

Saughton Park and Gardens

Restoration Project



BRING BACK THE BANDSTAND

Fundraising Campaign Information Pack

Issue 14 September 2015



Saughton Park Project – Bring Back the Bandstand

We want to restore the wonderful Saughton Park to its former glory and we need your help.

Saughton Park is a hidden gem in the south-west of Edinburgh with an important cultural heritage. Home of the great Scottish National Exhibition in 1908 which attracted crowds in excess of 3.5 million people over six months, it has since been providing fantastic gardens, sports and play facilities for all to enjoy.

Although the gardeners maintain the park to high standards, vandalism and insufficient capital investment has seen a decline in the park's facilities. We need to act now to restore the park's important heritage features and revitalise the park for this and future generations to enjoy.

While we have plans to improve the whole park and have identified where the majority of the funding is coming from, we do have a shortfall of £200,000. We need your help to raise this final amount and the part of the project we need your help with focuses on bringing the historic bandstand, which is currently in storage, back to life.



Why it's a great idea

The Saughton Bandstand is a Lion Foundry of Kilwinning No.23 Model and being one of only five of this type left in the entire world it is of national significance and will be the only cast iron band stand in Edinburgh. Locally, it is firmly embedded in the hearts and minds of generations of Saughton Park users and to bring it back into the park and into use would be hugely popular.

A bandstand in a park taps deeply into the psyche and resonates with lazy, hazy summer days and nostalgic notions of more gentle halcyon times which are especially welcome in the modern fast paced world that exists outside park walls. A bandstand's form and shape fulfils in our mind many things; it is a temple of entertainment and spectacle, it enables association and shared experience and it reminds us implicitly of our past and common heritage.



The bandstand is dismantled and in storage at the moment. Restoring and reintroducing the bandstand into Saughton Park will enable a myriad of new possibilities and it will become a cultural beacon of music and the performing arts in the park, bringing vibrancy, life and joy. In restoring our bandstand we will save for the nation an iconic link with the engineering and social prowess of the Edwardian age and its relevance to people, which still echoes down the years.

With the help of the whole community, residents and business alike, we can restore the park back to its former glory and bring this wonderful historic bandstand back into use.

As a thank you for your contribution your name will be included within art work around the bandstand. We will tell the story of how the community came together to bring the bandstand back to life along with your names and any organisational logos on park signage.

You will also receive an exclusive invitation to celebrate the restoration of the bandstand in style. The party will include live music, dance, bubbly and canapés served around the newly revitalised structure.

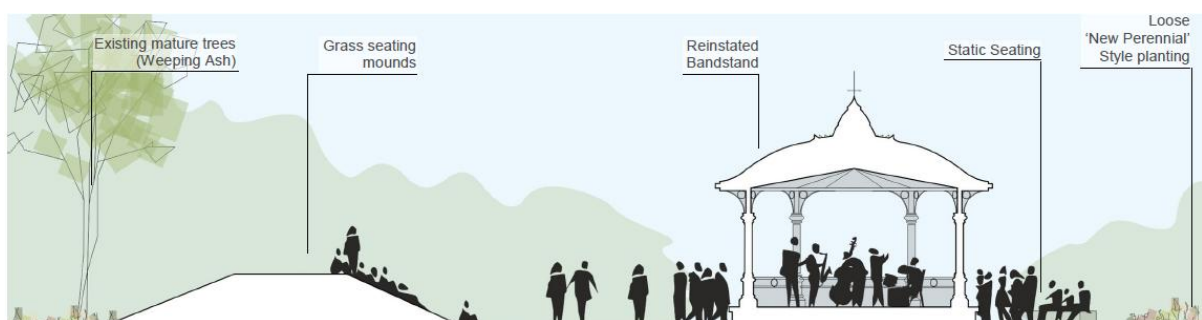
Working in partnership

The City of Edinburgh Council is working in partnership with the Royal Caledonian Horticulture Society and the Friends of Saughton Park to develop the plans for the park and raise the necessary funding required to deliver the restoration and improvement works required.

What we'll do

For the new bandstand garden:

- Restore the bandstand back to its former glory in a new location in the walled gardens;
- Incorporate art work and interpretation which tells the story of the bandstand and of the people who helped to fund its restoration;
- Create a new spectator space around the bandstand with seating capacity of 150;
- Create a mix of flat and mounded grass areas for spectators to use;
- Develop a new planting scheme to provide an attractive backdrop for bandstand performances; and
- Develop an exciting, inclusive and vibrant bandstand programme with opportunities for new, youth, voluntary and community groups to play to audiences.



For the rest of the park we will:

- Restore the winter garden and walled garden compartments;
- Restore the stables as a volunteer base and community venue;
- Build a new cafe and public toilets;
- Conserve and/or bring into active management all trees, woodlands and hedges and improve biodiversity across the site;
- Repair and/or install furniture, lighting, paths and signage;
- Improve entrances and parking facilities and create better links within the different zones and wider neighbourhood;
- Improve sports pitches and develop circuits for walking, running and health activities;
- Install a new micro-hydro scheme and ground source heating system to provide carbon neutral energy for the park;
- Put management and maintenance regimes in place to ensure the park achieves Green Flag status; and
- Develop a full programme of events and activities which meets the needs and interests of a wide range of park users and offers volunteer and learning opportunities for all.



Benefits

Music brings people together and bridges divides, and it follows that music in the park is an enabler of community cohesion through shared enjoyment.

