

# Central Parks Management Plan 2024 - 2029



Produced by the City Services Division  
and key Central Parks Stakeholders

updated January 2025

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# Section 1 - Introduction

## 1.1 Introduction

This addition of the Central Parks management plan is an evolution of the original required in 2001, after the successful bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) - Urban Parks Programme, secured £4.5 million for restoration and development works.

The management plan sets out the general principles that should be applied over the five year term and includes an action plan for specific developments and improvements.

The management plan is a 'live' document in that the development of the park is guided by the plan but not limited by it. Staff working in the park and the various key stakeholders have assisted in writing the document and have copies to refer to during the year.

This plan must be read in conjunction with the *"Green Flag Management Principles"* which provides the overarching principles and corporate approach to green flag management in Southampton. This plan only includes site specific information and has been written to follow the categories judged for the Green Flag Award. The Green Flag Award measures the performance of all aspects of park management against set criteria. It represents the best industry practice for public green open space management, while allowing and encouraging the individuality of parks to shine through.

## 1.2 Vision Statement

**"While respecting the heritage layout of the Grade II\* Central Parks, to further develop them through continual improvement so that they remain relevant and functional for today's visitors."**

## 1.3 Aims

This management plan seeks to ensure that Central Parks are maintained in the condition to which they have been restored and managed to a high standard, thereby protecting the investment. The aims of the plan are:

- To ensure that Central Parks are maintained to a high standard;
- To protect the investment made in the park's restoration;
- To actively encourage the community in the management and maintenance of the park;
- To continue to achieve the Green Flag Award for the park;
- To manage the park efficiently and maximise revenue generation;
- To provide a working manual which may be reviewed periodically as the council chooses.

## 1.4 Objectives

A number of objectives have been identified for Central Parks and these will continue to be applicable. Specific actions to address these objectives are identified in the Action Plan in section 6.

- To keep Central Parks clean and litter free;
- To maintain horticultural features according to recognised horticultural practice;
- To maintain infrastructure to be safe, clean and welcoming;
- To increase the Biodiversity within Central Parks;
- To improve the range of facilities within Central Parks;
- To consult and work with the community whilst developing Central Parks;
- To increase sustainability through procurement and new working practices.

## Section 2 – Park Guide

### 2.1a Description of Central Parks

Central Parks is an area made up of a chain of five individual parks which, in configuration, form a straightened “Z” running north-south through Southampton City Centre. Each park consists of an island of land which is defined by the road network. As shown in the plan at 2.1b, from north to south the components are West Park (also known as Watts Park); to the east of this is East Park (also known as Andrew’s Park); to the south of this is Palmerston Park; south of this is Houndwell Park; and then east of this is Hoglands Park.

The Grade II\* registered parks, which together form Central Parks, provide 21 hectares (50 acres) of lawns, mature trees, gardens, historic monuments and recreation facilities in the City Centre. Included in this are 8 listed monuments, all-weather tennis courts, Mini Golf, play area, cricket pitch, bandstand, skate park, Multi Use Games Court, café, and toilets.

Central Parks add a sense of arrival to the centre of Southampton, with many visitors actually travelling through them if entering the city from the north or east. All parks are easily accessible from the adjacent streets with wide tree lined avenues and plenty of places to sit and rest. Signage at the entrances and within the parks allows visitors to fully explore their surroundings and take advantage of the facilities on offer. All bus routes across Southampton serve Central Parks and car parking is available within short walking distance.

## 2.1b Plan of Central Parks



## 2.2 West Park (The Arts Park)



*Isaac Watts Memorial, 1861 –*

West Park is also known as Watts Park after the monument of Isaac Watts which occupies a central position. The present layout is based upon the east-west axis that was established in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> Century. Originally the park had one focal point, the Watts monument (1861), but the Cenotaph (designed by Edwin Lutyens), was added in 1920 on the eastern edge of the park. The east-west axial path links the two monuments and then continues further west until it divides and leads to two entrances in the north-west corner and at the western end of the park. The sculpture 'Enclosure' by Paul De Monchaux, erected 2000, was commissioned under the HLF scheme. The four metre high stone sculpture frames four skyline landmarks in and around the park and is a good meeting / discussion point for some of the guided walks and talks.

