wye. None, except for the bowling green, remain except for the old bandstand base. Whilst there are still tennis courts in the park, these are now in a different location. Historical Environment Record: Mon ID: MDR7878 Site of Buxton/Fairfield Mill, identifies the site of a medieval water powered cornmill on the River Wye in what is now Ashwood Park.



Ashwood Park Bowling Green (above) and Tennis Courts (below)



In more recent times Buxton Town Team (BTT), a voluntary organisation founded 2012, has worked closely with the Council to make improvements to the park through a variety of projects. These have included practical tasks such as weeding, pruning, planting, installing bird and bat boxes, water quality testing, painting benches and bridges as well as working with students from Buxton and Leek College of FE, Fairfield Schools, Community Payback, Nestle Water and the Waterside Care Initiative. The Park had very much become a hidden asset and the volunteer work undertaken so far has helped to open up the park so that it is immediately apparent that it is worthy of exploration made up of a series of open, enjoyable spaces. There is no doubt that the park is now used a great deal more than previously both for recreation and as pleasant way to and from the town and improvements continue with Buxton Town Team and with or contractor Alliance Environmental Services

9. Value Assessments

9.1 Heritage Value

Although the park layout remains much as originally planned, there are few traces of heritage. The weir and race from water mill at the southern end and the foundation of the bandstand can still be discerned and the bowling green is still in situ. The management plan seeks to ensure that the park does retain some of its historical integrity and where there are opportunities to restore or enhance some of the parks historical features, these will be explored e.g. the bridges refurbishment project and the old bandstand. This does also have to be balanced with the demonstrated needs of the local community. Of particular note within the park:

- Bridges
- Water mill race and weir
- Some of the original layout, walks and vistas
- Bandstand base
- Old bowling green

9.2 Educational Value

The park provides an environmental resource for the town and is increasingly used by Derbyshire Wildlife Trust, often sponsored by Buxton Waters, as a learning resource for local schools, especially Fairfield Endowed School. Reducing some of the canopy in recent years has increased light into the park and planting of natural flower species and installing bird and bat boxes has increased biodiversity making the park an increasingly useful source of learning. Re-wilding of a stretch of the river has also increased habitat for fish and aquatic wildlife and so the park offers a variety of learning opportunities.

9.3 Recreational Value

The purpose of the park is very much about informal recreation around the original laid out pathways, which provides a circular route around the park. It is a green route for the local community from that part of Buxton accessing the town centre and linking into the Pavilion Gardens and beyond. The park is also included in the Buxton Town Team's Safer Walk and Ride Network Project (Route 2). The children's play area provides recreational equipment for young children, and the basketball court and tennis court offer activity for all ages and are used regularly. The bowling green is now home to the popular Croquet Club who are looking to enhance these facilities, and the lawns and grassed areas provide for other informal games, too. People of all ages use the park either for leisure or as a route to and from town.

9.4 Amenity Value

The park creates a safe pedestrian 'highway' for residents away from the very busy A6 and is clearly valued as green space away from the built environment.

9.5 Ecological Value

The park naturally provides a corridor for wildlife from Ashwood Dale into the town. It is contained by the river to the west and a little used railway line to the eastern side. Mature trees and bushes provide ample shelter whilst the grassy open spaces and more formal planting provide sources of food. This management plan seeks to protect and enhance the habitats within the park and the range of flora and fauna they support. Work to enhance biodiversity within the park has already started with the project to re-wild the River Wye as an aquatic habitat as well as the creation of the wildflower meadow for pollinators. The park has been surveyed by an ecologist with a view to assessing other areas for improvements and the intention is to develop a Biodiversity Plan for the park to sit within the overarching management plan.

10. Management Responsibilities

High Peak Borough Council is responsible for the overall management of the Ashwood Park. We work with partners, community and interest groups to develop and deliver projects that improve the green space.

Alliance Environmental Services (AES), which is the Council's Teckal company, is contracted to undertake the day-to-day maintenance of the park and they also have the budgetary responsibility. A schedule for the associated standards of maintenance is defined by the contract with AES, and the park itself has a specific maintenance schedule found in [Appendix 1](#).

There is significant community participation. Community and interest groups including 'Buxton Town Team' are a vital and valued support network and play an important role in assisting with maintenance and development projects. These groups also can provide additional capacity, undertake selected maintenance tasks and can attract additional funding to improve the parks.

