

PARKS AND COUNTRYSIDE SERVICE

THORNTON HOUGH VILLAGE GREEN MANAGEMENT PLAN

2004/2008
(Revised 2005 & 2006)



2002-2003
Community Legal Services
2003-2004
Transforming Secondary Education
Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services
2006-2007
Positive Youth Engagement
(in the Community & Democratic Process)



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INTRODUCTION TO WIRRAL

Wirral is a peninsula of 60.35 square miles situated on the North West Coast, bounded by the Cheshire plain, the Dee Estuary, the River Mersey and the Irish Sea. It has a population of 326,620.

Wirral is one of five Metropolitan Boroughs of Merseyside; the Borough is divided into 49 'townships' the principle of which is Birkenhead. The Council was formed in 1974 following local government re-organisation. Sixty-six elected members represent twenty two political wards.

Wirral Council has established eight key corporate objectives.

The Department of Regeneration is committed to ensuring that we successfully provide, high quality, effective, efficient and best value services in all areas of the Departments work and thus deliver the Departments mission statement:

"Promoting a healthy, safer lifestyle and improving the quality of life for all."

The Department attracts over nine million visits to the wide range of leisure activities and facilities it is responsible for in the Wirral. This is spread across the following major services: - Parks and Countryside, Libraries and Cultural Services, Sport and Recreation and Community Services.

Parks & Countryside Service:

Managing and maintaining 1,240 hectares of parks and countryside sites on 264 sites, 1689 allotments, approx. 20 miles of coastline, 112 outdoor sports pitches and 79 playgrounds as well as providing a comprehensive ranger service, beach lifeguard service and maintaining four municipal golf courses.

The operational grounds maintenance service in Wirral is undertaken by the Departments 'in-house' grounds maintenance division, which achieved national quality accreditation to standard ISO 9002 during 1994.

1. Summary

The Management Plan is divided into sections for clarity.

Section 2 covers information about the site including designation, location, tenure and access.

Section 3 outlines a brief history of the site charting its passage into the public domain.

Section 4 states the proposed management strategy for the site embracing the key criteria set by Civic Trust for their Green Flag Award. It includes the main management objectives over a five-year period (2004 – 2008) which aim to ensure Thornton Hough Village Green's continuance as an environmental asset for both the village community and the appreciation of visitors from farther afield.

Appendices supporting Sections 2 and 4 consist of a location plan, aerial photograph and a schedule identifying all scheduled maintenance operations performed at the site.

2. Thornton Hough Village Green – Site Details



Location :-

Thornton Hough Village Green comprises of an overall area of some 3.3 hectares and is situated in the mid-Wirral village of Thornton Hough within the Clatterbridge ward.

The western extreme of the site abuts the B5136 Neston Road with Raby Road to the north east, agricultural land adjoins the playing field to the south of the area.

The neighbouring hamlet of Brimstage is situated approximately 4 kilometre distance from the village green.

Tenure :-

Thornton Hough Village Green is owned by Wirral Council's Department of Regeneration and is managed by the Parks and Countryside Service, Contact telephone no. 0151 666 4870.

e-mail: hep@wirral.gov.uk

web site: www.wirral.gov.uk

Access :-

The Green is situated close to the townships of Bebington, Bromborough and Neston. Thornton Hough village is served by a bus route, which passes along the B5136 immediately adjacent to the site.

The Green's main entrance is situated on its northern boundary and is distinguished by a commemorative oak built Lychgate positioned opposite the Parish Church of All Saints.

A car park with public toilet facilities provides open access onto the playing field and is situated on the southern boundary of the site. The car park is accessed from Neston Road.

The site is open along the length of the western boundary abutting Neston Road.

On road parking is available to visitors wishing to access the Green via the main Raby Road entrance.

This entrance provides suitable access for visitors with mobility difficulties to the top area of the Green and the play area.

Acts :-

The Green is designated a canine faeces removal area under the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996 and the children's play area is a dog free zone.

Present use :-

The site is the traditional 'Green' for the country village of Thornton Hough and forms a focal point for the community's outdoor activities. Locally organised events take place on the Green on a regular basis, for example the annual 'Scarecrow festival' organised by The Thornton Hough Community Trust is participated in by a large majority of the village residents.

The Green at this time becomes the hub for the culmination of the weeklong event hosting 'Fete Day'.

The Green plays host to a local Tennis club and provides a venue for both soccer and cricket matches complete with a picturesque half timbered, thatched roofed pavilion. Informal recreational activities such as dog walking and ball games are also very popular.

The children's play area was completely refurbished in 2001. The play area is very well used by both local residents and visitors from farther afield, who are attracted to this archetypal english village setting.

