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# APSE Southern Region Parks and Open Spaces Seminar 2024



**Thursday 14 November 2024**

Leonardo Royal Hotel, Oxford, Godstow Road, Oxford,  
OX2 8AL

# Programme

9:30 Registration, refreshments, and exhibition viewing

10:00 *Session 1*

## **Assessing the finances: What does the Autumn 2024 Budget mean for local authority parks and greenspaces?**

**Speaker: Mo Baines, Chief Executive, APSE**

### **What's the connection between Marvel and Buckinghamshire Parks?**

- Income streams and Country Parks – why we need them now more than ever to survive;
- Ways to fund our parks and open spaces service – and contribute to others within the council;
- Filming in Country parks – making the most of our locations;
- How Self Financing Works – what's worked well and what hasn't;
- Future plans.

**Speaker: Andrew Fowler, Head of Country Parks & Green Spaces, Buckinghamshire Council**

*Audience question and answer session*

11:00 A Word from our Sponsor – Brightly Software

11:20 Meet the Exhibitors

11:30 Refreshments & exhibition viewing

12:00 *Session 2*

## **Cherwell District Council's Everybody's Well Being Strategy**

Everybody's Wellbeing strategy at Cherwell District Council aims to turn the seven goals and principles into actions, ensuring that residents benefit from improved connections to their environment, better health outcomes, and enhanced local opportunities fostering thriving, healthy communities.

Will look at the seven goals and the impact these have had on the local community and how parks and open spaces are pivotal in promoting and encouraging health and wellbeing in Cherwell District.

**Speaker: Tom Gubbins, Wellbeing Manager, Cherwell District Council**

## **Gender-sensitive greenspace development: A co-designed approach with adolescent girls in Bradford**

- Who are JU:MP?
- Addressing gender inequality to create safe green spaces;
- The project and it's impact;

**Speaker: Sonia Fayyaz, Community Engagement Manager, JU:MP (Join Us: Move Play) and Dr Satrio Nindyo (Tiko)**

*Audience question and answer session*

13:00 Lunch & Exhibition viewing

14:00 *Session 3*

## **Plant Biosecurity - why being aware and prepared is vital for our future survival.**

- What is plant biosecurity and why has it become an issue?
- Current and future threats and the role of local authorities in addressing them.
- Ensuring we have the right operational practices and strategies in place.

**Speaker: Wayne Priestley, APSE Associate**

## **Getting Down and Dirty! An in-depth look at soil.**

- Improving soil health with better management, maintenance, and agronomy
- Increasing soil organic carbon
- Utilising bio fertilisers from anaerobic digestion
- Introducing "Carbon Grasses"

**Speaker: Justin Smith, Green Pigeon Consulting**

*Audience question and answer session*

15:00 Refreshments & exhibition viewing

15:30 *Session 4 - Communities*

**Roundtable Discussion:** Biodiversity and net gain; Trees in streets – who maintains them? Parks design – who do you consult? SUDS

*Audience question and answer session*

16:00 *Seminar Close*



Exhibition and sponsorship  
To discuss exhibition and sponsorship

**Matt Paton**

Spacehouse

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# Seminar Objectives

## About the Seminar

APSE Southern Region is pleased to announce the programme for this year's Parks & Open Spaces Seminar, taking place within the green and leafy surrounds of the Leonardo Royal Hotel, Oxford, OX2 8AL.

Whilst sustainability and the climate crisis remains a priority for local authority service planning, this year's seminar will open with an analysis of what the 2024 Autumn budget means for local authority parks and green spaces. Next up we will be asking "What's the connection between Marvel and Buckinghamshire Parks?"

Following a word from our event sponsors, Brightly Software and a quick hello from our exhibitors, Session 2 will open with a deep dive into Gender-sensitive greenspace development in Bradford, and Cherwell District Council's Everybody's Wellbeing Strategy.

Kicking off Session 3 – we will be focusing on soil health and management and plant biosecurity, and why being aware and prepared is vital for our future survival.

Session 4's rountable will provide an informal opportunity for those present to discuss various hot topics including: SUDS; Who should maintain trees in streets? Parks and play-space design and community consultation.

Delegates will also have the opportunity to meet with representatives from our Sponsors – Brightly Software, plus the following confirmed exhibitors: Oxford Direct Services, Green-tech Ltd, Wybone, Pictorial Meadows (Green Meadows), Green Pigeon Consulting, plus others.

We look forward to welcoming you to the Leonardo Royal Hotel, Oxford, to explore with likeminded colleagues the sustained future provision of public parks and green spaces.

## Who should attend

Everyone with an interest in health and well-being, parks and green spaces management, sustainability and climate change.

## Delegate Packages Exclusive of VAT

### What's included?

*The delegate fee covers attendance, delegates' documentation, lunches and light refreshments.*

Member: **£188+VAT**

Non-member: **£284+VAT**

Commercial: **£408+VAT**

## [Click here to reserve your place on this event](#)

**CANCELLATION & REFUND POLICY:** Reservation is a contract. Substitution of delegates is acceptable any time in writing by email to [adminsouthern@apse.org.uk](mailto:adminsouthern@apse.org.uk). Cancellations must be made in writing at least 10 working days before the event, and will incur a 20% administration fee. No refunds can be given for cancellations received less than 10 working days before the event or for nonattendance. In the unlikely event of cancellation by the organisers, liability will be restricted to the refund of fees paid. The organisers reserve the right to make changes to the programme, speakers or mode of delivery should this become necessary. If due to emergency action by UK Governments/Administrations or Public Agencies this event is postponed, for example for reasons of public health and safety, the organisers will transfer your booking to the replacement event or provide a credit voucher against a future event booking.