Foreword

Daventry District Council, in partnership with Enterprise is committed to ensuring Daventry Country Park is a welcoming, safe and clean place for our residents to visit.

The management plan sets out the partnership’s goals and expectations for developing Daventry Country Park over the next 5 years. Conservation and heritage of the site is important to the partnership and the management plan has been developed to assist in the planning of site maintenance to ensure that all methods are environmentally sustainable and in line with our Higher Level Stewardship Agreement.

The park is a popular place for visitors and regularly receives positive feedback from users. Organised activities are always well attended and the partnership has a good relationship with the Friends group who is also committed to supporting the work of the partnership in protecting, preserving and promoting Daventry Country Park.

We are proud of our park and have faith that we deliver a much-improved green space for all users whilst placing the park in a strong position to attract new users through our planned maintenance and improvement schedule.

Cllr Alan Hills
Community, Culture and Leisure Portfolio Holder, Daventry District Council
Partners
Whilst this Plan has been written and submitted for external assessment by Daventry District Council, it has been developed following consultation and partnership work with our key partners.

Daventry District Council, Community Team
The Community Team is committed to preserving and enhancing Daventry Country Park and network of green spaces. The team concentrates on community aspects within the park and future improvements, responsible for the parks refurbishment projects, either full or partial. In each project, the team sees the process through from inception to completion, including identifying and securing funding, managing contractors on site and liaising with project partners and the Friends group.

Enterprise
In June 2011, Daventry District Council and Northampton Borough Council jointly entered into a contract for some of their Neighbourhood Environmental Services to be carried out by Enterprise. This included the refuse collections, recycling, street cleansing, grounds maintenance and parks.

With regard to Daventry Country Park, Enterprise are now responsible for the day-to-day maintenance of the Park such as grass cutting, litter picking, leaf collecting, structural maintenance, play equipment and the Ranger Service, whilst Daventry District Council remain responsible for the infrastructure of the Park and the maintenance of the buildings.

Friends of Daventry Country Park
Formed in 2000, the Friends of Daventry Country Park are an independent community organisation that has developed a strong working relationship with the Partnership.

The Aims of the Friends of Daventry Country Park include
• To develop a broad spectrum of educational and cultural activities at Daventry Country Park for the whole community, near and far, to enjoy;
• To promote and support the work of the Rangers in wildlife care and woodland management;
• To ensure Daventry Country Park is a safe, clean and pleasurable place for visitors of all ages, especially young people and families;
• To help promote the knowledge of wildlife and nature in general at Daventry Country Park;
• To promote knowledge of traditional farming methods, rural crafts, rare breed animals, conservation and ecological issues of all types.

The Friends have been integral to the development of Daventry Country Park by supporting a range of activities and keeping the local community informed of park matters through their quarterly newsletters.

Canal and River Trust
The Canal and River Trust is a charity entrusted to care for 2,000 miles of waterways in England and Wales. In 1994 Daventry District Council entered in to a 25 year lease of land and sailing etc. rights at Daventry Reservoir. The lease comprises land and an area of 23 acres surrounding the reservoir including Reservoir Cottage but excluding the sluice and overflow weir.

The Canal and River Trust regularly maintains and monitors the reservoir and water levels while Daventry District Council has taken on responsibility for the surrounding land and buildings.
Executive summary
The provision of quality neighbourhood green spaces across the District of Daventry is recognised as being strategically important to the Council and an essential element of the Government’s commitment to delivering greener, cleaner and safer communities as part of its sustainability agenda.

Daventry Country Park has achieved Green Flag status since 1998. This success mirrors growing public interest and wider attention placed on the parks place in the community and the Green Flag Award scheme.

This plan takes a medium term strategic view of the site (until 2017) and outlines a number of ways in which the park can further contribute to the community and wider social, health, well-being, environmental and economic renewal objectives.

This five-year plan is not a stand-alone document and should be read in conjunction with other relevant policies and documentation. The plan brings together a wide range of issues and information in one readily available document and where applicable aims to act as a signpost for other more detailed documents/policies which can be investigated by those involved with or interested in the park’s management.

The work plan is reviewed annually with the project partnership to ensure that it remains up to date, reflects changing needs within the local area as well as the park itself. The management plan will be re-written in full in 2017 in order to sustain the investment.
1. Site Details

1.1 Location
Daventry Country Park is centred around the old Daventry Reservoir which is one of two reservoirs in Daventry. The site presents itself as a unique opportunity for recreational use, situated in the urban fringe and well located in relation to the principal traffic system, within walking distance of the town centre and a large part of the town. The Park adjoins the A425, Northern Way; the main entrance suitable for vehicles and pedestrians, is approximately one mile north east of the town centre.

The southern part of the reservoir and the area of land around it designated as the Local Nature Reserve. This part of the park is particularly rich in natural resources and presents an opportunity for the maintenance of an area where local people and visitors alike can observe an abundant variety of plants and wildfowl in undisturbed surroundings.

Site Address: Daventry Country Park, Northern Way, Daventry NN11 2JB
Area: 164 acres (70 acres of Reservoir)
Grid Reference: SP57769642 (Visitors Centre)
Owner: Daventry District Council and Canal and River Trust
Planning Authority: Daventry District Council
Access: There is full, free public access to the entire site.

1.2 Site Conservation Interest
Daventry Country Park consists of the following habitat types; open water, woodland, marsh, conservation grassland, short mown grass and man-made surface.

Geology and soils
The geology of this region of Northamptonshire is of middle Jurassic age, about 130 million years old. It consists mainly of Oolitic limestone with bands of clay.

Hydrology
There is a good deal of standing water on the site, forming most of the surface area of the park. The site lies well within the indicative floodplain. The watercourse downstream of the reservoir is designated as Main River (from the confluence with the weir overspill channel down to the canal, where it siphons under the canal before continuing on its course). As such, any work over, under or within 9 metres of the watercourse will require Land Drainage Consent from the Environment Agency.

Archaeology
The park occupies flood plain alluvium. The hamlet of Thrupp is submerged under the centre of the reservoir although no designated archaeological monuments are present.
In the event of archaeological artefacts being found in the park, the Portable Antiquities Scheme Finds Liaison Officer for Northamptonshire will be informed.

1.3 Local Nature Reserve Status
The designation and declaration of Daventry Country Park as a Local Nature Reserve (LNR) in 2007 acknowledges its high natural interest and local importance, and ensures that the site is managed so that the features that convey its special interest are maintained for future generations. However, the Local Nature Reserve is as much about people as wildlife and there is a great opportunity for people to become involved in the management of their local environment and for educational events and public open days.

1.4 Site Use
The site is used by many groups, for many purposes, including the following:
- Walking (including dog walking)
- Bird watching
- Wildlife/plant interest
- Outdoor activities including picnicking, family days out and events

1.5 Access & Signage
There is full, free public access to the entire site. As the population of Daventry town increases, a number of new housing estates have been built around the park. Careful liaison by the partnership and developers has ensured the provision of safe and attractive cycle ways, pedestrian footpaths, bridleways and an underpass all aiding easy and welcoming access to the Country Park. Local residents generally visit the site on foot via the main entrance off Northern Way or the southern entrance from the Eastern Way underpass, whilst other residents and visitors travel by car and parking and public conveniences are available onsite.

Vehicular access in the park is not permitted (except for works maintenance vehicles) further than the main car park. During the summer months an overflow car park can be opened in Northern field, adjacent to the play area. There are provisions for disabled car parking within the main car park. Road signs have been strategically placed to improve identification and are located at all main roads leading into Daventry and in the centre of Daventry the signs are located at roundabouts and the entrance is clearly signed.

Cyclists are permitted to use the site though cycling in front of the visitor centre and the café is discouraged in the interests of safety.

The park is well served by public transport on Wimbourne Place (125 metres from the country park entrance with buses running to and from Daventry town centre every hour).

Several miles of flat accessible footpaths are organised into two main routes allowing visitors into most areas of the Park. Access gates, toilets, visitors’ centre and cafe are opened at 9.00am and are closed at 5pm in summer and 4:30pm in winter. The café closes later during the summer months and at weekends if increased demand is evident.

There are no current restrictions relating to access for dogs, although visitors are asked to keep their dogs under control at all times and on a lead whilst near the visitors centre and café area.
There is a formally designated Nature Reserve, upon which access is restricted by a physical barrier of vegetation and is centred on the open water and the marshy margins of the reservoir.

Once in the park, notice boards are located giving up to date information, guidance and safety information and the main display board is located in the main car park and outlines the facilities available, a park map highlighting areas of interest, the events programme, environmental information, walks and contact details. The partnership have installed a system of finger posts to assist the public to serve as way-marking for the park’s Health Walks and locates the important features of the park.

**Equal access**

Equal access for all is promoted with the park by the following.

- A network of aggregate graded footpaths
- Toilet facilities (RADAR key access)
- Ample hardback seating
- Access ramps where required
- Accessible play facilities
- Accessible picnic benches

The Country Park has been designed and altered to take account of the wide variety of users of the park. These include access for children and disabled, boardwalks and flat paths, guided walks and talks. As part of our policy of continual improvement, we have built approximately 1.5 km of new paths along the western edge of the park. This ensures we provide all year round access to the entire park. There are several boardwalks around the park linking the stoned pathways. Projects to ensure all facilities are accessible for all are in place including access to the jetty and dipping ponds.

**1.6 Site history**

The reservoir (85 acres of open water) was dug out and completed in 1804, taking eight years to complete. The original purpose of the reservoir was to feed the top section of the Grand Union canal between Braunston and Long Buckby and this is still paramount. It also serves as a balancing pond to hold excess storm water run-off from the hard-surfaced areas of the town and prevent flooding in the Nene Valley.