The village school, Thornton Hough Primary, utilise the Green for sport and curriculum based activities. The school's annual sports day is also held on the Green.

3. A Brief History

At the time of the Norman Conquest the village was called Toritone. During the reign of Edward II the land was owned by Roger de Thornton, his only daughter married Richard de Hough thereby establishing the village's current name.

By the beginning of the 19th Century, the village with a population of just 165, formed part of the great Neston Estate owned by Baron Mostyn of Mostyn in

Flint. Broken up into separate lots, the village and surrounding land was sold at auction in 1849.

Thornton Hough as we see it today is, almost entirely, less than a hundred years old! Note this description of the place as seen by a traveller in 1847: 'the village presents a very unpleasant appearance, and though it possesses a few tolerably good houses, the greater portion are of a very inferior description'.

Into this poor Cheshire village came, first, Joseph Hirst, a retired woollen merchant from Huddersfield, Yorkshire. Between 1866 and 1877 he built the parish church, the vicarage, church school, and the group of cottages and shops behind the church. These and other changes caused a later traveller to remark, 'Thornton Hough presents a collection of mansions and villas second to none in the Wirral Hundred'. Yet the biggest change was still to come, and all to do with soap!

In 1889 the first Viscount Leverhulme had started work on the village and also on the village and soap factory works of Port Sunlight; a few years later he bought Thornton Manor, a large mansion on the outskirts of Thornton Hough. The original house was built in the 1840's as an ordinary Victorian house. In 1888 William Hesketh Lever, later Lord Leverhulme, became the tenant and in 1891 he purchased it from Sir Thomas Forwood.

Within a few years of moving into the Manor he had knocked down the old village buildings and in their places he built houses similar in architectural style to those at Port Sunlight. He also built a school, a girl's orphanage, shops, a club, and a village smithy, complete with spreading chestnut tree! The Congregational church, built in imitation Norman style, was commissioned by Lever, who insisted that no expense be spared in its design and erection.

The village green transferred to municipal ownership, Cheshire Local Authority, during the 1930's.

4. Management Strategy

The following section aims to set out the management strategy for Thornton Hough Village Green utilising the Green Flag Award Scheme's eight key criteria.

The existing management of the Green is described under these eight headings. The main management objectives, relevant to each of the criteria are identified at the end of each section.

Section 4.8 "Management" describes all of the main objectives in closer detail and the proposed timing of implementation is displayed in table format.

4.1 A Welcoming Park



Thornton Hough village is signposted from junction 4 on the M53 motorway and from the Chester High Road A540 at its junction with Parkgate Lane and Neston Road.

Thornton Hough is one of the most attractive villages in Wirral and Cheshire. The Green can be accessed at any point along its boundary with Neston Road from the adopted highway. A small public car park with toilets is located at the western end of the Green on Neston Road.

The main entrance is on Raby Road, through the recently constructed Lord Leverhulme Memorial lych gate.

At the junction of Raby Road and Neston Road there is an attractive entrance with seating and planting and additional access points through and at the end of the hawthorn boundary hedging along the road.

Main Entrance

Situated directly opposite the parish church of All Saints is the main entrance to the Green. This is defined by a recently constructed lych gate using green oak with traditional wrought iron fixtures under a slate roof. This was built using funds raised by the Thornton Hough Community Trust.

The siting of a display cabinet at this location is to be arranged to provide current and relevant information on activities, contact names and telephone numbers for public use.

Replacement of rose beds with annual bedding at this location is intended for 2004.

Neston Road / Raby Road

This attractive entrance is surfaced using York flagstones and provides hardwood-seating set amongst annual bedding and fine turf with a backdrop of Escallonia and hawthorn hedging.

At this location is an oak and 'scrolled' ironwork signpost commemorating Thornton Hough's success in the national best kept village championship.

Neston Road Car Park

The small car park at this location is well used, mainly by dog walkers and picnickers. The car park and public toilets here are managed by the Department of Regeneration's Environmental Health Section and are open 24 hours / 7 days per week.

Signage informing the public to 'clean up' after their pets is in place.

Objectives

4.1.1	Supply and erect notice board at main entrance
4.1.2	Continue good housekeeping to all entrances
4.1.3	Replant main entrance with annual bedding

4.2 Healthy, Safe and Secure



The Green benefits from the presence of a dedicated mobile team of 2 gardeners. It is also serviced by a qualified playground maintenance operative who visits the children's play area every working day to ensure its safety. Play Area inspection and report sheets are completed daily and forwarded weekly for analysis and filing.

Litterpicking of the site is carried out three times per week from April to September and once per week from October to March. The Green is designated a canine faeces removal area supported by signage at entrance points. The play area is a dog ban area and is fenced and signed.

