



EXECUTIVE BOARD

Meeting to be held in Civic Hall, Leeds on
Wednesday, 13th June, 2007 at 1.00 pm

Councillors

M Harris (Chair)
R Brett
A Carter
J L Carter
R Finnigan
R Harker
P Harrand
J Procter
S Smith

MEMBERSHIP

K Wakefield
J Blake

R Finnigan

*non voting advisory member

CONFIDENTIAL AND EXEMPT ITEMS

The reason for confidentiality or exemption is stated on the agenda and on each of the reports in terms of Access to Information Procedure Rules 9.2 or 10.4(1) to (7). The number or numbers stated in the agenda and reports correspond to the reasons for exemption / confidentiality below:

9.0 Confidential information – requirement to exclude public access

9.1 The public must be excluded from meetings whenever it is likely in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings that confidential information would be disclosed. Likewise, public access to reports, background papers, and minutes will also be excluded.

9.2 Confidential information means

- (a) information given to the Council by a Government Department on terms which forbid its public disclosure or
- (b) information the disclosure of which to the public is prohibited by or under another Act or by Court Order. Generally personal information which identifies an individual, must not be disclosed under the data protection and human rights rules.

10.0 Exempt information – discretion to exclude public access

10.1 The public may be excluded from meetings whenever it is likely in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings that exempt information would be disclosed provided:

- (a) the meeting resolves so to exclude the public, and that resolution identifies the proceedings or part of the proceedings to which it applies, and
- (b) that resolution states by reference to the descriptions in Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (paragraph 10.4 below) the description of the exempt information giving rise to the exclusion of the public.
- (c) that resolution states, by reference to reasons given in a relevant report or otherwise, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

10.2 In these circumstances, public access to reports, background papers and minutes will also be excluded.

10.3 Where the meeting will determine any person's civil rights or obligations, or adversely affect their possessions, Article 6 of the Human Rights Act 1998 establishes a presumption that the meeting will be held in public unless a private hearing is necessary for one of the reasons specified in Article 6.

10.4 Exempt information means information falling within the following categories (subject to any condition):

- 1 Information relating to any individual
- 2 Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.
- 3 Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
- 4 Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or officer-holders under the authority.
- 5 Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.
- 6 Information which reveals that the authority proposes –
 - (a) to give under any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or
 - (b) to make an order or direction under any enactment
- 7 Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime

A G E N D A

Item No K=Key Decision	Ward	Item Not Open		Page No
7	Otley and Yeadon		RIVER SAFETY MANAGEMENT AT WHARFEMEADOWS PARK, MANOR PARK AND TITTYBOTTLE PARK, OTLEY To consider the attached reports and a further report to be circulated following agenda despatch.	1 - 8

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Agenda Item:

Originator: Denise Preston

Tel: 2478395

Report of the Chief Recreation Officer

Executive Board

Date: 13th June 2007

Subject: Wharfemeadows Park Water Safety, further information

Electoral Wards Affected:
Otley & Yeadon

Specific Implications For:

Ethnic minorities

Women

Disabled people

Eligible for Call In

Not Eligible for Call In
(Details contained in the report)

Executive Summary

The report contains the latest results of the consultation exercise held at the Otley Civic Hall from 8th to the 11th June. The Public were asked to comment on the various water safety measures proposed and the style and colour of any potential fence. These have been added to previous consultation results and summarized in this report.

1.0 Purpose Of This Report

1.1 To outline the findings of the public consultation held at the Otley Civic Hall between the 8th June to 11th June. The consultation exercise sought public views about the water safety measures proposed for Wharfemeadows Park including their preference for the design and colour of any potential fence. These have been added to previous consultation results and summarized in this report.

2.0 Background Information

2.1 A further consultation exercise was undertaken at the Otley Civic Hall from the 8th to 11th June in addition the public meeting held on the 10th May. As part of this consultation exercise the Wharfemeadows Park Water Safety Project Questionnaire & Comments Form plus plan (Appendix 1) was again distributed. Questions 1 to 9 asked the public to respond about the various elements that make up the proposed safety measures and question 10 and 11 asked for comments on the design and colour of any potential fence.

2.2 The display used at the Otley Civic Hall was similar to that used in the public meeting on the 10th May but included the following additional information: -

- Issues which have been addressed because of public concern
- Options considered and discounted
- The overall of the safety fence is being reduced to 1metre
- 10 different designs/choices of safety fence.

