

PART TWO (DRAFT COPY)

** Please note: This is a draft document , this Appraisal is in draft form only and has not been approved by Council. You are being provided with a copy of this appraisal as a Key stakeholder for the purposes of seeking your views at this early stage. Please note the draft appraisal is not for wider distribution at this stage and is provided to you on that basis. A wider public consultation will take place in due course.*

4.LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS & DESIGN CONCEPTS

4.1 CONCEPT OVERVIEW

The future design of the park should be sympathetic to the special landscape quality of the history of the park within the wider landscape setting within the National Character Area 37: Yorkshire Southern Pennine Fringe within close proximity to the Peak District National Park and National Character Area 51: The Dark Peak. The design should seek to protect, maintain and manage the existing landscape character and to sustainably develop and enhance the site's existing distinctive sense of place.

The current landscape of the park offers unique opportunities to:

- Protect, enhance and maintain existing views of the wider landscape and restore historic designed views within the park.
- Ensure the best of the remaining landscape character and quality is retained and enhanced.
- Ensure the highest quality remaining features are coherently integrated within the future landscape experience.
- Ensure a managed and exciting new layer of this landscape's history is achieved for the benefit of the community.
- Opportunity to use traditional and contemporary designs, materials, crafts and other interventions to introduce a modern layer which responds to the unique sense of place.