The attractive thatched and timbered changing pavilion is rented to football and cricket teams seasonally and cleansed on a weekly basis. Although offering basic communal changing it does have shower and toilet facilities.

Wirral Council operate a 24-hour Community Patrol Force established to provide the public with a measured response to any act of vandalism or anti – social behaviour.

In addition the layout of the Village Green assists local monitoring of the site by residents.

Wirral Council have a written and up to date health and safety policy.

There are public toilets located at the western edge of the Green in the Neston Road car park. They are managed by the Department of Regeneration's Environmental Health Section and are open 24 hours / 7 days a week.

The tennis courts are exclusively used by Thornton Hough Tennis Club and maintained by them in partnership with Wirral Council. Members of the public can join the club and are provided with a key to the courts.

Objectives

4.2.1	Continue current maintenance systems
4.2.2	Continue to implement Health and Safety policies
4.2.3	Promote continued positive use of site by individuals and groups



4.3 Well Maintained and Clean



The Green benefits from a dedicated mobile team of 2 gardeners. In addition the children's play area is inspected every working day by the playground maintenance operative.

A written programme of work is issued to the teams in accordance with their quality management system on a quarterly basis. This lists operations and frequencies over that period.

An Annual Maintenance Schedule identifying operations and frequencies is enclosed to highlight programmed works throughout the year (see appendix 3).

Litterpicking is programmed to ensure a good standard of cleanliness throughout the year and bins are provided at suitable locations. Dog owners are encouraged to clean up after their pets in accordance with the council's 'Dog Watch' campaign and this has proved successful to date.

Horticultural maintenance throughout the Green can be seen to be of a good standard providing cricket, football and ornamental gardens.

The children's play area was reconstructed in 2001 with a contribution from the Thornton Hough Community Trust and conforms to EU safety standards for equipment and surfacing.

The shrub and tree stock is appraised annually and any removal, replanting or pruning is carried out as part of a winter programme of works identified and co-ordinated by the Area Manager.

The condition of seating in the park is assessed yearly and repairs and repainting are carried out as required.

A system of annual inspection for the site is being introduced this year and will be carried out by the Area Manager. Any defects noted will be either dealt with immediately or included in the winter works programme.

Any urgent repairs (i.e. to footpaths) are temporarily re-instated by parks department staff.

It is proposed to relay and re-edge the footpaths from the main entrance around the tennis courts, within the term of the plan.

It is intended to remove the rose beds each side of the new lychgate and replace them with annual bedding to improve first impressions. This will be carried out during winter 2003/2004.

Maintenance of the pavilion situated on the Green is carried out via the Department's day-to-day repair system or its planned preventative maintenance programme.

Day to day repairs (i.e. vandalism, leaks etc) are identified, logged on computer and issued to the appropriate trade using the Council's own in-house tradesman or contractors on the select tender list.

Planned programmed maintenance schemes are submitted by the Department (i.e. re-roofing/new showers) to the Department of Property Services for inclusion in the programme for that year.

The two tarmac surfaced tennis courts are managed jointly between Wirral Council and Thornton Hough Tennis Club. Although structurally sound the surface is in need of some additional attention and a refurbishment of both courts has now begun and should be completed during spring 2005.

Objectives

4.3.1	Continue with current maintenance regimes
4.3.2	Improve tarmac footpaths around tennis courts
4.3.3	Replace rose beds with annual bedding
4.3.4	Continue re-stocking of planted areas as required
4.3.5	Refurbish surface of both tennis courts

4.4 Sustainability

Wirral Council has an Environmental Policy. By the year 2008 Wirral intend to achieve ISO 14001 accreditation standard and to have Environmental Management Systems operational within all Council Departments.

The Environmental Management System Objectives, which have been based on the Corporate Environmental Policy, have been defined as follows:

- To reduce pollution through the implementation of Wirral Council's Travel Plan and by promoting the use of sustainable means of transport among the Authority's staff.
- To reduce energy use and the impacts of our energy consumption.
- To make more efficient use of resources, particularly water, reducing consumption and waste.
- To reduce the environmental impact of the Authority's waste production.
- To raise environmental awareness and responsibility amongst all the Authority's staff.
- To include environmental criteria in the Authority's procurement processes.
- To integrate environmental issues into corporate and service planning.
- To use the Authority's influence to encourage environmental responsibility in businesses in the Borough.

To date the following objectives have been achieved:

- ✓ 10% reduction target in white paper usage met.
- ✓ CO2 emissions from fleet vehicles reduced by 6%.
- ✓ 5.3% reduction in CO2 emissions from buildings.
- ✓ 27% reduction in metered water consumption.
- ✓ Number of fleet vehicles running on LPG increased to 10% of fleet.