The Park was created as part of the nationwide Countryside Act, this movement sought to provide communities with green spaces to use and enjoy. Historically, the green space had been known as Daventry Reservoir; when it was designated a Country Park in 1978 it was renamed Daventry Country Park.

The circular path was the first and only access around the lake and was built by a community service team in the early years. The park expanded in 1994 when Northern Way was built and areas that had previously been inaccessible were opened up to the public. This area is now known as Wild Acres and features the Community Orchard.
1.7 Location map for Daventry Country Park
2. Landscapes and Facilities

2.1 Landscapes and Habitats

The park is made up of a number of distinct ‘landscape’ (or character) areas, which display differing characteristics and serve distinct functions.

Grassland
Ranges of grassland habitats are present at the Park and these represent the major terrestrial habitat in terms of area. Differences in soil type, water-regime and past and present management are the main reasons for the diverse selection of grassland communities in the Park. Many of the Park’s most rare plants are found in the grasslands, especially the hay meadow. A survey of flora on the drawdown zone of the reservoir was completed in September 2011. As part of Daventry District Council’s Higher Level Stewardship, the Partnership has responsibility for the management of the grasslands within the park, following the general conditions of the agreement.

Woodlands
Woodland is the second main habitat in the Park. The majority of the wooded areas within the Park were planted around the time that the reservoir was created and are all are secondary woodlands; this means that they are not ancient woodland that has been present for many hundreds of years. The wooded areas consist of most entirely of crack willow (Salix fragilis) this probably colonised and developed naturally in the waterlogged soils.

Other woodland areas include a greater mixture of species including;
Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)
Beech (Fagus sylatica)
Scots Pine (Pinus sylvestris)
Almond leaved willow (Salix triandra)
Alder (Alnus glutinosa)
Hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna)
Crab apple (Malus sylvestris)
Black poplar (Populus nigra)
Ash (Fraxinus excelsior)
Goat willow (Salix caprea)
Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)
Common elm (Ulmus procera)
Wych elm (Ulmus glabra)

The large amount of dead wood on old trees and on the woodland floor encourages a rich population of insects and in turn a high population of woodpeckers, tree creepers and tits.

Hedgerows
Ecologically hedges are linear woodlands closely managed by man. They contain most of the species present in the woodlands with a greater predominance of hawthorn and blackthorn (Prunus spinosa). The original function was as stock barriers and land use boundaries but lack of management in recent years has led the majority of them to become overgrown and with gaps in many places. Nonetheless they form excellent havens for wildlife especially breeding birds that include, turtle dove, yellowhammer, lesser whitethroat, blackcap, wedge warbler, robin, dunnock, blackbird, song thrush, magpie, wood pigeon and linnet. The traditional management technique of hedge laying is in use on some of the hedgerows.
**Wetlands**
These include reservoir margins, ponds, streams, wet grasslands and marshes. These are very good wildlife habitats greatly adding to the rich mosaic of natural resources present in the park. Of particular note are the plants that grow on the foreshore when the water level drops and include, marsh cudweed (Gnaphalium uliginsum), trifled bur-marigold (Veronica contenata), orange foxtail (Alopecurus) and mudwort (Limosella aqutica). The latter two species have been recorded at less than twenty sites in Northamptonshire and are the most rare species yet recorded in the Park.

Margins of the ponds provide habitat for a variety of wet-loving plants including brooklime (Veronica becca-bunga), fool’s watercress (Apium nodiflorum), soft rush (Juncus effuses), marsh-marigold (Caltha palustis), water-mint (Metha aquatica), amphibious bistort (Polygonum amphibium), common water plantain (Alisima plantago-aquatica) and water crowfoot (Ranunculus spp.)

There are several sedge-dominated habitats in the Park, which are locally unusual. Notable by its absence is common reed (Phragmites australis) that dominates most lake edges and marshes in the area. Other wildlife in the wetlands includes the common frog, common toad, common newt and grass snake.

**Birds**
The Park’s most famous natural resource is its bird life. Over one hundred and seventy species have been accurately identified. Almost every month a species of local importance is seen and on four occasions this has made national news; the red-necked phalarope, pectoral sandpiper, wryneck and green-winged teal have all attracted attention from local and national media. Visitors’ often travel long distances to the Park in the hope of seeing something special. The Park is also good for a variety of more common species, many of which breed in the park. Of note are; grasshopper warbler, yellow wagtail, lesser-spotted woodpecker, kingfisher and all the common warblers. It is an important wintering ground for wildfowl and a stop-off point for wader species in late summer and autumn. Most educational visits during the winter are centred on the Park’s varied bird life.

**2.2 Threats**
The main threats to this habitat are degradation of and damage to habitat and species by;
- Introduction of alien species
- Nutrient enrichment
- Disturbance, including vegetation stripping
- Compaction
- Recreational use, if not sympathetic to the site
- Flooding

**2.3 Site Protection**
Daventry Country Park has been identified as a Local Nature Reserve (LNR) on the basis of its habitats. As a LNR the site has no statutory protection, but should be subject to byelaws, which are used to help protect the site.

Local Nature Reserve
The southern part of the reservoir, the area of land around it and the grit trap are designated as a nature reserve. This part of the park is particularly rich in natural resources and presents an opportunity for the management of an area where local people and visitors alike can observe an abundant variety of plants and wildfowl in undisturbed surroundings.
Comprising of some 80 aces of water at its fullest extent the reservoir is the park's principal landscape component. At its deepest, it is thought to have a depth of approximately 30 feet although all its margins, apart from the northern dam, are gently sloping and therefore shallow in nature. Water levels follow a predictable sequence as water is drawn off during periods of intensive canal use. In the summer, this exposes large areas of foreshore and during early winter, full capacity is usually regained. Control and responsibility for reservoir water levels lies with the Canals and Rivers Trust.

Several inflow streams join the reservoir along its western and southern perimeter. Larger streams originating from run off in the nearby Southbrook area feed the reservoir via a pollution/interception trap (see below). The reservoir and its associated foreshore support a large number of different species of birds, emergent plants, and other wildlife. It also supports populations of coarse fish including Pike (Esox lucius), Bream (Abramis brama) and Roach (Rutilus rutilus).

**Pollution/Interception Trap (PIT)**

Built as a pollution prevention measure aimed at restricting certain pollutants from entering the main Reservoir, this square shaped area of open water is situated to the south. A small-vegetated island provides opportunities for some birds to nest, whilst the relatively undisturbed nature of this feature has helped to attract a variety of other wildlife. A boom passes close to the southern perimeter of the water and prevents floating debris from reaching the reservoir. Accumulated debris is periodically removed. Particulate matter which reaches the PIT can settle out before inflowing water reaches the Reservoir. Public access to this area is discouraged.

**Country Park Extension**

In 2012, Crest Nicholson put forward an application to develop the land north of the Country Park. The development includes the building of 587 dwellings and a proposal to extend the Country Park linking it to the Grand Union Canal. In January 2015 the application for phase 2A; the Country Park extension and associated landscaping, pathways, servicing and drainage were agreed by the Council to be completed with 3 years of the application.

**2.2 Park Facilities**

**Visitors Centre, Classroom & Rangers Office (Reservoir Cottage).**

Reservoir Cottage, which was formerly the home of the British Waterways reservoir keeper was restored for use as a visitors’ centre and officially opened in October 1987. As well as providing space for interchangeable/seasonal interpretive displays, meetings and talks, the building also includes office space for the Rangers and an upstairs meeting room.

The rangers’ office and visitor’s centre are used by the rangers as a base for their services and is available to members of the public seven days a week. The Rangers are first aid trained and the office and patrol vehicle carries a first aid kit, they are sometimes called upon to administer first aid to members of the public; the Council consider this as part of the demonstrable ethos of care practised by its officers’ toward the visitors’. Members of the public can readily recognise the rangers’ from their distinctive uniform. The rangers’ office and the visitors centre are also used as an office and staff room for students and volunteers that are working within the park to help with maintenance and improvement projects.

The visitors centre interactive exhibits are currently very popular with visitors and are a significant attraction to families. The interpretation and information in the visitors centre comprises a mixture of tactile and sensory activities and printed material/displays. A solar thermal hot water system and
a photo voltaic system were installed in the visitors centre, and there is a wind generator to help carbon reduction.

In July 2011, the visitors centre was refurbished in partnership with Cummins in the Community, who completed repair and improvement works to the centre as well as providing a new television for the broadcasting of the parks bird nesting and informational dvds. The Community team worked with a local primary school to compile a selection of seasonal dvds which are played in the facility. The improvements have meant that the centre is a more welcoming area for visitors to visit and gain information on the park and its inhabitants.

Jetty
The wooden jetty was built to enable members of the public to see the solar panels on the roof of the visitors centre, views of the park and get closer to some of the wildlife to be found around the reservoir.

Reservoir Cafe
A purpose built cafe serving light meals, snacks and refreshments, was built next to the visitors centre. It includes a sheltered seating area for 14 people as well as outside seating for a further 8 people with extensive views of the reservoir for visitors to enjoy.

Toilets
In 1989 a purpose built toilet block was constructed adjacent to the Visitor Centre providing male, female and disabled toilet facilities as well as nappy changing facilities, housed separately in the ladies toilet block.

