

FITZ PARK, HOPE PARK & TOWNSFIELD CHARITABLE TRUSTS

**Council Offices
50 Main Street
Keswick
CA12 5JS**

Email: townclerk@keswicktowncouncil.gov.uk

7th March 2024

A meeting of the Charitable Trusts listed below will be held in the Council Chamber, First Floor, Council Offices, 50 Main Street, Keswick on **Wednesday 13th March 2024 at 7.00 pm.**

Please note the change of date.

Yours sincerely



Vivien Little
Town Clerk

HOPE PARK	Registered Charity 503465
FITZ PARK	Registered Charity 520327
TOWN FIELD	Registered Charity 520295

AGENDA

- 1. Apologies**
To receive apologies for absence.
- 2. Minutes**
To authorise the Chair to sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 11th January 2024 (pages 12-13).
- 3. Declarations of Interests**
To receive any declarations of interests in respect of items on this agenda.
- 4. Chair's Report**
To receive the Chair's report.
- 5. Parks Manager's Report**
To receive the report of the Parks Manager.
- 6. Clerk's Report**
To receive the report of the Trust Clerk.
- 7. Keswick Cricket Club – Proposed Extension**
To receive the report of Councillor Harwood.
- 8. Upper Fitz Park Development**
To receive a verbal report from Councillor Harwood.
- 9. Elizabeth's Wood Management Plan**
To receive the report of Councillor Lansbury.
- 10. Climate Change Action Plan – six monthly review**

To consider the Climate Change Action Plan, and to agree to move the timing of the review to September Parks Trust meetings annually.

11. Hope Park & Fitz Park Budgets – 3rd quarter 2023-24

To receive for information the 3rd quarter budget comparisons.

12. Request for use of the Parks

- i) Keswick Town Council – To consider a request to book Fitz Park and Wivell Triangle for Thursday 6 June, Saturday 22 June and Sunday 23 June 2024;
- ii) Keswick Museum – To consider a request to use the park for a Schools' day and Summer Fair on 24th and 25th May 2024;
- iii) RSPB – To consider a request to use Hope Park to put a stall up on March 23rd, March 30th, April 6th and 7th 2024;
- iv) Athletics Club – to receive for information a number of races beginning from Fitz Park;
- v) Lakesman Triathlon – to consider a request to use Hope Park for a commercial event, based on normal rates of £750 + VAT, plus £1 per competitor

Prior to the following business the Chairman will move the following resolution:

'That under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.'

13. Minutes

To authorise the Chair to sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 15 February 2024 (page 14).

To:
All Councillors/Trustees
Press

FITZ PARK, HOPE PARK & TOWNSFIELD CHARITABLE TRUSTS

Minutes of the meeting of the Charitable Trusts held at the Council Chamber, Town Hall, 50 Main Street, Keswick on Thursday 11 January 2024 at 7.00 pm.

Present:

Chair
Councillor Chris Houghton

Councillors		
Louise Dunn	Steve Harwood	Claire Houghton
Denstone Kemp	Sally Lansbury	Benita Laphorn
Rob Nelson	Adam Paxon	Lorraine Taylor

Also present were Vivien Little (Trust Clerk), Catherine Parker (Trust Finance Officer) and Christine Fawcett (Parks Manager).

52. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Murray.

53. Declarations of Interests

Councillor Lansbury declared a personal interest with regard to any discussion on the Tennis Courts, as she was a member of the committee for Keswick and Braithwaite Lawn Tennis Club. She would remain in the room and discuss any items.

54. Minutes

RESOLVED that the Chair be authorised to sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 9th November 2023 (pages 10-11).

55. Future ideas for the Parks

The Chair led a discussion about the list of staff ideas which were produced, and to be discussed. He confirmed that the staff had given the ideas a good deal of thought.

Councillor Paxon arrived at 7.07pm

Many of the topics discussed originated from the staff's list.