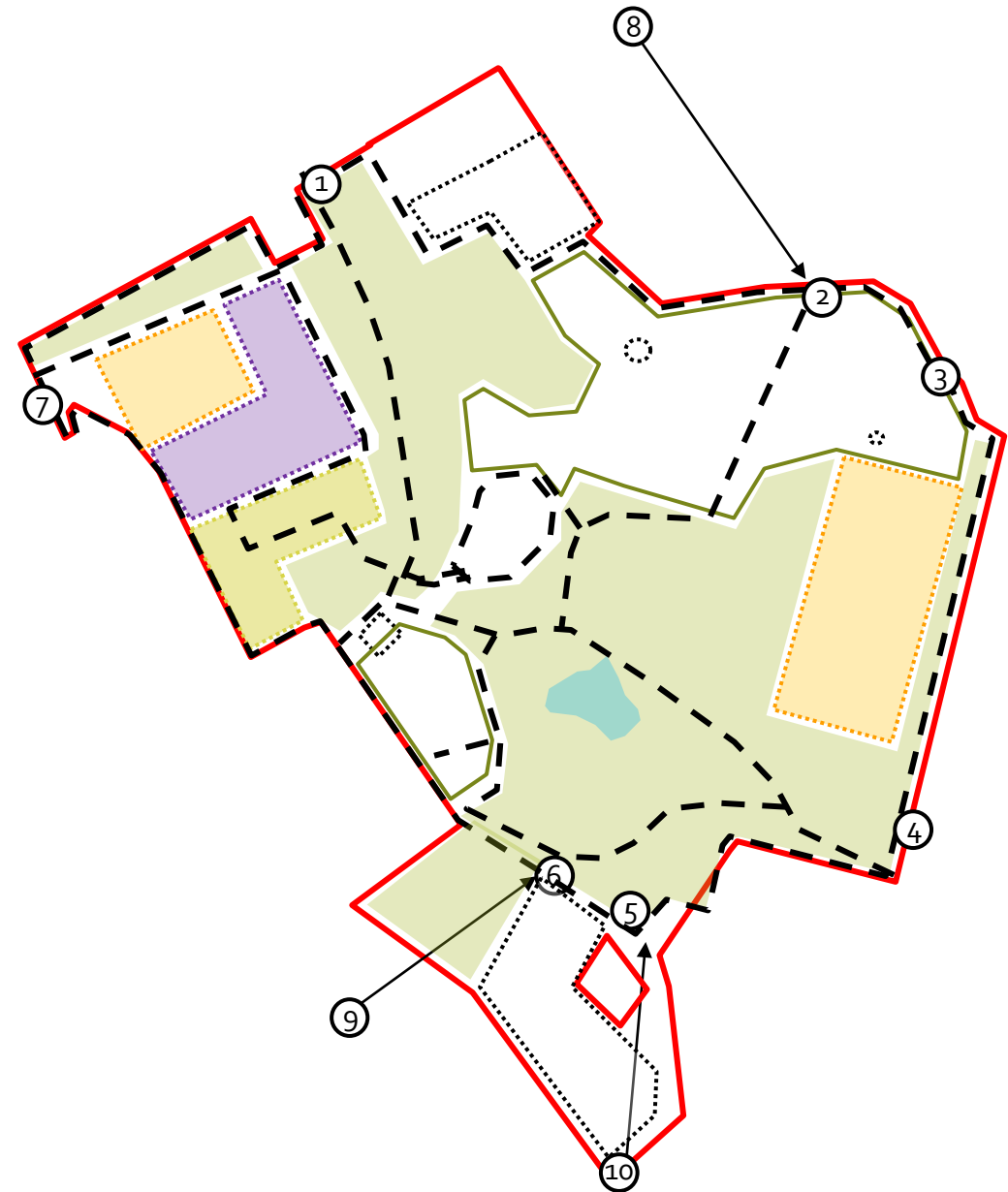
4.2 INDICATIVE CHARACTER AREAS

This plan illustrates the proposed Landscape Character Areas for the site.

Each character area has unique values and features which contribute to the park's rich and varied landscape experience.

Key character areas include:

-  Site Boundary
-  Infrastructure (Boundaries, entrances, routes and signage)
-  Trees and woodlands
-  Pond
-  Parkland
-  Formal gardens
-  Play park
-  Sports (Tennis Courts and Football pitch)
-  Other facilities (Walled Garden and Allotments, Bandstand, Toilets and Youth Shelter)



4.3 INFRASTRUCTURE

The Infrastructure of the park is considered in the following categories:

Boundary types:

- Type A: Stone wall perimeter boundary with highway
- Type B: Mixed boundary treatments shared with neighbouring properties
- Type C: Semi – Permeable Wooded or planted edge

Entrance types:

- No 1: Main Entrance: User conflict
- No 2 & 3: Secondary pedestrian entrance within planting
- No 4 & 7: Secondary pedestrian entrance within the boundary wall
- No. 5,6 and 8: Entrances to site from the wider area (signage applicable only)

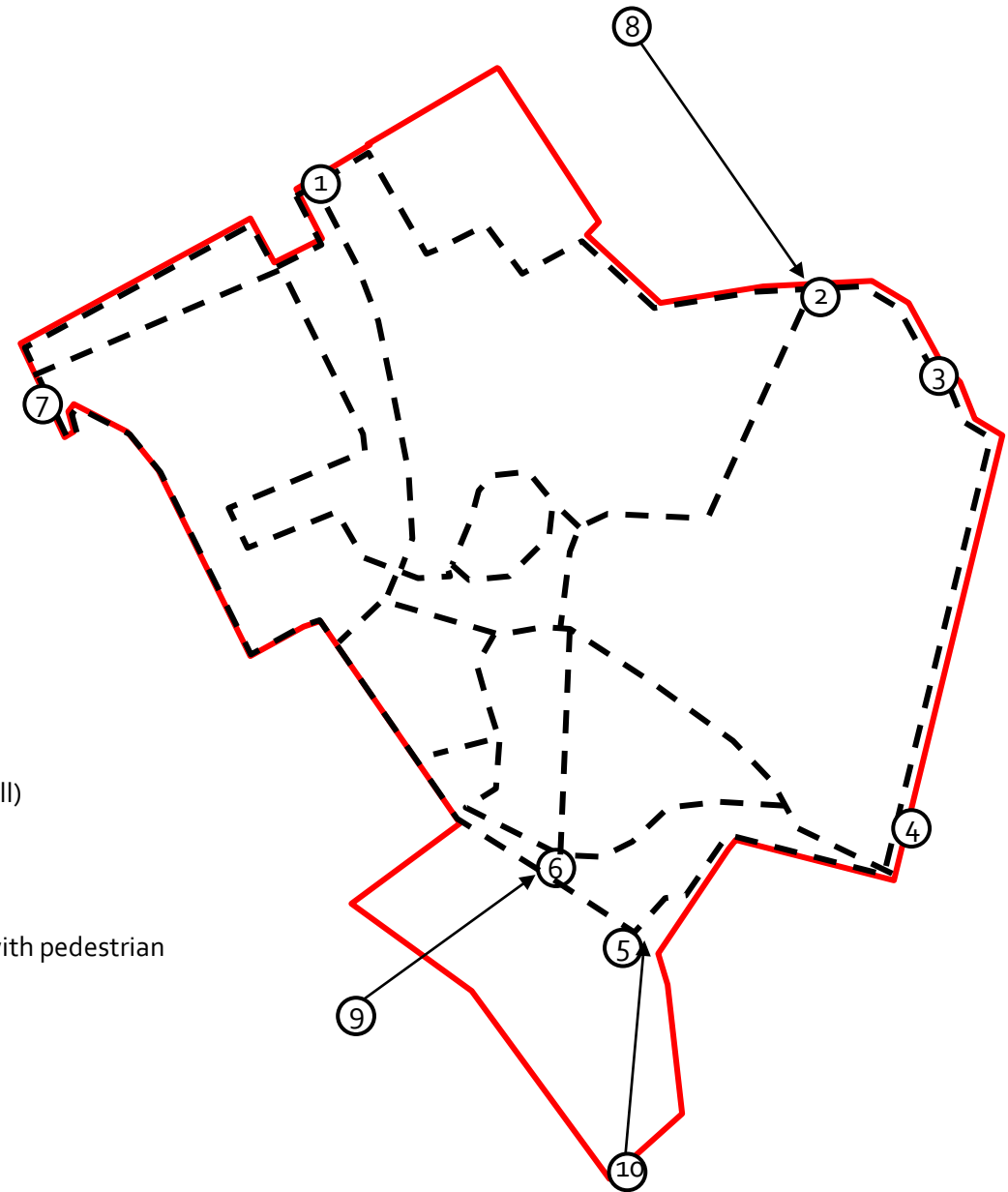
Route types:

