

# Horn Park Management Plan

## 2025-2030

(Updated January 2026)



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## PART I: WHERE WE ARE NOW

### **Park Address and Contact Information**

Name of Site: Horn Park

Address: Gavestone Crescent  
Lee  
London  
SE12 9BT

This Parks Strategy & Development team can be contacted for any further information regarding this management plan (using the contact details provided below).

Address: Parks, Estates & Open Spaces  
Oxleas Woods Centre  
Crown Woods Lane  
London  
SE18 3JA

Tel. 020 8856 0100

Email [parks@royalgreenwich.gov.uk](mailto:parks@royalgreenwich.gov.uk)

The park has an active Friends Group who can be contacted using the details below.

Website: [www.facebook.com/hornparkfriends/](https://www.facebook.com/hornparkfriends/)

## **Introduction - What is a park management plan?**

Management Plans are an important aid to the efficient and effective management of a site. A plan forms part of a process for evaluating performance against agreed standards, consulting and involving people, strategic planning and providing continuity. Individual plans will be specific to each park and will deliver aims and objectives specific to the needs of the local community who will be directly involved in its formulation.

A Park Management Plan also provides an excellent opportunity to collate a wealth of information relating to the park that the management authority possesses, into a single comprehensive document.

## **Purpose of this management plan**

As well as developing a Green Space Strategy, the production of individual management plans for each park is good practice and is in accordance with The Royal Borough's commitment to providing Best Value.

This Management Plan will provide a vital resource for parks staff in maintaining and developing Horn Park as a resource for the community and visitors to the area. The Horn Park Management Plan will be fully reviewed and updated in 2030 by Parks Estates & Open Spaces management staff.

It is hoped that this plan will help to encourage relationships between The Royal Borough and the community and provide access to information on the management approach to this site, as well as providing a framework around which any future decisions concerning the park are taken.

In addition, it is hoped that the management plan for Horn Park will assist with allocating existing resources and securing additional resources for developments on this site that this management plan specifies.

Future actions / priorities for this site are identified in the Action Plan to this document. This management plan therefore provides a benchmark against which future progress can be measured.

## **Wider Policy Context**

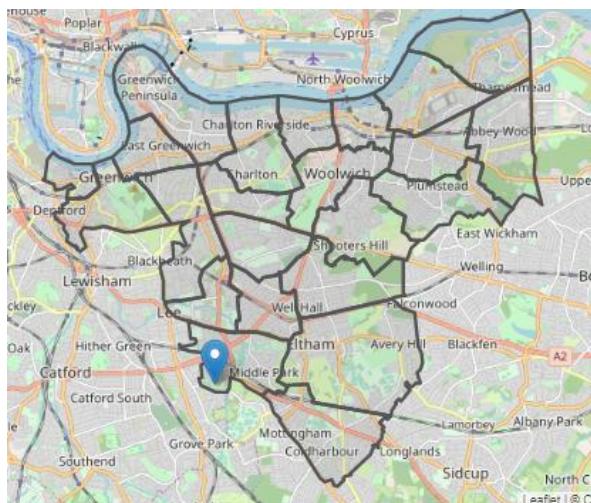
The Management Plan has been written within the context of a wide framework of national, regional and local policy statements and strategies.

A number of strategies have been considered in the production of this document to ensure that the priorities identified in this plan deliver and compliment the appropriate aims and objectives identified in them.

The main documents impacting on the development of this plan are listed in [Appendix II](#).

### **Description of the park**

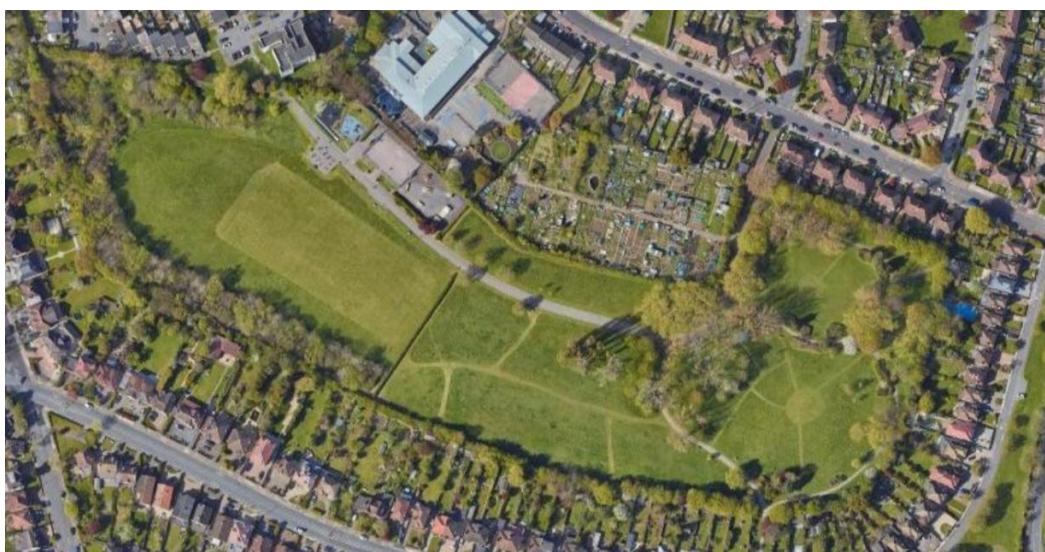
Horn Park is a small park in the “Middle Park and Horn Park” Ward within the Royal Borough of Greenwich. Please see map below. It is owned and managed by Royal Borough of Greenwich and there are no leases affecting any part of the park.



Location of Horn Park within the Royal Borough of Greenwich

The park is mostly grassland, crossed with paths and small areas of woodland located on a hill, the west side being the higher ground; The park occupies a total area of 6.7 hectares and is bordered by residential properties on the east, south and west sides and a primary school and allotments to the north. The north-eastern section of the park contains several recreational facilities including a grass area for informal ball games, a children’s playground, a skateboard area, an outdoor gym and a multi-use ball court. This area is covered by CCTV. The south-eastern part of the park is a gradual sloped area that consists mainly of amenity and conservation grass and woodland.