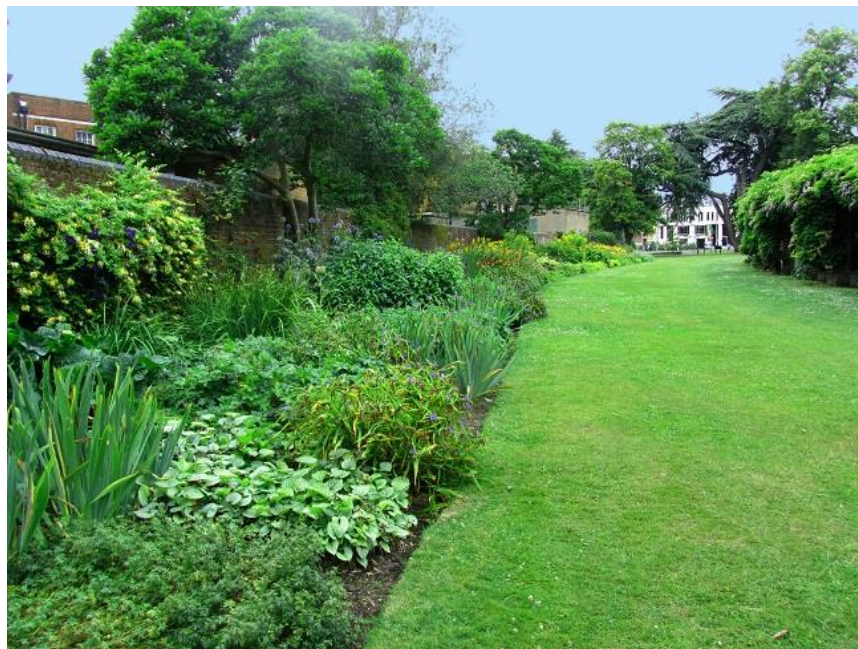
## 2.3 East Park (The Fountain & Pergola Park)



*Queens Peace Fountain renovated in 2021*

East Park is also called Andrews' Park after Richard Andrews, a prominent local businessman and five time mayor of the city. His statue was erected in 1860. Historically East Park was also known as East Marlands, and can be divided into two parts.

The northern part has the Andrews' monument at the centre. Four walks radiate out from it, to the north, east, south and west. All connect up with a circular walk, referred to as "the Ring". The Andrews' monument is the centre point of the Ring. The prolific planting in this section is some of the most diverse in the parks, the beds being restored from historic plans of the layout. The varied mixture of botanically interesting shrubs, herbaceous beds and the Wisteria Pergola are arguably the most complimented features of the parks. A mosaic garden, created as part of the HLF scheme in 2000, lies alongside the Ring, on the site of a previous pool and fountain. The Titanic Engineers Memorial was unveiled in East Park in 1914 and is dedicated to the engineer officers, none of whom survived the disaster. Also found at the park is the Queen's Peace fountain which was partly sponsored by the City of Southampton Society, and the Pavilion which houses the café and is the centre for the recreational facilities such as Tennis and Mini Golf.



*Herbaceous bed and wisteria pergola, East Park*

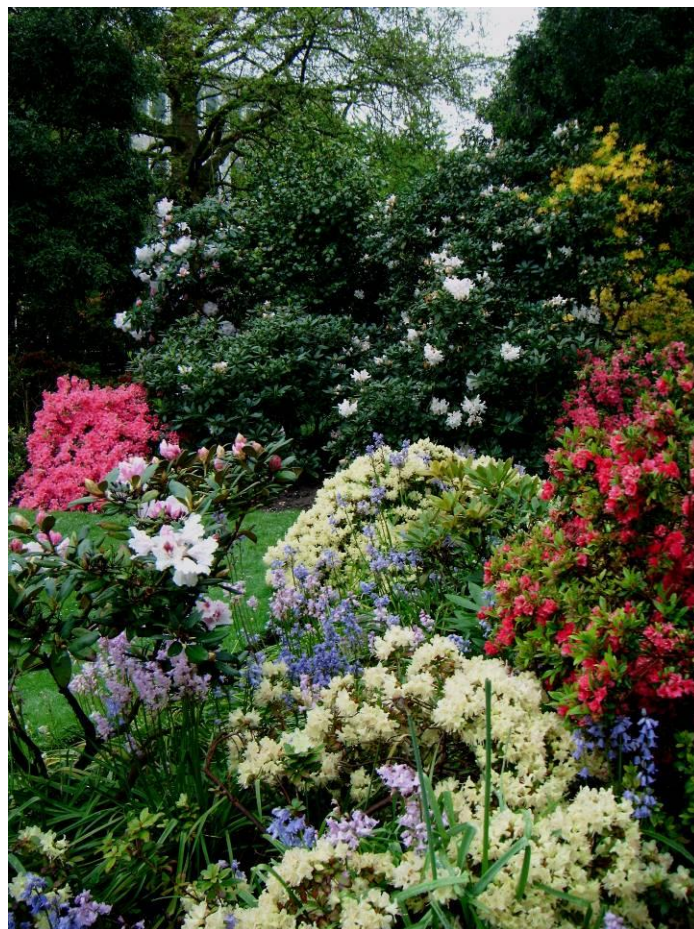
## 2.4 Palmerston Park (The Spring / Bandstand Park)

