



Public Consultation

We wish to invite you to review and comment on our proposals to prepare and submit a planning application within the Park for a new drainage pipeline, and the creation of a new woodland, as shown on the attached plan. We have summarised the scheme as follows:

- The new pipeline will provide a foul and surface water drainage pipe to serve the new and approved residential development on Nell Lane;
- The foul water will enter into the United Utilities system which runs through the Park and has their agreement;
- Surface Water will be discharged into the River Lostock within the Park and the scheme has support from the Environment Agency;
- The creation of the pipeline will cross Green Belt land but is accepted as appropriate development within the Green Belt within the Government's National Planning Policy Framework. There is therefore a policy presumption in favour of the scheme;
- The site is not a Biological Heritage Site, and the adjacent land which carries this local designation will be unaffected by the development;
- The pipeline will not be visible within the Park once works are completed;
- The development will result in the loss of a small number of existing immature and self-seeded trees and a portion of an existing hedgerow on site. However, our arboricultural experts are satisfied that these trees and hedgerow offer limited value to the Park;
- The development avoids a veteran oak tree and large mature trees;
- The development secures the provision of 20 new trees close to Shady Lane to compensate for the trees and hedgerow identified for removal;
- The development also secures an area of some 1,788 sqm within the Park for the creation of a new woodland adjacent to Ice House Woods;
- The new woodland will allow the planting of approximately 1,800 trees, which will not only enhance the visual appearance of the Park, but will also create significant environmental benefit and attract wildlife;
- The financial package that the Trust has secured to secure the development of the pipeline will allow us to invest in the infrastructure of the Park, to improve maintenance, site management and enhance our ability to offer events within the Park to the benefit of the wider local community. Such investment is vital given the loss of fundraising and Café income

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during the Coronavirus outbreak which has hit our budgets hard, and threatens our ability to provide a safe and pleasant greenspace for our community.

We accept that these proposals, which will be shortly submitted to Chorley Borough Council as a planning application, represent change within the Park. However, given that the works once completed will not be visible, and the wider benefits to be achieved through the scheme including significant on site planting and long term investment within the Park, we are hopeful that supporters of Cuerden Valley Park and our regular visitors who value this fantastic local facility will be willing to support our aspirations.

If you have any comments or questions on the proposed development these can be forwarded to our planning consultants Leith Planning Ltd at comments@theleithgroup.co.uk. We are keeping this consultation event open from Friday 7th May until 4pm on Sunday 16th May. All comments received in advance of the deadline will be reviewed and responded to, and we very much hope you will be able to support our proposals.

Many thanks for taking the time to review these proposals and to participate in our consultation event.

Yours faithfully

Mr Simon Thorpe
General Manager

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