- Main drive (bitmac) and car park
- Primary pedestrian routes: (Predominantly bitmac – improving accessibility around the site for all)
- Secondary pedestrian routes: (Predominantly desire lines, bark or limestone paths)

Car park: improvement of surface for accessibility to all in all weathers, connections and conflicts with pedestrian routes, ensuring appropriate capacity for user numbers.

Site Furniture:

- Signage and interpretation
- Seating and Bins
- Lighting



INFRASTRUCTURE CONCEPT IMAGES: Traditional materials and crafts used in a contemporary way. Adding a new distinctive layer to the site's history.



Boundaries



Entrances (improvements include but not limited to signs and interpretation)



Routes



Site Furniture



4.4 TREES & WOODLANDS

Proposed indicative tree management and maintenance:

- Retain any significant mature tree planting within the site and maintain to include planting of next generation specimens.
- Selectively thin woodlands, particularly around the lake to expose historic vistas and create new vistas through the park. Enhancing user experience and presenting opportunity for species diversity through the wooded areas.
- All wooded areas to be protected, enhanced and maintained including planting of the next generation species.
- Ensure future maintenance and management plan is to continue to be carried out by a qualified Arboriculturalist.
** to include urgent responses where required for damaged, diseased or dying trees.*
- Opportunity to create new interventions to enhance user experience through interpretation, events and introduction of new features.



▪ Images illustrating types of new interventions within a managed tree and woodland setting



4.5 POND

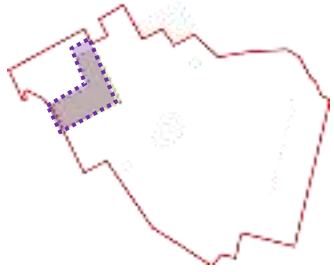
Proposed indicative pond management and maintenance:

- Protect, enhance and maintain the quality of the design pond feature.
- Expose historic vistas and create new vistas through the park to the pond. Enhancing user experience and presenting opportunity to enhance species diversity through the wooded areas.
- Ensure future maintenance and management plan and risk assessment in place.
- Opportunity to create new interventions to enhance user experience through interpretation, events and introduction of new features.