Palmerston Park is named after the 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount Palmerston, the MP for South Hampshire best remembered as a reforming and jingoistic Prime Minister and Foreign Secretary. The Palmerston Memorial was unveiled in the park in 1869. The bandstand (built 2000) is also found in Palmerston Park.

An important design feature of Central Parks and especially Palmerston Park is the north-south avenue. In addition to this there are two cross paths connecting opposite corners and one which connects the west side to the east. All of these cross each other, but the points at which they do so do not precisely

coincide with the avenue, they are just off to one side of it. There is also a lesser diagonal path that cuts across the north-west corner of the park. This follows an irregular course, the other paths are straight.

The north-west corner forms a projection from the main body of the park and links it directly to Above Bar Street. Historically this was where Fairfield fronted onto Above Bar Street and there was a line of tall trees along the boundary of the two. This is another densely planted area, with the main planting theme being “Ericaceous plants” and is much loved especially when it is in full bloom in the spring. We have slowly been adding Hydrangeas and various summer flowering bulbs to extend the flowering season into the summer.(Many of which are considered frost tender but flourish & proliferate in these city centre parks).



*Ericaceous plants in Palmerston Park*



## 2.5 Houndwell Park (The Play and Picnic Park)

Again, an important designed feature of Houndwell Park is the north-south avenue. At about the centre of the avenue is a triangular node where the cross-paths meet. As in Palmerston Park, this point does not quite coincide with the avenue but lies just to the east of it. However, it creates a pleasing irregularity within the layout. From this node, paths radiate out to the west, north-west, north-east, south-east and to the entrance in the south-west corner which was reopened in 2000. In the triangle is the Melly Memorial Fountain. The William Chamberlayne Gas Column, a tribute to another local MP, was placed at the southern end of the main avenue in 2000, as part of the HLF scheme. The current play area, opened 2013 is also found in Houndwell.



## 2.6 Hoglands Park (The Sports / Youth Park)

Hoglands Park is roughly square in plan with a projecting area at its southern end. Hoglands is an important park for active recreation such as informal sports & ball games and contains a skate park, a multi-use games court and barbeque picnic area, making Hoglands very popular in the summer. This park has a noticeably more relaxed, less formal feel. The area around the perimeter is managed for biodiversity and is informal with a native emphasis. Hoglands is also used for staging large events in the city centre.

The path system is composed of crossed paths. One of these runs in an east to west direction across the southern end of the park. Two diagonal paths link the corners (or approximate corner in one case) of the park. Where these diagonals meet is a paved area with the pavilion.

## Section 3 – Heritage and Conservation

### Reasons for Designation

Central Parks, Southampton, developed on former common land from 1846, are designated at Grade II\* for the following principal reasons: \* Date: the parks are an early example of municipal parks; \* Design: although enhanced, the parks' design is essentially unchanged from their original layout which developed in the 1840s and 1850s; \* Historic interest: the parks' have rich time-depth, formerly having been part of the town's Lammas lands; \* Structures and features: the parks have numerous listed structures, including the town's war memorial and the Titanic Engineers Memorial.

Historic England

#### 3.1 Brief History

From the medieval period up to the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, the land on which the parks were constructed belonged to four of the fields that were part of Southampton's ancient field system or Lammas Lands. This meant that for half the year, through spring and early summer they were privately cultivated, but for the other half, they were common land.

The fields in question from north to south were:

- West Marlands, now mainly occupied by the Civic Centre and West Park
- East Marlands, now mainly occupied by East Park and the northern part of Palmerston Park. The part now in Palmerston Park was also known as Fairfield
- Houndwell, now mainly occupied by Houndwell Park, the southern part of Palmerston Park and part of Hoglands Park
- Hoglands, which more or less coincides with the present Hoglands Park.