Bird hide
The parks wooden structure bird hides have been repeatedly damaged by vandals over the years. In 2013, the Friends group began a new project to introduce a large metal structure bird hide within the park. The project has been well supported by local companies and the hide was officially opened in September 2014. Work to introduce additional small hide shelters is being discussed by the group and it is hoped these will be installed and ready for use by spring 2016. Several view points; a bird hide next to a bird-feeding station (as shown below) and a living willow screened viewpoint provide ideal opportunities for bird watchers and nature-lovers.

Community Hut
The Rangers and Friends group completed a project for a purpose built canoe hut on Lovell’s Bay with easy access to the reservoir. The community hut had been on lease to a local group who
undertook outdoor pursuits but unfortunately the group has since closed and the Council is working to find an alternative group to run similar sessions for the community.

**Play Area**
The play area is a very popular feature within the park and has undergone many changes over the years. The equipment was updated in 2007 following a successful bid application from the Big Lottery Fund and further funding has been approved from the Council to install additional equipment following consultation with users. Last year an additional selection of play equipment was installed following a consultation with users that identified that there was a need for more equipment for younger children, the equipment has proven popular with users and the area is often busy. The play area is used for the Easter and Halloween events as a safe, secure area to hide items to be found as part of the events scavenger hunt and is very popular with visitors each year. The play area has been designed to relevant ROSPA and British Standards. All play equipment has been risk assessed by outside auditors and is inspected regularly. The equipment has been selected to take account of the variety of age groups who use the park from tiny tots to young teens. A wooden fence with self-closing gates, preventing access by dogs and to reduce the risk of children entering the car park unsupervised.

**Northern Field**
The area on the right of the entrance to the park was previously used as an open space and overflow car park in the busy summer months. More recently the area has become known as Northern Field and is host the many of the parks large annual, one-off and private use events and activities such as the family cinema and car boot sales as well as used as an overflow parking area in the busy summer months when the car park is often full to capacity.

**Outdoor Gym**
In 2012 Daventry District Council installed the outdoor gym equipment in Northern Field to help to tackle childhood obesity, social inclusion, engage with young people, crime and disorder and improve health and fitness. 8 pieces of cardio equipment has been installed offering a wide range of exercises which are suitable for ages 7 to 107. The equipment has proven popular during the warmer months and is used regularly.

**Dipping Pond**
To the south of the park lays the dipping ponds. These are man-made ponds that have been developed to provide a popular educational resource within the park. Pond dipping platforms have been built to ensure the safety of users in the area and a project for improvements is being planned for 2016 to rebuild the platforms and improve the entrance making the area more inviting to visitors and increase its educational use.

**Community Sensory Garden**
The community sensory garden was first established by the friends group and is a popular area for visitors. A project to extend and develop the garden has been approved working with the Friends group and Daventry and District Disability Forum. Funding was secured in 2015 and the garden has be extended and developed to include new accessible pathways, bridge and raised borders with a variety of sensory plants and flowers as well wooden sculptures. Additional seating and exploratory items have been purchased to ensure the garden is inviting and will be used for local groups and schools as part of the educational programme.

**Main Entrance and Car Park**
The main entrance has been widened to allow access and egress for minibus and coaches and is open plan to give an inviting aesthetic appearance. Other areas of improvement include speed
ramps both on the road way into the park and into the car park, disabled parking bays well sited for ease of use and access, a cattle grid to discourage pedestrian access in the road and to stop animals running into path of oncoming traffic. There is a grass overflow car park for peak visiting times which has ample space for play and trees for shade. New signage and notice boards have been installed at the entrances to make the park more welcoming and attractive to visitors.

**Fruit Orchard & Wild Acres**
South of the meadows is the Community Orchard which has become the venue for successful community gatherings, such as the annual wassailing event. The first tree; a Spartan apple tree was planted on Sunday 17 October 1999 and the remaining trees and bushes where planted throughout 2000 as members of the public purchased fruit trees to be planted. Over the years many more trees have been planted as part of the parks “Trees for Memory - Commemorate and Celebrate” scheme which is still in operation today. To date over 40 trees have been planted including apple, plum, cherry, pear, hazel and mulberry.

**Nature Trail**
In 2012 a project to install a new nature trail was completed. Funding and assistance was sought from local companies. Cummins working with the Friends group and local schools were able to design, purchase, and install 6 new informative boards around the park covering bird watching, the community garden, woodlands, meadows and sheep grazing and the ponds. In 2015, many of the boards were vandalised and had to be removed but a local company offered to replace the boards with more sustainable metal boards free of charge.

**Community Allotment**
Included in the work of the park is the community allotment, based on Welton Road. Green Health, a local mental health group, assists with the maintenance of the allotments. The allotment is popular for use with the education programme to deliver “seed to plate” and similar sessions for children to learn about the food they eat and their environment.

*2014 Green Health Open day at the Community Allotment*
3. Site Management

3.1 Aims and objectives

- To provide a safe and clean country park.
- To provide the highest possible standards of accessibility, ensuring the park remains accessible for all.
- To operate to the highest quality standards of visitor services, estate management, staff and visitor safety and environmental sustainability.
- To develop the full recreation potential of Daventry Country Park without detriment to its essential landscape character and biodiversity.
- To maintain and enhance the biodiversity of the park through positive habitat management.
- To continue to provide a range of countryside and environmental activities and events catering for a wide range of ages and abilities.
- To develop full potential, as a venue for environmental education, cultural and community events that are not of detriment to the ethos of the park including events celebrating culture and the arts.
- To involve the community as fully as practicable in the management and development of the park and providing opportunities for volunteer involvement at different levels.
- To continue to develop the visitors’ centre as a gateway to Northamptonshire and a source of information on where to go and what to do in the Northamptonshire countryside.
- To make Daventry Country Park as financially self-sustaining as possible.
- To ensure the health, comfort and safety of all visitors and staff.
- To identify existing wildlife habitats and heritage features and ensure that they are preserved, managed and enhanced where appropriate.
- Increase awareness among existing and potential park users of the opportunities on offer at the park through effective on and off site marketing methods, identify people’s perceptions of the park and act on findings as appropriate.
3.2 Daventry District Council management
Daventry District Council is responsible for the infrastructure of the Park and the maintenance of the buildings.
3.3 Enterprise Plc management

Enterprise are responsible for the day-to-day maintenance of the Park such as grass cutting, litter picking, leaf collecting, structural maintenance, play equipment and the Ranger Service.

The rangers bring people and places together. They are front line workers, multi-skilled, enthusiastic with a proactive ‘can do’ attitude. The Rangers not only enhance the security and maintenance of the site but also add a greater sense of individual personal pride and ownership to a front line role. This pride is present in a shared sense of staff responsibility towards the park, with the Rangers often undertaking unscheduled works as and when required, rather than being requested to do so by officers. This has been particularly beneficial in tackling graffiti and vandalism (criminal damage). Rangers will remove all traces of vandalism within a few hours of it appearing. This has clearly had the desired effect, sending out a clear message of removing the vandals’ motivation.

Health and safety issues are systematically addressed within the service during the course of day-to-day maintenance and any development projects. As part of the Partnerships commitment to the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, a specialist officer has the key responsibility of Health & Safety and monitors internal compliance and staff training or development needs accordingly.
### 3.4 Equipment and Facility Schedule for Daventry Country Park

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<th>Facility/item</th>
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| Play & outdoor gym equipment | In accordance with National Playing Fields Association, Royal Society for the Protection of Accidents and BS 5696, the play area is to be inspected daily; 1 at Category A, 6 at Category B per week.  
Category A consists of a thorough check of all equipment, fittings, surfaces, safety surfaces, furniture and perimeter fencing as per BS 5696 Section 9.1 (inspection).  
Category B is a basic visual inspection of all equipment etc.  
Staff are to undertake regular litter picks and complete a record of written inspection on a form provided with a copy returned to the office. | Ranger Service, Enterprise |
| Toilets, office and visitors centre | Daily inspection and cleansing to ensure all public areas are clean and well maintained. Any issues to be reported to the responsible partner.                                                                 | Ranger Service, Enterprise |
| Buildings     | Quad-annual survey by a qualified surveyor to assess the building structures. Any defects to be reported and rectified appropriately.                                                                                      | Business Team, DDC                   |
| General park infrastructure | Daily inspection and monthly risk assessment to be completed for all public areas of the park to help reduce the risks of incidents.                                                                                    | Ranger Service, Enterprise Community, DDC |
| Reservoir including sluice and overflow | Canal and River Trust carry out a daily visual inspection of the sluices and overflow and valves. There is an annual inspection of the reservoir by credited inspector on behalf of trust.  
The Rangers carry out daily visual inspections of the life buoys with monthly inspection to ensure that they are in good order. | Canal and River Trust Ranger Service, Enterprise |

**Litter and waste management**

Cleansing and litter control is the responsibility of the Ranger Service. In addition to the above, the Partnership has made a commitment to recycling as much waste and litter as possible by removing the litter bins in the car park encouraging people to recycle their litter at home, via the doorstep recycling service that the Partnership runs. Litter bins encourage more rubbish, require regular maintenance and emptying, pose risks to wildlife, are unsightly in a natural outdoor area as rubbish often gets thrown outside the bin receptacle and adds additional financial costs of rubbish collection and disposal.

As a minimum standard the following protocol is observed:

**Cleansing of infrastructure** - the cleaning of benches, bins, artwork, play equipment, notice boards, signage and buildings (toilets, visitors centre, and rangers’ office including all floors, doors and windows) is the responsibility of the Partnership and the Rangers. The teams are charged with ensuring that all items are clean and free of debris, graffiti and any defects.

