



Middleton Park SAG
 Wednesday 21st September 2011
 10.00pm
 Conference Room
 Dewsbury Road One Stop Centre

ATTENDANCE	
Councillor Adam Ogilvie (Chair)	Ward Councillor
Councillor Geoff Driver	Ward Councillor
Councillor Kim Groves	Ward Councillor
Councillor Jack Dunn	Ward Councillor
Sean Flesher	Parks & Countryside
Kris Nenadic	Parks & Countryside
Graeme Ashton	Parks & Countryside
Peter Marshall	Sir George Martin Trust
Nick Rose	Friends of Middleton Park
Martin Gresswell	LCC Development Department
Joanne Hainsworth	Middleton Cluster Manager
Shaid Mahmood	Area Leader
Gavin Forster	Area Management Team

1.0	Welcome and Introductions	ACTION
1.1	Everyone was welcomed and introductions were made.	
2.0	Apologies	
2.1	Anne Chadwick,	
3.0	Background Information	
3.1	Cllr Ogilvie gave a overview of the ongoing improvements to the park.	
3.2	This group has been setup to look at the strategic role of the park in the City. People from all over the city use the likes of Roundhay and Golden Acre parks for a range of activities, Middleton should be seen in the same light and be able to be marketed as part of the main portfolio. The links to the John Charles Centre for Sport could be a key selling point to promote the park.	
3.3	The aim of this group is to allow the park to function more effectively and provide the necessary infrastructure to encourage partner agencies to run their own events in conjunction with Parks staff.	
4.0	Function & Operating Principles	
4.1	The proposal is for the SAG meeting to continue past the life of the Middleton Park Project board to support the work initiated within the capital works. The role of the Estate officer within the timescale of the capital works is to promote the park and its activities to the local communities to increase visitor numbers. This group will support the Estate Officer and break any barriers to delivery of successful	

	schemes.	
4.2	The group will meet every two months with actions being driven forward between meetings.	
4.3	The terms of reference will be short but adaptable to the changes required to move projects forward.	
4.4	Need to look at the wording of the purpose. 'Offer access' to may need to include 'safe'. The aspect of safety provoked discussion in to some of the ways that the park improvements will address this issue, through the design of the project, CCTV and over all infrastructure.	
4.5	Under the function it currently says 'influence delivery' this should be changed to include the acknowledgement of other services providing their own events and not just helping P&C to run more.	
4.6	GF to make the necessary amendments	GF
4.7	Discussions continued around the work around the park: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P&C are funding the Estate Officer to provide added value to the project and bring in more projects to enhance the engagement with local people • The new gardener for the completed site will be employed from the local community. • If people are living in Hunslet for example how would they get to an event? The transport infrastructure is not currently in place to establish the park as a stop off point. This topic will be highlighted as an action to be taken forward by this group. • Parking is an issue with regards to large events. This could be looked at in conjunction with local businesses to use their car parks on weekends. • Signage and a website will form part of the strategy to engage with local people but more ideas are needed to widen the engagement net. • Walking trails in a similar vein to West Leeds Country park are being investigated. This work would map the neighbouring greenspaces in the south of the city and create walkways and linkages between communities. • The current heritage trail on site is in need of maintenance as it could be a key location for attracting visitors • With all of the events being run by P&C and the Friends of Middleton Park, there are more events running and being planned that in any of the other parks in the city. 	
5.0	Membership review	
5.1	Discussions took place around appropriate membership and the following changes were suggested: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to the potential links with businesses, Leeds Ahead to find local business representatives to be on the group • Members felt it was appropriate to have a representative from each of the three Inner South wards to try and engage more effectively with estates in Hunslet etc. • With the park being key to two clusters Maggie Hartley should also be invited from the JESS cluster • A link to young people is needed but due to the HUB trying to secure visitors itself it maybe more appropriate to link with 	GF

	<p>someone covering the generic youth work provision.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The close proximity and clear links that can be made to the John Charles Centre, a representative would be useful to the group. • Gerry Shevlin to act as the link for the Community Safety aspects along with the tasking arrangements. • With the changes ongoing around the development of the SLA, Tom Smith would be a useful link to provide support in the clearing of rubbish etc in the neighbouring streets • Other groups that need to be involved by not necessarily on the group would be the likes of: Hunslet Club (including fishing links), Middleton Equestrian centre, 	
6.0	Programme update	
	Appendix 1 covers the current programme of ongoing works.	
7.0	Barriers to Progress	
	<p>This groups focus is maximising the impact of the park, this means any issues restricting either projects or promotion of the park can be highlighted and addressed.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Links to Extended services clusters – with the current changes contacts need to be made to effectively link with all of the clusters in the south of the city. This could be through cluster managers but discussions will be needed. 2) Transport – Middleton Park isn't currently being highlighted as a venue on buses and various other positive changes could be made to help access to the park 3) Safety concerns – this wider than the infrastructure of the park including the likes of local policing and overall perception changes. 4) Expand links to the John Charles Centre for sport – this link could prove to be key to engaging with a wider sporting audience with the likes of running and walking routes. 	ALL
8.0	AOB	
	Very important to include the industrial archaeology of the area in future plans there is great potential in the wealth of history in the park. P&C confirmed that this would be included and already works around the horse gin and the holt will form part of the capital works.	
9.0	Date of Future Meetings	
9.1	<p>Future meeting dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 23rd November 10.00 at Dewsbury Road One Stop Centre. 	