*Victorian sketch of East Park*

In 1844 the Southampton Marsh Improvement Act gave the Council the powers it needed to transform the majority of the Lammas Lands into public parks. The current layout of the parks was established mainly between 1854 and 1866, and it is likely that the design evolved in stages. No designer has been identified or any master plan found. The parks are listed Grade II\* on Historic England's Register of Historic Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest.

## Timeline

1854

to Central Parks layout established, including Watts, Andrews and Palmerston monuments  
1866

1885 Original Bandstand erected



*West Park c1910*

1914 Titanic Engineers Memorial unveiled

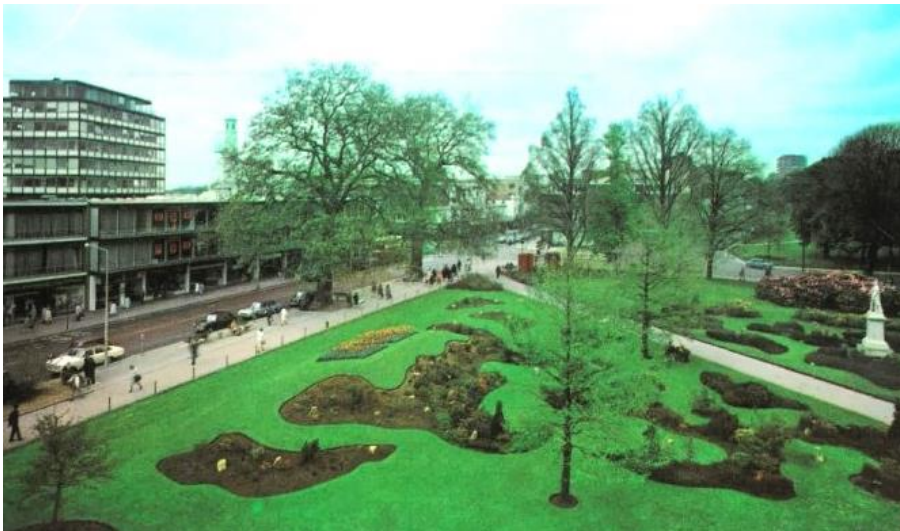
1920 Cenotaph unveiled

1922 The Bowling Green, Lawn Tennis Courts and Pavilion opened in East Park.



*East Park c1910*

- 1934 Bird Avery erected on north-west corner of East Park
- 1935 Rock Garden opened at a cost of £9000
- 1940 Bandstand removed due to bomb damage during World War II
- 1960's  
& Ericaceous planting developed around Palmerston Memorial.
- 1970's



*New ericaceous planting 1970 – Palmerston Park*

- 1989 Memorial trees planted in Hoglands commemorating those who died when a bomb hit an air raid shelter in the park during World War II
- 1992 Bird Avery removed
- 1997 The Heritage Lottery Fund awarded the City Council a grant of £3.5 million towards a £4.5 million restoration and development programme for Central Parks. The scheme included the restoration and enhancement of historic features, footpath reconstruction, public art and re-establishment of lost features. The main aim of the scheme was to increase enjoyment and understanding of both residents of Southampton and visitors to the city. The programme was successfully completed in the summer of 2001 and enabled important improvements to be carried out.
- 2004 Central Parks received its first prestigious Green Flag Award which has been successfully maintained every year it has been entered since.
- 2010 Construction of mini golf course on disused bowling green.
- 2011 Installation of 8 etched panels (designed by Martin Donlin) erected either side of the Cenotaph containing the names of the fallen of the First World War replicating the original engravings which unfortunately are becoming increasingly illegible on the Cenotaph.
- 2012 Millvina Dean Garden opened SW corner of West Park

- 2013 New Play Area opened in Houndwell Park
- 2019 Renovation and repainting of all Central Parks railings.
- 2020 Enclosure created in East Park on former lawn tennis courts  
Barbeque picnic area installed in Hoglands Park



- 2021 Multi use games court (cage cricket) constructed in Hoglands Park  
Peace Fountain renovated in East Park  
Dilapidated toilet building, store and score tower demolished in Hoglands Park
- 2023 Remodelled café and toilets open in East Park.
- 2024 Last year of formal bedding within Central Parks

### 3.2 Landscape Features

The landscape features of Central Parks have earned it the protected status of Grade II\* on the Register of Historic Parks and Gardens. This is acknowledged in the council’s Local Plan, which “does not permit any development in or near the parks that would detract from their character or historic value”.