**Litter picking** - Each morning the Rangers are required to walk the busiest areas of the park, litter pick and make visual inspections of the children’s play area and general infrastructure.  
Whilst litter picking, they are also required to record and notify the Partnership of any defects, vandalism, ad-hoc repairs that may be required. During the weekends, the Friends volunteer help with the litter picking.
Dog fouling – The Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) which contains enhanced powers has been formally approved by Daventry District Council and came into force on 1st December 2015. The new powers, which replace and add to powers previously provided for in Dog Control Orders - make the following offences:

- failing to pick up after your dog. This will now include all land to which the public can gain access including agricultural land
- failing to put a dog on a lead when directed to do so by an authorised officer - this allows Council officers to direct that a dog is put on a lead when it is causing nuisance and/or danger to other persons and their dogs
- failing to exclude dogs from designated children’s play areas
- failing to keep dogs on leads in the designated dogs on leads area around the Visitor Centre/Café in Daventry Country Park
- failing to provide at the request of an authorised officer the means to pick up after a dog

Eight dog bins are located around the park allowing dog owners to dispose of waste in an appropriate manner. To continue to encourage dog owners to dispose of waste appropriately, the poop scoop bins are emptied regularly to ensure that they never become full or jammed.

The Rangers are required to check the children’s play area for dog faeces at a frequency of at least once per day, if dog faeces is found it is removed immediately from the area, and disposed of safely in one of the dog bins.

Fly tipping - historically the park has not suffered adversely from fly tipping. However, fly tipping is the responsibility of the Partnership and the Rangers are aware of reporting procedures to ensure that any fly tipping is addressed immediately. PCSOs are also required to report any incidences that are supported by reporting procedures. Fly tipping is an area of priority for the Partnership; systems are in place to support the swift removal of tipped items.

Abandoned vehicles - the park has a permanently open car park and occasionally abandoned vehicles have been recorded within the park. When abandonment of a vehicle does occur it is the responsibility of the Rangers to remedy the situation. They are aware of reporting procedures, ensuring that any abandoned cars are addressed immediately. PCSOs are also required to report any incidences which are supported by reporting procedures. Abandoned vehicles are also an area of priority for the Country Council under the ELVIS scheme (End of Life Vehicle Impound Scheme).

Grounds maintenance and conservation management
Grounds and conservation maintenance is delivered by the dedicated on site Rangers, student placements and the Friends Group. The Park’s dedicated Rangers are responsible for:

- park monitoring and daily inspections
- daily play area inspection
- bylaw enforcement
- assisting members of the public
- providing guided Environmental Education activities
- reporting and repairing damage/vandalism
- conservation management of the park’s habitats
- providing conservation and wildlife advice
- providing health and wellbeing themed activities
3.5 Byelaws and Legislation

The Country Park has specific by-laws relating to it, Byelaws made under section 41 of the Countryside Act 1968 by Daventry District Council (copy available on request).

There is other legislation that enables enforcement action to be taken. Officers regularly patrol the park and have powers to issue on the spot penalty fines for issues such as dog fouling and the dropping of litter.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Legislation</th>
<th>Relevance to green space</th>
<th>Responsible organisation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dog Control Orders</td>
<td>Dog fouling, fines and disposal.</td>
<td>Daventry District Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crime and Disorder Act</td>
<td>Community safety e.g. anti-social behaviour and ‘sight lines’.</td>
<td>Northamptonshire Police and Daventry District Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupiers Liability Act</td>
<td>Health &amp; safety of visitors.</td>
<td>Daventry District Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health and Safety Act 1974</td>
<td>Health and safety of visitors and workers.</td>
<td>Daventry District Council Enterprise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road Traffic Act (various)</td>
<td>Illegal access by motorcyclists.</td>
<td>Northamptonshire Police</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Protection Act (1990)</td>
<td>Litter, fly tipping and abandoned vehicles.</td>
<td>Daventry District Council Enterprise</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Public Rights of Way: There are no public rights of way across or within the park.

Opening hours: The Park is open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year and facilities are open between 8:30 and 16:30.

Covenants: There are no covenants associated with the park.

Designations: The entire site was designated in 1978 as a Country Park under the 1968 Countryside Act.
In April 2007, the site was designated as a Local Nature Reserve (LNR).
The entire site including the feeder stream to the nearby Grand Union Canal was designated as a Conservation Area in 2010.

3.6 Policy context

3.6.1 National

In developing a Plan for the park it is important to understand the current political and policy context in which the Partnership are operating. These national strategies set out a framework for the future management of open spaces and help to determine aims and objectives for the park’s future management. A number of current publications and policy guidance notes are outlined below.

**Localism Act (2011)**
The Localism Act (2011) has created new powers for local government and local communities, alongside wider public sector reforms to help achieve a Big Society, the devolution of powers to local
authorities, the opportunity for communities to create their own Neighbourhood Plans and the right to bid to retain community assets and run public services means that local decision making is now even more important than ever for the natural environment. There are opportunities for communities and local councils to benefit enormously from the natural environment on their doorstep and also to enhance it for the benefit of future generations.

**Protecting and improving people’s enjoyment of the countryside policy**

Everybody should have the opportunity to access, use and enjoy England’s natural environment and outdoor spaces. Being outside in nature benefits people physically and mentally. Access to the countryside and other ‘green spaces’, like village greens, helps people get these benefits. It also helps improve people’s understanding of the natural environment. By protecting and improving access, we can help more people enjoy the countryside.

**National Planning Policy Framework**

The National Planning Policy Framework was published on 27 March 2012. This is a key part of reforms to make the planning system less complex and more accessible, to protect the environment and to promote sustainable growth. The purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development through the three dimensions of economic, social and environmental roles.

3.6.1 Local

This Plan complements the wider strategic context of other Partnership plans, policies and initiatives. It seeks to achieve the objectives of the strategic framework by translating those that are appropriate to the park. Plans, policies and procedures listed below can be supplied on request or are available on the website (www.daventrydc.gov.uk/your-council/strategy-policy).

- Daventry District Council Corporate Strategic Plan 2014-2017
- The Daventry Master Plan
- Community Strategy 2014-2018
- Dog Control Orders
- Tree Policy
- Environmental Services outputs and objectives
3.7 Finance & Income generation

The daily maintenance of the park is undertaken by the Partnership and budgets have been set to enable repairs and maintenance of the park and its facilities as required. The council has a finance sustainability plan in place to enable to park to become and remain self-sufficient considering activities to assist to generate income for the continued development of the park, including obtaining grants and funding, working in partnership with local businesses such as Cummins for improvement projects to increase footfall and overall visitor satisfaction.

The park charges for car parking and makes substantial contribution to its finances through the sales of season tickets and day tickets. Car parking at the country park is monitored and enforced by Northamptonshire County Council. No increases to daily charges have been applied since 2012 when the all-day standard charge was introduced.

Listed below are the current fees and charges for the hire of facilities and activities within the park. It has been agreed that the Rangers and Community team will introduce subsidised educational activities to further develop partnership working and add to the educational provisions of local schools.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility Hire</th>
<th>2015/16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Private Use (e.g. children’s party, group activities)</td>
<td>2 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Use (e.g. fun run, bike ride)</td>
<td>Per Hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor Activities</td>
<td>Per Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field hire (Northern Field, Lovells Bay or Borough Hill)</td>
<td>Per Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field hire (The Meadows)</td>
<td>Per Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field hire for Non-profit Organisations</td>
<td>Per Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field hire for Charity Events</td>
<td>Per Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classroom hire (max 34 people)</td>
<td>Per Hour</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Educational Visits (per child, min 20 children)</td>
<td>2 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trees for Memories (includes tree, planting and certificate)</td>
<td>Each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orienteering Maps</td>
<td>Each</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hire of Equipment</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pond Dipping (nets, identification cards &amp; use of pond)</td>
<td>Per Hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mini-Beast Hunting (nets, identification cards &amp; use of meadows)</td>
<td>Per Hour</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Fishing (Env Agency Rod licence required)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fishing</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adult (max 2 rods)</td>
<td>Per Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concession/Junior</td>
<td>Per Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult Season Ticket</td>
<td>Per Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concession/Junior Season Ticket</td>
<td>Per Year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Licence Agreement</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Land Use licence (e.g. circus)</td>
<td>Per Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal fitness training licence</td>
<td>Per Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal grazing licence (conservation grazing)</td>
<td>Per Year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Car Parking

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Car Parking - Daventry County Park</td>
<td>Per Day</td>
<td>£2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Car Parking - Borough Hill</td>
<td>Per Day</td>
<td>£0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Season Ticket - Daventry County Park</td>
<td>52 Weeks</td>
<td>£62.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Season Ticket - Daventry County Park</td>
<td>13 Weeks</td>
<td>£31.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Season Ticket - Daventry County Park</td>
<td>4 Weeks</td>
<td>£15.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Commercial Filming & Photography (Licence required)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Rate</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Filming</td>
<td>First hour</td>
<td>£68.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Filming</td>
<td>Per hour</td>
<td>£88.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Filming</td>
<td>Per Day</td>
<td>£685.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photography</td>
<td>Per session</td>
<td>£55.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Friends of Daventry Country Park are generating income via a their successful second hand book stall operating from the Reservoir Café as well as hosting 6 car boot sales each year to support projects and activities within the park. An annual subscription for the Friends group is £10.00 (£5 concession) and all money raised is used to support projects for the park.
3.8 Marketing

Marketing of Daventry Country Park is mainly via word of mouth and positive experience. Many visitors live in the district or local area and visit and enjoy the park on a regular basis.