11. Health and Safety

Health and safety is of primary concern for the Council. AES are responsible for the day-to-day maintenance and management of the site and this includes keeping the park safe for the public to use. Daily visual inspections, six monthly in-depth surveys and regular tree inspections are all part of the suite of checks and procedures, which are in place. These will ensure that all issues, repairs and replacements are identified quickly and scheduled into the work programmes as necessary.

The park has a site-specific risk assessment which is reviewed and updated annually by the Operations Service Lead (AES). All AES staff are given specific training to ensure they are always operating in a safe manner. Any work on our parks and open spaces, which are carried out by external contractors, partners, community groups/volunteers are governed by the Council's health and safety policies, which they must abide and follow.

12. Involving Communities

It is well recognised that for any park to be successfully managed it must respond to the needs of the local community and park users. Actively engaging and encouraging community participation and involvement is essential in the continued development of the park. As stated earlier, over the last few years Buxton Town Team has committed resources and time to making improvements in the park through a variety of projects, working closely with the Council.

The Town Team are a voluntary organisation and a very active group who aim to:

- Provide a community focus for the park
- Take practical action to improve the park
- Raise the profile of the park
- Continue to raise funds to improve the park
- Help develop a strategy for the restoration and redevelopment of the park

They widely publicise their activities and events through press releases in the local papers, regular newsletter to members, posters in the on-site notice boards and the use of social media. This attracts their members and other interested volunteers to get involved with activities and events. They have links with local businesses and have attracted funding and volunteers. Work undertaken to date includes:

- Clearing and re-establishing flower beds
- Clearing undergrowth and generally tidying
- Planting of spring flowering bulbs including aconites, bluebells, daffodil, wild garlic, snowdrops etc.
- Painting benches and railings
- Installing bird and bat boxes
- Regular river water quality testing as part of the Waterside Care Initiative
- Re-wilding part of the River Wye by installing willow bundles to disturb the water flow patterns to encourage greater aquatic biodiversity
- Planting of 30 cherry trees donated by the Japan Society
- Creating and planting a wildflower meadow
- Working with local schools
- Working with Community Payback Scheme



Buxton Town Team involved in re-wilding the Rive Wye

More recently, the licence taken by Buxton Croquet Club for use of the old bowling green, has increased community involvement and usage of the park and they are keen to link in with Town Team in terms of the wider improvements planned for the park.

13. Marketing and Communications

High Peak Borough Council has the responsibility for managing Ashwood Park and has a variety of communication mechanisms that can be utilised to give feedback on the performance and continued relevance of this Management Plan. As the Council is committed to reducing the need for paperwork there is an increased reliance on the use of the relevant sections of the High Peak Borough Council Website. The Council has both a Facebook page and Twitter account

- Facebook - <https://m.facebook.com/highpeakbc>
- Twitter - <https://twitter.com/HighPeakBC>

For anything specific to Ashwood Park the link below gives a number of options for how customers might get in touch.

- [https:// https://www.highpeak.gov.uk/article/1685/Ashwood-Park-Buxton](https://www.highpeak.gov.uk/article/1685/Ashwood-Park-Buxton)

The Council can also be contacted by writing to **Service Commissioning, Buxton Town Hall, Market Place, BUXTON. SK17 6EL**

14. Action Plan

The Parks Strategy provides the guiding principles, headline priorities and objectives for the management and development of our parks and following on from this, we are able to develop specific site action plans. These plans identify our priorities, linked to the Strategy, and ensure they are appropriate, relevant, resourced and provide a flexible and realistic approach to realizing the aims of the Management Plan.