Important landscape features within Central Parks:

- Horse chestnuts line along southern boundary (West Park)
- The visual link between the “Enclosure” sculpture, Watts Monument and Cenotaph (West Park)
- The Ring, circular walk (East Park)
- The Queen’s Peace Fountain (East Park)
- The Mosaic Garden (East Park)
- The Rock Garden (East Park)

- The Rose Beds (East Park)
- Lime tree lined vista from Andrews Monument (East Park) to Chamberlyne Gas Column (Houndwell Park)
- Ericaceous Beds (Palmerston Park)



Lime tree avenue

The original 2001 management plan highlighted the issue of general over planting of trees within the parks which had detracted from the original historic layout. However it also highlighted the importance of the structural avenues of trees planted (identified above) and the need to preserve these features with like for like replacements when an individual tree fails.

### 3.3 Buildings and Structures

Central Parks provides a setting for one major historic building, the Civic Centre (Grade II) and for 8 Grade II listed monuments:

- The Isaac Watts Monument (West Park)
- The Cenotaph (West Park)
- The Titanic Memorial (East Park)
- The Richard Andrews Monument (East Park)
- The Sundial (East Park)
- The Palmerston Memorial (Palmerston Park)
- The Melly Memorial Fountain (Houndwell Park)
- The William Chamberlayne Gas Column (Houndwell Park)

The Ancient Monuments Officer regularly inspects these monuments and any ad hoc issues such as vandalism or graffiti are reported to her by park staff. It is recognised that the historic structures and landscape of Central Parks are indelibly linked and must be managed in a sensitive manner.



*The Cenotaph - West Park - photograph by Ffion Jones*

### 3.4 Biodiversity

The predominant historic natural feature of Central Parks is inherited from the medieval field system it replaced. This site was originally chosen for its openness and proximity to the old town and was ideal for the use required at the time i.e. cultivation and open common. It is therefore devoid of any ancient natural features such as, woodland or watercourses that would have greatly increased habitat formation and biodiversity.

Central Parks are therefore essentially a man-made formal landscape feature, however that does not mean that biodiversity has no place. They are now managed to ensure that biodiversity does not decrease and that where possible, biodiversity is enhanced.

Efforts to increase on-site biodiversity and increasing public perception on the subject includes:

- Installation of bird boxes high in the trees on the eastern side of East Park. Although there is a long held fear that boxes in urban areas could potentially attract birds to them, only to be knocked down by vandals, this hasn't proven to be the case within Central Parks

- Of the two ponds integral to the Rockery in East Park, one has had all the fish removed to make way for wildlife. It now boasts a breeding population of Smooth Newts, Frogs & Toads, and a plethora of aquatic invertebrates. Ongoing maintenance is necessary as some visitors liberate their unwanted fish and terrapins into the wildlife pond from time to time.
- In 2020 an area of Hoglands Park was laid with a meadow rich turf introducing much needed wildflowers into Central Parks.
- In 2024 the last few carpet flower beds were removed and replaced with a mix of bulbs and wild flower mix.
- From 2025 grass margins around trees will only be cut at the end of the season to encourage biodiversity.
- Since 2021, over 25 bat boxes have been installed in various sites across Central Parks. Bat walks in 2022 and 2023 have confirmed foraging activity from common pipistrelle in all the parks and recordings have been achieved of soprano pipistrelle activity.
- Nature in the City interpretation signage.



- We take biodiversity into account in every new planting scheme – even if that just means using the more Bee friendly single flowered cultivars rather than the less useful double flowered cultivars.



## • Section 4 – Community Involvement

### 4.1 Hoglands Park

We have been working hard with Skate Southampton and the Hansard Gallery to deliver a new bespoke concrete skate terrain. It will offer a great facility for all abilities.



We are building a unique, state-of-the-art concrete skate terrain to replace the aging steel construction which will be as good to look at as it is to use.

### 4.2 All Central Parks

SCC have sought feedback on a range of ideas for the parks through online consultation. This is proving to reach a wider range of park users, perhaps because it is in a contemporary format and because many of the park users don't necessarily live locally but still care about its future.

Community and special interest groups are consulted in park developments and as much as is practical (pending conflicting opinions) incorporated into any new projects or changes of use.

