



**Barham Park Trust Committee  
Meeting  
10 September 2024**

**GENERAL UPDATE REPORT**

<b>Wards Affected:</b>	Wembley Central
<b>Key or Non-Key Decision:</b>	Non-Key
<b>Open or Part/Fully Exempt:</b> <small>(If exempt, please highlight relevant paragraph of Part 1 Schedule 12A of 1972 Local Government Act)</small>	Open
<b>No. of Appendices</b>	None
<b>Background papers:</b>	None
<b>Contact Officer(s):</b>	Chris Whyte, Director Public Realm 020 8937 5342 chris.whyte@brent.gov.uk  Leslie Williams, Project Officer, Parks Service, Neighbourhoods and Regeneration. 020 8937 5628 <a href="mailto:Leslie.Williams@Brent.gov.uk">Leslie.Williams@Brent.gov.uk</a>

**1.0 Executive Summary**

1.1 To update Trust Committee on operational issues at Barham Park and on current progress on projects.

**2.0 Recommendation(s)**

That the Barham Park Trust Committee RESOLVES to note the issues set out in this report.

**3.0 Background**

**Tenant and community activities**

3.1 The Trust's tenants, primarily of the Barham Park building, had largely resumed their regular activities following the Covid pandemic. The tenants include ACAVA (Association for Cultural Advancement through Visual Art), the Friends of Barham Library (Community Library), Tamu Samaj (Nepalese Community Centre), the Veterans, and the Children's Centre occupied by Young Brent

Foundation. Some of the tenants also organised a range of activities for the wider public, particularly those organised through the Community Library.

- 3.2 Fun fairs: Barham Park hosted two visits by Irvin's Fun Fair, both in the calendar year 2024. There were also two Fun Fairs during the 2023/24 year.
- 3.3 Friends of Barham Park:  
Information was provided by Council officers at two walks for the formative Friends of Barham Park groups.
- 3.4 A Community Bulb Planting event was held on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2024. Thanks to the Chair of the Barham Park Trust Committee, Ward Councillors, tenant organisations, Friends Groups and other volunteers who participated.
- 3.5 Brent Parks assisted a community tree planting event on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2024 initiated by the Wembley Central and Alperton Residents Association, with trees provided by the Woodland Trust. Thank you to the community organisers and to the volunteers.
- 3.6 Walking for Health: The Walking for Health walks continued and are held on Tuesday's 10.30-11.30am. Organised by Brent Council's Public Health Team. The website link (for current walks) is:

[Walking for health - Barham Park | Brent Council](#)

- 3.7 The role of community organisations and volunteers in the life of Barham Park and in organising many of the above activities is acknowledged. Thank you for your time and for all that you contribute to Barham Park.

### **Security**

- 3.8 There were reported incidents of people accessing areas of flat roof.  
  
Litter continues to require significant resources to clear.
- 3.9 Public Space Protection Orders: Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO) were introduced to Brent's parks and open spaces in September 2019 and a revised PSPO including a prohibition for nuisance vehicles was introduced from 20<sup>th</sup> April 2023.

### **Operational works**

- 3.10 Operational grounds maintenance at Barham Park is by Continental Landscapes Ltd with a contract that commenced on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2023. The previous contractor was Veolia.
- 3.11 The Barham Park Walled Garden achieved a Silver Gilt award in London in Bloom 2023, coinciding with the time during which Veolia were the grounds maintenance contractor. Continental Landscapes have entered the Barham

Park Walled Garden into the London in Bloom Awards for 2024, with the results due to be announced in late September 2024.

- 3.12 Grass and meadows: The mix of grasslands at Barham Park includes mown amenity grassland and the meadow area of longer grass and flowers. The meadow grassland also supports a range of invertebrate species including bees. The meadow grasslands are cut in September.
- 3.13 Structural repairs: Both the Parks service for the park and Property services for the building have attended to a range of repairs during the year. For the park, there is a significant length of stonework edging and area of hard-standing paths where more longer-term renovations may be required.