The park predominately uses on site notice boards to provide up to date, relevant information about the park, its facilities, attractions and the services and events on offer. Well maintained and regularly updated notice boards with high quality signs, convey an image of quality to users and contribute towards ensuring people have a positive visit to the park; and will consequently re-visit the park and potentially tell other people about their positive experience.

The Friends also have an onsite notice board dedicated to providing information about the services they offer to both users and for the park.

The Council actively markets Daventry Country Park through its website (www.daventrydc.gov.uk). The pages include general information on the park including facilities available, location and events and activities on offer. In 2014, the council also took ownership of the Daventry Country Park Facebook page which has become extremely popular with over 900 likes in 6 months. Social media has become a very popular media for events and information and the Facebook page has highlighted this.

TripAdvisor has also become a popular tool for users to rate and comment on the park and their experiences. The Partnership finds this information useful and it is incorporated into the annual feedback and user satisfaction reports to highlight areas for concern and compliments.

Emails with updated information and posters for activities at the park are also sent via email to local schools and local groups to ensure they are kept informed of up to date activities and events including the educational programmes and free activities for families.

The Partnership works well with the local press and the councils’ communications team to deliver proactive press releases helping to promote the park and activities taking place. The Daventry Express, also supports the annual Easter and Halloween events, publicising the activities and free entry coupons as well as a good follow-up release after the events.

The Partnership also uses the Green Flag Award web site to advertise the parks events and invite feedback from users, when available.

The parks programme of activities and events is advertised on partner websites including Daventry Town Council and Daventry and District Housing.

The Friends of Daventry Country Park produce a quarterly newsletter that is sent to all its members as well as being available from the Café. This is a helpful outlet to promote the park and the activities taking place by both the Friends and the Partnership.

We understand that promotion of the park and an effective marketing strategy is vital in bringing new visitors and users to the park.
3.9 Sustainability

In 2011, the Park management was changed with the development of the current Partnership and the council’s Community Project Officer was tasked to develop a plan, alongside the Management Plan to ensure the park became self-sustainable within 3 years. The park has attracted additional external hire use and it is hoped that with further marketing and promotion the park can further increase usage to improve the future sustainability of the park and its facilities. Events and activities within the park have grown in popularity and the Partnership hopes to further develop this in the future ensuring the park remains a top attraction in Daventry.

Environmental Policy and Investors in the Environment (iiE)

The Council is committed to protecting and enhancing the environment and recognise that we are responsible for minimising the local and global environmental impacts that arise through the delivery of our services. As such, sustainability is a core objective for the Council; the Country Park plays a vital role in ensuring its implementation. This is ensured by the constant vigilance and good practice by the Partnership in their daily duties as custodians of the Country Park.

In 2013, the Council adopted the Investors in the Environment (iiE) scheme and has achieved the iiE Green Award; the highest level of an environmental accreditation scheme. The awards are presented to organisations that can demonstrate excellent progress in minimising their own impact on the environment and making improvements to their local community. For several years the Council was accredited with the international ISO14001 environmental standard however it is now placing its focus towards continuing to achieve iiE accreditation, which is more suited to the authority in terms of promoting and delivering its environmental goals.

Environmental Stewardship

The park has a commitment to maintaining the Higher Level Stewardship from Natural England and has in place an agreement for maintenance and works to be completed at the park including the non-use of pesticides and peat and all waste plant material produced is reused through compost or habitat piles around the park. Wild Acres demonstrates the standards of sustainability. Woodland is managed to encourage diverse breeding and feeding habitat, where this does not conflict with site safety.

2.5 Conservations & Heritage

Arboriculture management

Thanks to the specialist skills of the Ranger’s we are able to conduct the majority of arboricultural maintenance within the park. Any specialist issues are managed in conjunction with the Tree and Woodlands Department of Enterprise. When these issues are encountered, specialist arboricultural services are utilised. This is supported by the completion of daily visual inspections of high public use areas of the Park and weekly inspections of trees within the remaining areas, identifying issues such as loose or damaged limbs as well as the need to encourage new growth and develop sight lines. These inspections are particularly important after periods of high winds or gales and are conducted immediately after such events, irrespective of the proximity in time to any previous inspections. Members of the public are encouraged to report any issues to the Ranger Service, the Tree and Woodlands Department or through the Customer Contact Centre.

Habitat and species diversity

Marginal wetland habitats lie around much of the reservoir, particularly to the south and west, providing a suitable habitat for a wide variety of wildlife. A willow carr community is established
around the southern fringes. Most of these wetlands are included in the informally designated Nature Reserve area. Drier scrub and broad-leaved woodland habitats are established around Lovell’s Bay, along the disused railway line, along much of the Park’s eastern margins and around the grit trap. Mature scrub and young trees are also established in the area previously used as sewage works. Several areas have already benefited from substantial tree-planting programmes.

To the west of the reservoir are large areas of grassland that have been divided into five main fields. Various management histories have contributed to the present variety of grassland types present. “Set aside” fields adjoining the Country Park provide an undisturbed mixed grassland and shrub habitat. A high number of trees, shrubs and hedgerows within the park provide a range of nesting and feeding habitats for birds and small mammals. There is some evidence of foxes or badgers living on site. Some nocturnal activity of these species has been reported; the railway siding could potentially be a route to and from the park; animal tracks from fields to the north of the Park are also in evidence. The maintenance and conservation of mature trees, evergreen trees and shrubs also provide breeding and feeding habitat for wildlife.
4. Community involvement

The park is highly valued by the people of Daventry district, much of this result from the work of the Ranger Service and Community Team leading well planned and targeted school and community activities, giving talks to local organisations and running exciting annual events with a broad appeal.

The Friends’ of Daventry Country Park group is highly active and members are contacted quarterly via a newsletter which updates them on current developments within the park. The group helps as part of conservation work parties and by organising family activities including walks and bird box building to name but a few. The Friends’ Committee has monthly meetings to elicit ideas and points of view from its members. The group also raises funds, which are used to contribute to the work of the Partnership.

Volunteers are always welcome to join the rangers and project officers with park maintenance and events and are encouraged to join the friends group as their involvement and ideas help the park to thrive and deliver fun-filled activities for all the family to enjoy.

Recent park user groups include;
- The Friends of Daventry Country Park
- Rethink Mental Health Charity
- Green Health
- Community Payback
- Ashby Fields School
- Falconers Hill Infant School
- Falconers Hill Junior School
- The Grange Junior School
- Braunston Primary School
- SureStart Daventry West Children’s Centre
- SureStart Daventry East Children’s Centre
- The Parker E-Act Academy
- Danetre School
- Dolphins Day Nursery
- Little’Uns Day Care
- Braunston Preschool

Many other groups use the park on a regular basis for exercise and entertainment throughout the year e.g. mental health workers, dog walking groups and baby and toddler groups etc.

Park Watch

Following incidents of anti-social behaviour and vandalism at locations across the County, the Council, the Daventry District and South Northamptonshire Community Safety Partnership and Northamptonshire Police began the Park Watch Scheme. The Scheme encourages the local community to work together with the partnership to provide an effective communication network to report and tackle issues of crime and anti-social in our local parks and open spaces by encouraging members of the scheme to report any crimes, anti-social behaviour or suspicious activity they may witness or come across.
4.1 Knowledge of User Community

The population of Daventry and the surrounding parishes use the Country Park. The Country Park also attracts a wide number of people from all over the U.K. Locals will often bring relations to introduce them to a facility of which they are proud and feel a sense of ownership for.

Passive visitor surveys are routinely asked during events and throughout the year, this is where we invite comments and suggestions for improvement.

An updated online visitor’s survey has been introduced to measure visitor satisfaction with the country park facilities and activities on offer including the option to make comments and recommendations. All responses received will be considered and where appropriate action taken. Feedback forms are given to all schools and groups following a visit and to people attending events where practical. School consultations are used for feedback and inviting suggestions for improvements.

More recently with the introduction of social media, the park receives comments on its Facebook page and shares photographs and information with the community. TripAdvisor is also widely used by visitors to feedback their comments for other users and we use these sources of information to plan improvements at the Park.

4.2 Community Events

The Park hosts a range of annual events designed to promote the park and the activities and facilities available.

The event programmes organised by DDC have been successful in attracting a broad range of visitors and have helped keep the park profile high locally.

Annual Park events hosted by Daventry District Council and the Friends of DCP include;

- Easter Egg Hunt
- Family Fun Day
- The Big Lunch
- Love Parks Week
- Family Cinema Day
- Mini Adventures (School Holiday Activities)
- CycleFest
- Halloween Spooktacular
- Santa’s Stop
- Guided Informative Walks (Birds, Flowers, Fruits and Fungi etc.)
- Wassailing of the Community Orchard
- Car boot sales
- Volunteer work days
- Friends of DCP Open Evening and AGM
- Bird box and feeder building

Additional externally organised events include;

- Circus Ginnett
- Parkrun Daventry
- Scouts Raft Race
- Daventry Sprint Triathlon
- Orienteering
• Model Yacht Club
• Team Building Activities and Fun Days
• Charity Runs and Walks
• Local company volunteer community days (e.g. Cummins, DHL and Daventry & District Housing).

The Park has the potential to increase its use as a venue for small to medium scale community events including fun runs, outdoor music and performing arts performances and sporting activities ensuring that any activities do not conflict with the current conservation management of the Park.
5. Work Plan 2012 - 2017

The following work plan sets out the intended actions required to ensure that the park is able to retain its Green Flag status and continues to improve from both a conservation and visitor attraction point of view.

The Community Team, in partnership with The Rangers, will co-ordinate and lead on the implementation of the work plan.