▪ Images from historic analysis showing view to the hall and surrounding parkland (current picnic area)

▪ Images illustrating concepts for types of pond improvements



4.6 PLAY PARK

Proposed indicative play park intervention:

- Opportunity and need to update existing play provision within the designated play area and connect with play interventions throughout the park.
- Proposed new play park design for all users groups and ages (not just for children)
- Provide access a range of opportunities to play outdoors, benefitting their physical and mental health and well-being as well as encouraging intergenerational interaction and community cohesion.



▪ *Images illustrating concepts for types of new play interventions*



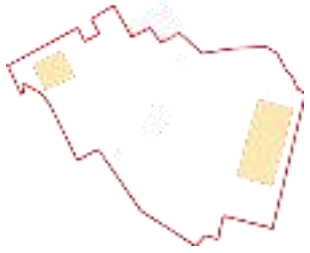
4.7 Formal Gardens

Proposed indicative interventions to protect, maintain and enhance the formal gardens:

- Opportunity and need to assess the historic elements of the park to protect, enhance and retain key features.
- Proposed new playful interventions (could be temporary e.g. playful connections to the play area and activities in the rest of the park, consider sensory planting and other sensory interventions such as outdoor musical instruments which can be continued throughout the park).
- Opportunity to enhance planting, potential to minimise maintenance and improve species diversity.



▪ Images illustrating types of new planting interventions and formal garden enhancement



4.8 SPORTS

Proposed indicative concept for sports provision:

- Protect, maintain and enhance existing sports provision.
- Opportunity for renovation to sports pitch (drainage).
- Opportunity of introduction of multi – use games area to create diversity of offer within the Tennis Courts.
- Provide good quality outdoor sports provision, enabling everyone to be physically active and promoting healthier lifestyle for all.
- Opportunity to provide enhanced sports provision through interpretation and new interventions within the park (e.g. circuit and distance information).



▪ Images illustrating concepts for types of new sports interventions



4.9 Parkland

Proposed indicative concept for parkland:

- Protect, maintain and enhance existing design parkland.
- Opportunity for connection to bandstand (bandstand currently considered under facilities).
- Opportunity to enhance and improve access for all (paths to aid accessibility considered under infrastructure).
- Opportunity to succession plant parkland trees (currently considered under trees and woodlands).
- Opportunity to provide enhanced provisions through new interventions and interpretation which connect to the rest of the park (e.g. natural play elements - see visual).



- *Images illustrating concepts for types of interventions to enhance the parkland setting*



4.10 Facilities

Proposed indicative concepts for facilities:

- *Images illustrating concepts for types of new facilities*



Caretaker's Workshop: opportunity to create an attraction
Link with community allotments and platform for activities and activities



Community Allotment: links with Edible Meltham and other communities e.g. Holmfirth Community Garden



Refreshments not just for humans!

Café ideas: opportunities for links with local businesses



Shelters and structures: opportunity to enhance the existing shelters, to create links between through age play area to the teen shelter e.g. new connecting mural competition. Additional opportunity to introduce provision for picnic shelter, outdoor woodland learning or structures for green roofs and temporary shelter whatever the weather

5.MASTERPLAN

5.1 CONCEPT MASTERPLAN



Artist's conceptual view from carpark towards the church



Artist's conceptual view across the play area



- KEY OPPORTUNITIES**
- Manage and maintain stone boundary
 - Manage and maintain shared boundary
 - Manage and maintain permeable boundary
 - ① Enhance entrances
 - Key views to wider landscape to maintain
 - Key features: view to restore
 - Protect, maintain and enhance pedestrian routes
 - Proposed new routes
 - Maintain and manage main entrance (vehicle and pedestrian user conflict)
 - Protect, enhance and maintain trees and woodlands
 - Pond restoration
 - Enhance play area and play garden
 - Protect, maintain and enhance formal garden
 - Protect, maintain and enhance woodland walk
 - ★ Protect, maintain and enhance shelters and structures
 - Protect, maintain and enhance sports provision
 - Protect, maintain and enhance parkland
 - Create caretaker's workshop and garden
 - Maintain and manage allotments and walled garden, opportunity to create community allotment provision
 - Toilets
 - △ Potential links to The Lodge and Church
 - Improved car park and entrance to allotments

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ROBERT ASHTON MEMORIAL PARK MASTERPLAN – DRAFT 09/2020