

**APSE one day parks seminar**

# **Parks in a changing climate**

APSE one day seminar at Harrogate International Centre  
Friday 20 March 2015



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9:30 Registration and exhibition viewing

10:30 **Session 1: The challenges for parks and green spaces**

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## **APSE Perspective**

- Directing funding into parks – ‘nudge and budge’
- The State of the Parks Market Survey 2015
- Generating income in a parks environment

**Speaker:** Paul O’Brien, Chief Executive, APSE

## **Addressing the basic human need for nature in a rapidly urbanising world – The Biophilic Cities Project**

- The link between greenspaces and human health
- Integrating nature into everyday living
- ‘Place’ strengthening benefits

**Speaker:** Nick Grayson Climate Change and Sustainability Manager, Birmingham City Council

11:30 Coffee break and exhibition viewing

12:00 **Session 2: New approaches**

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## **The National Pollinator Strategy - how parks and gardens must help to conserve pollen-rich habitats**

- Why do we need a strategy for bees and other pollinators?
- How can local authorities help?
- Opportunities to promote greater biodiversity, increase customer satisfaction and reduce costs of grassland maintenance

**Speaker:** Tasha Niesen, Defra

## **Pictorial Meadows Seed Mixes – new meadow solutions that work in practice.**

- Sheffield University Research Pedigree.
- 100’s of Successful Projects.
- A Budget Saver Too?

**Speaker:** Sue France, CEO, Pictorial Meadows and Green Estates

## **Using weather forecasts to help plan Grounds Maintenance activities**

- Helping to time maintenance and gardening tasks more effectively through the use of weather data
- Ensuring the safety of park users –i.e. predicting icy conditions, predicting flooding etc.
- Long-term links between weather, plants and habitats

**Speaker:** Richard Stedall, The Meteorological Office

## **Supplier Innovation with Cardley-Wave**

- New legislation in controlling Japanese Knotweed provides more powers to local authorities
  - Need this result in the use of more chemical measures or is there an eco-alternative?
  - An all-important planet-protective approach?
- Short introduction to the issue followed by a chance to view the product in the trade exhibition show

13:00 Lunch and exhibition viewing

14:00 **Session 3: Issues for Service Delivery**

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## **Biosecurity future threats to plants and trees**

- Highlighting how plant pest and disease threats are increasing
- The work being done to protect the country from such threats
- How parks and green space managers can help reduce threats

**Speaker:** Derek McCann, Principal Plant Health and Seeds Inspector, Animal and Plant Health Agency

## **Changing the Climate of Traditional Parks Management**

- The threat of climate change to the parks environment
- Building climate resilience into operational management
- The wider climate mitigation value of parks and green spaces

**Speaker:** Bill Cooper, Policy, Projects and Performance Manager, Wirral Council

## **Managing Banks and Slopes Safely**

- Identifying the problems
- Assessing the risks and taking precautions
- The Way Forwards

**Speaker:** Dr. Andrew Turner, HM Principal Inspector of Health and Safety, Agriculture, Waste & Recycling Sector

15:30 Seminar close

## Seminar objectives

'Parks In A Changing Climate' examines the changing roles of parks and greenspaces, and their importance across a number of different agendas, including health and well-being, promoting and protecting biodiversity, mitigating the effects of climate change as well as still remaining a vital part of the fabric of the natural environment. In order to meet these growing responsibilities parks and greenspace managers are having to look at new approaches as to how they operate on a day to day, basis through the use of new and improved technology, introducing new plant management techniques, making better use of the resources they have and even allowing nature to play a greater part in ensuring the sustainability of such assets. All of this is set against a backdrop of some of the most severe funding cuts ever experienced in the history of parks and green space management. As such faced with diminishing resources, there is a need to ensure the backbone of these services, the staff, are suitably trained and ready for the challenges ahead.

The seminar intends to highlight the value of parks to everyday life and the wider health of the environment. Topics will include presentations on international projects such as biophilic cities where the human need to be close to nature is explained, the recently published National Pollinator Strategy outlining the importance of pollinating insects to food security and greenspace sustainability, and how planting wildflower meadows not only improves public satisfaction but can also save grounds maintenance costs. On a similar vein, the Met Office will show how through the use of weather forecasts, both staff resource and maintenance costs can be saved. Continuing on a climate theme speakers will outline how parks management needs to be adapted to mitigate the effects of climate change. As always, there will be case studies on how innovative approaches to resource management, and health and safety, has led to improved service delivery and staff safety.

By bringing together a range of diverse and interesting speakers, APSE hopes to show how there is still a bright future for our parks and greenspaces at a time when public usage is increasing whilst funding is becoming harder to hold on to.

Experienced speakers will address key issues including:

- APSE's State of the Parks Survey 2015
- Generating income in a parks environment
- Integrating nature into everyday living through adopting a biophilic city approach
- The value of pollinating insects to the future of the natural environment
- Wildflower meadow development
- How weather forecasting can improve parks and greenspace management
- Adapting parks to meet the climate change challenge
- Staff safety when maintaining slopes and banks
- Making a sustainable peat free product and saving money
- Biosecurity – future threats to our trees and plants
- Maintaining a parks ranger service in an age of austerity

The conference is planned to allow considerable time for debate and questions.

## Who should attend?

- Chief executives
- Elected members
- Service directors
- Parks, grounds maintenance, horticulture, landscape and green space professionals
- Best value officers
- Policy officers
- Trade union representatives
- Parks/landscape consultants
- Academic researchers
- Contractors and suppliers
- Voluntary organisations

Reserve your place now by completing the booking form and faxing it or emailing to Vicky Starmer at APSE on 0161 772 1811 or [vstarmer@apse.org.uk](mailto:vstarmer@apse.org.uk)

## The Venue

### Harrogate International Centre

King's Road, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, HG1 5LA

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# Booking form

APSE parks seminar 2015, 20 March 2015, Harrogate

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Please detail here any special dietary/access requirements for the delegates listed below:

**APSE issues a written confirmation for all delegate bookings received. If you have not received your confirmation letter within 5 working days of sending your booking form, then please contact APSE on 0161 772 1810.**

## Payment information

What's included: The delegate place covers attendance, delegate documentation, lunch and light refreshments. Please note that hotel accommodation and travel costs are not included. A list of recommended hotels in the area is available on request.

**APSE members delegate fee:-** £169 + VAT

**Non-members delegate fee:-** £276 + VAT

**Private sector organisation:-** £360 + VAT

**Please indicate preferred method of payment (tick):-**

VAT registration number 519 286 915

- Please find enclosed cheque (made payable to APSE)
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**CANCELLATION & REFUND POLICY:** Reservation is a contract. Substitution of delegates is acceptable any time in writing by post, email to [vstarmer@apse.org.uk](mailto:vstarmer@apse.org.uk) or fax to 0161 772 1811. Cancellations must be made in writing at least 10 working days before the event, and will incur a 20% administration fee. 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 venue should this become necessary.

Delegate name	Delegate position	Delegate email

Please return completed form to Vicky Starmer, APSE, 2nd floor Washbrook House, Lancastrian Office Centre, Talbot Road, Old Trafford, Manchester M32 0FP or fax direct to: 0161 772 1811 Telephone: 0161 772 1810 - E-mail: [vstarmer@apse.org.uk](mailto:vstarmer@apse.org.uk)