The park is approximately 60 metres above sea level and is enclosed by a 3-meter-high chain link fence on its northern side and by close board fences where it borders onto residential land. The geology underlying the park is defined by The Royal Borough GIS as being London Clay over the entire park area. Horn Park has a primary classification as *Local Park* in The Royal Borough’s Green Space Strategy. Horn Park is located at grid reference TQ 409 736



Ariel View of Horn Park

### **Heritage and history**

The earliest record of the name was from an old manor named Horne that was recorded on the land in 1242. The “Horn” part of the park’s name is thought to come from Old English, meaning “a projecting horn shaped piece of land and Saxon Horne, meaning corner, as it formed a projecting bulge on the edge of the Eltham parish.

During the reign of William the Conqueror, the estate of Eltham Manor was recorded as belonging to Odo of Bayeux. During the following centuries, the ownership of Eltham Manor fell in and out of Crown ownership several times. The area the park now occupies was previously the southern part of Horn Park, one of three parks belonging to Eltham Manor, later called Eltham Palace.

In 1465 King Edward VI established Horn Park as a royal deer hunting park. This with the other two Eltham parks - Great Park and Middle Park (that were made into deer parks by Edward II 150 years earlier in 1315) created 345 acres of enclosed woodland for the purpose of rearing and hunting deer. The present Horn Park is the last remnant of 345 acres historic park that was also known as West Horne and Lee Park. A survey around 1600 recorded 240 deer and 2,740 oak trees within the park.

The trees in Horn Park produced income when trees were felled and the wood used for shipbuilding. In 1586, Peter Pett was authorised to use timber from the park for building ships at Deptford Dockyard.

When King Charles I was captured in the Civil War, commonwealth soldiers and common people ransacked Eltham Palace and killed the deer, ending its use as deer park. And around 1660 Eltham Palace's three parks were stripped of their timber for shipbuilding by Sir Thomas Walsingham.

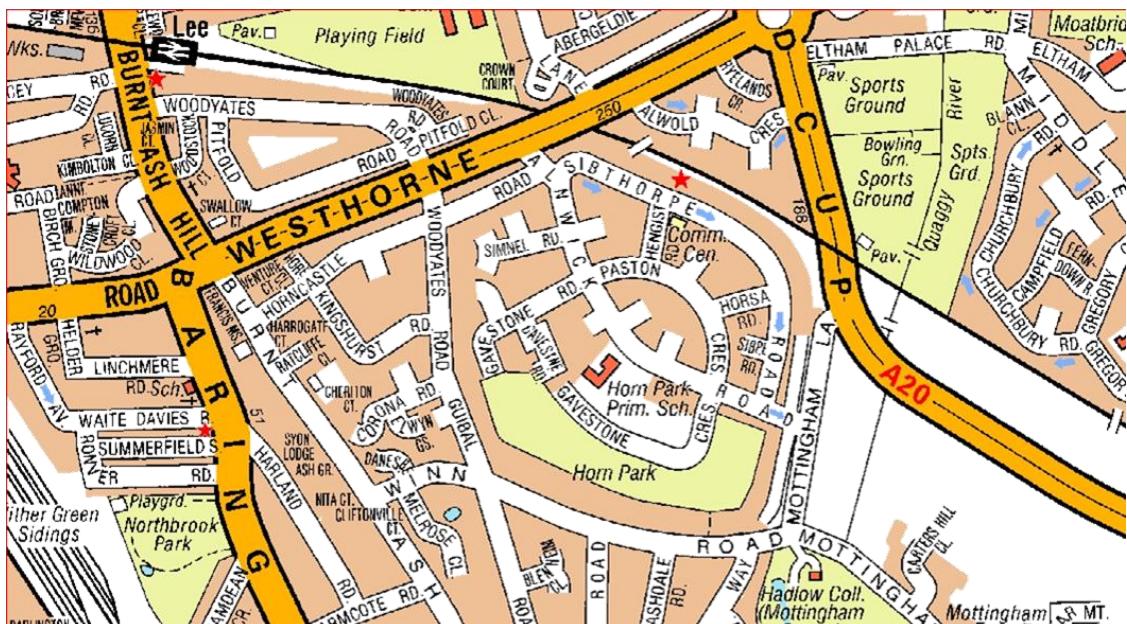
After the ravages of the Civil War, the parks in the palace estate were used for farming and Horn Park came into the possession of Thomas Walsingham followed by Sir John Shaw in 1663. By 1838 the park had become Horn Park Farm, and the Crown had leased the 221 acres of arable and pastureland to William Morris. Willian Morris was the tenant farmer who grazed his cows on the land until 1860. Horn Park Farm was then owned by a silk merchant named Thomas Blenkiron, and the land was used to graze racehorses.

In the early 19th century, Horn Park was a fruit farm and a farmhouse stood north of the present-day park. The land was taken back by the Crown in 1930, and development began to the northern parts of the Horn Park farmland laying out residential streets. In 1936, the Metropolitan Borough of Woolwich Council cleared most of the orchards to begin building Horn Park housing estate. Construction was put on hold due to the Second World War, and the estate was finished after the war and consisted of 1,100 homes.

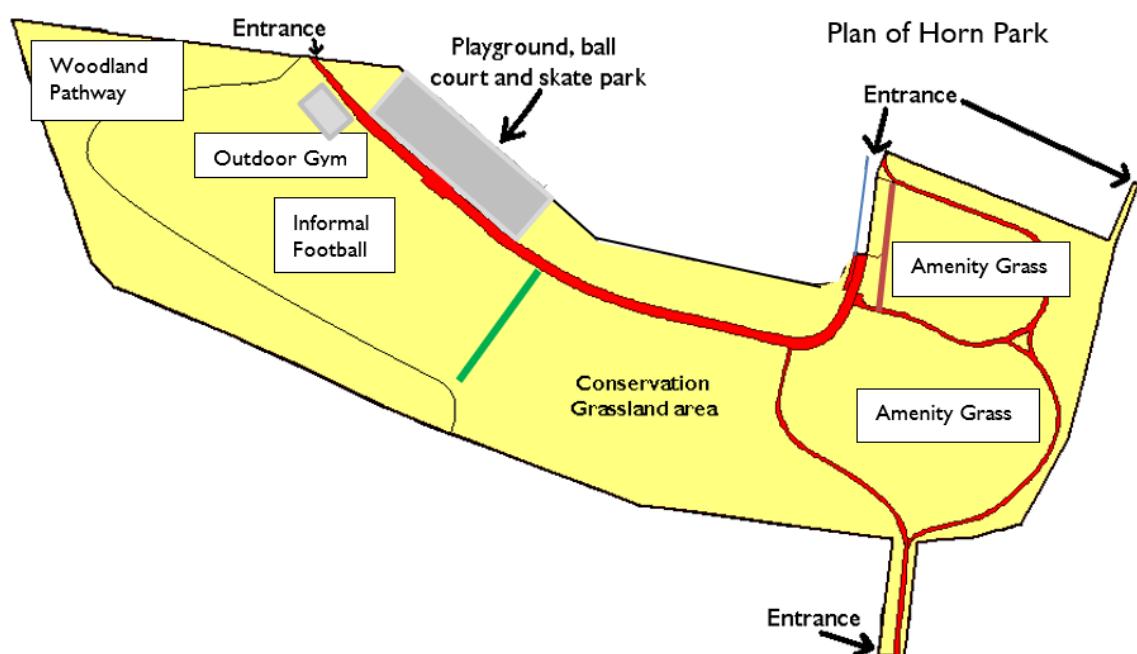
In the late 1940's, Gaveston Crescent (now the main pathway in the park) was laid down as a new street with prefab houses all the way along it on both sides, leaving the last bit of open land to the south of the new Horn Park estate. In 1968 the prefab houses of Gaveston Crescent were torn down, and the area was turned back into open land, making the park its current size. The paved road surface of Gaveston Crescent itself was left running through the park as a large footpath, and still appears named on maps, despite having no houses and not being accessible.