3.0 Conclusion

3.1 The number of forms completed and returned for the consultation on the 8th to the 11th June was 41. These results have been added to the 142 responses obtained from the public meeting on the 10th May. Details of the results are contained in Appendix 2. The findings are as follows: -

- The public were generally responsive (157 Yes; 18 No) to warning signs advising against using the River Wharfe for recreational purposes.
- The repair of the embankment steps (Section B-A) and not fencing off this facility was considered acceptable by most respondents (165 Yes; 7 No).
- The erection of any form of safety fencing was for the most part considered unacceptable as evinced for Section A-B (12 Yes; 160 No), Section F-G (19 Yes; 148 No) and Section H-I (21 No;151 Yes).
- In the region of the weir (Section C-D, 52 Yes; 114 No) and near the playground (Section D-E, 76 Yes; 94 No) there was a greater number of respondents considering the erection of a fence as an acceptable safety measure. This was because of the height of the embankment near the weir and to stop children accessing the river which is very close to the playground.
- Utilising the bank vegetation as a safety barrier to the water's edge was deemed fairly acceptable by respondents for the eastern end of Wharfemeadows Park (section E-F, 73 No;97 Yes) and Manor Park (section G-H, 64 Yes;102 No).

3.2 Out of the 43 respondents consulted on the 8th to 11th June, 27 commented on the style and colour of the fence. 44% of commenting respondents chose the Broxap BX07 4217 Newchapel fence design (Appendix 3) and 44% went for black as the preferred colour. Although there were 10 designs to choose between and an open colour choice, the selection of other options never exceeded the 7% level.

4.0 Recommendations

4.1 It is recommended that the scheme to erect signage and to fence parts of the Parks adjacent to the River Wharfe as detailed on the report of the 13th June and detailed graphically in Appendix 4 of the 16th May report be implemented taking into consideration the choice of style and colour of fence.

Appendix 1

WHARFEMEADOWS PARK WATER SAFETY PROJECT

QUESTIONNAIRE & COMMENTS FORM

The project includes the following sites: -

Wharfemeadows Park • Titty Bottle Park • Manor Garth Park

Please put a tick in the appropriate **yes** or **no** box regarding your thoughts on the following proposals for water safety measures: -

	Question	Yes	No
1	The installation of appropriate signage in all three parks informing visitors about the dangers associated with the moving water of the River Wharfe.		
2	Erect an ornamental bow top fence on top of the bank wall that runs from Otley Bridge to the steps in Wharfemeadows Park (A – B on the map).		
3	Keep the step area open for public access, undertake essential step repair and install appropriate warning signage for these steps. In Wharfemeadows Park (B – C on the map).		
4	Erect an ornamental bow top fence on top of the bank wall that runs from the steps to the footbridge that spans the stream called Holbeck in Wharfemeadows Park(C – D on the map).		
5	Extend the existing bow top fence by the playground to a point in line with where the access path from Farnley Lane meets the riverside path in Wharfemeadows Park(D – E on the map).		
6	Increase the density of the bankside vegetation in Wharfemeadows Park and ensure its width is at least 2m in thickness. Plantings to be done in a manner that retains existing views of the river (E – F on the map).		
7	Erect a short length of bow top fencing between the bankside vegetation and the River Wharfe footbridge in Wharfemeadows Park. This fence will also extend along the west side of the footbridge (F – G on the map)		
8	Increase the density of the bankside vegetation that runs from the Lodge garden wall to the west end of Manor Garth Park (G – H on the map) and ensure its width is at least 2m in thickness. Plantings to be done in a manner that retains existing views of the river.		
9	Erect an ornamental bow top fence on top of the bank wall that runs from the Otley Bridge to the east end of Titty Bottle Park (H – I on the map)		
10	Preferred style of fence. Please put the relevant letter in the box that refers to the style you are recommending (A to J)		
11	Please state the preferred colour of the fence		

Your comments on the above proposals: -

Please complete the questionnaire and deposit in the box provided. This box will remain in the Civic Hall until the morning of June 13th.