The City of Southampton Society and the closely related (with many shared members), Commons and Parks Protection Society (SCAPPS) continues to provide a key role in sharing their opinions in Central Parks. Regular meetings are held with them to discuss ideas and provide feedback on potential improvements to the Parks.

The location of the Parks in the city centre and the regional role they play as a destination has in the past resulted in few local community groups getting involved in the management and maintenance of the parks. The changing nature of the city centre and increase in residential development is likely to provide greater opportunities for residential and community groups linked to the parks in the future. Although Central Parks are seen largely as a civic resource, we are still striving to find opportunities to increase the involvement of local community groups and their linkage to Central Parks.

# Section 5 – Marketing and Communication

## 5.1 On-site Staff Presence

One of our best assets in marketing and communication are the dedicated on-site staff based in Central Parks. Their orange Hi-Viz uniform clearly identifies them to the public giving an opportunity for questions and conversations.

## 5.2 On-site Signage

Southampton City Council’s Legible Cities project has improved signage throughout the city centre. This provided a key opportunity to ensure that there is more effective signage to the parks from different parts of the city centre. As shown in the photo – the parks are a significant feature on these signs.



This signage, which is situated in or next to the entrance of the parks, will assist in promoting the parks to visitors who might otherwise be unaware of their existence. Other signage improvements have been made including information on biodiversity.



## 5.3 On the web and on “the move”

People’s main source of information is now on the web and on ‘the go’. This provides us with great opportunities to get messages to users in a timely fashion. Central Parks have a dedicated page on the Southampton City Council website with information about the parks, current consultations on planned development and a link to the management plan.

Home > People & Places > Parks & Open Spaces > Parks > Central Parks

### Central Parks

**Within this section**

- > Central Parks
- East Park
- Hoglands Park
- Houndwell Park
- Palmerston Park
- West Park

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Southampton Central Parks have recently been awarded the prestigious Grade II\* listed status on the Historic England Register of Parks and Gardens of special historic interest. This upgraded listing recognises the parks' national importance as examples of early municipal parks whose layout and design remains substantially intact, enhanced by notable monuments of social and historic interest associated with significant historical events.

Central Parks are also registered Common Land, which offers them additional protection.

The award winning, Grade II listed Central Parks are a green oasis in the heart of the city and were established between 1854 and 1866.

Central Parks cover an area 21 hectares and are divided into five parks, with their own individual characters:

- [Andrews \(East\) Park](#)
- [Hoglands Park](#)
- [Houndwell Park](#)
- [Palmerston Park](#)
- [Watts \(West\) Park](#)

[Central Parks' management plan](#)

[Proposals for improvements to central parks](#)

<https://www.southampton.gov.uk/people-places/parks-open-spaces/parks/central/>

## 5.4 Events



Southampton Mela Festival in Hoglands Park

Events in Central Parks are publicised in a number of ways through posters and leaflets displayed in the parks, Gateway, libraries, Civic Centre reception and @

[Events in Southampton | What's On | Visit Southampton](#)

Press releases and adverts in local media promote major events.

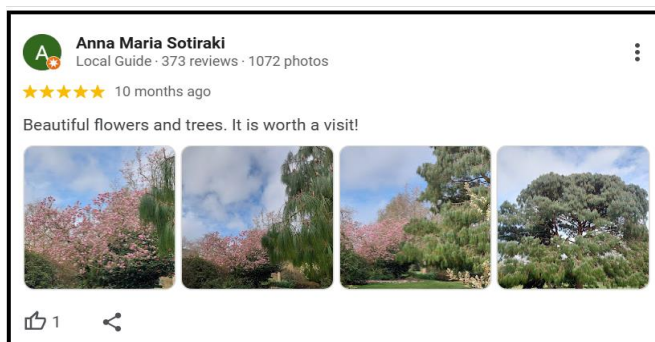
The following events are scheduled in and around the main City Centre Parks in 2025. Other events are due to take place in the nearby Guildhall Square which also increases visitors to the parks.