## Access to the Park

There is good access to the park via a number of buses and a mainline train station. The closest mainline rail station is Lee Station, which is approximately a 20-minute walk from the park. (see map of the local area below). Buses routes servicing the area are the B15 which has the nearest bus stop to the park in Alnwick Road, the 273 bus stops at Winn Road and the 160 stops at Westhorne Avenue. The bus stops for the 202 and 261 are on Burnt Ash Hill. Free parking is available on local side streets. There is directional signage from Alnwick Road to direct visitors to the park.



Horn Park is accessible 24/7 via its four entrances (shown on the map below). Three of the entrances have anti-motorcycle kissing style gates. The primary school next to the park has direct access into the park via its own entrance. The gate in Alnwick Road and is fitted with a radar padlock allowing disabled access and the entrance from Alnwick Road is open and accessible.



### **Infrastructure and Signage**

There are a number of well used tarmac pathways in the park. The pathway network within the park has been improved recently to create a circular walking route around the eastern section of the park. Due to the topography of the park, some of the pathways in the eastern section of the park are over a 1 in 14 gradient and do not conform to accessibility standards. Specific details of the entrances can be found at [www.accessable.co.uk/venues/horn-park](http://www.accessable.co.uk/venues/horn-park).



Interpretation signage is installed at the three main entrances. The signs have a map and a description of the park. The children's playground, skate board area and outdoor gym have signage displaying the Council's emergency contact number. Two notice boards are installed in the park, one noticeboard is located on the main pathway opposite the playground is for community use and the other noticeboard is located at the other end of the main pathway which is used by the Friends of Horn Park.

Horn Park, as mentioned, is mainly surrounded by chain link fencing and hedge where it adjoins residential properties and chain link or wire fence along much of the northern boundary.

There are a variety of picnic tables and park benches installed in the park, with litter bins adjacent to most of them. A Covid Memorial bench was installed in the park in 2021.

There are currently no buildings within the park. There was previously a brick building on the north side of Gavestone Crescent near the playground, that was used to serve food and drink when events were being held in the park, but it was demolished in the early 2000s.

## **Recreational Facilities**

Horn Park has a children's playground, a skateboard area, a multi-use ball court, an outdoor gym and a grass area on site for informal sport and play in the northwest corner of the park. Visitors can also enjoy other informal recreational activities such as walking, jogging, picnics, informal sports and nature.

### **Children's Playground**

The playground has been rebuilt several times since its first installation when the park was created but has always occupied roughly the same spot. The children's playground was originally constructed on the site of some of the former prefabs where the ball court is now located.

External funding was sourced in 2022 to refurbish the playground to provide improved and more inclusive facilities for children. The play equipment conforms to the European Safety Standards EN1176 and EN1177. The equipment is visually inspected every week and a more detailed inspection bi-monthly and an independent inspection is carried out annually.



Horn Park Children's Playground after 2022 investment

External funding from Greenwich Healthier Communities Fund, Community Voting Day Fund & Horn Park Friends have allowed ground markings to be installed in 2025



### **Skateboard Area**

A skateboard area was installed in Horn Park in January 2003 and was the first skateboard area in the Royal Borough of Greenwich. It was funded through South Greenwich Regeneration Agency Funding and provides a variety of equipment that is well used by local teenagers. The equipment at the skate park is visually inspected every week, a more detailed inspection bi-monthly and an independent inspection is carried out annually.

### **Multi-Use Games Area**

The multi-use games area was installed in 2006 and is used mainly for either football or basketball. The ball court is floodlit and is situated between the playground and the skate park.

### **Outdoor Gym**

The outdoor gym at Horn Park was installed in 2009 and was funded through “Community Spaces the Big Lottery”. It provides free outdoor activity all year round. The equipment is resistance based, robust, weatherproof and conforms to European Safety Standards EN1176 and EN957 is visually inspected every week, a more detailed inspection bi-monthly and an independent inspection is carried out annually.



## **Biodiversity**

Biodiversity at Horn Park is promoted by having a wide mix of tree species, meadowland sections, small developing woodland areas and established hedges within the park. Horn Park has a diverse range of tree species within the park, particularly in the formal plantings in the eastern section. There is a stand of large poplars in the centre of the park.

A broad swathe of nearly 2000 whips were planted along the northwest perimeter of the park in 2001. The saplings including wild cherry, ash, willow, poplar, hornbeam, alder, birch, buckthorn and oak among others and are now well established and have created a lovely woodland walk for park users in addition to increasing biodiversity and interest in the park. To further encourage biodiversity, eight bird boxes and five bat boxes were installed in 2008 and some more bird and bat boxes were installed in 2025.



Horn Park Friends make regular applications for trees to plant in the park from organisations such as the Woodland Trust to further increase valuable habitats within the park. The Horn Park Friends Group were also successful in applying for fruit trees from Thatcher's Community Orchard Project and a small community orchard was planted in the park early in 2025. An arboricultural survey of Horn Park was carried out in 2024 (a copy is available on request).

The Council's grassland management for Horn Park balances recreational use whilst protecting and enhancing the natural habitats it offers. Horn Park provides areas for recreational use in the top section of the park which is flatter and adjacent facilities such as the playground and outdoor gym. These areas are kept short with regular amenity cuts.