The Council's Local Agenda 21 Strategy development is determined by the Policy and Resources Committee. Senior Officers representing each of the departments have formed an LA21 Corporate Officer Group, to exchange information and initiate and monitor pilot schemes and progress towards our policy statements.

The Council's Local Agenda 21 Policy statements are:

- Promote healthy and productive lifestyles in harmony with the environment.
- Conserve Wirral's heritage, actively encouraging schemes, which improve Wirral's quality of life.
- Make better use of local and global resources, by using methods of production, consumption and development, which don't damage the earth.
- Develop skills, which have very little impact on the environment, and minimise waste.
- Set targets and regularly review our progress towards sustainability.
- Accept individual and collective responsibility for the global environment.
- Promote local assets.
- Maintain bio-diversity, which means nurturing the flora and fauna that lives in Wirral.
- Encourage partnerships between the Council and the community, sharing knowledge and skills.
- Encourage personal and community ownership of local schemes.
- Embrace community initiatives on Local Agenda themes.
- Involve young people in decisions being made about their environment.
- Raise awareness of LA21 issues through involvement with business, residents, community and special interest groups.

- Promote LA21 to as wide an audience as possible.
- Share information with the community.
- Agree what can be done to move towards a better long-term future.

Pesticide usage within the park is confined to the application of non-residual type Herbicide to control weed growth. The Department has looked to minimise pesticide usage and has eliminated 'residual' type Herbicides from parks.

C.O.S.H.H. assessment records of all chemical based products used within the park form part of the Departments ISO 9002 Quality Assurance procedures. Pesticide records are retained at the district depot Warren Farm. Chemical usage within the site complies with the current pesticide handling legislation.

All tree 'brash' resulting from Arboricultural work and cuttings arising from shrub pruning performed at the Green are chipped and subsequently utilised for mulching.

A trial of potting compost with reduced peat content is being undertaken for the production of the annual bedding requirements for Thornton Hough for summer 2004. For 2006 all annual bedding potting compost will have a peat content reduced to 50%.

Water and energy consumption is monitored at all of the Departments sites and where necessary modifications are made to minimise wastage and thereby achieve economies in usage in line with Wirral Council's Environmental Management Policy.

The village is served by a regular bus service which runs along Neston Road the nearest bus stop is conveniently positioned a short walk from the Green.

As a result of the Environmental Audit carried out in 2005 the following recommendations were made: -

1. Edges could be strimmed rather than sprayed with herbicide.
2. Ensure that bedding and other stock continues to be sourced from a supplier using reduced peat compost.
3. The Department should ensure the infrastructure at Warren Farm is appropriate for separation of waste and composting where possible.

Objectives

4.4.1	Undertake environmental audit.
4.4.2	Apply principles of LA21 Policy in regard to the Greens management.
4.4.3	Continue to minimise usage of pesticide in the park.
4.4.4	Trial reduced peat based compost used in bedding plant production.
4.4.5	Continue to monitor consumption of electricity and water.
4.4.6	Undertake study for separation of green waste and composting at Warren Farm.

4.5 Conservation and Heritage



Thornton Hough Village, including the Green, is designated a Conservation Area by Wirral Council's Planning Department. It is one of the 21 Conservation Areas in the Borough. This status recognises the significance of

the village's special architectural heritage. Forty of the village properties were listed Grade II in 1986.

The Village is historically significant, built to form a part of the estate of the former Lord Leverhulme, with the intention of housing the estate's workforce. The concept of providing accommodation, within a pleasant environment, for workers was employed in the construction of the village of Port Sunlight in Wirral where Lord Leverhulme, the wealthy industrialist and philanthropist, owned the Sunlight Soap factory. See the 'brief history' section of this document for more information.

The village consists of a fine example of mixed architectural styles with construction dating from the turn of the century.

The range of characterful building styles range from ornate red brick cottages to black and white two and three storey half-timbered Tudor style terraces. The village is also complimented by two fine sandstone churches, a village school, the local public house and the village Smithy, which is situated opposite the Green's thatched roofed pavilion. They all combine to present a quintessential English village setting.

The Village has achieved the national award of best kept village in the Championship Class during the years 1964, 1968 & 1973; it was awarded Class winner in 1959, 1963 & 1972. The awards are proudly commemorated on a prominent sign surrounded by 'scrolled' wrought iron work atop an oak post situated at the junction of Raby Road and Neston Road.

The Village benefits from a Conservation Committee affiliated to Thornton Hough Community Trust, which is made up of local residents and ward Councillors. Issues affecting the village such as planning applications are considered by the Committee.

The cricket pavilion roof was re-thatched by Wirral Council during March 2003.