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
Every Monday	Health Walk - Come and enjoy a gentle walk in good company around the Parks No booking required – Approx. 45mins	Meet inside the Central Library near the Macmillan section @ 10.30am
19 - 23 Feb	Half Term Tree Climbing	Watts Park
6 Apr	ABP Southampton Marathon	Central Parks & City Wide
24 – 31 May	Hoglands Park Community Fair	Hoglands Park
5 – 6 June	Southampton Thai Festival	Hoglands Park
7 - 8 Jun	Pride Party in the Park	Hoglands Park
14 Jun	EID TBC	Hoglands Park
12 - 13 Jul	Mela Festival	Hoglands Park
25 Jul	Southampton Play Day	Hoglands Park
9 Nov	Remembrance Sunday Service and Parade	West Park at Cenotaph
11 Nov	Armistice Day	West Park at Cenotaph

## 5.5 User Feedback

Current trip advisor ratings are:

West Park	4*
East Park	4.5*
Palmerston Park	4*
Houndwell Park	4*
Hoglands Park	3.5*



## Section 6 – Actions and Recommendations

### 6.1 Action Plan

This dynamic working document is reviewed and updated annually. Some proposed actions are aspirational and will depend upon sourcing adequate funding. Although the plan has been ordered according to Green Flag criteria, several of the actions fall under more than one heading. The actions below are over and above the core maintenance tasks undertaken by the Central Parks Team

Action	Lead officer	Key partners and consultees	Estimated resource required and source of funding	Target Completion date	Progress / Comments
<i>A welcoming place</i>					
Continue the program of Health Walks	Sustrans	NHS	N/A	Ongoing	
Create dedicated picnic area including facilities for BBQs	Cliff Brown	SCAPPS, CoSS, Nick Yeats	C.£10k Section 106	Summer 2020	Complete
New parks signage in Hoglands	Matthew Lovell	Parks team	£42,800 External grant funding	2022	Complete
Refurbishment of East Park Pavilion Café	Nick Yeats	Property Services	£130K	2022	Complete
Replace worn out seating along paths with more robust metal benches.	Cliff Brown	Parks Team	£1000 per bench	Ongoing	Ongoing as benches fail
Remove pile of mushroom compost from path terminus in East Park and keep clear to preserve historic vista	Kelvin Wyatt	Parks Team	BAU	2025	
<i>Healthy, safe and secure</i>					
Reduce hedge height to the rear of the Rock Garden to make the site less attractive to anti-social behaviour	Simon Buston	SCC officers and Central Parks Team	Officer Time	2021	Complete

Action	Lead officer	Key partners and consultees	Estimated resource required and source of funding	Target Completion date	Progress / Comments
Systematic programme of rodent treatments to reduce rat population within Central Parks	Justin Crow, Kelvin Wyatt	Nick Yeats, Simon Buston		Ongoing	Selected areas are fenced off from public access whilst intensive treatment is undertaken
New gates installation to the tennis courts and repairs to fencing	Matthew Lovell	Simon Buston	5k	2021	Complete
Prop up mulberry tree in Watts Park	Loz Scott	Tree Team	BAU	2024	Complete
Removal of dead trees	Will Taylor	Tree Team	Revenue budgets	Ongoing	Ongoing as and when trees fail
Updating Play Area and replacing worn out equipment	Matthew Lovell	Simon Buston	£150,000	2025	
<i>Clean and well maintained</i>					
Replace and re-landscape old Lawn Tennis Courts following recent consultation to provide dog exercise, and small events space.	Cliff Brown	Widespread consultation taken to establish widest catchment.	Arts funding £30k	2021	Complete
Renovate Peace Fountain	Nick Yeats	SCC Officers, SCAPPS, Ward Cllrs	£150K	May 2021	Complete
Resolve walk-off damage in West Park, Palmerston Park and East Park.	Cliff Brown	SCAPPS, CoSS,	£40k	2023	Complete
Formalise desire line within East Park with green rubber crumb path to prevent erosion and improve appearance	Cliff Brown	SCAPPS, CoSS	£10K	2023	Complete
East Park coffin beds. Removal of 2 beds adjacent to trees and renovate remaining 4.	Kelvin Wyatt	Officers, Central Parks Team	2K	2021	Complete