As the plan is intended as a live document that is responsive to change, amendments are continually made and updated depending upon available resources and consultation with users and the wider community.

The work plan clearly numbers each action to make it more user friendly, practical in meetings and allow easily identification for those actions which are complete, on hold, in progress or outstanding.

DCP07 (Red) Action outstanding
DCP07 (Blue) Action on hold
DCP07 (Orange) Action in progress or ongoing
DCP07 (Green) Action complete
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Performance Measure</th>
<th>Action date/phase</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>DCP01</strong> Refresh and improve the Sensory Garden</td>
<td>Sensory Garden provides a better experience for visitors.</td>
<td>In progress 15.05.15</td>
<td>Working with the Daventry Disability Group. New accessible path, bridge and raised flower beds completed. Additional planting and sculptures planned for Spring 2016.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DCP02</strong> Maintain and improve the Community Allotment Garden.</td>
<td>Completion and opening of a new reorganised and expanded community allotment garden.</td>
<td>Complete</td>
<td>Additional space acquired and planting completed with community users. Rethink mental health charity to visit and maintain Community garden weekly.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DCP03</strong> Maintain play equipment to current standards.</td>
<td>Play area remains fully functioning and in condition.</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Play Office regularly inspects and maintained as necessary. Additional equipment installed January 2015. Older equipment to be reviewed in 2016.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DCP04</strong> Re-painting the Visitor Centre, Café and store.</td>
<td>Re-painting of the Visitors Centre, Café and store.</td>
<td>Complete</td>
<td>Action successfully completed on schedule.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DCP05</strong> Install additional benches to enhance usage and visitor perceptions.</td>
<td>Purchase and new installation of new high quality, robust furniture.</td>
<td>Complete</td>
<td>New benches have been installed around the park. Damaged furniture to be replaced as required.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DCP06</strong> Introduce elements of permanent art within the park.</td>
<td>Installation of art works within the park.</td>
<td>Complete</td>
<td>2011 mural installed in visitor centre. 2015 wooden sculptures installed in the sensory garden.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DCP08</strong> Improve signage provision including the installation of notice boards.</td>
<td>Installation of notice boards and regularly updated.</td>
<td>Spring 2016</td>
<td>New updated welcome information boards to be installed at all entrances. Artwork commissioned by Nina Cashmore. Visitors centre boards updated seasonally and information boards updated as required.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objective</td>
<td>Performance Measure</td>
<td>Action date/phase</td>
<td>Progress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>-------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DCP09</td>
<td>Introduce a series of interpretation panels.</td>
<td>Gathering of information suitable for consideration for the panels. Installation of panels.</td>
<td>Complete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DCP10</td>
<td>Provide more cycle opportunities within the Park.</td>
<td>Installation of cycle access.</td>
<td>Planning Phase 2A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DCP12</td>
<td>Explore the provision of an enclosed café facility.</td>
<td>Completion of a viability assessment and implementation of recommended actions.</td>
<td>Complete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DCP13</td>
<td>Work with internal departments and external organisations, groups, individuals and other stakeholders to deliver an improved park service for the community</td>
<td>Successful examples of partnership work.</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DCP14</td>
<td>Pilot daily site walkover inspections.</td>
<td>Introduction of and daily completion of daily site walkover inspections by Ranger staff.</td>
<td>Complete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DCP15</td>
<td>Identify opportunities to raise the revenue generating potential of the park.</td>
<td>Revenue increased. Additional revenue directed to fund further improvements to the park.</td>
<td>Ongoing until 31 March 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objective</td>
<td>Performance Measure</td>
<td>Action date/phase</td>
<td>Progress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>-------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DCP16</strong> Monitor water usage and explore opportunities to reduce usage setting realistic, achievable and measurable targets.</td>
<td>Water reduction targets set, monitored and met.</td>
<td>Continue to monitor.</td>
<td>Water usage monitored to establish baseline. Water includes café; consider a separate supply to reduce costs to DDC. Continue monitoring and reduction of use part of long term environmental goals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DCP17</strong> Identify opportunities to introduce new habitats to encourage wildlife.</td>
<td>Introductions of a range of habitats as appropriate to the park.</td>
<td>Ongoing commitment.</td>
<td>1. National nest box scheme bird boxes installed. 2. Introduction of rare breeds sheep herd grazing to reservoir foreshore. 3. Continue with willow carr removal on foreshore. 4. New areas of dense conservation mix planting planned as foraging habitats for birds and sources of food for insects. 5. Introduction of mowing regime to reservoir foreshore. 6. Park extension will provide new habitats. 7. Introduction of an insect hotel for the community sensory garden to assist with educational visits.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DCP18</strong> Maintain existing wildlife habitats with minimal intervention.</td>
<td>Wildlife habitats thrive within the park.</td>
<td>Complete / Ongoing commitment.</td>
<td>Natural habitats are left undisturbed. All work completed take into account wildlife habitat and avoid intervention and interference.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DCP19</strong> Chip or stack in habitat piles all organic waste on site for re-use within the park.</td>
<td>Organic waste used with the park.</td>
<td>Complete / Ongoing commitment.</td>
<td>Habitat piles provide habitat for wood boring invertebrates etc. Part of the deadwood management plan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DCP20</strong> Continue to use composting facility within community allotment garden.</td>
<td>Composting facility within community allotment garden.</td>
<td>Complete / Ongoing commitment.</td>
<td>Composting facility used where possible including café waste e.g. tea bags, coffee beans, egg shells etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DCP21</strong> Quantify minimal herbicide usage and explore opportunities for a total ban.</td>
<td>Reduction in herbicide usage. Targets set, monitored and met.</td>
<td>Complete / Ongoing commitment.</td>
<td>Implementation of such actions subject to resolution of review process. Usage is minimal. Sheep herd grazing in meadow to ensure the area is maintained sustainably.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objective</td>
<td>Performance Measure</td>
<td>Action date/phase</td>
<td>Progress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DCP22</td>
<td>Establish a Community Beat Officer office within the Ranger’s office.</td>
<td>Community Beat Officer Office to be explored by Daventry and South Northants Police Force on site.</td>
<td>Complete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DCP23</td>
<td>Install security lighting on the Ranger’s Office to open up opportunities for the building to be used after dark.</td>
<td>Security lighting installed with passive infra-red responsiveness and manual override facility.</td>
<td>Complete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DCP24</td>
<td>‘Open Up’ entrance vegetation site lines to improve visibility and flower beds either side of the entrance.</td>
<td>Entrances ‘opened up’ and flower beds established.</td>
<td>Complete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DCP25</td>
<td>Patch repair car park surface</td>
<td>Pot hole patch repairs to be made within car park and entrance road.</td>
<td>Complete / Ongoing Commitment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DCP26</td>
<td>Reduce instances of dog fouling.</td>
<td>Proactive programme targeting dog owners launched.</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DCP27</td>
<td>Formally consult with Friends of Daventry Country Park, community groups and other interested stakeholders regarding the future development of the park.</td>
<td>Consultation successfully completed producing a report of actions for consideration.</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objective</td>
<td>Performance Measure</td>
<td>Action date/phase</td>
<td>Progress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
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<td>----------</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **DCP28**  
Encourage park users to offer feedback on service quality for periodic assessment and monitoring.  
Set SMART targets. | Exit survey form developed, monthly targets set, results complied and analysed with actions built into the work plan as required and if necessary following consultation with the Friends of Daventry Country Park. | Ongoing commitment | Friends of Daventry Country Park survey visitors and map of users produced based on postcode and method of travel on a quarterly basis.  
2014 Feedback encourage from park users and event visitors. Information collated and closure reports completed.  
Online survey been created to capture users feedback, promotional items within the park to promote survey. |
| **DCP29**  
Provide a secure area for cyclists to leave their cycles therefore encouraging more users to the park | Consultation with public and strategy. Costings and dimensions obtained for suitability | Complete | 2012; 4 cycle racks installed near reservoir jetty and café area. No more required. |
| **DCP30**  
Deliver successful events within the park to increase reputation and footfall | Maintain positive reputation of the park and the activities on offer for visitors. Increase annual footfall, encouraging usage during winter months. | Ongoing | Annual events include; Easter Egg Hunt, Circus, Family Fun Day, Scouts Raft Race, CycleFest, Orienteering, Outdoor Cinema, Children’s Activities, Love Parks Week, Triathlon, Halloween, Christmas and Wassailing. |
| **DCP31**  
Improvements to the car park including resurfacing, additional spaces and cashless pay machines. | Maintain positive reputation of the park and increase annual footfall. Reduce incidents of vandalism and theft from pay machines. | Ongoing | Funding secured, surveys, project plan and planning application prepared and agreed.  
Work started Dec 15. Cashless machines to be agreed Jan 16. |
**LNR Work Programme**

**Core objective of the LNR work programme**
To protect and enhance the Local Nature Reserve at Daventry Country Park through the application of habitat management led by professionals, qualified either by proven experience, and/or the holding of NVQ 3 or above certificates in countryside management with the purpose of retaining and increasing the diversity of flora, fauna and habitats existent at Daventry Country Park Local Nature Reserve.