Fitz Park

- Tennis courts – the tennis club pay a licence of approx. £1400 p.a. to use the course after 6pm on Monday-Friday, and after 2pm Saturday and Sunday. There was increased demand on the use of the courts. A discussion could be had with Café HNW with regard to use of the courts. A suggestion was made that there could be free access for residents of Keswick. It was noted that the café closed at 7pm, and that there was time afterwards when the tennis courts could be used. Perhaps a booking system could be looked at, with also looking at Penrith Tennis Courts and whether a charity such as the Hadfield Trust could help with this. A suggestion for a local discount card, where you could buy ten games in advance.
- Discussion was had over merchandise. It was agreed that it would be difficult, as you would be competing with established markets in Keswick and the profit margin, if any, would be small. However, looking at one or two items like reusable coffee cups or tumblers could be an option, to help promote sustainability. Another item to look at was a water fountain.
- Goal posts could be put close to the MUGA, to allow people to play 5 a side. It was also suggested that a noticeboard could be put into Fitz Park, giving members of the public a place to see what matches and events were coming up in Fitz Park.
- A suggestion was made about putting a coat of arms on the iron railings in Fitz Park once they have been painted, which would need costing out.

- A suggestion was made regarding treetop nets, and whether they could be used where trees are clumped together.
- One of the Trustees brought up lighting, and whether lighting could be put into Fitz Park. This had been looked at previously, but dismissed for costing too much, and in a high flood risk area.
- The play area was discussed a great deal, and future plans which could be made for the upgrading. There was disagreement over the best surface for the toddler area. It was suggested that signage could be designed to help 'nudge' visitors to the play area donate to its upkeep.
- A suggestion was made regarding putting a splash park on Hospital Field, however it was felt that it would overburden the residents in Keswick in paying for something which would be taken advantage of by visitors.
- Elizabeths Wood could be declared a nature reserve, complete with signage and partnership funding. A circle of silver birches had been deliberately created which could be used as an outdoor forest classroom. A management plan was being developed, which would be brought to March's trust meeting.

Hope Park

- Discussion was had about the blank wall at the back of the staff building – could we link in with a local school to design something for the space?
- Efficient water provision was brought up. The Parks Manager would like to build some kind of storage solution to gather Cumbrian water in order to make use of it on the golf course.
- It was suggested that renewable energy could be looked at, with solar panels and a windmill being the main sources.
- Discussion was had over whether weddings could be held in the parks, however it was felt that it was not a viable idea, due to the regulations involved, as well as having weddings in tourist parks (not to mention the weather in Cumbria).
- A suggestion which was made was to look at specific lotteries/raffles to work with the parks, which could raise consistent money. Also suggested was how we can work to get legacies from wills – something to bring back to a future Trust meeting.

Townsfild

- An event could be put on in Townsfild for the locals, as well as possibly some goal posts, and some benches.

The meeting closed at 8.33pm.

Chair

Date

The last two months have again been busy with the parks staff working hard. The weather has been relatively dry in February and allowed us to carry out some hard landscaping projects without damaging grassed areas. Thanks must go to the parks staff for their ongoing efforts and the enthusiasm of the three ladies within the office of Keswick Town Council.

Hope Park

The maintenance gate into the workshop yard has been replaced with two new wooden gates. The old barrier gate stoop had rotted and broken, the new gates now open fully at both sides and fasten in the middle.



The greens are looking well for the time of year and will be given some spring fertilizer once the weather improves, and ground conditions allow.

All hedges have now been cut back and we have received minimal damage from the recent winter storms.

One small tree was blown over after storm Isha in the woodland area. Several large branches were blown off the large conifer opposite the café onto the footpath. This was reported to Cumberland County Council and has since been cleared.



The letterbox to heaven has been fitted to a purpose-built plinth. This is a reproduction steel letter box, coloured in grey. Letters are being posted and disposed of as agreed at the council meeting. A new sign will be fitted to the fence behind shortly explaining the letter box's purpose and letter disposal.

The snowdrops and crocus have been out in full bloom and the tulips are coming through. It will not be long before we have a spring show of colour throughout the park.