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APPENDIX 2

WHARFEMEADOWS PARK WATER SAFETY PROJECT

QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS

The project includes the following sites:

Wharfemeadows Park • Titty Bottle Park • Manor Park

	Question	Yes	No
1	The installation of appropriate signage in all three parks informing visitors about the dangers associated with the moving water of the River Wharfe.	157	18
2	Erect an ornamental bow top fence on top of the bank wall that runs from Otley Bridge to the steps in Wharfemeadows Park (A – B on the map)	12	160
3	Keep the step area open for public access, undertake essential step repair and install appropriate warning signage for these steps. In Wharfemeadows Park (B – C on the map).	165	7
4	Erect an ornamental bow top fence on top of the bank wall that runs from the steps to the footbridge that spans the stream called Holbeck in Wharfemeadows Park (C – D on the map)	52	114
5	Extend the existing bow top fence by the playground to a point in line with where the access path from Farnley Lane meets with riverside path in Wharfemeadows Park (D - E on the map)	76	94
6	Increase the density of the bankside vegetation in Wharfemeadows Park and ensure its width is at least 2m in thickness. Plantings to be done in a manner that retains existing views of the river (E – F on the map)	73	97
7	Erect a short length of bow top fencing between the bankside vegetation and the River Wharfe footbridge in Wharfemeadows Park. This fence will also extend along the west side of the footbridge (F –G on the map)	19	148
8	Increase the density of the bankside vegetation that runs from the Lodge garden wall to the west end of Manor Park (G – H on the map) and ensure its width is at least 2m in thickness. Planting to be done in a manner that retains existing views of the river.	64	102
9	Erect an ornamental bow top fence on top of the bank wall that runs from the Otley Bridge to the east end of Titty Bottle Park (H – I on the map)	21	151

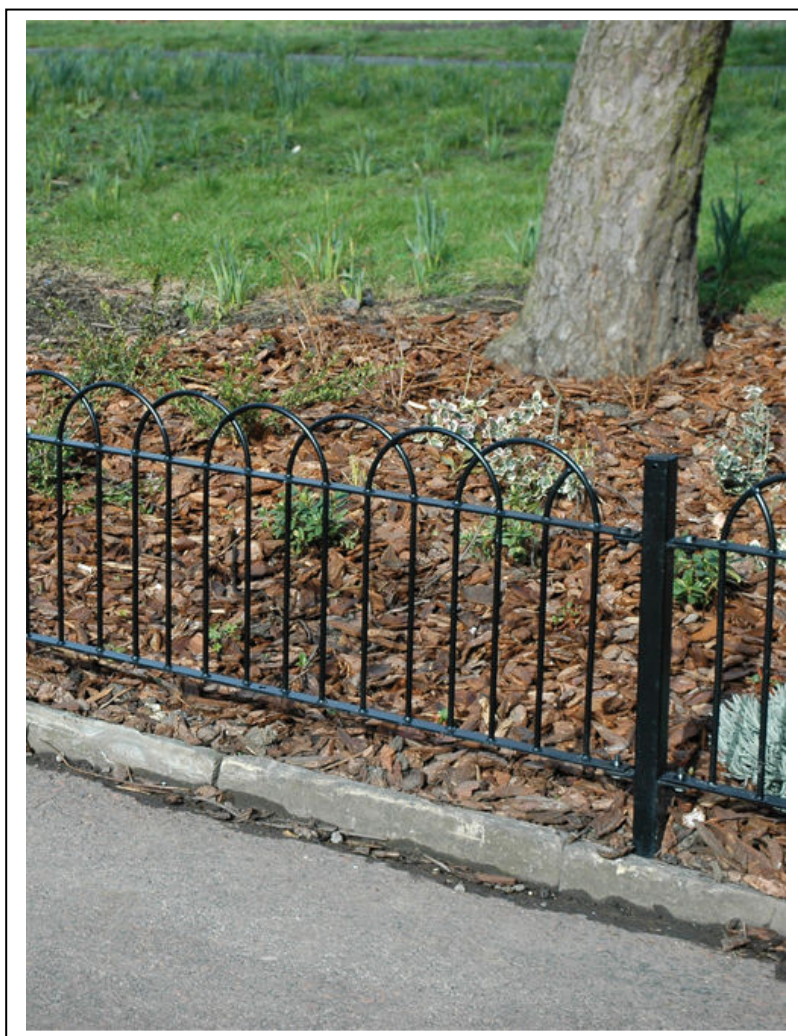
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APPENDIX 3

Design and Colour of Preferred Fencing System

Following public consultation the following design was considered the most suitable amongst the 43 respondents. In addition black was deemed the best colour for the fence bearing it's location: -

Broxap BX07 4217 Newchapel fence



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