Other areas within the park are cut more infrequently to encourage different species of plants and invertebrates to develop in accordance with The Royal Borough of Greenwich's Biodiversity Action Plan. Protected species such as hedgehogs and stag beetles have been seen within the park in addition to foxes, squirrels. Grass pathways are cut through conservation and wildflower meadows along the desire lines to provide access and interest to park users.

The Parks team leave wood from tree pruning or felling on-site to create habitat for wildlife, where it is safe and practical to do so. The Horn Park Friends group have also created bug hotels in the park to further increase biodiversity within the park. (photo below) and a wildflower trainagle.



The Horn Park Friends group applied for funding in 2024 and worked in partnership with Frog Life in early 2025 as part of Frog Life's Blue Chain Project to build a small wildlife pond in the park. (photo below).



Funding from the local councilor's ward budget scheme in 2018 funded new shrubs and trees for the park.

## Park User Information

The demographic information in this section is gathered from the 2021 Census Information from <https://www.ons.gov.uk/visualisations/customprofiles/draw/> The information relates to Middle Park and Sutcliffe Ward as whole and not specifically to Horn Park's immediate environs. Please note that the ward boundaries and name changed in 2022 to Middle Park and Horn Park Ward.

### Middle Park & Horn Park Census Information

## Middle Park & Horn Park

### Population

2024

**9,534**

people

**58,620,101** people in England

Source: ONS – Mid-year estimates

Small area: Output area

### Number of households

2021

**3,437**

households

**23,436,085** households in England

Source: ONS – Census 2021

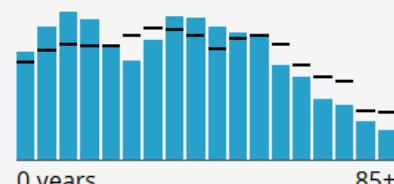
Small area: Output area

### Age profile

2024

**Middle Park & Horn Park**

— (England)



0 years

85+

% of all people, 5 year age bands

Source: ONS – Mid-year estimates

Small area: Output area

### Sex

2024

**Middle Park & Horn Park**

— (England)

Female **53.0%** (51.0%)

Male **47.0%** (49.0%)

% of all people

Source: ONS – Mid-year estimates

Small area: Output area

### Ethnic group

2021

**Middle Park & Horn Park**

— (England)

Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh **8.8%** (9.6%)

Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African **18.3%** (4.2%)

Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups **5.9%** (3.0%)

White **62.9%** (81.0%)

Other ethnic group **4.1%** (2.2%)

% of all people

### Disability

2021

**Middle Park & Horn Park**

— (England)

Disabled under the Equality Act **18.8%** (17.3%)

Not disabled under the Equality Act **81.2%** (82.7%)

% of all people

Source: ONS - Census 2021

Small area: Output area

## **Stakeholders**

### **Royal Borough of Greenwich**

- Directorate Communities, Environment & Central (PE&OS, Communications, Events)
- Directorate of Place and Growth (Property Services, Planning Control)
- Housing Services (Neighbourhood Panels / Representatives)
- Children's Services

### **Agencies**

- Police, Fire & Rescue Service

### **Community**

- Horn Park Friends
- Friends Forum

### **Politicians**

- Local MP
- Ward Members

### **Schools**

- Horn Park Primary school.



**Horn Park Friends Tree Planting**

## **Management of Horn Park**

### **Parks Management**

The management of the park described in this management plan is the responsibility of the Parks, Estates & Open Spaces service within the Directorate of Communities, Environment & Central of the Royal Borough of Greenwich. The Parks, Estates and Open Spaces Senior Management Team are accountable for the overall management responsibility of the Service.

Individual management functions are devolved, and key functions are identified as follows:

- Horticultural Maintenance
- Arboricultural Maintenance
- Park Rangers
- Parks Strategy & Development
- Administration & Cemeteries

A mobile team of ground maintenance staff visit the park on a regular basis. The Parks, Estates and Open Spaces grounds maintenance staff carry out regular horticultural maintenance using a work programme for the site. Ad-hoc works are raised from the variation order budget as required.

Park Rangers visit the park on a regular basis to perform a range of duties on site: - to ensure the safety of the public visiting the park, provide assistance where appropriate, litter picking and bin emptying. The park rangers also carry out visual inspections of the playground, outdoor gym and other recreational facilities.

The grounds maintenance, tree maintenance and park rangers are in house direct labour staff. They work annualised hours which allows a greater presence during the busier summer period.

### **Community Involvement**

There is an active and dynamic Friends Group for Horn Park that encourages community involvement and usage of the park and organises activities that further promote the park within the wider community.

The Friends Group was formed in 2000 and has over 100 members. There is a small group of active key members who work closely with the Parks Department to help make strategic decisions regarding management of the park.

The Gardening Group meets every Tuesday morning to help maintain the park. Workdays for bulb and whip planting are organised and well attended. The Friends Group have secured and continue to seek external funding to help improve the park. Members actively work with other volunteer groups such as the Good Gym Helpers and the local Capel College



Good Gym helpers and Horn Park Friends clearing in the skateboard park



Woodchip along woodland walk

### Environmental Management

The Royal Borough's Parks, Estates & Open Spaces department is accredited with the BS EN ISO 14001 Environmental Management Standard. The Parks and Open Spaces team is committed to ensuring that its activities are undertaken in an environmentally friendly manner and that effects on the environment are controlled.

Parks, Estates & Open Spaces recycles all of its 'green waste'. Green waste is transported locally from Horn Park to Holbrook Yard at Shooters Hill, where it is recycled into mulch. The mulch is then used in the parks, both as a provider of nutrients, a moisture retainer and a suppressor of weeds. Non green waste is taken to the central waste transfer station where 35% of the Boroughs waste is separated and recycled.

Parks and Open Spaces aim to minimise pesticide usage and only use pesticides as necessary for the control of invasive species such as Giant Hogweed and Japanese Knotweed and where weed control is required on hard surfaces. The policy regarding the use of pesticides can be found in Appendix II. The policy regarding the use of peat can also be found in Appendix II. One of the aims of the policy is to reduce or cut out the use of peat as it is not sustainable. All staff have completed an Environmental Induction and have access to a copy of the Environmental Management System which is accessible in an electronic "Red Folder" on their mobile phones.