In the woodland and shaded shrub beds daffodils, hellebores, and fritillaries are appearing from the under growth, a sure sign spring and a new season is on the way.

The Great North Air Ambulance has been moved to the yard for a wash and propellor repairs.

The site of the Great North Air Ambulance has undergone some refurbishment work and has been paved with sets. We have also received a grant from Cumberland County Council to install some bike racks in this area.



The GNAA are also looking into a cash donation box to be fitted near the helicopter.

Lower Fitz Park

One load of bark hardwood chippings has been supplied in the play area and this has levelled in the worn areas of the playing surface. The entrance gate closest to the main circular footpath has been replaced with a steel self-closing gate as the old wooden gate was damaged and rotten.

New parts have been fitted to various pieces of play area equipment, including end boards and ropes to the Kanop Multi play, support beams and seats for the swings and a new brake system to the cableway.



The other half of the timber central circle has been renewed and the area behind paved with sets.

The is now a hard standing area for a picnic bench and once the sets are finished, we will be moving a picnic bench onto this area.

More of the old and rotting edging timbers have been replaced using some of the oak timber reclaimed from the felled oak trees within the parks. The timbers are being fixed to a new concrete foundation and in time as budgets allow the path will be

paved to replace the grey dust surface.

A new gate has been fitted to the play area as the hanging post on the previous gate had rotted through and broken off.

For the second year in a row the tree map sign has been vandalised and the map stolen. This was reported to the police and the press.

A new map has been drawn very kindly by local resident Pete Sibley and will be ordered shortly with all the newly planted trees added to the map.



Upper Fitz Park

The bowling green and tennis courts will be cut once the weather improves and ground conditions allow. The over-seeding of these areas has been a success and new growth is clear to see and will be more apparent once spring arrives. An application of lawn sand and liquid iron will be applied to help to reduce the moss in the grass sward.



Games will be up and running for Easter weather permitting, however the grass tennis courts will not be open until the end of April.

A new sign has been fitted at Wivill Gardens after the previous sign was vandalised.

Several new trees have been planted within the park and include Malus, Sorbus, Prunus, Acer and Aesculus.



An application has been made to remove the Larch tree between the tennis courts. This tree is leaning more each year towards the river footpath. Lucy Saunders from the Lake District Planning team has been on site to inspect the tree and we await their decision. If the tree is removed three new trees will be planted in its place.

The timber from the two western red cedars is to be milled on site. Firstly, we are milling wood to a size to create a new balustrade for the bridge at Hope Park. This timber will be seasoned and dried by a local carpenter before he makes the balustrades and fits them to the bridge next winter. The remaining timber will be made into posts, rails and boards to be used within the parks for fencing.

Staff Development

All staff have attended a Climate and Carbon Literacy Training Course. This was held in the council chamber via zoom to help understand the impacts of climate change. The course was very interesting and provided some very helpful information we can implement within the parks and in personal life.

Elizabeths Wood

Two benches have been upcycled and placed in Elizabeths Wood, these add to the two previous benches on site. The gate from the car park end of the path has been fixed. The hanging stoop has been replaced with a new wooden stoop as the previous stoop had broken at the base.

The fence along the boundary to footpath will also be replaced in March once ground conditions allow machinery to travel.

Townsfild

Several Prunus lusitanica shrubs have been planted in front of the wooden rails. In time these shrubs will fill the space and shield the rails from the road.

KESWICK PARKS CHARITABLE TRUSTS

13 MARCH 2024

Clerk's Report

We have received the following request from the Cricket Club, following the agreement with the Bowling Club to allow parking in the area behind the museum:

“As you are all probably aware Keswick CC has been restricted to permits for two cars at any one time in the immediate vicinity of the sports pavilion in lower Fitz Park for match days and other sports-related events. This does not include ‘goods’ or service vehicles which are permitted to come and go – with care - as and when they need to visit the building to provide a service, for example collecting, returning or repairing machinery or providing stock.

The two-car rule etc is something we have complied with because we recognise the potential danger posed by cars entering the park on a regular basis, especially when they must pass the adventure play area on their way to the pavilion.