Parks Strategy Objectives

- Objective 1** We will review maintenance regimes to ensure our parks and open spaces are maintained to a high standard, in an affordable and sustainable way and consider improvements to increase and enhance biodiversity and positively affect climate change. (addresses priorities 1, 2 and 4)
- Objective 2** We will ensure that infrastructure and heritage features are protected and well maintained, in accordance within the resources available to the Council. (addresses priority 1, 2, 3 and 4)
- Objective 3** Encourage and enable positive physical and mental wellbeing by developing strong partnerships with community groups, sports clubs and other stakeholder groups to ensure parks fulfil their potential for enabling healthy lifestyles for all ages. (addresses priority 3 and 4)
- Objective 4** Ensure that parks are safe and accessible places for the whole community and that the highest possible standards of health and safety are maintained by our service providers, event organisers and when engaging the community in projects. (addresses priority 3 and 4)
- Objective 5** Actively encourage community engagement and involvement in the protection, maintenance and development of our parks. (addresses priority 3 and 4)
- Objective 6** Effectively manage internal budgets and attract external funding wherever possible towards the ongoing maintenance and the future development of our parks. (addresses priority 1,2,3 and 4)
- Objective 7** We will review park management plans and their associated actions plans annually to ensure these objectives are being delivered against effectively. (addresses priority 1,2,3 and 4)
- Objective 8** We will create a Parks Development Fund to be used to make improvements to our parks and green spaces. (addresses priority 1,2,3 and 4)

Ashwood Park Action Plan 2023-2033

Objective 1

To protect and enhance biodiversity, address the effects of climate change and ensure the park is sustained for the future

Action	When	Estimated Cost	Responsibility	Resources	Partners	Comms	Status
Continue to manage and enhance the wildflower meadow.	Ongoing	Approx £500	Town Team/ HPBC	Existing/ External funds	AES/HPBC/Town Team	Signage on site/PR/Social Media	
Develop areas of wild Flowers to attract pollinators ("Keep Buxton Buzzing") along the banks of the river (as used in the wildflower meadow).	2023/24	Approx £500	Town Team/HPBC/Keep Britain Tidy	Existing/External Funds	AES/HPBC/Town Team	Signage on site/PR/Social Media	
Continue to develop and manage orchard area - add further fruit trees into the orchard area at the north end of the park. Underplant	Autumn 23	Approx. £500	Transition Buxton/ Town Team/HPBC	Existing/ External funds	Transition Buxton/Town Team/AES/HPBC	Signage on site/PR/Social Media	

with wildflowers on the triangle.							
Continue programme of tree planting with native trees to enhance wooded areas and older/dying trees	Autumn 23/24	Unknown	Town Team/HPBC/AES	Existing/ External funds	AES/Council/Town Team	Signage on site/PR/Social Media	
Continue the rewilding of the River Wye further along, following the success of the first section. This improves the river habitat, encourages more wildlife and reduces river pollution.	2024/25	Unknown	Town Team/HPBC	Existing/ External funds	HPBC/Town Team/AES/Keep Britain Tidy/Derwent Catchment Partnership	Signage on site/PR/Social Media	
Create a fish pass over the weir in the River Wye to allow fish access between the two sections of the river.	2025/26	Unknown	Town Team/Keep Britain Tidy/EA	Existing/ External funds	HPBC/Buxton Town Team/ Keep Britain Tidy/ Derwent Catchment Partnership/ Environment Agency	Signage on site/PR/Social Media	

Maintain a register of Elm and Ash trees to protect these heritage trees	Ongoing	Unknown	Town Team/HPBC	Existing	HPBC/Buxton Town Team/AES/BFC	Signage on site/PR/Social Media	
Review current maintenance regimes to identify best practice that reflects emerging principles which address climate change	Ongoing	Unknown	HPBC/AES/Town Team	Existing/ External funds	Town Team/AES/DWT	Signage on site/PR/Social Media	
Develop a site specific Biodiversity Plan	Spring/ Summer 23	Unknown	HPBC/AES/Town Team	Existing/ External funds	Town Team/AES/DWT	Signage on site/PR/Social Media	

Objective 2

To protect and preserve our heritage features

Action	When	Estimated Cost	Responsibility	Resources	Partners	Comms	Status
Consider replacement of Northern most bridge over the river with a design more in keeping with the history of the park and the heritage of Buxton. The new bridge should be wider to better provide for access by wheelchair.	2024	Unknown	HPBC/Town Team/Assets	Existing/ External funds	Town Team/Tarmac	Signage on site/PR/Social Media	
Consider replacement of 'millipede' bridge.	2024	Unknown	HPBC/Town Team/Assets	Existing/ External funds	Town Team/Tarmac	Signage on site/PR/Social Media	
Consider replacement of midway bridge which has been closed for many years due to uncertainty of the safety of its structure.	2024	Unknown	HPBC/Town Team/Assets	Existing/ External funds	Town Team/Tarmac	Signage on site/PR/Social Media	