All trees on the Green are protected by preservation orders under the Conservation Area status afforded to the village. To the south of the site the boundary abutting neighbouring farm land consists of a mixture of mature native species deciduous trees which present a back drop to the Green. The group is comprised of Oak, Poplar, Sycamore and Lime. A full survey of condition and requirements is to be initiated.

Planting to the upper area of the Green consists of individual thorn and ornamental varieties of Prunus and Sorbus, borders of annual bedding and hedging of thorn, Privet and Escallonia. The Hawthorn hedging, forming the northern boundary of the site has been replanted in order to ensure its continuance as a distinctive feature.

A 'Millennium Arch' lychgate entrance was erected in memory of Viscount Leverhulme during the year 2003. Funds were raised for the project by the Thornton Hough Community Trust with a contribution from the Leverhulme Estate. The feature contributes considerably to the ongoing heritage of the site.

The production of a Nature Conservation Plan is to be undertaken during 2007 to identify and preserve the Green's bio-diversity.

Objectives

4.5.1	Conserve/improve existing hard and soft landscape features
4.5.2	Undertake survey of tree stock and prioritise annually
4.5.3	Produce Nature Conservation Plan

4.6 Community Involvement



Thornton Hough Community Trust is made up of a membership of 65 and has associated bodies such as the Conservation Committee, the Grants Committee and the Road Safety Committee. The trust group evolved from its original beginning as the Village Millennium Committee in 1998.

Membership is open to all residents and organisations located in the neighbouring parishes of Brimstage, Raby, Raby Mere, Storeton and Thornton Hough.

Members elect a chair, secretary, treasurer and twelve trustees each year.

The Trust group liase with Officers of the Council.

The Trust have recently contributed towards the purchase of picnic benches and litter bins for the Green.

The village school, Thornton Hough Primary School, use the Green for their sports curriculum and hold their annual Sports Day on the site. The school also uses the area for part of their science curriculum i.e. signs of autumn.

The 2 tennis courts on the Green are leased to Thornton Hough Tennis Club and individuals wishing to play can do so by joining the club for a nominal annual fee of approximately £15.00.

The annual village Scarecrow Festival is held for one week during the summer and is co-ordinated by a sub-committee of Trust members. This is a considerable undertaking on behalf of the village.

The artificial cricket wicket situated on the Green is the only facility of its kind available for casual hire on a one-off basis in the borough and offers an attractive venue for occasional play to the wider community.

The football pitch is available for seasonal hire and currently three local teams are using the facility.

Both the cricket wicket and football pitch are available for hire through the Department of Regeneration.

Objectives

4.6.1	Continue working with Trust and user groups
4.6.2	Continue provision of a varied and interesting programme of events and facilities
4.6.3	Continue to promote the use of the sports facilities to the wider community

4.7 Marketing



The 'Thornton Hough Community Trust' produces a newsletter on a quarterly basis, which is entitled 'The Crow' and which raises the awareness of issues relating to the area.

The annual village 'Scarecrow Festival' is organised by the Trust's Festival Working Group. The festival is attended by thousands of visitors and has become increasingly popular since it's original inception in 1999.

Visitors to the event are encouraged to return to the village and it's green by the charm and unique quality of the area. The annual festival provides a considerable amount of publicity for the Green by means of television and press reports about the event and area. Visit the Scarecrow website at :-

www.scarecrowfestival.co.uk

The Green, of course, mainly serves the surrounding village community, as was originally intended. Understandably the area has gained considerable popularity with visitors from the wider Wirral catchment area and further afield with visitors attracted to spend their leisure time, which encompasses both passive and active recreational pursuits within this very attractive setting.

A number of local history books and guides to Wirral, which are available from local booksellers feature Thornton Hough in various capacities and have a positive effect in generating interest and encouraging additional visits to the area. Various images of the village are often depicted in photographic and watercolour drawings, some of which also feature on postcards and calendars.

The village is featured on a number of informative internet web sites, entering the village name for example in the 'Google' search engine identifies in excess of 1100 sites.

Wirral's only four star hotel the 'Thornton Hall Hotel & Health Club', a country house built in the 18th century by the Bamford family, Liverpool shipping magnates, is situated within close walking distance to the village and Green. It offers 63 bedrooms and hosts conferences, attended, at times, by visitors from across the world.

A notice board to be sited at the main entrance will display interpretative material including maps, forthcoming events, user group contacts, WMBC contacts, etc and will be updated throughout the year.

It will encourage understanding and awareness of the site.

When considering additional marketing of the Green, we must balance the potential impact of increasing visitor numbers on the needs of the local community. Consequently this is at present to be kept at a sustainable level.