In view of the intention to now provide additional car parking spaces (adjacent to the museum) it would be very much appreciated if the cricket club could be included in that provision, with several places there allocated to the club; bearing in mind the way in which we have, for many years, adhered to the existing ruling on cars in the park.

I hope this proposal can be included on the agenda for the March meeting of the park trustees.”

I feel that we are not granting additional spaces to the Bowling Club, we are simply relocating parking from where it was behind the staff area to another area within the park. There will be no additional cars, as the Bowling Club have always been restricted to five cars at any one time.

The area is designed primarily to accommodate the needs of the Parks Staff, as well as Café HNW, who are of course paying rent on the building. As a result, this will lead to minimal movement through the day – to include the Cricket Club in that would increase the movement in the park, and potentially increasing the risk of injury.

It is up to Trustees to decide how they want to approach this request.

Vivien Little
5 March 2024

KESWICK PARKS CHARITABLE TRUSTS

14 MARCH 2024

Keswick Cricket Club – Proposed Extension

An outline plan has been prepared to extend the existing Cricket Pavilion in Fitz Park to provide improved facilities to meet the expanding needs of the user clubs both now and in the future. The existing pavilion was built in 1995 and is a shared facility with Keswick Athletic Club on a recently extended lease with Keswick Town Council which runs until April 2047. The success of both clubs since the pavilion was built is now generating a need for improved space and facilities. The following is proposed :-

- Additional Changing Room facilities to cater for expanding Junior and Ladies teams. 4 Changing rooms were provided for dual use in the original building. Over time the end two changing rooms have been taken up for other uses – Scorers provision and internal storage. The proposal is to bring these two changing rooms back into use, which already has access to shower facilities, by building a small extension at each side to provide the displaced provision for scorers and internal storage and including Umpires Changing and a First Aid Room.
- A larger Central Club Room to cater for the increased needs on Match Days and Social Use for both Clubs. Additional space is needed to cater for Keswick Athletic Club races which can attract entries of 200+.
- The Kitchen Area and Bar would be relocated with a purpose built bar store to replace the existing metal storage container.
- Additional Storage space is needed by both clubs for essential equipment.

All of this is planned to maintain the symmetrical balance and character of the existing building.