Continue to enhance the Limestone Heritage display feature to celebrate and inform about the history and importance of limestone quarrying in the area.	2024	Unknown	Town Team/HPBC	Existing/ External funds	Town Team/ HPBC/Tarmac	Signage on site/PR/Social Media	
Develop Japanese Garden theme area where cherry trees have been planted around the base of the old bandstand, to create a restful/relaxing space.	2025	Unknown	Town Team/HPBC	Existing/ External funds	Town Team	Signage on site/PR/Social Media	

Objective 3

To identify opportunities for encouraging physical activity

Action	When	Estimated Cost	Responsibility	Resources	Partners	Comms	Status
Continue to promote and maximise the opportunities for physical activity within the park.	Ongoing	Unknown	HPBC/Town Team	HPBC/ Active Derbyshire/ Public Health/Town Team	Town Team/ Public Health/ Active Derbyshire/wider community	Signage on site/PR/Social Media	
Map out and promote Active Routes (walking/jogging routes) around the park that can be used for exercise and fitness.	Winter 23	Unknown	Town Team/HPBC	HPBC/ Active Derbyshire/ Public Health/Town Team	Town Team/ Public Health/ Active Derbyshire	Signage on site/PR/Social Media	
Continue to support Town Team's Walk and Ride project which includes a proposed safe green route through the park.	Ongoing	Unknown	Town Team	Tarmac/Town Team/HPBC	Town Team/ HPBC/Tarmac/Public Health	Signage on site/PR/Social Media	

Resurface and enhance multi-use sports court.	24/25	Approx £40k	HPBC/Tarmac/ Public Health	HPBC Capital Funds/Tarmac	Town Team/ HPBC/Tarmac/Public Health	Signage on site/PR/Social Media	
Resurface and enhance tennis court including new net and mechanism.	24/25	Approx £40k	HPBC/Town Team/Tarmac	HPBC Capital Funds/LTA/Tarmac	Town Team/ HPBC/Tarmac/Public Health	Signage on site/PR/Social Media	

Objective 4

To ensure our parks are safe, welcoming and accessible for the communities they serve

Action	When	Estimated Cost	Responsibility	Resources	Partners	Comms	Status
Continue to work with Buxton Croquet Club to develop lease for use of green and pavilion hut, and undertake minor works needed to improve pavilion hut to allow occupation.	Spring 23	£3,500	HPBC	Existing	HPBC/Croquet Club/Town Team	Signage on site/PR/Social Media	
Look to replace old pavilion hut to provide a fit for purpose building.	24/25	Unknown	HPBC/Croquet Club/Town Team	External	HPBC/Croquet Club/Town Team Assets/Tarmac/Sport England	Signage on site/PR/Social Media	
Undertake minor repairs to existing toilet blocks to support use by Buxton Croquet Club.	Spring 23	Unknown	HPBC	Existing	HPBC/Croquet Club		

Enhancements to newly created croquet green, including replacement fencing and signage.	24/25	Unknown	Croquet Club	Existing/External	HPBC/Croquet Club/Town Team/Tarmac/Sport England	Signage on site/PR/Social Media	
Improve accessibility of the path that links to Granby Road, Fairfield for users of pushchairs/prams, bicycles, wheelchairs.	26/27	Unknown	HPBC/Town Team/Assets	Existing/External	Town Team/HPBC/Tarmac	Signage on site/PR/Social Media	
Repair/replace seating throughout the park and ensure consistent style and colour. Replace damaged bins, clean existing and install new in critical positions.	Ongoing	Existing	HPBC/AES/Town Team	Existing	HPBC/AES/Town Team	Signage on site/PR/Social Media	
Refurbish children's play area.	26/27	Approx £50k	HPBC/AES	Council capital funds/Tarmac	HPBC/AES/Town Team	Signage on site/PR/Social Media	

Ensure signage through the park is appropriate and in good condition – consider installing directional finger posts.	24	Unknown	HPBC/Town Team/AES	Existing/External	HPBC/AES/Town Team/Tarmac	Signage on site/PR/Social Media	
Resurface/enhance pathways -prioritise areas which will allow shared safe uses. Include top path on embankment next to Wye Bridge House.	26/27	Unknown	HPBC/AES/Town Team	Existing/External	HPBC/AES/Town Team/Tarmac	Signage on site/PR/Social Media	
Investigate blocked drains and undertake repairs where necessary.	Ongoing	Unknown	HPBC/AES	Existing	HPBC/AES/Town Team		
Consider wheelchair access ramp into Morrisons car park.	Ongoing	Unknown	HPBC/Morrisons	Existing/External	HPBC/AES/Town Team/Tarmac/Morrisons		
Attain Green Flag status	26/27		HPBC/AES/Town Team/Croquet Club	Existing	HPBC/AES/Town Team/Croquet Club	Signage on site/PR/Social Media	