### Health and Safety Management

Staff are able to access Health and Safety information via a 'Red Folder'. The contents of the Red Folders include a list of first aiders, list of PA1 PA6A certificate holders, COSHH assessments, Risk Assessments and the Environmental Management System Manual. The Directorate's Health and Safety Policy is available on staff notice boards and the Council intranet. The contents of the red folder are reviewed on a regular basis. COSHH assessments are carried out on all new substances before use and risk assessments are carried out for any new activities or machinery introduced to

the park and appropriate control measures are implemented to minimise any associated risk. A COSHH statement can be found in Appendix II.

Grounds maintenance equipment is regularly serviced and maintained by The Royal Borough's Fleet Management Service provided by Greenwich Service Plus. This ensures that machinery operates effectively and provides a high-quality standard of finish. In addition to this, staff perform routine checks on all machinery before use.

The vehicles used by the Parks, Estates and Open Spaces department are also maintained by The Royal Borough's Fleet Management Service. The Borough is accredited to the Fleet Operator Recognition Scheme (FORS). FORS is a voluntary accreditation scheme for fleet operators which aim to raise the level of quality within fleet operations, and to demonstrate which operators are achieving exemplary levels of best practice in safety, efficiency, and environmental protection.

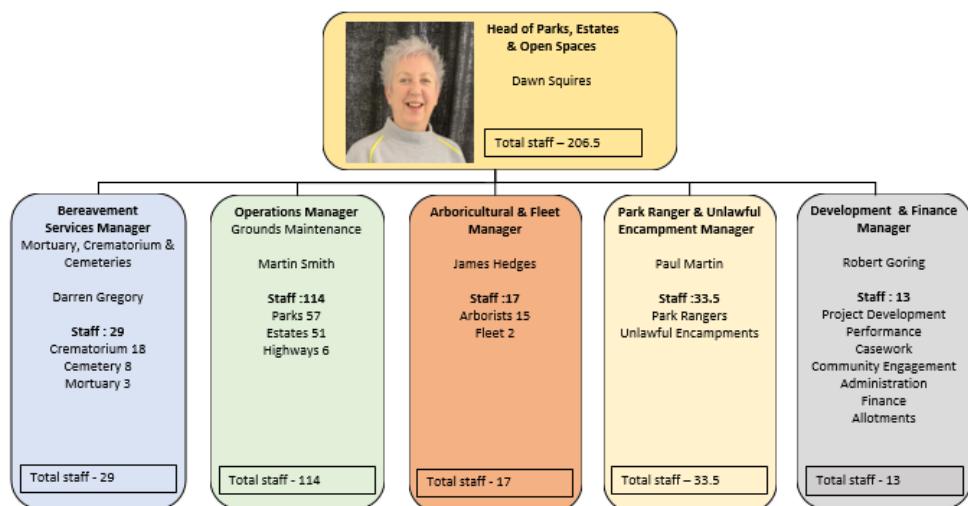
### Budget Information

The budgets used to maintain parks and open spaces are currently split into two areas, Grounds maintenance / Park Rangers Operations and Property Services.

The corporate budgets for both planned and responsive maintenance of The Royal Borough's property infrastructure are held by Greenwich Property Services in the Directorate of Place and Growth. Planned works are carried out on a strict basis of corporate priorities. Responsive repairs are carried out for minor items as and when they arise.

### Organisational Chart

Parks, Estates & Open Spaces - Management Structure Chart 2024-25



Notes

### Marketing

Information about local parks within the borough can be found on the Royal Borough of Greenwich's website [www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk](http://www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk)

Activities at Horn Park are promoted by posters and flyers in the notice boards. The Friends Group has its own Facebook page and the Royal Boroughs media desk team promote on the Council's social media platforms.

## PART II: WHERE DO WE WANT TO GET TO?

### **Vision**

The plan aims to aid the efficient and effective management of the site to create a safe, clean and enjoyable experience for the local community and visitors and help to achieve The Royal Borough's strategic intentions for the green space strategy by developing a vibrant and sustainable park.

### General Objectives

- To improve the health and well-being of visitors and residents by offering a well maintained and quality park for active recreation and/ or relaxation
- To protect biological assets and increase biodiversity
- To work with the local community in identifying local priorities for funding for the park
- To ensure that the activities and events in the park celebrate and promote the borough's rich diversity and are accessible to everyone
- To reduce anti-social behaviour in the park

### **Strengths**

- Active Friends group
- Lovely local park that is well used by the local community
- Wide range of facilities for all ages; playground, skate park, multi-use games area and an outdoor gym.
- Conservation meadow of local ecological importance
- Maturing small woodland area and woodland walk
- Improved path network

### **Challenges**

- ASB within the site – in particular graffiti, vandalism and damage to trees by dogs / vandals
- Limited marketing
- Increasing usage
- Some improvements required to infrastructure within the park
- No access to water within the park (for watering newly planted trees and for drinking water)
- Reducing Council budgets

### **Recommendations**

- Continue consultation with key stakeholders to identify priorities for improvement
- Continue to increase biodiversity within the park
- Continue to seek external funding for improvements to the park
- To reduce anti-social behaviour in Horn Park
- Improve use by all sections of the community and explore possibility of more community events in the park
- To continue to achieve a recognised standard for the park – Green Flag
- Work to further improve marketing/awareness of the site.

## PART IV: HOW WILL WE GET THERE

Timescales as given in this document are as follows.

- Short Term – Within one to two years
- Medium Term – Within three years
- Long Term – Within five years

<b>Horn Park Action Plan 2025 - 2030</b>				
<b>Recommendation:</b>	<b>Proposed Action:</b>	<b>Timescale: Long/Medium/ Short Term</b>	<b>Action by:</b>	<b>Status:</b>
Continued consultation with Horn Park Friends and other stakeholders	Continue consultation with Friends of group and other stakeholders. Continue to identify priorities for inward investment. Review / amend plan where appropriate.	Ongoing	Parks, Estates & Open Spaces	Open
To seek external funding and investment as appropriate	Undertake work to secure new funding streams as appropriate. Support Friends Groups for funding applications.	Ongoing	Parks, Estates & Open Spaces	Open
To reduce anti-social behaviour in Horn Park	Park Ranger Management to continue to assess anti-social behaviour and to work with the Police & Safer Neighbourhood Teams as appropriate.	Ongoing	Parks, Estates & Open Spaces	Open
To achieve a recognised standard for the park	Continue to apply for a Green Flag Award (ongoing after application)	Ongoing	Parks, Estates & Open Spaces	Open

