



Parks & Green Spaces

Research Portal



Parks and Green Spaces Seminar

Wednesday 30 March 2022

Raising the standard

The Green Flag Award guidance manual



Section 6: Community Involvement



Section 6

Community Involvement

This section examines the extent to which the managing organisation:

- understands the community it seeks to serve
- actively and appropriately involves members of the community in making decisions about the site's development
- provides opportunities for active participation in site projects
- ensures that there is appropriate provision of recreational facilities and activities for all sectors of the community

Understanding the community is assessed in Section 7 Marketing and Communication, and the marketing strategy would contain an analysis of who the site currently serves, and who they would like to include. Armed with this information, this section is examined under two sub-criteria:

22 Community Involvement in Management and Development

23 Appropriate Provision for Community

22 Community Involvement in Management and Development

This should be entirely appropriate to the site and the needs of the local community and will vary hugely. Judges will be interested in whether and how representative members of the community (current users and other people local to the site who could use it more) have been identified and actively involved (not simply consulted) in the

management and key developmental decisions about the site. Judges will seek to understand that this engagement role is properly resourced with skilled staff, and that people within the wider managing organisation also support this work. Current and future plans should be detailed in the management plan, and judges may like to discuss with the management their approaches to this, and, if possible, to meet community representatives on site.

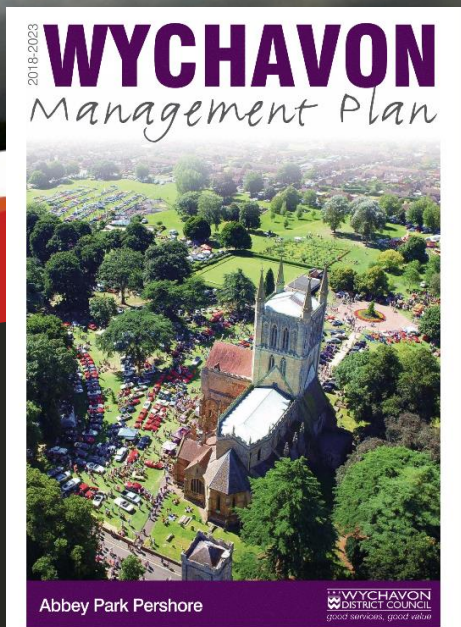
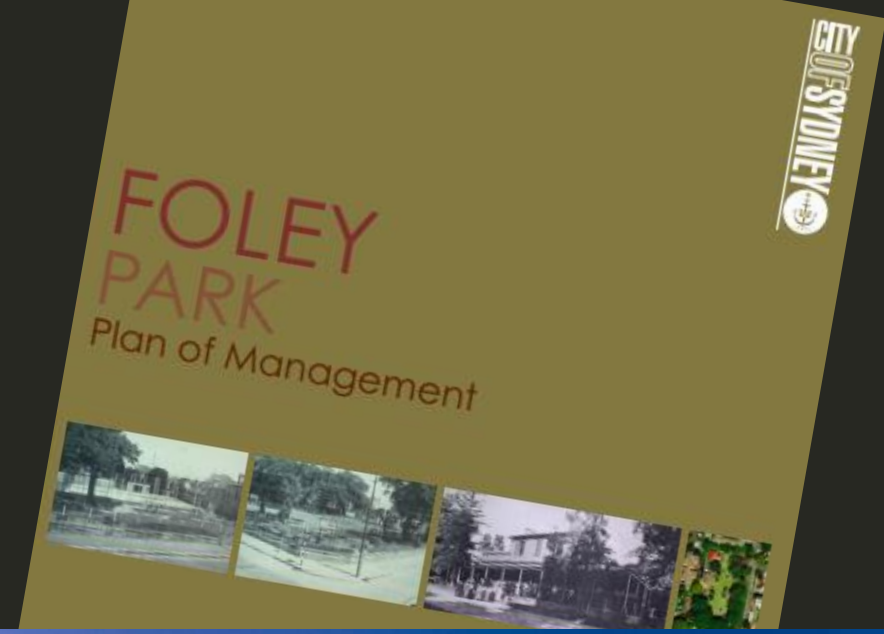
Managers should have examined

- Who is and who could be involved with the space?
- How could they be involved with the space?

They should also have approached these groups and sought to engage them.