Objectives

4.7.1	Promote site to local and wider community
4.7.2	Improve site informatics.



4.8 Implement effective management strategies

Create a welcoming park

4.1.1

Supply and erect notice board at main entrance.

The provision of an information board to be installed adjacent to the new 'Millennium arch' has been agreed with the village Trust. Supply and fixing will occur during 2005.

4.1.2

Continue good housekeeping to all entrances.

Surface management of the hard porous material to the Neston Road car park will be carried out during spring 2004 to maintain levels.

4.1.3

Replant borders adjacent to the main entrance.

Over-mature rose beds situated either side of the new lychgate are to be stripped and replaced with annual bedding during 2004. This will create a more pleasing and welcoming entrance.

Healthy safe and secure

4.2.1

Continue current maintenance systems.

The Green should continue to be serviced by a dedicated mobile team of gardeners and qualified playground maintenance operative. These operatives will also act as a link between Wirral Council and the Green's community.

4.2.2

Continue to implement health and safety policies.

All ground staff servicing the Green are aware of their individual responsibilities and will continue to implement good practices.

Health and safety policy will be reviewed and revised as necessary.

4.2.3

Continue positive use of the site by groups and individuals.

'Use reduces abuse' – Wirral Council's liaison with the 'Trust' and sports users will ensure a continued positive presence on the Green. Any feedback will be assessed by the Council and prioritised to ensure the public value the Green as a resource.

Well maintained and clean

4.3.1

Continue with current maintenance regimes.

Existing systems for horticultural maintenance should be retained. Procedures for maintaining the infrastructure, buildings, and furniture on the Green should also be continued.

4.3.2

Improve tarmac footpaths around tennis courts.

Fretting of the tarmac footpaths is to be addressed on a rolling programme over the term of the plan.

4.3.3

Replace rose beds with annual bedding.

The existing over-mature/woody roses at the main entrance should be replaced with annual bedding to improve aesthetics.

4.3.4

Continue re-stocking of planted area as required.

The annual tree and shrub stock appraisal identifies any areas/beds where gapping-up or renovation is required. A programme of additional tree planting began in 2000.

4.3.5

Carry out tennis court surface refurbishment.

In association with 'Thornton Hough Tennis Club' it has been agreed to improve the condition of the surface of both courts by cleaning, applying Herbicide, binding and re-painting. It is anticipated that this will be carried out during 2005.

Sustainability

4.4.1

An Environmental Audit of the Green will be undertaken during 2005. The audit findings will be incorporated into the development plan during revision of the document.

4.4.2

Continue to apply the principles in accordance with the LA21 strategy and take regard for their inclusion and consideration where and when relevant to all aspects of the Green's management.

4.4.3

Continue to minimise pesticide usage within the park, utilising non-residual Glyphosphate based Herbicide only, application via C.D.A applicator. Confine use to areas of hard surfacing and borders of established shrub planting only. In all other circumstances cultural methods of weed control are to be utilised such as hoeing, hand weeding and strimming.

4.4.4

A potting compost with a 20%, by volume, reduced peat content is to be utilised for bedding plant production during 2004.

For 2006 a potting compost with a 50% by volume reduced peat content will be used in all annual bedding.

4.4.5

The Department in conjunction with the Property Services Department will continue to monitor consumption of Water, Gas, and Electricity at all Council sites including the Green's pavilion in order to achieve further reduction in energy usage.

4.4.6

Undertake study at Warren Farm for separation of waste and composting.

Conservation and Heritage

4.5.1

Conserve/improve existing hard and soft landscape features.

Original features including the pavilion, planting and footways should continue to be maintained and/or upgraded to retain the integrity of the Green within it's setting of a Conservation Area.

4.5.2

Undertake survey of tree stock.

A programme of tree management is to be drawn up and prioritised for the site. Once begun this will continue on an annual basis.

4.5.3

Produce Nature Conservation Plan.

During 2007 it is intended to assess the site and make recommendations for preserving and enhancing the Green's natural flora and fauna.

Encourage Community involvement

4.6.1

Continue working with the Trust and user groups.

The Department will continue to support and encourage the Trust and user groups with attendance at meetings, events and positive response to individuals as requested.

4.6.2

Continue provision of a varied and interesting programme of events and facilities.

The Department will continue to support community initiated events and provide quality public facilities for use throughout the year.

4.6.3

Continue provision of sports facilities.

The Department will continue to provide and promote sports facilities.

Marketing

4.7.1

Promote site to local and wider community.

Production of the Trust's quarterly newsletter will continue and will be distributed within the local and wider parish.

4.7.2

Improve site informatics.

Supply and erection of a notice board is intended for 2005. The Department and the Trust will ensure that information and interpretative material displayed will be current and relevant.