Action	Lead officer	Key partners and consultees	Estimated resource required and source of funding	Target Completion date	Progress / Comments
Renovate Rock Garden and ponds	Kelvin Wyatt	Officers, Central Parks Team	30K	2025	Rock garden previously overtaken by the invasive three cornered leek. This has been removed and some replanting complete. More required to infill and replace where new plants have been stolen. The ponds require repair.
Resurface and repaint Tennis courts	Matthew Lovell	Officers	5k	2022	Complete
Carry out repairs to Mini Golf Course	Matthew Lovell	Officers	2k	2022	Complete
Removal of dead box hedging around Issac Watts memorial and the Cenotaph and replace with Euonymus japonicus Jean Hugues which is tolerant to drought, pests and diseases	Kelvin Wyatt	Officers	2k	2025	
Replace the steel skate park with a zero maintenance concrete skate park.	Cliff Brown	Southampton Association of Skateboarders SCAPPS, CoSS, Nick Yeats, Active Nation	£250k	2026	Section 38 application stage
Renovation of herbaceous bed adjacent to Wisteria Pagola	Central Parks Team	Kelvin Wyatt	BAU	2025	

Action	Lead officer	Key partners and consultees	Estimated resource required and source of funding	Target Completion date	Progress / Comments
Investigate solutions to lessen damage to grass areas by vehicles in restricted areas and path junctions.	Kelvin Wyatt	Landscape	5k	2025	
<i>Environmental Management</i>					
Install electric vehicle point in East Park Yard	Fleet Transport	Simon Buston	£1000	January 2020	Complete
Implement electric compact sweepers	Fleet Transport	Simon Buston	£1,000,000	2021	Complete
Implement compactor bins	Dave Tyrie	Simon Buston	£92k	Winter 2022	Complete
Install additional leaf mould bay within East Park Depot to reduce disposal costs and reuse to enrich beds	Matthew Lovel	Simon Buston	Quote stage	2026	
<i>Heritage and Conservation</i>					
Repainting Central Parks railings	Property Services	City Services	£170k	2021	Complete
Review planting and maintenance regimes to benefit wildlife and increase biodiversity.	Cliff Brown	Ecology Team, Civic Society.	£5k Section 106	Ongoing	Wildflower turf at Hoglands completed 2020. Review and identify further suitable sites within Central Parks.
Commence replacement programme for dying horse chestnut trees with walnut trees	Will Taylor	Cliff Brown, Parks Team	£350.00 per tree	Ongoing	Commenced 2023. 6 replacements planted to date.

Action	Lead officer	Key partners and consultees	Estimated resource required and source of funding	Target Completion date	Progress / Comments
Replacing annual bedding with more sustainable bulb and wildflower mix.	Cliff Brown	Parks Team	£10,000 initial cost, reclaimed over two years and then a £5,000 per year saving.	2025	2024 spring – Final bedding (£5,000)  Complete
Realigning fence at the N.E corner of East Park to edge of park reclaiming previous lost land to a highways scheme and producing an illusion of a previously removed historic entrance.	Cliff Brown	SCAPPS, CoSS, Parks Team	£2700	2024	Complete
<i>Community involvement</i>					
Increase community involvement in Central Parks	Ranger Team	Cliff Brown, CoSS, SCAPPS	Officer time	Ongoing	Several groups and individuals have shown an interest in Central Parks.
Look for alternative use for original site occupied by the Hoglands Toilet, Store and Score Tower building.	Cliff Brown	SoCo, Cage Cricket, Southampton Association of Skateboarders Awaaz Radio, West Itchen Community Trust, Hansard Gallery, Nick Yeats	£250k?	ongoing	There is a proliferation of interest in developing this site from many groups. SCC to work with them to get an agreed specification and identify funding.



Action	Lead officer	Key partners and consultees	Estimated resource required and source of funding	Target Completion date	Progress / Comments
<i>Marketing and communication</i>					
Ensure the council website is kept up to date with Central Parks info and event updates	Cliff Brown	Cliff Brown, Simon Buston	Officer time	Ongoing	Includes making use of "What's on" pages
<i>Management</i>					
Further engage community groups in Central Parks management	Simon Buston	Cliff Brown SAoS, SoCo, Hansard Gallery, Hampshire Cricket, West Itchen Community Trust.	Officer time	Ongoing	
Engage with planning and development of key sites at the boundaries of Central Parks in order to make necessary physical links to the Central Parks network. e.g. East Park Terrace	Nick Yeats	Planning Department	Officer time, (\$106 monies to carry out any necessary works)	Ongoing	Major developments around Central Parks impact how the park is used and accessed. Need to continue to engage in the planning process to ensure allocation of developer contributions to undertake park improvements.
Improve sport facilities in Hoglands Park with installation of a MUGA for Cage Cricket	Cliff Brown	SCAPP, CoSS, Nick Yeats,	Section 106 and grant from Landfill Tax Scheme	2021	Complete