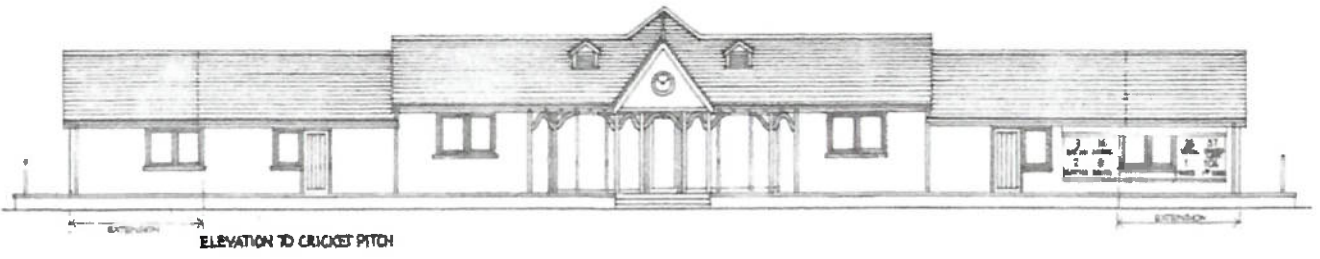
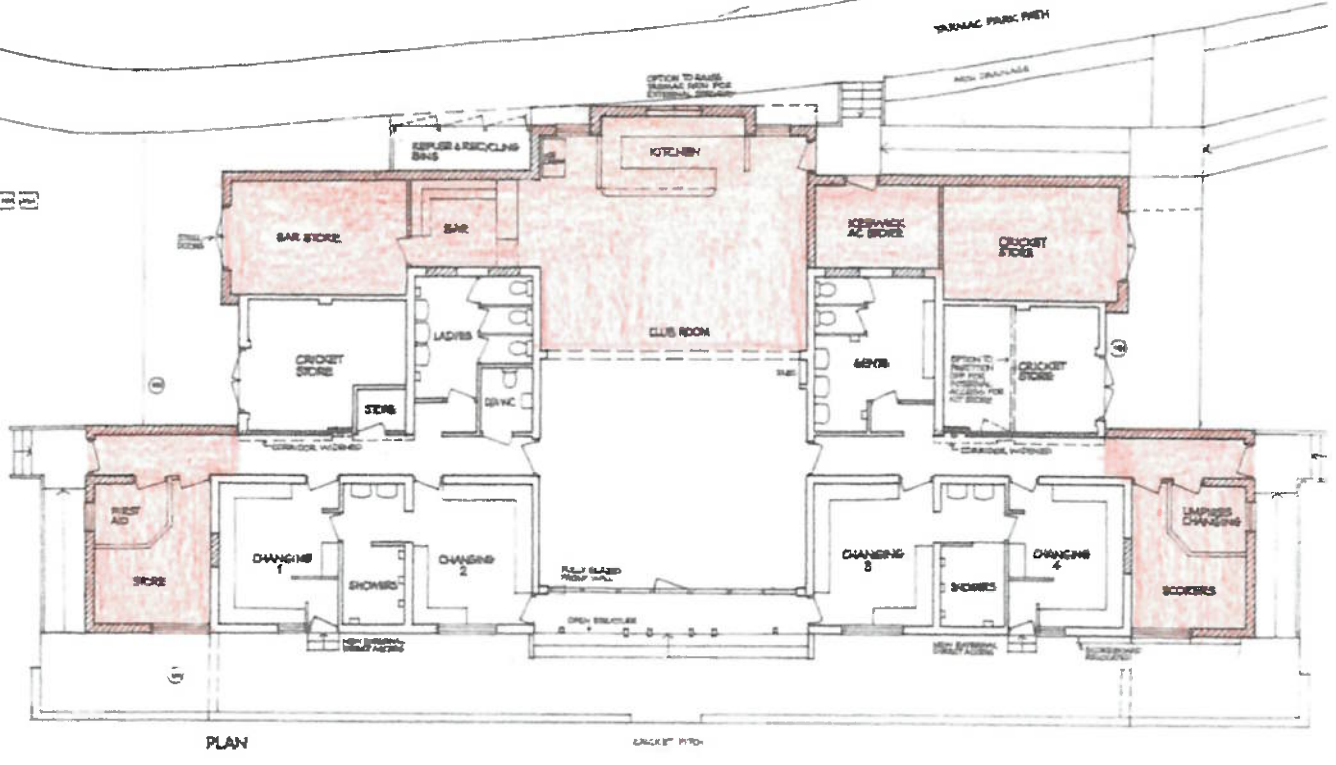
The clubs are aware of the flood risk status of the existing building which does now incorporate demountable flood barriers across all door openings. Consideration was given to the option of building a new facility raised above the 2015 flood levels. This would require a different site to enable Cricket to continue and creates practical difficulties for regular use. It would be considerably more expensive and would be wasteful of the building and facilities already in the existing pavilion.

At this stage we request approval in principle to allow detailed plans to be developed to enable an application for planning permission and costs obtained for the work to facilitate fund raising.

A plan is attached to this report.

Councillor Steve Harwood

On behalf of Keswick Cricket Club and Keswick Athletics Club



CRICKET PAVILION, FITZ PARK, KESWICK

Addendum to Elizabeths Woodland Management Plan March 2024

This (future) woodland space is owned by the Fitz Park Trust. It has been created in partnership with Sustainable Keswick and The Woodland Trust with Funding from Cumbria County Council (Pre LGR) with further contributions from the Mayor's fund and the People's Postcode Lottery.

There is a draft management plan for Elizabeths Woodland, which also needs to be adopted and a review date for that agreement established.

