

WADDON PONDS MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE PLAN 2017



BACKGROUND

Waddon Ponds is a 3.09 hectare site situated within a mixed residential, retail and industrial area in London Borough of Croydon (LBC), approximately one mile from the town centre. The site is dominated by a large pond, which due its shape and bridge connections, appears to be three ponds. The park is well used as a place to meet, watch wildfowl, walk the dog, play in the children's area or use as a shortcut through to the nearby Purley Way. Until 2012, and the deculverting of the river in nearby Wandle Park, this small park offered the only opportunity to see the River Wandle in Croydon.

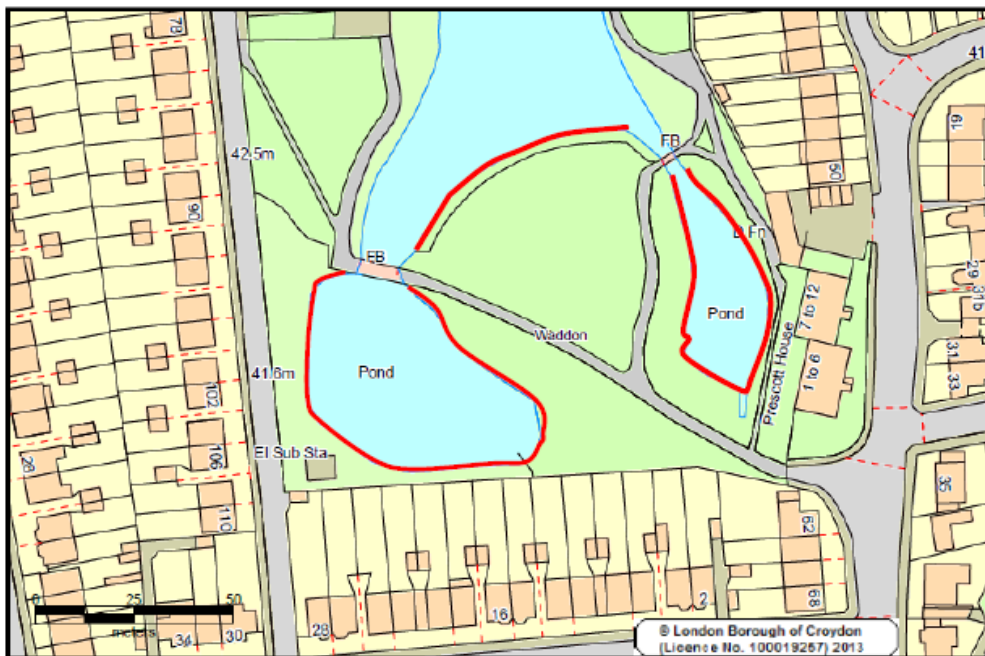
The ecological evaluation for the site was evaluated as 'Local grade' in 1997 and again in 2013. On the basis of Field Survey by Thomson Ecology it was recommended that the site met the criteria set out for Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation.

The site is managed and maintained by LBC and term contractors for grounds maintenance and facility management. The Conservation Volunteers (TCV) undertake a number of volunteer days at the site each year as per an annual work programme provided by LBC.

WADDON PONDS AND THE LIVING WANDLE LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP PROJECT

Croydon Council is a partner in a Heritage Lottery funded scheme to deliver a series of improvement projects along the whole length of the River Wandle, from its sources in Sutton and Croydon, through Merton to Wandsworth where it joins the Thames. The over-arching aim of the scheme is to reconnect local people with their river.

The project at Waddon Ponds has delivered habitat improvements to the banks around the ponds and new interpretation and directional signage to guide visitors to the site and enhance the educational value of the site.



Before the project started the majority of the banks of medium and small ponds were devoid of vegetation due to overgrazing by waterfowl. In 2014 and 2015 Ecosulis, the leading ecological consultancy and contracting company, were engaged to undertake work to enhance the pond edges with a series of edge treatments.