Some issues to consider:

- A variety of methods could be used to involve communities, including: forums, questionnaires, surveys, as well as outreach work to schools, youth organisations, faith groups and organisations that represent people with disabilities. Particular consultation should be aimed at the 13-19 age group, often one of the hardest groups to engage with.
- Providing evidence of active engagement with, and understanding of, communities might be the analysis of survey results or outcomes or decisions made at community forum meetings, ideally summarised and referenced in the management plan.
- It is important that groups are fairly represented and conflicting demands are equitably balanced when decisions, particularly those involving significant redesign and investment, are made.





Parks & Green Spaces

Resources Hub



Parks & Green Spaces Resources Hub

Welcome to the Parks and Green Spaces Resources Hub

The Hub is a comprehensive library of free, high-quality content - curated from all over the world. You can filter by the Green Flag Award® Criteria or by resource Type, or Search by keyword. We hope you find something today that helps you to make your park or green space the best it can be for the community you serve.

The Hub is managed by Keep Britain Tidy and endorsed by World Urban Parks



Most of the resources are hosted thanks to permission from a wide array of collaborating partners, who support our commitment to sharing and exchanging knowledge.

Want to suggest a resource or partner organisation for the Hub?

[Contact Us](#)

+ Select criteria:

[A Welcoming Place](#)[Biodiversity, Landscape & Heritage](#)[Healthy Safe & Secure](#)[Community Involvement](#)[Well Maintained & Clean](#)[Marketing & Communication](#)[Environmental Management](#)[Management](#)

+ Select type:

[Guidance](#)[Reports & Case Studies](#)[Greenspace Toolkit](#)[Design](#)[Video](#)[Management Plans](#)[Coronavirus](#)[Training](#)



NESTA (UK)

How to set up a Parks Foundation

60 Minute Read

Interested in how a Parks Foundation might work for your organisation? A complete step by step planning and delivery guide.



VOLUNTEERING STRATEGY

2018-2021

The Royal Parks (UK)

Example Volunteering Strategy

Long Read

This strategy examines the potential to support, improve and grow volunteering across London's world famous Royal Parks.

Outdoor Learning and Environmental Education



North Tyneside Council (UK)

Outdoor Education in Parks example

30 minute read

A fantastic example of what Outdoor Education can be offered in parks and how to align it with the national learning curriculum.



PLACEMAKING
What if we build our cities around places?

Project for Public Spaces (USA)

Placemaking - What if we build our cities around places?

30 minute read

An exploration of the multidimensional idea of what makes a 'Place' and how we can use it to enhance public spaces - including parks!

SPARKING CHANGE



Park People (Canada)

Catalysing the impact of parks

30 Minute Read

When communities get involved - parks get better. Sparking Change is a call to action through improvements, engagement and activities.



THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND
LAND FOR PEOPLE

The Trust for Public Land (USA)

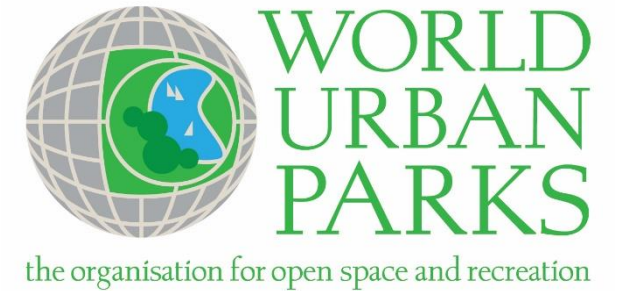
Public Spaces/Private Money: The Triumphs and Pitfalls of Urban Park

Long Read

This study from 2015 explores city park conservancies from all sides, using real-life findings and experiences from 41 organizations.



Contributors



Dec 2020



Parks & Green Spaces
Resources Hub

1,500+ unique downloads

March 2022



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The University
Of
Sheffield.