### Autumn/Winter Programme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Work to completed</th>
<th>By Whom</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AW1 Hazel Coppicing; selective, the ranked stools adjacent to path will be left as they need to age before harvesting.</td>
<td>MJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AW2 Winter Prune Orchard</td>
<td>MJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AW3 Sensitive and sympathetic stock fencing of foreshore</td>
<td>MJ, TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AW4 Foreshore; cutting crack willow, extracting willow timber, construction of habitat piles and raking remnants</td>
<td>MJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AW5 Foreshore; prune back coppiced willow</td>
<td>MJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AW6 Thinning of trees on circular paths</td>
<td>MJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AW7 Identify and mange standing deadwood, wind-blown, squirrel damaged, ivy bound and hung up trees</td>
<td>MJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AW8 Tern Rafts</td>
<td>TN, Friends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AW9 Bird Nest Boxes</td>
<td>Friends</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Spring Programme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Work to completed</th>
<th>By Whom</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S1 Sensitive and sympathetic stock fencing of foreshore</td>
<td>MJ, TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S2 Vegetation control on all paths</td>
<td>MJ, TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S3 Mow path edges (in early Spring)</td>
<td>MJ, TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S4 Bramble control of meadows</td>
<td>MJ, TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S5 Spring prune of Orchard</td>
<td>MJ, TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S6 Tern raft refurbishment and re-launch</td>
<td>MJ, TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S7 Mow hay meadow</td>
<td>Enterprise</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Summer Programme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Work to be completed</th>
<th>By Whom</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Su1 Mow meadows</td>
<td>Enterprise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Su2 Sensitive and sympathetic stock fencing of foreshore</td>
<td>MJ, TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Su3 Bramble control in meadows</td>
<td>MJ, TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Su4 Vegetation control on all paths</td>
<td>MJ, TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Su5 Mow path edges (in late summer)</td>
<td>MJ, TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Su6 Clear waterways and ditches</td>
<td>MJ, TN</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Seasonal updates will be included in the Local Nature reserve meeting minutes.

**Additional Management Information:**

- Where instruction is given to protect feeding/breeding habitat, this refers to the methods of managing flora that preserve and promote such vital habitat as the common nettle patch. Required by the “aristocrat” family of butterfly species to live and breed successfully as well as more than forty other species of insect.
- Where instruction is given to avoid disturbing nesting birds, this refers in part, to the times at which mowing can occur. A first cut in early spring before the birds have chosen nest sites and a second cut in late summer when the young have fledged. Furthermore, before mowing, a check should be made for any nests in the area to be mown, should a nest of any kind be discovered, the operative should avoid the nest site by at least a 2 metre radius.
- Where instruction is given to selectively prune pathways, this refers to a method of removing flora only when this benefits both visitors and the biodiversity of the LNR. Brambles should be removed from across paths but the patches should not be destroyed, in the interest of preserving vital feeding and breeding habitat.
- Hazel coppicing refers to the management method existent at DCP LNR whereby the hazel is cut on a 5 yearly cycle. Harvest hazel five years old or above only, wherever possible.
- Where instruction is given to manage ivy bound trees, this refers to the process of identifying trees, which due to the subsequent removal of the ivy will significantly increase public safety. Trees immediately adjacent to paths, where the ivy has grown into the crown, shall be the only trees that qualify for inspection, in regards to the removal of ivy.
- Where instruction is given to manage deadwood, this refers to the practice of risk assessing every mature living tree, which has a significant component of dead wood, and all dead trees. The intention of the LNR work plan in relation to dead wood is to balance the safety of visitors with the desire of the management to increase the amount of standing deadwood in the LNR. Currently standing deadwood is scarce due to small woodlands and proximity of said woodlands to pathways. This scarcity may result in the loss of species diversity.
6. Annual Review
The purpose of the annual review is to record the progress made by logging achievements and successes, measuring user satisfaction, acting proactively to feedback from public consultation and Green Flag Award judges. The chapter also outlines how we intend to build upon these successes and keep improving dialogue between all stakeholders.

6.1 Achievements and Successes

Events 2015/16

30-Mar-15 Circus Ginnett
06-Apr-15 Easter Egg Hunt (08-Apr-15 Mini Adventure - Wilderness Skills
25-Apr-15 Carboot Sale
02-May-15 Weedon Vets Sponsored Dog Walk
06-May-14 Octavian Droobers Orienteering
07-May-15 Wild Learning - Forest School Training
07-May-15 Braunston Pre-School
12-May-15 Falconers Hill Academy
30-May-15 Carboot Sale
31-May-15 Bear Wilderness Father & Son Day (Graham Swain)
06-Jun-15 Country Park Fun Day
14-Jun-15 Scouts Annual Raft Race
21-Jun-15 Bear Wilderness Private Booking (Graham Swain)
25-Jun-15 Ashby Fields School
27-Jun-15 Carboot Sale
28-Jun-15 Charity Bike Ride (Cycle for the Myton Hospices)
28-Jun-15 Bear Wilderness Father & Son Day (Graham Swain)
10-Jul-15 DSLV Year 7 Field Trip
18-Jul-15 Carboot Sale
19-Jul-15 Private Booking
24-Jul-15 Love Parks Week
24-Jul-15 Sensory Garden Official Opening
25-Jul-15 Outdoor Cinema Day
27-Jul-15 Mini Adventure - Wilderness Skills
02-Aug-15 Slimming World Mini Race for Life
03-Aug-15 Mini Adventure
03-Aug-15 Northamptonshire Waste and Energy Education Team
05-Aug-15 Cummins Team Litter Pick
10-Aug-15 Mini Adventure - Wilderness Skills
17-Aug-15 Mini Adventure
24-Aug-15 Mini Adventure - Wilderness Skills
24-Aug-15 Northamptonshire Waste and Energy Education Team
29-Aug-15 Carboot Sale
30-Aug-15 Daventry Sprint Triathlon
05-Sep-15 Daventry CycleFest
11-Sep-15 RSPB Recruitment Day
13-Sep-15 Bear Wilderness and Survival Birthday Party
18-Sep-15 DDC 20 million steps challenge (morning walk)
18-Sep-15 DDC 20 million steps challenge (Nordic Walking)
23-Sep-15 Private Booking (Watford Gap Crew Day)
26-Sep-15 Carboot Sale
11-Oct-15 Emergency Planning Exercise with Northamptonshire Fire Service
19-Oct-15 Wild Learning - Forest School Training
28-Oct-15 Mini Adventure (Bear Wilderness and Survival)
30-Oct-15 Halloween Spooktacular
01-Nov-15 Car Park Development
19-Nov-15 Wild Learning - Forest School Training
30-Nov-15 FoDCP Tree Planting
22-Dec-15 Santa Stop
02-Jan-16 Wassailing
21-Jan-16 Wild Learning - Forest School Training
01-Feb-16 Love Parks Anniversary Activities
06-Feb-16 Octavian Drobbers Orienteering
23-Mar-16 Circus Ginnett
28-Mar-16 Easter Egg Hunt

Other activities taken place within Daventry County Park included charity walks, memorial tree planting, tern raft building and Cummins in the Community volunteer days.

6.2 Park Improvements 2015/16
Path upgrades
Community sensory garden development (supported by Daventry and District Disability Forum)
Second large tern raft built and launched (supported by the Friends group)
Improvements to the classroom (supported by Cummins)
Cafe refurbishment (painting and improvements to seating area)
Toilet refurbishment (painted and new hand dryers)
Car park resurfacing
Public Space Protection Orders to keep dogs on leads or out of in designated areas

6.3 Public Satisfaction Results 2015/16
In order to ensure that the park meets the needs and expectations of our users requires a commitment to listening to users through a variety of channels and acting upon their comments.

75% of visitors travel by car with the remaining 25% visiting on foot.

62.5% of visitors used the Country Park for exercise and 50% for leisure and relaxation and bird and wildlife watching. 37.5% visit for dog walking, spending time with their families and bringing their children to play.

![](image)
TripAdvisor Rating 4.5 / 5.0 (110 reviews)
53 rated excellent 42 rated very good 12 rated average
2 rated poor 1 rated terrible

Facebook Rating 4.5 / 5.0 (44 reviews)

Building on our successes and keeping the dialogue going.
We believe that we can build upon the Park’s successes by a clear commitment to:
• see the Plan’s life span through to 2017
• a commitment to continue working with the local community to engage them both within the management and development of their green space and by engaging them in using their green space
• seeing the award of a Green Flag as a sign of continual improvement rather than a sign of ‘site completion and
• we intend to keep the dialogue open with the community, principally through supporting the work of the Friends of Daventry Country Park. By responding to users through these processes, we can start to build an increased user confidence in our services after decades of decline.

Also through continued sustainable and balanced management of the area and ensuring visitor interests are met it is hoped that 2016 will continue to be a clean, safe and welcoming place for visitors to spend outdoor leisure time.
Appendix A - Service Objectives and Standards

Enterprise Plc provides environmental services for Daventry District Council and Northampton Borough Council. As part of the contract, service outputs that detail the objectives, standards and performance that are to be achieved or exceeded by the service provider when delivering the service.

| SO3 (c) OPEN SPACES Parks (inclusive of Countryside, Premier & Playgrounds) |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| **5.3.3.1 SERVICE OBJECTIVES** | In compliance with all Service Outputs the SP shall develop, implement, operate, and maintain and where applicable manage all Parks as listed within the Asset Plan contained within the data room, taking on ownership and accountability of any management plan in relation to Green Flag actives for example, the SP shall provide a Parks service that enhances the appearance of the local environment |
| **5.3.3.2 SERVICE STANDARDS** | The SP will; |
| | • Ensure that all the parks & playgrounds throughout the area, except those within the Social Housing estates for Northampton throughout the area are welcoming, clean, safe and well maintained. |
| | • Maintain, develop and improve the natural environment of the parks & playgrounds throughout the area, including the expansion and protection of habitats of importance to nature conservation. |
| | • Ensure that the Country Park is recognised nationally for its welcoming, clean, safe and well-maintained open spaces, whilst providing a bio-diverse environment open and assessable to all. |
| | The SP will ensure that the Country Park retains: |
| | • The Country Park Accreditation Scheme from National England |
| | • Green Flag status |
| | • Local Nature Reserve Status |
| | • Retention of Conservation area status |
| | The SP will ensure that; |
| | • The parks designated by the Councils as premier parks are maintained to a level equivalent to Green Flag status. |
| | • Clean, safe and well-maintained lakes and watercourses. |
| | • Adhere to the national governing body standards for sports pitches and booking facilities. |
| | • Adhere to the national animal welfare standards for Aviaries, ensuring that the animals are well looked after and, kept safe and secure. |
| | • That all playgrounds are clean, safe & well maintained. |
| | • The future provision of high quality play equipment in parks through our the area |
- That all furniture within the Parks is clean, safe & well maintained.
- The future provision of high quality furniture in parks through our the area
- Work in partnership with the Councils’ enforcement functions in order to secure a clean, safe and tidy environment throughout the area

### 5.3.3.3 MONITORING

The SP shall explain how they will monitor and record compliance with the Service Standards and Performance Criteria set out within this specification.