A total of 366m, 90% of the bank length of the two smaller ponds and the southern edge of the main pond were planted (red line on adjacent plan). The banks have been stabilised and the establishing plants are contributing to an increase in the range of habitats

In 2017 three interpretation panels were installed at the site illustrating:-

- History of the ponds and the River Wandle
- Life Around the Pond
- Birds on and around the Pond

In addition finger posts were installed in the surrounding roads to direct visitors to the site

MAINTENANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Works commenced in 2014 and to ensure the sustainability of the LWLP funded project, a 10 year management and maintenance contribution of £2,160 has been pledged. This is supported by operations that are included within the existing contracts with the Councils Term Contractors to maintain the site.

Key

- LBC – London Borough of Croydon
- ALT - Active Lifestyle Team (LBC)
- TC - Term grounds maintenance contractor
- TCV - Trust for Conservation Volunteers

What needs to be maintained / managed?	What work is involved?	Who will do this?	When and how often?	What resources are required?	Value of this?	Proof of value and agreement from delivery partner
Vegetation on pond banks	LBC officers to agree scope of works with TCV Manager to maintain the waterside planting	LBC/TCV	Autumn 2 days	TCV to arrange volunteer task days and provide all necessary tools	£2,160 over 10 years	Copy invoice Annual work programme with TCV
Vegetation on pond banks	Remove protective fencing to planting along the banks in medium and small ponds and southern bank of large pond	LBC/TC/TCV	Programme to be agreed with Streets Contract Officer	Variation Orders raised in line with grounds maintenance contract		Works below are within scope of LBC Term contractors and values cannot be broken down per operation
Vegetation on pond banks	Strimm vegetation in the autumn and remove arisings	LBC/TC	Annually	As per contract		
Banks and water kept litter free	Litter clearance and removal on banks and within the water	LBC/TC	As per contract	As per contract		

What needs to be maintained / managed?	What work is involved?	Who will do this?	When and how often?	What resources are required?	Value of this?	Proof of value and agreement from delivery partner
Ponds: reduce risk of introducing high levels of nutrients into the water	Improve water quality by encouraging public to feed wildfowl responsibly	LBC	On going	Information on signs installed on site		
Ramps/ nesting structures for smaller wildfowl	Streets contract officer to inspect ramps and nesting boxes and arrange repairs if required	LBC/TC	Annually	Streets contract officer to inspect and arrange repairs via Idverde if required		
Goose Management	Removal or control measures for eggs laid in nests on site	LBC/TC	As per contract	Within contract		
Signs	Keep clear from graffiti, dirt etc.	LBC/TC	All signs washed every three years Offensive graffiti removed within 24 hours	Within contract		
Develop Friends group	If residents express an interest in developing a group, provide support	LBC/ALT	As required	Community Conservation Partnership Officer to support		

What needs to be maintained / managed?	What work is involved?	Who will do this?	When and how often?	What resources are required?		
Information about site kept up to date	Update website as required Amend signage if information requires updating	LBC/ALT	As required	Live Well Project Manager to update website		
Monitoring and review of management and maintenance Plan	Management and maintenance plan distributed to Streets contract team and Active Lifestyle Team	LBC/ALT	Every five years			

Operations managed by London Borough of Croydon

Grounds maintenance

Paul Rest
Contract Officer, Streets
Place Department
Public Realm Offices
Stubbs Mead Depot
Factory lane
Croydon
CR0 3RL

Volunteer activities

Meike Weiser
Community Conservation Partnership Officer
Active Lifestyle Team
Place Department
6th floor, Zone D
Bernard Weatherill House
Croydon, CR0 1EA
Tel: 020 8726 6900

Plan prepared by:
Mary Ann Winterman
Senior Service Development and Policy Officer
District Centres and Regeneration
Place Department
6th floor, Zone D
Bernard Weatherill House
Croydon, CR0 1EA
Tel: 020 8726 6900
Email: maryann.winterman@croydon.gov.uk

CROYDON | Delivering
www.croydon.gov.uk for Croydon