

P&C update of issues in the park for FoMP Steering Group 21.8.12

Summary

Since the Steering Group Meeting on 17.7.12 ...

The Middleton Park Estate Volunteers got involved with ...

- Cutting back vegetation that was encroaching on to the footpath from the Ring Road Beeston Park (Balkliffe Lane – north west of the estate).
- Weeding flower and shrub beds, creating defined edges to beds, painting fencing around the bowling green.

Corporate Volunteers

- Department of Health brought 9 volunteers to work on the area outside of the Rose Garden (removal of vegetation encroaching onto the footpath and weeding the flower beds)

Youth Offending Service – Reparation

- Young people have been undertaking reparation work in the park every Tuesday during the summer holidays. They have got involved in step creation, scraping back vegetation encroaching on to the drive, invasive species control (Himalayan Balsam) and the removal of defunct waymarker posts.

School involvement included

- Sharpe Lane Primary brought 50 nursery aged children to the park
- Leeds College of Building students have created a scale model of a horse gin for display in the new centre.

Events in the park

- Bat walk on 15/8/12 attracted 27 people (and a few pipistrelle bats – not to mention the toads & Tawny Owl)
- Den Building and tracks and trails event run by P&C Rangers attracted 15 people.
- Ultimate Military Fitness continue to provide fitness lessons in the park three times a week

Things of note for the near future include:

- opportunities to volunteer with the Estate Volunteers (every Thursday)
- Wednesday in the Woods family event on 22/8/12 am
- Middleton Meander – a chance to see the ongoing works in the park – 25/8/12 10am-12pm
- Bodger Camp – traditional woodland crafts with P&C Rangers – 28/8/12 10am-2.30pm
- O2 will be volunteering on 30/8/12 – step restoration from Clearings to Tramway
- 1/9/12 Jubilee Celebration event 12-4pm run by Leeds Play Network – any Friends available to serve refreshments?
- Young people as part of Youth Reparation will be taking part in practical work in the park on every Tuesday through the summer holidays.
- 19/9/12 Bat Walk 7.30 – 9pm

Other points the group may be interested about include:

- I am working with WYAS on a 'celebration' event to mark the recent Schools History Project at Middleton Park. A date of 22/10/12 has been pencilled in. This will see some of the pupils from each of the schools involved in the

project come to the new centre to display some of the work they produced (poems, drawings and models) and celebrate the history of the park. More information and invites to the Friends will follow.

- A volunteer Rob Nichol has started to help with various marketing and communication needs of the park. Initially he will be looking at a leaflet explaining what the park has to offer. He will of course be in communication with the Friends.
- The two infant swing cradles in the playground have been replaced.
- Adult Social Care will be operating a café from the new centre during the week. Once they have access to the building they will have a 2 week period when they will fine tune their procedures before opening to the public – this will now be 22.10.12. They will operate the café 5 days of the week between 10.30am – 2.30pm.

Parks For People Project

- Building work completion is programmed for between 14/9/12 – 5/10/12
- Landscape Work. Completion is programmed for latter half of 9th November 2012
- Meetings have taken between FoMP and members of the Project Team to help inform the creation of the cog and rung horse gin structure
- Members of FoMP were invited to look at the new building on 25/7/12
- Brainstorming session regarding interpretation in the park on 5/9/12 2-4pm at Middleton Golf
- Project Board meeting on 7/9/12

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