This table displays the main management objectives identified for Thornton Hough Village Green and the proposed timing and implementation presented over the coming 5-year period.

OBJECTIVES					
		Lead Officer	Funding Source	Target Date	Objective Achieved
4.1.1	Supply and erect notice board at main entrance.	Senior Parks Development Officer	From existing resources	2005	✓
4.1.2	Continue surface maintenance of car park area.	Area Parks Manager	From existing resources	2008	
4.2.1	Continue current maintenance systems.	Area Parks Manager	From existing resources	2008	
4.2.2	Continue to implement Health and Safety policy.	Area Parks Manager	No funding implication	2008	
4.2.3	Continue positive use of site.	All Staff	No funding implication	2008	
4.3.1	Continue with current maintenance regimes.	Area Parks Manager	From existing resources	2008	

4.3.2	Carry out resurfacing to tennis court footpath.	Senior Parks Development Officer	From existing resources	2005	✓
4.3.3	Replace old rose beds with annual bedding.	Area Parks Manager	From existing resources	2005	✓
4.3.4	Continue re-stocking of planted areas.	Area Parks Manager	From existing resources	2008	
4.3.5	Tennis court surfacing refurbishment.	Senior Parks Development Officer	From existing resources	2005	✓
4.4.1	Carry out Environmental Audit	Environmental Co-ordinator	No funding implications	2005	✓
4.4.2	Continue to apply principles of LA21 in regard to the Green's management.	All Staff	No funding implications	2008	
4.4.3	Continue to minimise pesticide usage.	Area Parks Manager	From existing resources	2008	
4.4.4	Continue to trial alternatives to Peat based composts.	Principle Officer Parks Management	From existing resources	2008	
4.4.5	Continue to monitor energy consumption.	Parks Administration Officer	From existing resources	2008	
4.4.6	Undertake study for waste and composting at Warren Farm	Area Parks Manager	From existing resources	2006	✓
4.5.1	Continue to conserve and improve existing hard and soft landscape features.	All Staff	MBW/THCT	2008	
4.5.2	Undertake survey of tree stock.	Area Parks Manager	From existing resources	2005	✓
4.5.3	Produce nature conservation plan.	Wildlife Officer	From existing resources	2007	


4.6.1	Continue working with the Trust and user groups.	All Staff	No funding implications	2008	
4.6.2	Continue provision of a varied and interesting programme of events and facilities.	Parks Administration Officer	From existing resources	2008	
4.7.1	Continue to promote site to local and wider community.	Senior Parks Development Officer	From existing resources	2008	
4.7.2	Improve site informatics.	Senior Parks Development Officer	From existing resources	2005	✓



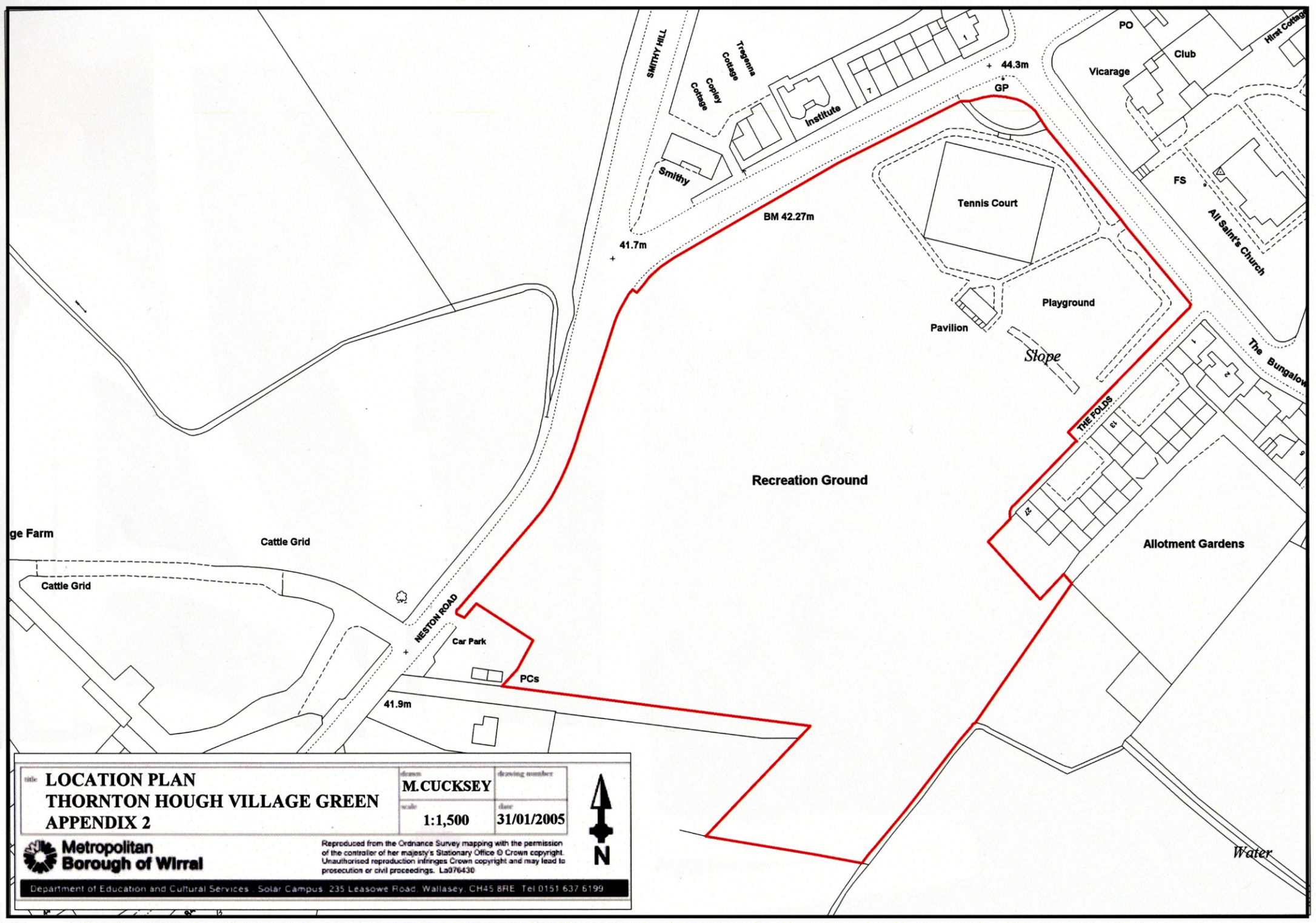
title AERIAL PHOTO
THORNTON HOUGH VILLAGE GREEN
APPENDIX 1