Economic
and Social
Research Council





Dr Anna Barker,
University of Leeds



Dr Nicola Dempsey,
University of Sheffield

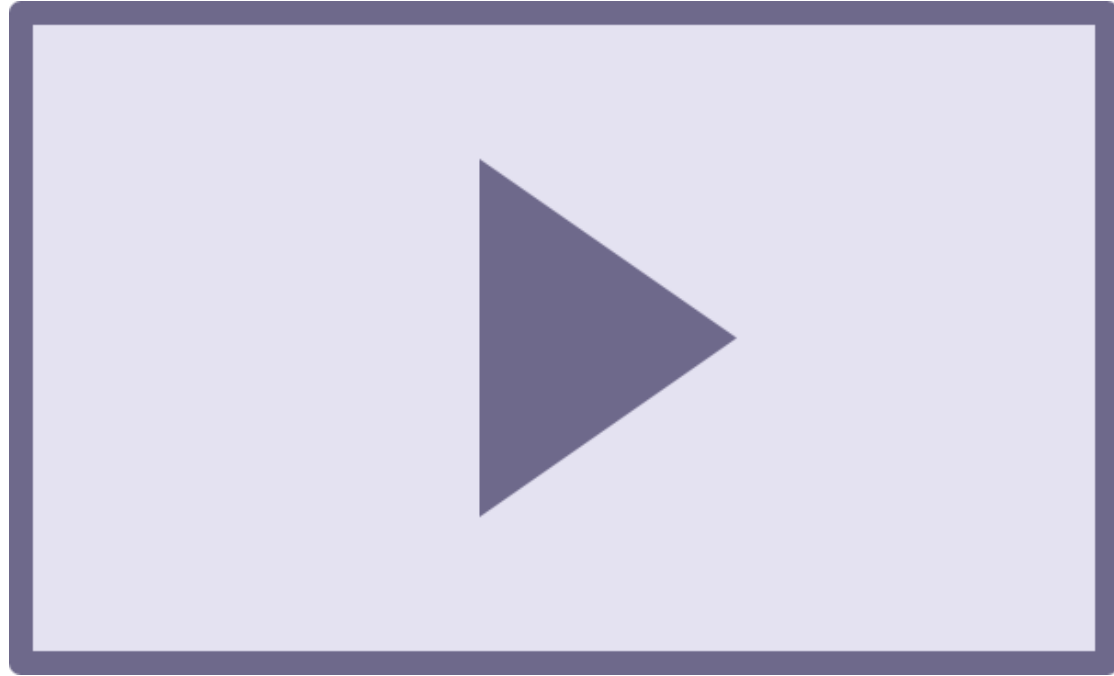


Carl McClean,
Keep Britain Tidy



Parks & Green Spaces

Research Portal



A free platform for exploring parks and green space research from across the globe



Parks & Green Spaces
Research Portal

The screenshot displays the 'Research' section of the portal. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Research' selected, alongside 'Events', 'Opportunities', 'Projects', and 'Directory'. On the right side of the navigation bar are 'CONTACT US' and 'LOGIN' buttons. Below the navigation bar, the 'Research' section is divided into three columns. The first column features a 'Research' header and a list of research items. The second column contains a search bar, a 'Sort By' dropdown menu set to 'Date Descending', and a 'Filters' section with dropdown menus for 'Topics', 'Country', 'Organisation', and 'Level of research'. The third column contains a 'Dates' section with a 'Published after' date picker and a 'RESET ALL FILTERS' button. The main content area shows three research items: 1. 'Climate change' by Green Organisation, England | August 2021, with tags 'TREES', 'CLIMATE CHANGE/MITIGATION', and 'ACCESSIBILITY'. 2. 'Visualising climate change' by Keep Britain Tidy, England | August 2021, with tags 'ACCESSIBILITY', 'EVENTS', and 'HISTORY AND HERITAGE'. 3. 'IWUN policy briefing for green space managers' by University of Sheffield, United Kingdom | September 2021, with tags 'HEALTH AND WELLBEING', 'GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE', and 'GOVERNANCE AND REGULATION'. A green box at the bottom left of the main content area contains the text 'WHAT GREENSPACE MANAGERS NEED TO KNOW' and a small graphic of a city skyline.



Parks & Green Spaces Research Portal

Welcome

The Portal provides a free and accessible platform to connect researchers, policymakers and green space managers in the UK and internationally. It aims to facilitate knowledge exchange and foster collaboration to inform the best practice management of parks and green spaces for the benefit of communities and the environment.

Browse Research, Opportunities and Events for free, or register an account to submit your own content to the Research Portal.

The Research Portal is managed by Keep Britain Tidy in partnership with the Universities of Leeds and Sheffield. Our sponsors include the Economic and Social Research Council and the Leeds Social Sciences Institute.



User Guide



Research

Events

Opportunities

Projects

Directory

CONTACT US

LOGIN/REGISTER

Research



Littering Behaviours

Waste Research in the London Royal Parks

Keep Britain Tidy, United Kingdom | December 2021

GREEN SPACE

ENVIRONMENT

SOCIAL USES AND ACTIVITIES

Research was conducted into park users' waste disposal behaviours and the behavioural context of these in order to identify potential solutions that would address the drivers of incorrect waste disposal more effectively.