At the January Trust Meeting, many ideas from Parks Staff were discussed. Some of these related to Elizabeths Woodland. Additionally a site meeting has taken place with the Parks Manager Christine Fawcett, Cllr Lansbury, Park Trustee, Patricia Howell from Sustainable Keswick and Steven Hebblethwaite from The Woodland Trust.

Feedback from both of those events follows:

The area should be a natural space for people to enjoy – managed to encourage biodiversity and wellbeing, any added amenities should be in keeping with the site, made from natural or recycled materials and kept to a minimum.

Short term (12 – 24 months)

Signage explaining the space. Some naturalistic signs explaining species to be found and or a noticeboard at the entry to the site

Footpath signage showing the path gives an alternative route to Fitz Park, or a loop walk.

Hedging – some of the hedging has failed – possibly due to weather conditions after planting. There was also disruption caused by replacing the fencing as the contractor shored up the earth around the posts and uplifted some of the saplings – can we replace? *A sculpture (acorn) made from a portion of one of the felled cedars has been suggested. An approach to the family of EB has also been suggested to fund said sculpture*

Can we repurpose felled trees from other areas of the park to create seating / woodland classroom areas. Create some higher seating for older residents. *Christine has suggested a pair of old benches are repurposed here – SK to recoat them to protect the wood.*

Invasive species control needs to be carried out regularly - in particular Himalayan Balsam in the stream and drainage gully

It was agreed to have a hands off approach to weed control in year one – simply strim around the edges of the path and benches

Longer term

Can we introduce living willow sculptures and shelters?

Pond or wetland area

Extend path to meander and create an area for exploring

Current Partners: Sustainable Keswick, Woodland Trust, Fitz Park Trust

Note, potential future partners and match funders (either money or advisory time, volunteer effort and trees) could also include. CAFS, Cumbria Wildlife Trust, Cumberland Council, Hadfield Trust and others.

Elizabeth's Woodland

Fitz Park Keswick

III Draft Management Plan

January 2024

For Consultation with Fitz Park Trustees



Contents

Introduction

1. Site details
2. Site description
3. Public access
4. Long term policy and vision
5. Watercourses
6. Management actions
7. Opportunities and constraints
8. Long term vision (50 years+)!

Appendix 1: Site map

Introduction

'Elizabeth's Woodland' is a young wood that was planted in 2021 and 2022. The plantation lies at the north western end of Fitz Park in Keswick. It was named in memory of both Elizabeth Barraclough of Sustainable Keswick and to commemorate the golden jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II. The work is in keeping with the Queen's Green Canopy Initiative.

This management plan briefly describes the site, specifically mentions information on public access, sets out the long term policy and vision for the site and lists the key features which drive management actions.

1. Site details

Site name: Elizabeth's Woodland

Location: Keswick, Cumbria

Grid Ref: NY265240

Area: 0.8 hectares

2. Site description

Initial planting took place in March 2021 led by Sustainable Keswick, with funding from the County Council Environment Fund. The work was supported by The Woodland Trust and volunteers from the local community. Elizabeth's Woodland comprises a small part of the north western end of Fitz Park – land which along with the town's Hope Park, is held in trust for 'recreation and enjoyment for the inhabitants of and visitors to the town of Keswick and its neighbourhood'. The sole Trustee is the Keswick Town Council.

This initial planting was followed by further planting in the winter of 2021/22 and again the following year when a hedgerow along the southern boundary was also added. The planting comprises of native broadleaved tree species for an outcome that will support biodiversity and nature recovery.

3. Public access

There is public access to Elizabeth's Woodland from two entrances linked by an 'all-weather' path with an unbound surface that traverses the wood. The path links the western end of Fitz Park with the Crosthwaite Road Car Park (owned by Keswick Town Council). Fitz Park is within easy walking distance of Keswick town centre and as such is well linked to public transport.

4. Long term policy and vision

The establishment of the woodland involved the selection of species and a planting design that will support biodiversity and nature recovery. By doing this, what has been achieved is an area that, in a very short time, has gained the feel of a true 'wild space'. A less intensively managed, less manicured space, that places value upon and indeed facilitates a connection between people and nature, with all its tall grass, thistles and 'untidiness'.

