

NORTHALA FIELDS

Heart of the countryside park won't cost the earth

December 2006 - Newsletter #8

This exciting and visually stunning new 18 hectare park will open in summer next year and provide the final piece in the creation of the Northolt and Greenford Countryside Park (NGCP). The park, called Northala Fields, will include 6 fishing lakes, a model boating lake, amphitheatre, spiral mound walkway, a range of natural meadow areas and formal/informal playareas, to name a few.

The park will play an essential role in connecting existing facilities and features within the Countryside Park (see right) and providing new recreational, social, cultural and sporting opportunities for park users to enjoy.



Below: Northolt and Greenford Countryside Park with Northala Fields in the centre.

Mounds complete

By November 2006 approximately 60,000 truck loads of waste (uncontaminated material) had been deposited to create the 4 mounds at Northala Fields. Material importation has recently concentrated on the two western mounds nearest to the Target Roundabout. Only a few hundred lorry loads of material remains to be imported and the 'tip' will be closed by Christmas. Once the mounds are at finished level they are topdressed with subsoil, to enable wild meadow flowers to establish and give each mound its own character and identity. Mounds 3 and 4 were seeded over summer and both showing signs of growth.



Below: Artist impression of Northala Fields.



Above: Vandalism of stockpiled recycled plastic edging in early November, costing the contractor a £23k insurance claim.

Below: Creation of Kensington Road entrance with Mounds 3 & 4 behind.



Additional works

Northala Fields has not cost the council anything, and has even generated an extra £408,000 surplus from charging contractors to tip their waste to create the mounds. Recent months have seen a lively debate in the local media about what to do with this surplus, with some claiming that it should be spent elsewhere in the borough.

A report presented to the November Northala Fields Steering Group meeting, recommended that the surplus be allocated as outlined below: (A Portfolio Holder Decision will confirm this spend allocation)

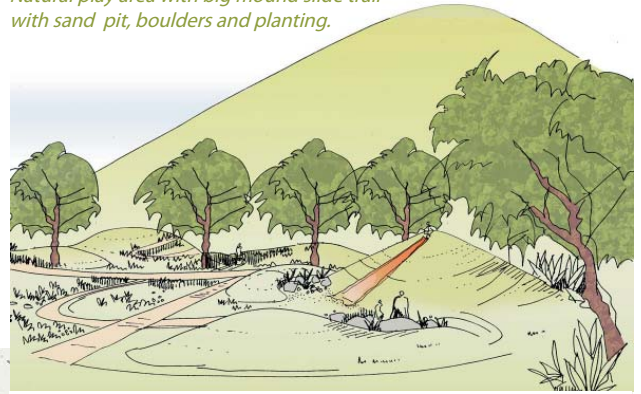
- Fishing Bailiff Office and Public Toilets - £163,000
- Play Provision - £80,000
- Focal Core area in the centre of the park - £140,000 (turn over for concept plan of area)
- Park signage enhancements - £38,000
- Fencing - £10,000
- CCTV in carparks - £10,000
- Fees for the design and supervision - £37,000

Focal Core Concept Plan

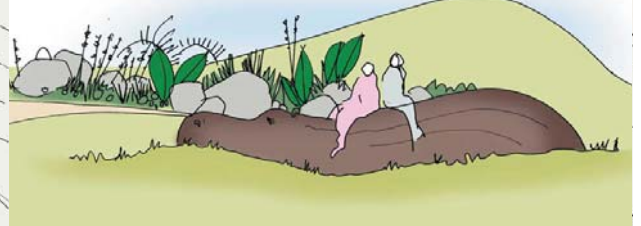
A revised design concept for the focal core area has been developed by the project Landscape Architects, LDA Design. The focal core area is located south of Mounds 1 and 2 and north of the 6 fishing lakes.

The focal core landscape works will be implemented by CJ Pryors and Swift Landscapes, as an extension to their current contract. The works will take place in the new year in time for the park to open in summer 2007.

Natural play area with big mound slide trail with sand pit, boulders and planting.



Natural play area with timber tree trunk carved 'Hippos' within a dish grass 'watering hole'.



Further project information:

For more information or to raise any concerns please phone: **0208 836 3961**

This is the site office compound phone number and is accessible during working hours. After hours please phone and leave a message and we will contact you as soon as possible.

Christmas shut down

The site will be closed during the Christmas period from the 22nd December until the 8th January 2007. We would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