#### **Works – restricted funding**

- 3.14 An estimated £15,000 of the budget will be needed for works to drain water off the paths near to the Sudbury Town part of the park.
- 3.15 There has been continuing progress on surveying the trees at Barham Park, tree surgery works, and on other projects. That expenditure is included in the Trust's accounts for 2023-24 and will be included in the Trust's accounts for 2024-25.
- 3.16 Tree works: Tree surgery on a number of trees at Barham Park were completed in 2020. Subsequently there have been some follow-up and additional works. A follow-up inspection in 2024, indicates that some further works are now required.
- 3.17 Windows and exterior of the Barham Park building:  
The update on these works is detailed within the Property Updates to this Committee.
- 3.18 Events Field drainage:  
Verti-draining, a maintenance technique that introduces aeration, relieves compaction and can provide near to the surface drainage, has been introduced as a trial following some fun-fairs. Sections of a footpath near to the Sudbury Town entrance are prone to surface flooding; and drainage to take water under the path may be required.

#### **Works – other funding**

- 3.19 Queen Elizabeth II Silver Jubilee Garden: (the open courtyard on the Sudbury Town / west side of the Barham Park building). Following the completion of the hard-landscaping of this garden in early 2022, soft-landscaping (plants) were supplied and planted during the winter of 2022/23. As plants establish, the final planting is planned for the winter of 2024/25. The Community Library have planted and maintain the planting in the central 'Well' feature. There were further renovation works to coping stones of a wall of the same series nearby. This is funded with a Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy (NCIL) grant.

- 3.20 **Wooden pergola:**  
Planting of climbers for the eastern end of the rebuilt wooden pergola is planned for the winter of 2024/25. These plants will be included in the purchase ordering for the Silver Jubilee Garden projects, as agreed with the NCIL.
- 3.21 **Barham Park Walled Garden Ponds:**  
Following the earlier restoration of the two ponds in the Walled Garden, renovation continued to practically complete the works, including the re-painting of the low bow-top fencing and the renovation of benches. This is funded with a Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy grant.
- 3.22 **Trees and open woodland:**  
Bulbs were planted in grasslands below parts of the open woodland areas at Barham Park. The remaining trees are due to be planted during the winter of 2024/25. This is funded with a Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy grant.

#### **4.0 Stakeholder and ward member consultation and engagement**

- 4.1 Consultation and engagement is with Trust Committee members, Ward Councillors, tenants and the visiting public. Two walks were held with the formative Friends of Barham Park groups.

#### **5.0 Financial Considerations**

- 5.1 The financial information is summarised in the main body of the report.

#### **6.0 Legal Considerations**

- 6.1 The land (including the building) known as Barham Park was given by George Titus Barham on trust to the Council in 1938. The terms of the Trust are “*to preserve the same for the recreation of the public in such manner and subject to such regulations in all respects as the Council may from time to time think proper*”.
- 6.2 This report satisfies the requirement to undertake an annual review of how the Trust is carrying out its charitable purpose, in accordance with the Barham Park Trust Committee, Terms of reference as set out in Table 4, Part 3 of the London Borough of Brent Constitution.

#### **7.0 Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI) Considerations**

- 7.1 As this report provides a general update, there are no immediate EDI implications.
- 7.2 The operational activities of Barham Park, events and projects for Barham Park mentioned in this report will be subject to screening for equalities impacts, and where the potential for adverse impacts is identified, a full equalities impact assessment will be carried out, and any requisite mitigating action will be taken.

## **8.0 Climate Change and Environmental Considerations**

8.1 Barham Part Trust and Brent Council activities and actions within this report take into account the potential impacts on climate change, environmental considerations and the Biodiversity Duty.

## **9.0 Human Resources/Property Considerations (if appropriate)**

9.1 Property matters are considered in another report to this Committee.

## **10.0 Communication Considerations**

10.1 As per main body of the report.

### **Report Sign Off:**

***Chris Whyte***  
Director Public Realm