Objective 5

Actively encourage community engagement and involvement

Action	When	Estimated Cost	Responsibility	Resources	Partners	Comms	Status
Continue to work with and support Buxton Town Team.	Ongoing		Town Team/ HPBC/AES	Existing/External	HPBC/Town Team/AES/other organisations	Signage on site/PR/Social Media	
Continue to work with and support other key stakeholders in the park including Buxton Croquet Club	Ongoing		HPBC/AES/ Town Team	Existing/External	HPBC/Town Team/AES/Buxton Croquet Club/other organisations	Signage on site/PR/Social Media	

Objective 6

To ensure effective financial management of resources

Action	When	Estimated Cost	Responsibility	Resources	Partners	Comms	Status
Continue to work with the Town Team to develop the park,	Ongoing	Unknown	HPBC/Town Team	Existing/External	HPBC/Town Team/Assets	Signage on site/PR/Social Media	
Continue to work with Buxton Croquet Club to secure funding to replace old pavilion hut to provide a fit for purpose building.	Ongoing	Unknown	HPBC/Croquet Club/Town Team	Existing/External	HPBC/Croquet Club/Town Team/Sport England	Signage on site/PR/Social Media	
Ensure s106 funds allocated to the park are utilised and maximised to ensure added value.	Ongoing	Unknown	HPBC	Existing/External	HPBC/Town Team/Croquet Club/other organisations	Signage on site/PR/Social Media	
Continue to seek external funding for projects where appropriate.	Ongoing	Unknown	HPBC/Town Team/Croquet Club	External	HPBC/Town Team/Croquet Club/other organisations	Signage on site/PR/Social Media	

Objective 7
Review and Monitoring

Action	When	Estimated Cost	Responsibility	Resources	Partners	Comms	Status
Annual condition review of park infrastructure including seating, bins, paths	Annual	Unknown	AES/HPBC	AES/HPBC/Town Team	HPBC/AES/Town Team		
Annual review of action plan for the park	Annual	Unknown	HPBC/AES	Existing	AES/Town Team/ wider community		

Appendix 1 – Routine Maintenance Schedule – Ashwood Park

* Indicates As Required

Feature	Activity	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Wildflower Meadow	Mowing/Raking					1				1				2
Shrub Beds - Formal	Weed/delitter (routine pruning)			1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2			15
	Winter Cultivation			1							1			2
Shrub beds - Informal	Weed/delitter				1	1	1	1	1	1	1			7
	Top up bark mulch			1										1
Herbaceous	Spring maintenance			1										
	Summer maintenance				2	2	2	2	2	2	2			14
	Winter maintenance											1		1
Hedge - Beech	Hedge cutting							1				1		2
Autumn Leaves	Clearance												1	1
	Mulch											3	3	6
Paths / hard Surfaces	Blowing/Sweeping	1	1	1	4	4	4	4	4	4	1	1	1	30
Water Courses	Inspect and keep clear of detritus	Daily (working week)												
Tennis Courts inc. MUGA	Routine sweeping				1	1	1	1	1	1				6
	Re-paint lines			1										1
	Mosskill			1										1
	Net maintenance		1		1	1	1	1	1	1		1		8

Whole Site	Litter Collection - Daily				1	1	1	1	1	1				6
	Litter Collection - Weekly	1	1	1							1	1	1	6
	Graffiti remove as and when it is identified within 24 to 48 hours													
	Dog fouling - remove and dispose when identified													
	Vandalism - make safe and either repair or report for remedial action within 24 hours													
Playground Equipment	Inspections - visual	Daily (working week)												
	Inspections - playground inspector	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
Litter Bins	Empty - Daily				1	1	1	1	1	1				6
	Empty - Weekly	1	1	1							1	1	1	6
	Wash Down				1					1				2
Benches	Wash Down				1					1				2
	Repaint Iron Work/Re-treat Timber with Solignum													*
Signage	Wash Down				1					1				2