Undertake an assessment of the ecology of the park	Carry out an assessment of the current ecology of site to investigate ways of increasing biodiversity.	Long Term	Parks, Estates & Open Spaces	Open
To improve park furniture	Identify funding and replace damaged bins and seating within the park.	On-going	Parks, Estates & Open Spaces	Open
To increase biodiversity within Horn Park	Identify funding for additional planting to increase biodiversity, colour and interest on site.	On-going	Parks, Estates & Open Spaces	Open
To improve marketing of site	Investigate ways of improving marketing of park. Community engagement officer in regular contact with media desk regarding using social media outlets.	Medium Term	Parks, Estates & Open Spaces	Open
Update signage within the park	Review interpretation signage within the park. Apply for funding to replace signs where needed.	Medium Term	Parks, Estates & Open Spaces	Open
Continue to improve path network in the park	Friends Group to seek £18K of GNGF to resurface areas of pathway within the park that are in most need of repair	Short Term	Friends Group / PEOS	Open

**Important Note:** Improvement actions requiring investment are subject to funding being secured. There are no additional funds available from The Royal Borough unless it has been identified against a specific action.

<b>Horn Park Completed Actions From Previous Plan 2020 -2025</b>				
<b>Recommendation:</b>	<b>Proposed Action:</b>	<b>Timescale: Long/Medium/ Short Term</b>	<b>Action by:</b>	<b>Status:</b>
Increase native plantings and biodiversity in the park	Friends Group to seek funding from the Woodland Trust Planting to continue increasing natural areas within the park	Short Term	Friends Group	Completed 2025
Install a community orchard within the park	Friends of Group to apply for fruit trees from Thatcher's Community Orchard Project	Short Term	Friends Group	Completed 2025
Install a small wildlife pond within the park	Friends of Group to seek funding and work with Frog Life as part of Frog Life's Blue Chain project	Short Term	Friends Group	Completed 2025
To improve drainage at the Winn Road entrance	Seek Section 106 funding to alleviate the occasional flooding issue near the Winn Road entrance	Medium Term	Parks, Estates & Open Spaces	Completed 2024
To improve the play facilities in the children's playground	Seek external funding to refurbish the playground and improve the play facilities in the park	Long Term	Parks, Estates & Open Spaces	Completed 2022
To reduce two stroke petrol usage (departmental)	To investigate and test battery operated handheld grounds maintenance equipment with a view to having 25% of the handheld fleet battery operated by the end of 2023	Long Term	Parks, Estates & Open Spaces	Achieved 2022

Increase native plantings and biodiversity in the park with funding from the Woodland Trust	Planting of naturalized bulbs and native whips on the fringe of the woodland area by the Friends of Group	Short Term	S Roedel	Completed 2021
Undertake an arboricultural assessment within the park	Liaise with manager of the tree maintenance unit to carry out an arboricultural survey within Horn Park	Medium Term	J Hedges	Completed 2018
To improve use of site by all sections of the community	Through consultation, identify any user groups which are excluded from using site. Install radar operated locks to gates in Alnwick to accommodate disabled persons entry to site 24 hours a day	Medium Term	S Roedel	Completed 2015

**Important Note:** Improvement actions requiring investment are subject to funding being secured. There are no additional funds available from The Royal Borough unless it has been identified against a specific action.

## **PART V: HOW WILL WE KNOW WHEN WE'VE ARRIVED?**

### **MONITORING AND REVIEW**

There will be a need to keep a working document copy of the Management Plan within the parks office so that issues and changes that arise as well as new information can be documented, and the action plan can be regularly reviewed and completed works documented within it as part of the Parks Service business planning process.

Upon review, the new management plan will make note of the works performed and review the success of those works in the action plan section.

## APPENDIX I

### References

Ordnance Survey Map 1869 – Map 6  
1873 “London District” Sheet 4 Geological Survey  
1924 Ordnance Survey Map with Geological  
Thomas Milne’s Land Use Map of London and Environs in 1800, London Topographical Society, 1975-6, Pub No. 118 & 119  
Royal Greenwich Core Strategy  
Council GIS

## APPENDIX II

### Legislation, policies and strategies affecting park management

As highlighted earlier in the plan, Royal Borough of Greenwich’s Parks and Open Spaces department operates within a wide framework of national, regional and local policy statements and strategies. The main documents impacting on the development of this plan are listed below.

#### The Greenwich Strategy

The Greenwich Strategy sets out the vision for The Royal Borough of Greenwich as being the place to live, work, learn and visit. This vision underpins all of the strategies produced by the Royal Borough of Greenwich and directly impacts on all service plans and service delivery.

#### The Cultural Strategy

Parks and Open Spaces is one of six ‘areas’ considered by the Cultural Strategy. The Strategy has five over-arching themes: - Equality and Access, Sustainability, the Cultural Economy, Achievement and Excellence and Partnerships. All of these aims are relevant to this management plan and have been considered in developing the opportunities and priorities for this site.

#### Green Space Strategy

The Green Spaces Strategy sets out The Royal Borough’s strategic intentions for its green assets and its vision of the positive contribution that Greenwich’s open networks make to our lives. The thematic objectives (community safety, biodiversity, education and culture, culture & events, tackling inequality, sport, health & well-being) are all relevant to the management plan for Horn Park.

#### Parks & Open Spaces Service Plan

The Parks & Open Spaces department aims to develop, manage, ensure accessibility and maintain to a high standard the borough’s Parks, Open Spaces, Woodlands, Tree Stock, Cemeteries, Playgrounds, Sports Pitches, Allotments and other outdoor facilities. To meet the needs of the community and deliver The Royal Borough’s core objectives where applicable to the service, and specifically regarding the provision of a clean and well cared for environment and supporting Health and Quality of Life for the local community.

Through consultation with local residents/visitors, the management plan for Horn Park supports these aims by ensuring accessibility of the site and that it meet the needs of the local community. It is

envisioned that it will also assist with achieving the aim of mainlining the site to a high standard. This document assists with achieving the following key tasks from the Action Plan: -

#### ISO 9001:2015– Quality Management System

The Parks, Estates & Open Spaces arboricultural services is accredited to the ISO 9001:2015. The ISO 9001 Quality Management System is used by the Royal Borough to manage their activities and resources to guarantee a quality service. The ISO 9001 helps the Royal Borough achieve customer satisfaction because it provides a framework for service analysis and definition and for the improvement of processes. The four main parts covered under the Quality Management System are (i) management responsibility (ii) resource management (iii) process management and (iv) measurement, analysis and improvement.

