

**Woodford Park Lake Consultation - Comments**

On site consultation carried out on 6 and 8 April 2017

**Lake proposals**

- Definitely remove chain-link fence at western end of lake
- Signage – deter people from leaving food by the lake
- Boardwalk safety?
- Mostly native species for planting please
- Braille information on interpretation boards
- Get local people to sponsor benches
- WPLC could sell proper duck food – discourage bread feeding
- Solar powered lighting around the lake. I walk through the park but avoid it when it's getting too dark.
- Provide seed for ducks – stop bread feeding.
- Involve schools in nature project
- Signage to the lake
- Definitely reduce silt
- Agree with silt reduction if it reduces the smell
- Return of wooded area to park – expensive to reintroduce after cost of cutting it all down.
- Boardwalk may encourage bikes and rubbish. Platform would be better
- Boardwalk too close to wildlife – nesting birds in the middle
- Cleaner – more wildlife
- More planting – shrubs
- Generally clean up – make it safer for children
- Boardwalk maintenance?
- Separate area for feeding ducks – stop them being attracted out of the water into the park where the dogs can scare them
- Keep areas for wildlife to feel safe
- Concerned about safety of boardwalk
- Improve lighting at western end
- Smaller boardwalk – less impact on nesting swans etc
- Like idea of wildlife area but not there
- Don't agree with returning wooded area to the park
- Gate at the back of lake
- Cut down hedge at nature walk end
- Concerned about rubbish around the lake
- Concerned re cyclists at western end new path.
- Conflicts between kids, dipping, rats, foxes
- Access to play area from the lake side
- Security / vandalism, slippery boardwalk
- Would be good to widen paths around the lake a bit if possible – as a parent they're a little narrow if e.g. 2 buggies are trying to pass. I also participate in park run and it's great to see increasing participation but the lake is very congested for the first lap of the course
- Boardwalk – too tempting for people to throw things in the water
- Currently there are some tree logs floating in the water, they had been used as part of the low barrier around the lake, but were easily pushed into the water by the local idiots, and now the ducks etc use them as a resting place. Can these not be tethered together somehow to create a floating platform for some of the wildlife.

### Play area

- should have rubber play surface not bark. More swings. Roundabout. Climbing wall. Zip wire. More flowers. More space.
- More equipment for younger children
- Decent gates
- Better equipment – like Sol Joel
- Speak to schools about equipment
- Needs upgrading
- Should be upgraded with equipment for older children, big climbing, monkey bars.
- Should include seat outside play area for dog owners
- Level safety surface & accessible equipment
- Zip wire with baby seat
- More for younger kids
- This sounds great, the playground is quite tired. Would be really useful to have some facilities for younger children too. Christchurch Meadows in Reading or the Lookout in Bracknell are good examples

### Path across Memorial Ground

- Formal path would be better
- Leave as it is
- Maybe – depends how it is done
- Possibly – depends how it impacts on other activities. Would prefer grass reinforcement to minimise wear rather than tarmac which would be an eyesore
- Leave it as it is
- No
- No path – can walk around
- No – fine as it is
- Could do with something
- Save the grass
- Agree –not as muddy for prams and old people
- No – less room for kids to play
- Yes, it is inevitable. Keep it rustic – block paving rather than tarmac
- No – prefer informal path
- Grid reinforcement rather than tarmac
- Fine as it is
- Path around edge of football pitches more important – could have compacted stone path.
- No – leave it as it is – you can always walk round
- No – place for kids to play
- No
- No
- No – fine as it is
- No strong opinion
- This would be a good idea as it can get very muddy during winter months. However as this forms part of the park run course I would not want to see any kind of raised paving for safety reasons.

### General

- Lots of cigarette butts dropped by the seats
- More park wardens
- In Holland I saw a metal structure with pegs/clips attached where people hung 'found' objects (hats, gloves, teddies etc). I thought this would be a very good idea for Woodford Park.
- A bandstand
- Replace graffiti boards
- More quiet areas to sit
- Upgrade basketball hoop with multisport area
- Tidy up area next to paddling pool where the old play area was
- Muddy area next to lake/mound – drainage could be improved
- Would like to see less rats and dog mess
- Would like less dog mess and vandalism by youth
- Inn on the Park please!
- Café – social space to sit & meet. Tea/coffee in the day and beer in the evening.
- Grid reinforcement by entrance from Halstead close – to end of railing area
- More lighting in general
- Paddling pool looks a mess out of season
- More lighting – can't see at night
- Trees – more maintenance
- Wider paths
- Pathway around football pitches
- Dog walkers, people doing exercise, parkrun all use the perimeter of the football field. A permanent gravelled / tarmac path around the edges would be fantastic and save the grass being worn to a mud path. Thanks for the consultation.
- Are next to the paddling pool where play equipment removed could do with some TLC. Currently has metal supports poking out of uneven ground