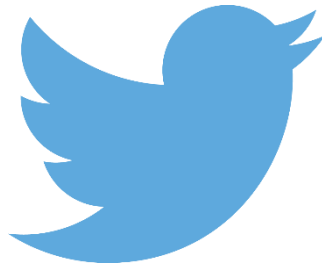


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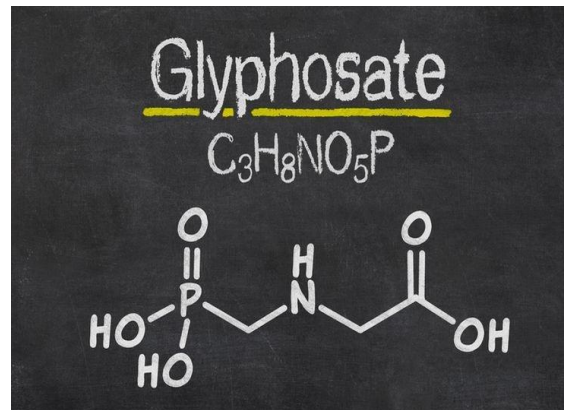
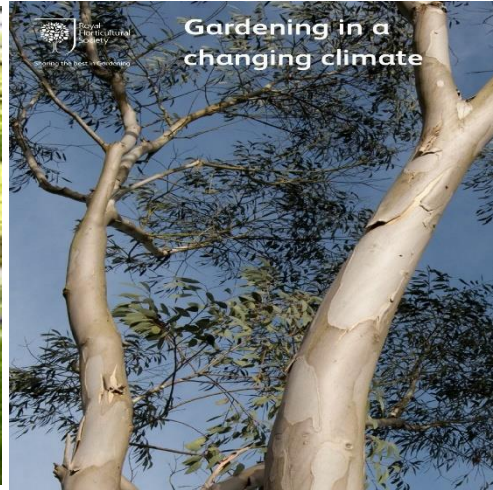
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Parks and Greenspaces

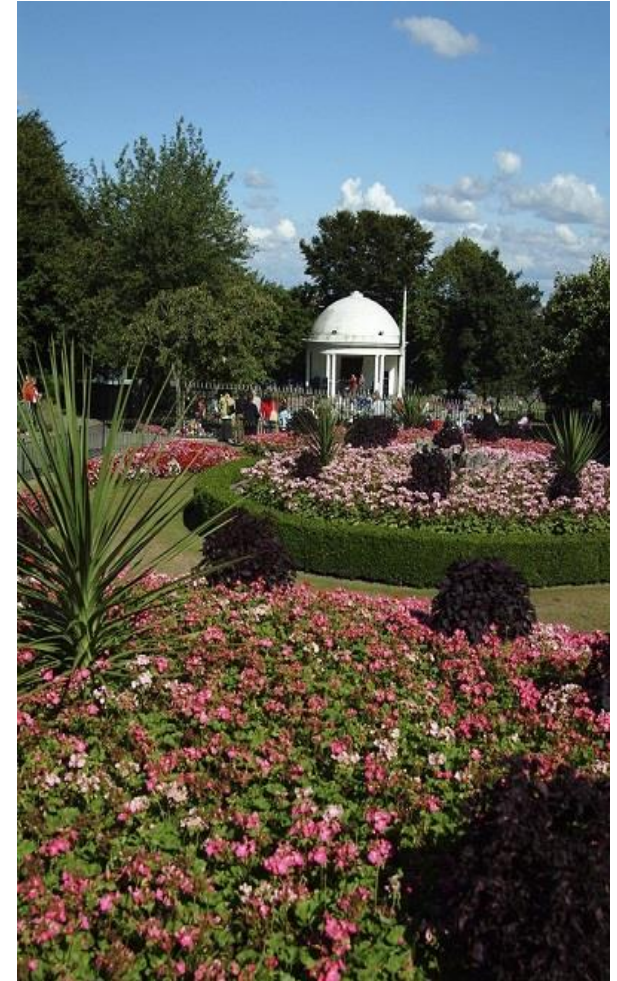
Future issues and considerations – 'a discussion'



The BIG questions

Why Parks?