#### ISO 14001: 2015 – Environmental Management System

The Parks, Estates & Open Spaces horticultural and arboricultural services are managed in conjunction with an Environmental Management System that is accredited to the internationally respected EN ISO 14001:2015 Environmental Standard. The Royal Borough's grounds maintenance and tree maintenance activities are controlled to ensure the service is delivered in an environmentally sustainable manner and to reduce any negative effects on the environment that may be their operations. Parks, Estates & Open Spaces works towards sustainable development and continual environmental improvements.

#### ISO 45001:2018 – Health, Safety & Wellbeing Management System

The Parks, Estates & Open Spaces arboricultural services is accredited to the ISO 45001:2018 which provides a framework for managing Occupation Health & Safety risks and opportunities. The aim is to prevent work related injury and ill health to workers and to provide safe, healthier workplaces by eliminating hazards minimizing risks by taking effective preventative and protective measures. The intended outcomes of the Health, Safety and Wellbeing Management System include (i) continual improvement of performance, (ii) fulfilment of legal and other requirements and (iii) achievement of Health & safety objectives.

# Royal Borough of Greenwich

## **Community Services Parks, Estates and Open Spaces**

### **Pesticide Policy**

#### **(Authorised by the Parks, Estates & Open Spaces Manager)**

As part of a continual move towards better environmental practice, we aim to minimise the use of pesticide where possible and to promote the use of alternative maintenance and curative procedures in relation to Horn Park

We aim to:-

- Eliminate the hazards of pesticides
- Reduce the dependence of pesticides
- Promote alternatives to pesticides
- Communicate good practice through membership to PAN (Pesticide Action Network).

Objectives:-

- Control the problem of worm casting, without the use of ~~lumbricides~~
- To limit the use of selective herbicide to the ornamental areas only
- To not use insecticides
- To use organic fertilisers.

*Dawn Squires*

Head of Parks, Estates and Open Spaces

# Royal Borough of Greenwich

## **Community Services Parks, Estates and Open Spaces**

### **Use of Peat/Peat Based Product Policy**

#### **Background:**

Peat is a heterogeneous mixture of decomposed plant material (humus) that has accumulated in a water-saturated environment and in the absence of oxygen.

Peat lands play an important role in the biosphere. They affect hydrological dynamics and water quality and provide important habitats for plant and animal species.

The extraction of peat for use has a major negative environmental impact in the long term.

In recent decades peat has been dug in vast quantities for use by the plant nursery industry and horticulture.

Peat has particular calcifiable water conductive properties. Plant production in the UK is somewhat organised to use peat as an alternative to mineral soils because of its consistent qualities and pH level.

It is a non-sustainable product

#### **Our Policy:**

- In Parks and Open Spaces we do not use peat as a soil ameliorant or mulch.
- We do not use peat or peat based product in relation to tree or shrub planting
- We encourage our suppliers to use products other than peat in the growing of trees, shrubs and bedding plants
- We train our staff in the rationale of not using peat based products

*Dawn Squires*

Head of Parks, Estates and Open Spaces

#### **Parks, Estates & Open Spaces**

Oxleas Woods Centre  
Crown Woods Lane  
London  
SE18 3JA



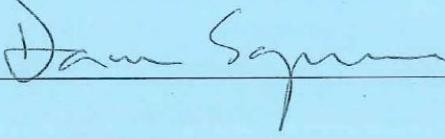
## 4.2 Environmental Policy

The Royal Borough of Greenwich recognises that environmental issues are of fundamental importance to our customers, and to our business success.

The Royal Borough of Greenwich aims to work towards the achievement of sustainable development and continual improvement.

Under the scope of its Environmental Management Systems, The Royal Borough of Greenwich strives to:

- Promote sustainability and the use of sustainable resources
- Promote conservation and environmental awareness
- Promote activities which enhance the environment
- Achieve continual improvements in environmental performance
- Prevent the release of pollution
- Minimise the release of waste, noise and emissions
- Minimise activities which have a negative effect on the environment
- Maximise activities which have a positive effect on the environment
- Comply with applicable legal and other requirements that relate to environmental aspects
- Work in partnership with other organisations in environmental management
- Set environmental targets built into the day to day running of the service
- Use products which have a minimum impact on the environment
- Provide training in environmental issues to all persons
- Communicate the Environmental Policy to all persons working for or on behalf of The Royal Borough of Greenwich
- Review Environmental objectives, targets and policy

Signed	 A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Squires".	Head of Parks & Open Spaces
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### Parks & Open Spaces COSH Statement

Parks, Estates & Open Spaces are committed to ensuring safe working practices and to minimising the negative effects on the environment from our activities.

Control of Substances Hazardous to Health within Park, Estates & Open Spaces is through implementation of risk assessments on all substances where exposure could lead to an adverse effect on health or danger to safety, and the introduction of appropriate control measures.

COSH assessments are undertaken by a trained member of staff and are reviewed annually.

Written records are kept to demonstrate that risks have been considered.

Control measures highlighted in the assessment are implemented and maintained.

Parks, Estates & Open Spaces employees only use products in conjunction with a COSHH assessment.

Health surveillance is used to evaluate effectiveness of control measures.

An up to date inventory is kept of all hazardous substances to which staff are likely to be exposed to during their work activities.

No other products may be brought into use without prior Management Review product approval.

Parks, Estates and Open Spaces Environmental Policy also sets guidelines for the use of substances hazardous to health.

### Core Strategy

Local Councils have a duty to prepare a Core Strategy by law. The Greenwich Core Strategy (CS) sets out the vision for use of the land in the Royal Borough, and provides the main guidance for making decisions on individual planning proposals. The document is intended to cover the period 2013 – 2028. It is a legal document with the following purposes:-

- To provide a framework of acceptable uses within the Royal Borough, defining areas where development is not desired or where it needs to be carefully directed and;
- To provide a detailed basis for the control and development

The CS may be viewed at the Directorate of Regeneration, Enterprise and Skills, Planning Department, The Woolwich Centre, 35 Wellington Street Woolwich, SE18 6HQ, via The Royal Borough of Greenwich's website, or alternatively at a local library or online.

The Core Strategy designates Horn Park under the following policies

- Metropolitan Open Land OS1, OS2, OS(a)
- Green Chain OS3

For more details on each designation, please consult the full version of the CS via any of the venues described above using the references next to each designation.