Events in London's Parks: the Friends' perspective

University of Westminster, United Kingdom | July 2020

SOCIAL USES AND ACTIVITIES

EVENTS

CULTURE

This report explores the different types of events staged in London's parks, and assesses the range of impacts they have, both positive and negative. The report is based on a qualitative survey of Friends' groups undertaken in the Spring of 2020.

Search

Sort By

Filters

Topics

Country

Organisation



Research



Events



Opportunities



Parks & Green Spaces
Research Portal

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Events in London's Parks: the Friends' perspective

SOCIAL USES AND ACTIVITIES

EVENTS

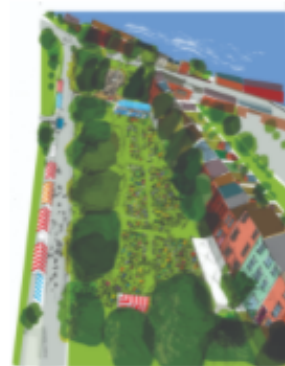
CULTURE

Key Findings

Events are visible, popular and yet controversial functions of park settings. Festivals and events provide entertainment, but they also have important social effects – attracting different types of people to go to parks and encouraging London's diverse communities to encounter one another. They are also the most obvious user conflicts – with large paid entry events affecting the accessibility of park space at times when demand for everyday park use is highest.

Implications for policy and practice

Thirteen recommendations are outlined across three spheres: regulations and procedures; minimising negative impacts; and maximising inclusion. Some of these were suggested specifically in the responses submitted by Friends groups. The remainder have been conceived by the authors based on responses to the survey.



Research



View Paper



Item Type: [Research](#)

Date first published: 13 July 2020

Principal Researcher: [Andrew Smith](#)

Lead Organisation: [University of Westminster](#)

Partner Organisation(s): [Parks for London](#)

Country: [United Kingdom](#)

Funder(s): [HERA](#)

General URL: <http://festspace.net/>

DOI URL:

https://issuu.com/festspace/docs/events_in_london_s_parks_report_issueu

Share:



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Towards sustainable lawns: searching for climate friendly solutions

GREEN SPACE

MEADOWS

ENVIRONMENT

A presentation in partnership with the Green Flag Award winning Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU) Ultuna Campus in Uppsala. John Lööf Green presents the research carried out in this field at SLU since 2016 and make clear recommendations to green spaces managers.

Associated logos



Event Info



Item Type: [Event](#)

Organising contact: John Lööf Green

Start Date: 14 January 2022

End Date: 14 January 2022

Start Time: 13:00

End Time: 14:00

Lead Organisation: [Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences](#)

Country: [Sweden](#)

Share:



Events



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Research Assistant/Fellow (Fixed term)

ACCESSIBILITY

SAFETY

GOVERNANCE AND REGULATION

You will play a supporting role in collecting and analysing interview data for a Q methodology research project exploring what women and girls think makes parks feel safe or unsafe, and what might make parks feel safer and more welcoming places. Application deadline 10/12/2021.



Collaborate



Item Type: [Opportunity](#)

Main Contact: [Anna Barker](#)

Subtype: [Offering - Research jobs](#)

Lead Organisation: [University of Leeds](#)

Country: [United Kingdom](#)

Share:



Opportunities





Directory

A

[Alam, Rizwana](#) – Research Fellow – United Kingdom

B

[Barker, Anna](#) – Associate Professor in Criminal Justice & Criminology – United Kingdom

D

[Dempsey, Nicola](#) – Senior Lecturer in Landscape Planning – United Kingdom

F

[Fields in Trust](#) – United Kingdom – Park or Green Space Trust or Charity

G

[Green Flag Award](#) – United Kingdom – Third Sector / NGO

H

[Häme University of Applied Sciences](#) – Finland – University

K

Search

A B C D E F G
H I J K L M N
O P Q R S T U
V W X Y Z

Filters

People/Organisations

Organisation Type

Key Areas of Expertise

Benefits for park professionals

- **Access the latest research**
- **Specific to the parks sector**
- **Evidence for decision-making**
- **Collaborate with researchers**
- **Connect with peers worldwide**



Parks & Green Spaces

Research Portal



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The
University
Of
Sheffield.



www.greenflagaward.org/research

research@greenflagaward.org