- What is the role of our parks in a multi-cultural and digitally-focused world?
- Is the Victorian model dead?
- Can we afford to provide parks? **£39 million levelling up fund against £500 million budget cuts.**
- Increased expectations but is there any real support?
- Operations, People and Futures.

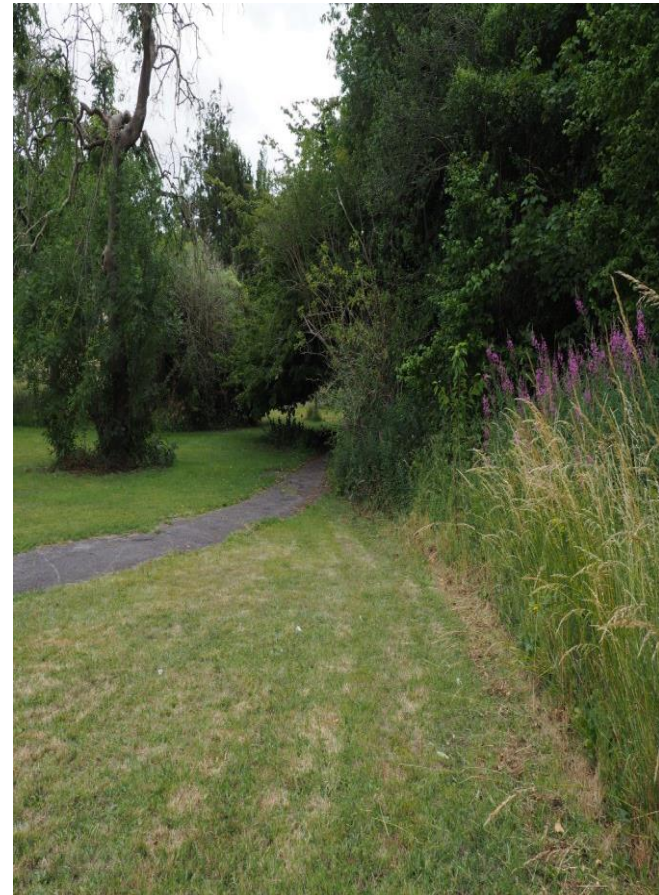


Operations

Climate and Ecological Emergency Plans

- Political and public influence
- Changing horticultural practices
- Right plants, right places
- Peat-free parks/No to glyphosate.
- Tree planting targets
- Biosecurity and availability of plants
- Making space for biodiversity
- Rewilding – is it an option?
- Greener technology – battery powered equipment.

Q/ How will climate change affect our parks and what changes are being made?



People

- Pre-COVID evidence parks usage was increasing.
- COVID saw thousands in parks and greenspaces
- Increased wear and tear, need for new and better facilities/ infrastructure
- Are there enough accessible parks and greenspaces?
- Parks Levelling Up Fund recognising the demand.
- Plugging the gaps.
- Can we rely on income generation as the way forwards?
- Do we have a sustainable and suitably trained workforce
- Volunteers/FoG – 'additionality not replacement'
- Do we fully understand our customers?

Q/ How do we know our parks meet today's needs



Future

- Realistic parks budgets.
- Protecting/increasing greenspace -Developing new green spaces **Biodiversity Net Gain**
- Environment as well as people
- Changing uses
- Gaining recognition – green and blue infrastructure
- Accessibility
- Sharing the costs with other beneficiaries
- Balancing housing target demands.
- Career choice
- Greater public involvement – ‘sense of ownership’

Q. How safe is the future of our parks?

Where can APSE support you?

- **One day and on-line seminars**
 - Ash Dieback
 - Trees and Woodlands
 - Allotments
 - Rewilding and biodiversity
- **Advisory Groups on-line/small discussion groups.**
 - Topics?
- **Regional meetings – themed areas of discussion**
- **Research reports, briefing papers, network queries.**
 - The State of UK Public Parks - considerations as to their protection and growing importance, to a wide range of local authority strategic priorities.
 - Post Pandemic: Green Urban Spaces
- **Performance benchmarking – LAMS/Performance Networks**
- **Training courses.**
 - Introductory/Advanced levels Parks Management, Allotments and carbon literacy
- **Service Reviews, income generation strategies – APSE Solutions**
- **Advocacy for local authorities.**

NEW MUNICIPALISM

Delivering for local people and local economies

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