### Parks and Open Spaces Strategy

The 10 year Strategy, adopted in 2017 is centred on the following seven themes:

- **Park and open spaces management:** Ensuring our parks and open spaces are well managed, maintained in good condition and are safe to use;
- **Community engagement:** Ensuring we actively engage and work in partnership with local residents to provide good quality parks that meet the needs of the local community;
- **Nature and biodiversity:** Ensuring that areas and habitats are provided for wildlife and that they are protected from inappropriate development;
- **Environmental management:** Maximise resource efficiency by increasing recycling opportunities, establish better use of essential energy sources and controlling the use of pesticides and chemicals;
- **Recreation, health and wellbeing:** Ensuring that parks provide spaces for active recreation and quiet reflection and contribute to the health and well-being of the local community;
- **Regeneration and local economy:** Ensuring our parks are well designed, attractive to visitors and encourage enterprise and employment of local people; and
- **Culture and heritage:** Ensuring our parks are places for culture and that their heritage is preserved and celebrated.

### The Biodiversity Action Plan

The Greenwich Biodiversity Action Plan is the first co-ordinated approach to conserving Greenwich's biodiversity. The aim of the plan is:

'To ensure the conservation, enhancement and public appreciation of the biodiversity of the London Borough of Greenwich'.

The Biodiversity Action Plan focuses on locally important habitats and species and has actions to ensure that they cover all relevant habitats and species. Initially actions may be focussed on those under the most pressure or where most advantage can be gained. However, it allows for all important habitats and species to be covered.

The Biodiversity Action Plan has been developed in partnership with local and regional groups and organisations and is available to download from The Royal Borough's website.

### Legislation

The Parks Estates and Open Spaces department operates within the frameworks set out by the following legislation, and therefore, the legislation may impact upon the delivery of service of the

Parks Estates and Open Spaces department both financially, through planning and human resources. This is not a comprehensive list but is indicative of key pieces of legislation relating to PE&OS.

- Alcohol Consumption in Public Places Order 2003
- Clean Neighbourhoods Act 2004
- Control of Pesticide Protection Act 1986
- Country Code 1981
- Country side and Rights of Way Act 2000 and increments
- Countryside & Right of Way Act 2000
- Disability Discrimination Act 1998
- Health & Safety at Work Act 1998
- Litter Act 1983
- Ministry of Housing and Local Government Provisional Order Confirmation
- (Greater London Parks & Open Spaces Act )1967
- Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006
- Occupiers Liability Act 1957
- Road Traffic Act 1988 (as amended 1991)
- The 2004 Country Code
- The Anti Social Behaviour Act 2003
- The Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 & Dogs Act 1871
- The National Parks & Access to the Countryside Act 1949
- The Weeds Act 1959
- The Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981

In addition, there are numerous bye-laws that relate to specific parks.

Dog Control Orders (Now covered under Public Space Protection Orders, Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014)

Dog fouling has been recognised as being a problem within many of The Royal Borough's parks and open spaces. The Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 makes it possible for local authorities to introduce Dog Control Orders. The Royal Borough of Greenwich has adopted five separate control orders across the borough including Horn Park, which provide a fixed penalty for non-compliance. These orders would make it an offence for persons in control of their dog(s) to:

- Not clean up after their dog has fouled.
- Have more than 4 dogs in their control at one time.
- Not to have their dog on a lead in designated areas
- Not to have their dog on a lead and kept on a lead when instructed to do so by an authorised officer.
- To allow their dog(s) to access designated dog exclusion areas.

## APPENDIX III

### 2005 Greenwich Meadows Survey

#### 2.13 Horn Park

##### Brief Description

This site has 3 distinct areas;

Area A – Is an area of rough grass with few meadow flowers and is heavily shaded by trees (See photo 21). The topography of the area is flat with a gentle downwards slope to the east.

Area B – An attractive area of meadow with good numbers of wildflowers and mown paths through the area. The topography of the area is flat with a gentle downwards slope to the east. (see photo 22)

Area C – This is a strip of rough grass with trees planted amongst the sward and a number of mature Willow trees on the western boundary. The area is fairly flat and level. (see photo 23)

##### Recommendations

Area A – The limited diversity and small numbers of meadow flowers suggest that this site would benefit from being left un-mown. This would provide rough grass and scrub habitat, which is valuable for invertebrates, small mammals and nesting birds. Management of the area could be confined to occasional flailing areas of the grass and removal of scrub every 2 – 3 years.

Area B – This area, in its current state has significant value as a large piece of traditional hay meadow. However the botanical interest and number of meadow flowers within the sward could be improved. Taking earlier hay cut in mid to late July would remove a greater amount of biomass, (and hence nutrients) from the system.

This would favour the establishment a more diverse meadow sward and would also enable the production of good quality hay. The area should then be mown regularly (every 2-3 weeks) in the late summer / early autumn until the end of the growing season. This will further encourage the establishment of a sward of finer grass and meadow flower species.

Area C – As the newly planted trees grow, this area will gradually become more shaded. Because of this the area would be best left un-mown, allowing scrub to establish and provide rough grass habitat. This would be valuable for invertebrates, small mammals and nesting birds.



Photo 21. Looking north towards the area of rough grass heavily shaded by trees



Photo 22. Looking east, down the slope across the area of meadow.



Photo 23. Looking west across the area of newly planted trees

Species record:	
Common name	Latin Name
Cow Parsley	<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>
Hedge Mustard	<i>Sisymbrium officinale</i>
Black Horehound	<i>Ballota nigra</i>
Field Bindweed	<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>
Black Knapweed	<i>Centaurea nigra</i>
Wild Carrot	<i>Daucus carota</i>
White Clover	<i>Trifolium repans</i>
Common Bird's-Foot-Trefoil	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>
Creeping Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>
Common Ragwort	<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>
Common Sorrel	<i>Rumex acetosa</i>
Common Cat's-ear	<i>Hypochoeris radicata</i>
Red Clover	<i>Trifolium repans</i>
Yarrow	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>
Meadow Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>
Bristly Oxtongue	<i>Picris echioides</i>
Goat's beard	<i>Tragopogon pratensis</i>
Perennial Ryegrass	<i>Lolium perenne</i>
Yorkshire Fog	<i>Holcus lanatus</i>
Rough Meadow Grass	<i>Poa Trivialis</i>
Cock's foot	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>
False Oat Grass	<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>
Red Fescue	<i>Festuca rubra</i>
Meadow Foxtail	<i>Alopecurus pratensis</i>
Wall Barley	<i>Hordeum murinum</i>

