



REVITALISE Saughton Park

NEWSLETTER

Issue 10 : Mar 2016

Spring is finally here and the park is looking great. We have been busy getting the project re-started following the great news about our HLF funding, and developing outline proposals for the playground at Saughton Park. Read on to find out more.

PLAYTIME AT SAUGHTON

We have been working with Ironside Farrar Ltd to develop concept proposals for the Saughton Park Playground.



Jumping & See-saws

Spinning & Roundabouts

Double Cable Ride

Swinging & Movement

Climbing & Balance

Sensory

Water & Sand

Legend:

- PLANTING BEDS & PLANTERS: Planting to accord with wider planting proposals for the Walled Garden.
- WOOD BENCHES: Part of wood planters.
- PICNIC TABLES
- INDICATIVE EQUIPMENT
- EXISTING TREES (to be retained)
- PROPOSED TREES

Scale: 1:250 | IronsideFarrar

Play Area Concept Layout Saughton Park Play

During the public consultation on the whole park last year, many of you gave us your views on the playground. Just over half (58.2%) of you who took part believed the playground was good or very good meaning that just under half of you felt the playground was below par. Three quarters of respondents (76.7%) felt that the playground should be enlarged. Some of your suggestions included facilities for children with disabilities, greater provision for under 5's and more adventurous play and natural play.

Taking your feedback into account we have developed outline proposals which aim to provide enhanced play opportunities for children of different ages and abilities, with a strong focus on making the playground more inclusive and accessible for all to enjoy.

The proposals include an accessible path system to make it easier for pushing baby buggies and for those in wheelchairs or who experience mobility difficulties. Certain wheelchair accessible equipment, such as see-saws, trampolines, roundabouts and sand tables, and equipment which can be used by children who require a bit more help, such as basket swings, boat swings and Dutch discs, have been included to ensure that children of differing abilities and needs can play and have fun together.

Musical and other sensory equipment will delight everyone while mounding, bridges and tunnels will provide a sense of adventure and exploration for children. Sand and water play will add to the sensory experience and equipment such as trampolines, spinning bowls and jumping springs will add extra fun and laughter.

Toddlers will have 'mini' units and bigger kids will be able to climb, swing and spin higher and faster ...and scare themselves silly!! Benches, flowers, trees, picnic areas and a planted windbreak will benefit everyone and we're sure will be much appreciated by the adults!!

You can view a large version of the proposals on www.edinburgh.gov.uk/saughtonpark.

Funding needs to be secured for making these improvements and bid applications will be prepared once the designs have been finalised and costed. But first, we need your feedback to allow us to complete the proposals.

YOUR VIEWS ARE IMPORTANT

Between Tuesday 22 March and Sunday 10 April park users can give their views on the concept proposals for the playground at Saughton Park. You can do so in a number of ways:

- ◆ View the outline concept design and complete a questionnaire online on www.edinburgh.gov.uk/saughtonpark.
- ◆ Attend one of the staffed events in the Winter Garden where you can view the outline concept design, speak to project staff and volunteers and complete a paper questionnaire:
 - Thursday 24 March 2.30 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.
 - Saturday 26 March 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
 - Tuesday 29 March 2.30 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.
 - Friday 1 April 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
 - Wednesday 6 April 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
- ◆ View the outline concept design and complete a paper survey in the Winter Garden between Tuesday 22 March and Sunday 10 April. Opening hours vary so check park notice boards for details.

COME ALONG AND HAVE FUN

Come along to the Great Saughton Easter Bear Hunt this Saturday 26 March between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. in the Winter Garden.

It's only £1 per family and there will be Easter fun craft activities and refreshment can be purchased at the Friends of Saughton Park pop-up tea room. You'll also be able to view the playground proposals, speak to staff and volunteers about the plans and give your feedback.

In addition to this, Pete and the Friends of Saughton Park have been busy planning for the year ahead. More details to follow but here are some dates for your diary:

- ◆ [Dads Rock](#) 'Growing Kids' course will run on Fridays from 29 April between 2 p.m. and 3.30 p.m.
- ◆ [Friends of the Saughton Park](#) will be running another 'Saughton Park Garden Party' on Saturday 21 May between 12 noon and 4 p.m. Enjoy music, children's activities and pop-up café!
- ◆ 'Saturday Tango Teas' will be starting in June between 12 noon and 4 p.m. in the Winter Garden Conservatory. Learn tango, and have tea and cake!
- ◆ The 'Green Welly' healthy lifestyles project for families run by [Health All Round](#) returns in the first week in July.
- ◆ '[The Tent](#)' summer event returns to Saughton Park in July.

MAKING THE WALLS SAFE

Over the next few weeks you'll notice work taking place around the Walled Garden. This is to repair and make safe the historic walls. You may have noticed that ivy has already been removed to allow the walls to be assessed.

The work involved will include removing a sycamore tree from the corner of the walled garden where the tree roots are making the walls unstable. Separate to this, one of the limes in this area of the garden is diseased and has to be removed. It is intended that new limes will be planted to replace this and the sycamore.

More tree works will be taking place around the park to remove diseased trees and a few poor quality trees which will improve sight lines and increase the biodiversity of the understory. Maintenance will include crown lifting and shrub clearance to open up views and allow more light to get in.



The Great Saughton Bears!

CONTACT THE FRIENDS

The Friends of Saughton Park welcomes new members.

Visit their website www.friendsofsaughtonpark.org

Email friendsofsaughtonpark@gmail.com

Join their Facebook page www.facebook.com/groups/FofSP/



Garden Party last May.



Limes in fully glory last summer.

CONTACT US

Interested in these or any other volunteering activities?

Find out more at www.edinburgh.gov.uk/saughtonpark

Email us at parks@edinburgh.gov.uk or call 0131 608 1100



Witch Hazel in bloom right now.

PARKS FOR PEOPLE

Find out more about the Heritage Lottery Fund 'Parks for People' programme on their website www.hlf.org.uk.

THE STORY OF SAUGHTON

We are just in the process of tendering for heritage professionals who will run the Oral History Project and help to develop the park's interpretation.

As soon as they have been appointed we'll be able to confirm the dates of the various events and activities. This will include a number of reminiscence workshops, so if you have any old photos, films and other memorabilia tucked away at home, now is the time to dig them out.

We are still recruiting for volunteers to take part in these exciting projects, so if you are interested and have not yet registered, please contact Pete as soon as possible.

We'll provide much more news about this our next Newsletter.

BLOOMING SPRING

That's all for this newsletter. If you've got or look after kids, please have a look at the concept proposals for the playground and give us your feedback. Next time we'll have more information about the People's History project.

All that's left is to wish you all a very Happy Easter. Enjoy yourselves over the long weekend and enjoy the lovely spring flowers.

All the best
Linda and Pete