### 5.3.3.4 PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

Base levels of performance for 2009/10 can be found within the data room. The level of service delivered and measured against the following performance criteria shall not be less than the base level for 2010/11. The Councils wish to discuss during dialogue the targets to be set against the following:

- The Country Park Accreditation Scheme from National England.
- Green Flag status.
- Local Nature Reserve Status.
- Retention of Conservation area status.
- National Animal Welfare Standards.
- National Governing Body standards for sports pitches and booking facilities.
- FA standards for football pitches.
- NI5 – overall/general satisfaction with the local area.
- LPI – Number of customer complaints.
- LPI – Assessment of Parks & Open Space based upon the PI and baseline established by Northampton Borough Council during 2009/10.

The SP must refer to the performance mechanism for key performance requirements.

The SP must adhere to the requirements specified within the Councils’ strategic documents, such as the Corporate Plan, and that these plans will change annually.

The SP must meet these targets as a minimum for baseline and future years.
APPENDIX B - Formal safety & maintenance inspections in Country Parks

• There is a daily patrol of main recreation areas and a weekly patrol of less intensively used areas with a checklist of features to inspect. Patrols will be recorded when necessary remedial action is identified.
• Children’s Play areas will receive a recorded daily visual inspection and a weekly-recorded inspection by the Park Rangers and an annual safety inspection by a competent independent specialist such as ROSPA.
• Legion Car Parks will check pay and display machines at the start of every day. Faults requiring an engineer will be ordered immediately on the same working day. (Engineer must attend within 48 hours).
• Lifesaving equipment for water safety will be inspected daily.
• Structural inspection of buildings and fixed electrical installations will be arranged by PSOD annually.
• A program of structural surveys of outdoor facilities such as bridges, culverts, and bird hides will be maintained with a competent structural engineer.
• Canals and Rivers Trust will undertake a schedule of inspection in accordance with the requirements of the Reservoirs Act 1975.
• All portable electrical equipment will have a combined test and certification. A schedule of formal visual inspections will be maintained as defined in the equipment register.
• Mature trees will be subject to an annual formal tree inspection. Daily visual inspections of high public use areas of the Park (zone 1) and weekly inspections of trees within zones 2 and 3 are conducted by the Ranger Team, identifying issues such as loose or damaged limbs, as well as the need to encourage new growth and develop sight lines. These inspections are particularly important after periods of high winds or gales and are conducted immediately after such events, irrespective of the proximity in time to any previous inspections.
• Formal quarterly Health and Safety inspections will be undertaken for every work area.
• Toilets will be inspected twice a day and cleaned once a day.
• Toilet rolls, soap dispensers etc. will be replenished immediately.
• Public notice will be displayed in every toilet, informing public how to report faults.
• Sanitary waste bins will be provided in public female and unisex disabled toilets and emptied by an appropriate contractor providing the appropriate waste transfer note.

Litter
• Car parks, building surrounds and main recreation areas will be litter picked every day.
• Litter will be picked up as soon as seen.
• Secondary recreation areas will be litter picked once a week.
• Public litter bins will not be provided, except next to the cafeteria
• Office waste recycling facilities will be provided.
• Notices will be displayed on the Park notice board and by the main entrance, asking people to take litter home and recycle.

Vandalism and Repairs
• Damaged or hazardous facilities will be repaired or made safe immediately.
• Arrangements for repairs will be made within 48 hours of becoming aware.
• Final repairs will be completed within 4 weeks if at all possible.

Graffiti
• Graffiti of an offensive nature will be removed within 24 hours of discovery.
• Other graffiti will be removed within 7 working days.

Fly tipping
• Will be made safe to the public immediately with adequate barriers.
• Arrangements for disposal will be made the same working day following assessment of hazards.
• Fly tipping will be cleared from site within 5 working days.

Abandoned cars
• Will be made safe to the public immediately with adequate barriers.
• Police and relevant District Council environmental Health department will be informed the same day and requested to display 7-day notice for disposal.
• Truly hazardous vehicles may be moved to a safe storage area immediately.
• The toxic residue from burnt vehicles will be cleared up before area reopened.

**Dog Waste**

• Will be emptied a minimum of once per week. Overflowing bins will be dealt with immediately.
APPENDIX C - Local Nature Reserve Committee, Terms of reference

NAME
The name of the Association shall be Daventry Country Park Local Nature Reserve Committee, hereinafter referred to as the LNR Committee.

OBJECTIVES & POWERS
The LNR Committee shall act as an independent body:

- to support and assist Daventry District Council and its partners in the effective running of Daventry Country Park and other associated areas, with particular reference to conservation work and opportunities to study, research and enjoy nature.
- to protect and enhance natural resources, local environment and open spaces to provide cleaner, safer, greener public spaces that highlight advantage of healthy outdoor life style.
- to ensure that the needs of conservation and recreation are balanced and that the management methods and proposals identified are appropriate and represent the best practice and best value in country park management.
- to demonstrate quality management to award bodies such as Natural England, grant agencies and potential sponsors.
- LNRs are of local, not national importance, and they set out the vision for development and principles for the management of Daventry Country Park.
- LNR committee will assist in research in matters relating to flora and fauna of Great Britain and conditions where they live. Ensure preservation of flora fauna or geological features of special interest in the area.
- the LNR committee will discuss the annual action plan and forward recommendations to DDC for action to and ensure this the schedule is followed

MEMBERSHIP
Membership shall be open to any appropriate persons, by invitation of the Committee wishing to assist the objectives of the LNR Committee.

OFFICERS & COMMITTEE
The LNR Committee shall be managed by Daventry District Council Community Projects Officer
The LNR committee will consist of chair and six other members include representatives from partners EMS
The members will have local knowledge and special interest in the Park
Each member should have a specialist area of expertise/knowledge to include rare breed management, flora and fauna, ornithology and countryside management.

SUBSCRIPTIONS
No subscriptions shall be payable for membership of the LNR committee.

FINANCE
No finance should be taken or considered at these meetings, this shall be managed in the general day to day running by Daventry District Council and Amey.

FREQUENCY
Meeting shall take place quarterly and will be arranged by the Community Projects Officer.
APPENDIX D - Daventry Country Park Visitors Survey

Daventry District Council is keen to gain the views of park users to assist with the continued development of the park, its facilities and the activities available.

All responses are confidential and any personal details will not be passed to any third parties and will only be used by Daventry District Council.

Thank you for your time, your comments are valuable to us.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Please rate your visit to Daventry Country Park</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 ⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. How often do you visit Daventry Country Park?
   - First Visit
   - Once a year
   - 2-5 times a year
   - Weekly
   - Daily
   - Other (please specify)

2. When do usually visit the park?
   - Weekdays
   - Weekends
   - Both

3. How do you normally travel to the park?
   - On foot
   - Car
   - Bicycle
   - Bus
   - Other (please specify)

4. How far do you travel to the park?
   Please provide your postcode

5. Who do you normally visit the park with?
   - Alone
   - Partner
   - Children
   - Other Family
   - Friends
   - Other (please specify)

6. Why do you normally visit the park? (Please select all that apply)
   - Exercise (walk or run)
   - Dog walking
   - Bringing children to play
   - Leisure/Relax
   - Cycling
   - Wildlife watching
   - Picnicking
   - Photography
   - For Events
   - Volunteering
   - Other (please specify)

7. Have you attended any of the following events hosted within the park?
   - Circus Ginnett
   - Easter Egg Hunt
   - Countryside Day
   - Family Cinema Day
   - Halloween Spooktacular
   - Santa Stop
   - Mini Adventures
   - Friends Group Walks

8. If you have used the play area recently, how would you rate it?
   - Very Good
   - Good
   - Fair
   - Poor
   - Very Poor

9. If you have used the visitors centre recently, how would you rate it?
   - Very Good
   - Good
   - Fair
   - Poor
   - Very Poor
10. If you have visited the café recently, how would you rate it?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Very Good</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Fair</th>
<th>Poor</th>
<th>Very Poor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

11a. How would you rate the following at Daventry Country Park?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Very Good</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Fair</th>
<th>Poor</th>
<th>Very Poor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Design &amp; Appearance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleanliness</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Maintenance</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ease of getting around</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Range of visitor facilities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Care and protection of wildlife</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Facilities and services for children</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facilities and services for adults</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11b. Do you have any comments about any of the above?

12. What facilities, events or activities would you like to see at Daventry Country Park?

If you are happy to be contacted about events and improvements at the park, please provide your email address.