

Stanmer Park Restoration Project: Update 3, June 2019

Construction work starting

Buxton Building Contractors Ltd have been appointed to deliver the restoration works, following a formal procurement process.

Preparatory site activities started on 3 June. Full works will get underway on 24 June 2019.

Construction work will begin in the Walled Garden area.

Buxton Building has extensive experience in working with listed and historic buildings and landscapes.

We are working with the company to ensure work is phased wherever possible to ensure that disruption to park visitors, residents and others - including temporary or short-term closures of certain areas for safety reasons - is kept to a minimum.

Together with Buxton Building, we will be using a variety of methods to keep people informed while work is in progress. This includes these newsletters, our [restoration project webpage](#), [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#), and updates in Stanmer Tea Rooms and at [Stanmer House](#). Buxton Building will also erect its own information signage with key contact numbers for any construction enquiries.

- **More information about Buxton Building Contractors - www.buxtonbuilding.co.uk**

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Plans for the Walled Garden, by Plumpton College

James Hibbert, Deputy Principal, Plumpton College says:

"We are delighted to be part of the Stanmer Park Restoration Project and to give an update on the restoration of the Walled Garden - and how we plan to use the space to create an attractive new facility providing enhanced learning, education and enjoyment for park visitors and students alike.

The formal planted area of the Walled Garden has been designed by renowned landscape architect Dominic Cole. We are already busy growing plants to fill this space.

The garden itself will be free to enter, and our aim is to involve the community both in the initial planting and its ongoing development.

We expect the gardens to host a number of events, and we'll have a farm shop and cafe. The shop will include produce from Plumpton Estate and feature plants from the formal gardens. The plants will be available to buy.

The café will have food from local artisan producers; you can enjoy refreshments there while looking across the formal lawns.

The educational campus, which will include a number of new classrooms, is

being relocated to sit just behind the Walled Garden. Students will be able to access the gardens for their studies and will maintain the space. We expect to be moving into the new classrooms later in the academic year.

We've been overseeing the Walled Garden area's clearance and will continue to visually capture its transformation so we can create an interesting timeline story for visitors to enjoy later. We hope eventually to showcase as many of the historic features as possible, including the Victorian water cistern, in a small public exhibition area too."

**The next update of the project information boards at the Lower and Upper Lodges and opposite the Tea Rooms will include this design. You can also view the design at www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/stanmerproject .*

Join Plumpton College at their open afternoon

Plumpton is hosting an open afternoon at the Stanmer Park campus on Thursday 27 June, 4 - 7pm. There will be information about the restoration of the Walled Garden as well as a plant sale, and details of full and part-time courses, including RHS courses. [Click here to register for the event](#), or visit www.plumpton.ac.uk .

New staff resources and other support for Stanmer's future

The National Lottery Heritage Fund and BIG Lottery Fund grant is helping us employ additional staff to help ensure this important countryside estate is well managed and engaging for all over the longer term.

We will be advertising for an Estate Manager and an Estate Ranger in July 2019. Plumpton College will also appoint an additional member of staff, who will focus on developing learning and outreach activities at Stanmer Park.

The project's Activity Plan, through which our partners will be delivering hundreds of additional volunteering, learning and education opportunities, includes woodland education activities associated with Stanmer's newly-adopted Woodland Management

Plan (further details in this Update). We would also like to invite expressions of interest in getting involved with a Friends of Stanmer Park community group.

- Keep an eye on our webpage www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/stanmerproject, and social media, for more news.

Help us explore the history of Stanmer Park!

We're looking for ten Oral History Volunteers who will help us document the captivating stories of Stanmer Park's past and present place in local people's collective memory.

We will record people's feelings and attitudes towards the park, as well as the rich heritage of the Estate, its landscapes and the people who have lived in this area over the years.

The chosen volunteers will be trained, in three separate 2 ½-hour sessions, in oral interviewing techniques and recording processes that will enable them to undertake interviews for the Oral History Project. The sessions will take place in Brighton on 10, 17 and 24 September, and volunteers should commit to attending all three. Volunteers should also be able to commit to conducting at least two oral history interviews, and to assist Memory Day events.

The project will also involve volunteers in assisting at public drop-in "Memory Days". These events are to engage local communities and to enable them to share stories, photos and other memorabilia they may have of Stanmer Park.

Interested? Contact Stella Richardson at stanmerproject@brighton-hove.gov.uk to request a one-page application form. The deadline for receipt of completed applications is Friday 5 July 2019.

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to attend an informal interview on 18 July, prior to the final successful volunteers selection.

Apple Day 2019

Look out for members of the Stanmer Park Restoration Project team at Apple Day 2019 on Sunday 22 September 2019. We'll have restoration project information and fun activities and games to bring Stanmer's history and heritage alive. Plumpton College also plans to attend with an information stall. [Find out more about Apple Day.](#)

Apple Day, run by Activity Plan partner [Brighton Permaculture Trust](#), is receiving financial support from the restoration project to deliver project activities.

Stanmer Activity Plan: Volunteering, education, learning, training and more coming soon

Our Activity Partners are working hard with us on the details of the activities they will be delivering as part of the project. Many of these groups already have activities at Stanmer. There is a list of some of these on our restoration project webpage www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/stanmerproject. Additional Stanmer project activities will be advertised when they become available.

Stanmer Woods ecological survey and assessment - your help welcome
Local ecologist Kate Ryland and Cityparks will be reviewing ecological records for Stanmer Great Wood, Pudding Bag Wood, Upper Lodges Wood and High Park Wood to make sure our information is as accurate as possible when we are planning our 2019/20 woodland management plan activities.

We're inviting the public to help between 21 June and 25 July - so if you know of plant or animal species, flora or fauna, in these areas and want to check they are recorded and correctly located, contact fiona.legarsmeur@brighton-hove.gov.uk and we will coordinate details.

Tree works

In March, some trees were pruned or felled in the Lower Lodges parking areas, and adjacent to the Walled Garden area, to prepare for restoration project improvement works. Some of these trees posed a safety risk.

Targeted wildlife surveys were undertaken by suitably qualified ecologists at both sites before work began, and during the works, to ensure no disruption to any early nesting bird species, dormouse nests or bats.

No evidence of any bird or dormice nests, or of bat occupation, was found.

Around 250 new trees will be planted in the restoration area later in the project.

No memorial trees were affected by this work.

Pothole repairs

Our Estates and Highways colleagues repaired nearly 200 potholes on the park's roadway in May. Drivers are requested to adhere to Stanmer's 20mph speed limit and to take particular care in the park, as walkers and cyclists also use the route.

- A new shared cycle and pedestrian path will be created alongside the central roadway as part of the Stanmer Park Restoration Project.



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We are collecting your data to keep the public and our partners informed about the progress and developments with the Stanmer Park Restoration Project.

- We have a legal basis for collecting this data as it is considered necessary to enable us to carry out our

tasks, functions, duties or powers or to perform a task carried out in the public interest

- Your information will not be shared with any third party outside the city council without your being informed
- We will hold your data until the completion of the Stanmer Park Restoration Project in 2020.

Further information

If you would like to discuss this further please contact our Information Governance Team on 01273 295959 or email data.protection@brighton-hove.gov.uk .

BHCC's Data Protection Officer may be contacted on gdpr@brighton-hove.gov.uk .

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