Bringing the bandstand back to Saughton Park will attract a new and more diverse range of people into the park as it will become the focus for a new generation of music and arts lovers of all ages. We already plan to have a wide ranging programme of musical, theatrical and cultural events aimed at bringing people to the park and thus enabling them to discover for themselves the pleasure that such a beautiful park offers.

All evidence shows that by just being in a garden, surrounded by the sights, smells and sound of the outdoors has a greatly beneficial effect on people and our intention is that Saughton Park will magnify this effect and be a social space which not only engenders calm and peace but also inspires and excites.



The wider plans will also bring about significant benefits to individuals, the local community and the City of Edinburgh. Improved access, better facilities and the introduction of a Changing Places toilet facility with changing table and hoist for people with disabilities will make the park and gardens an exemplar for inclusive design. Events, markets and activities will bring vibrancy to the local area and attract visitors from further afield thus benefiting the local economy.

People will be able to learn more about the park's important cultural heritage and get involved with the management of their local park. There will be improved opportunities for people to get active and join in with Park Run and Health Walks.



Who benefits

There are around 24,000 people who live within 1km of Saughton Park and Gardens with 667,000 living within 30 minutes drive and a further 1.87 million living within day-trip distance. There are around 430,000 annual visits to Saughton Park and Gardens but only a third of these ever venture into the Walled Gardens. Visitor numbers are expected to increase by over 100% once all the works are complete so more people will be able to enjoy this beautiful park.

Saughton Park and Gardens is located within 1km of three areas which are regarded as being in the 20% most deprived in the UK. The local catchment, compared to the rest of Edinburgh, has a higher percentage of people with long-term illness and lower percentage of car ownership. It also has a higher percentage of economically active people and minority ethnic people.

Saughton Park will be a source of pride for the local community, and act as a focal point for community life. Increased visitor numbers and a vibrant events and activities programme will invigorate the local neighbourhood and the wider city.



How we'll get it done

The City of Edinburgh Council has been successful in a first round Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) bid application which gave us a grant to develop proposals which we have used to support a second and final round bid application which was submitted on 31 August 2015.

The total cost to deliver these improvements is £5.3 million and our HLF bid is for £3.8 million, which is 71% of the overall costs. As the grant process is competitive it's important that we secure the 29% matched funding we need.

The City of Edinburgh Council will be contributing £0.899m capital funding and £313,000 revenue funding over five years. Volunteers will provide in-kind contributions valued at £114,850. This leaves us with a minimum of £200,000 to raise - which we will dedicate to bringing back the bandstand - and this is where we need your help.

We will be asking other grant funders to contribute, as well as the whole community who may include not just residents but also school, college and university students, community and voluntary groups and businesses. Your support is invaluable and it does not matter how little you can contribute as every little helps and together we can do it.

How you can help

Individuals, groups and smaller businesses can simply donate using the MyParkScotland web site. Or they can give a cheque or cash to the Friends of Saughton Park who will register the donation.

For larger businesses and corporate organisations we would be interested to discussing ways you might support this project and play a role in protecting this valuable civic and horticultural asset for future generations to enjoy.

You can contribute to the 'Bring back the Bandstand' campaign or you might be interested in supporting other aspects of the project such as restoring the Winter Gardens or redeveloping the derelict stables as a new Community Venue. You might want to contribute to the outdoor gym or one of the green energy solutions planned. Or perhaps you would be more interested in supporting the Opening Event in 2018 or helping with volunteer training. You could give a one off donation or spread it over the five years of the project.

In addition to acknowledging your contribution in artwork, signage and other printed material, for more significant contributions you might wish to have naming rights for a particular aspect of the park for an agreed period or use the park in your advertising.

The costs

HLF Grant	3,799m	71%
City of Edinburgh Council	1.212m	23%
Volunteers time in-kind contributions	114,850	2%
Bring back the Bandstand Fundraising	200,000	4%
Total Project Costs	5.326m	100%

The timetable

Feasibility Stage – Jan 2012 to Feb 2013	
Jan 2012 to Jan 2013	Preparation of HLF 1 st round bid application
Feb 2013 to Jul 2013	Submission of HLF 1 st round bid application and receive decision in July
Development Stage – Aug 2013 to Jul 2015	
Feb 2014	Appointment of Project Manager and Development Officer
Aug 2014	Appointment of Design Team
Feb 2014 to Oct 2014	Engagement Activities with stakeholders to develop proposals
Mar 2014 to May 2015	Design and Activity Plan Development
Dec 2014 to Mar 2015	Public Consultation & Engagement on Master Plan
Apr 2015 to Aug 2015	Prepare for HLF 2 nd round bid application
Sep 2015 to Dec 2015	Submit HLF 2 nd round bid application and received decision in January 2016
Delivery Phase – Jan 2016 to Aug 2018	
Jan 2016 to Feb 2017	Technical designs, tender documents and procurement of build contractors
Feb 2017 to Aug 2018	Construction Phase
Aug 2018 onwards	Park re-opens

Find out more

You can find out more about the project and view the full the master plan proposals on our website www.edinburgh.gov.uk/saughtonpark.

You can donate directly via the myparkscotland web site www.mypark.scot/projects/bring-back-the-bandstand-at-saughton-park

You can make cash or cheque donations directly to the Friends of Saughton Park www.friendsofsaughtonpark.org

Contact Details

Please contact us to discuss options:

General Queries

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