drawn M.CUCKSEY	drawing number
scale 1:1,500	date 31/01/2005



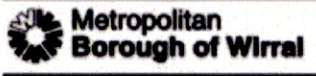
 **Metropolitan
Borough of Wirral**

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title **LOCATION PLAN
 THORNTON HOUGH VILLAGE GREEN
 APPENDIX 2**

drawn M. CUCKSEY	drawing number
scale 1:1,500	date 31/01/2005



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Thornton Hough Grounds Maintenance (1)

January to the end of June week numbers.

Weekly items

Daily items

3 Per Week

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
General Grass Mow with cylinder								<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
General Grass Mow with rotary								<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
General Grass W/F lines Litterpick/Spot treat																	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
General Grass Bank Mow + Strim obstacles 3 Occ								<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Premium Ornamental Grass Mow + Edge												<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Annual Bedding Spring Strip Beds																										
Annual Bedding Spring Hand dig beds																										
Annual Bedding Spring Collect & plant plants																										
Annual Bedding Spring Maintain Bedding						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>							
Annual Bedding Summer Strip Beds																						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Annual Bedding Summer Cultivate/Fertilize																						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Annual Bedding Summer Collect and plant plants																						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Annual Bedding Summer Maintain bedding																									<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Annual Bedding Summer Water Bedding																									<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Shrubs Prune (Any time after flowering)																										
Shrubs Litterpick/Spot treat																<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Shrubs Annual clean out/Tidy beds								<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>																		
Hedges Cut Ornamental 2sides/top																										<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Hedges Cut non ornamental 2sides/top																										<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Hedges Base Litterpick/Spot treat Herbicide																		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Hedge Base Clean out 2 occasions																										<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Staked Trees Check YST'S										<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>																
Staked Trees Litterpick/Spot treat tree bases																	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Play Area Lubricate play equipment												<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>														<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Play Area Daily inspection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Play Area Litterpick/Sweep/Bins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Play Area Maintenance and repairs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Litterpick Park on a Weekly basis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Litterpick Park 3 times/week																										
Pavilion weekly clean all year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Pavilion 6 monthly clean																									<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Pavilion inspect & report on water system																										
Ditches & Watercourses Mow Banks																					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
Ditches & Watercourses Bottoming Ditch																										
Hard Surfaces Litterpick/Spot treat 5% of area																	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>									<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Cricket Outfield Mow Cylinder								<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Cricket Outfield Initial Mark Boundary													<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Cricket Outfield Overmark Boundary														<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Cricket Outfield Slit Tine										<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>																
Cricket Outfield Deep Scarify													<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>													
Cricket Outfield Roll											<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>															
Cricket Outfield Selective Herbicide																						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				