Key to fostering this important connection is the permitted access to the wood and the provision of a small amount of simple furniture – two benches to allow people somewhere to sit and 'be present' in the space. The potential benefit of this kind of space to mental health and wellbeing has become increasingly well documented and as such, Elizabeth's Woodland can be seen as a positive asset for both people and nature.

In fertile and sheltered ground, the young woodland is expected to grow well, and ultimately will develop to mixed broadleaved woodland with canopy of taller species such as oak, alder, lime and cherry with an understory comprised of lower growing shrub species like hazel, hawthorn, dogwood, crab apple and dog rose. Native woodland bulbs have been planted and a herb layer of tall grasses and forbs has already developed, including in the wetter areas. *Filipendula ulmaria* (Meadowsweet) and *Valeriana officinalis* (Common Valarian) providing a home to a rich variety of invertebrates, that in turn support a diverse range of small woodland birds – the future is a vision of a site humming with the buzz of pollinators and ringing with the sound of birdsong, providing a home for wildlife, enjoyed and valued by people.

5. Watercourses

A small stream flows approximately north to south through the wood and joins the River Greta, a tributary of the river Derwent. The Derwent and its tributaries are a Special Site of Scientific Interest (SSSI) and Special Area of Conservation (SAC). The channel of this stream has historically been deepened and altered in attempts to speed the flow of water across the site.

Within Elizabeth's Woodland it should be the aim to conserve the riparian zone adjacent to the stream, through minimal intervention, retaining woody debris as a natural component to the riparian habitat. With this management approach, it is anticipated that the riparian zone will evolve through natural changes and development of bank side trees and shrubs.

Woody debris along the banks and within the stream, will create pools and niche habitats for different species. The only intervention anticipated will be to clear litter from the stream.

6. Management Actions

It should be the goal to preserve the natural feel of the space and deliver for biodiversity while creating a safe and welcoming environment for the benefit of people. Tolerating and coming to appreciate the presence of some plants that might elsewhere be considered weeds (and their value for biodiversity), is a key element of this project. As is visitor experience: There is significant and growing public appetite for spaces that are managed without recourse to herbicides and chemical control, spaces that are more biodiverse and contribute to the recovery of nature, instead of its decline. If ever there were a space to adopt a different approach to 'weed' control, in particular herbicide use, this is the space.

Key management actions and responsibilities:

Task	Comments	Responsibility
To facilitate passage along the path, cutting back or strimming twice or thrice annually to pedestrian width.		Parks Manager
Clear litter as necessary.		Sustainable Keswick Parks Manager
Maintain the path surface to a safe and usable standard.	There could be costs associated with this in the future, unless the path is allowed to green over which is an option. A partnership approach may be required. In the first instance Sustainable Keswick should seek further funding from Cumberland or other funders to repair and replace the path as necessary.	Sustainable Keswick Fitz Park Trustees Cumberland Council

Maintain and repair access points such as gates and welcome signs.	Partnership	Sustainable Keswick, Woodland Trust and Fitz Park Trustees
Tree Maintenance	Trees should not require any pruning or cutting unless inhibiting pedestrian access. Indeed limiting this activity will promote diverse structure and retention of valuable dead wood habitat	Parks Manager Woodland Trust
Tree Tubes	These can and be removed after the trees are established, as the only browsing threat on the site is voles and rabbits. Deer are not present.	Woodland Trust and Sustainable Keswick. <i>Most tubes have now been removed from the initial planting and the tubes re-used.</i>
Control of invasive non-native species (INNS)	Himalayan Balsam should be removed before it seeds in the summer. Clear litter from the stream once annually. Undertake observational monitoring to ensure the condition of riparian habitat is within the vision.	Sustainable Keswick will remove where there is safe and easy access - where access is difficult - this will be managed by KPT
Continue to monitor the natural regeneration of both trees and shrubs and consider enhancement planting if there is doubt about long-term succession.		All partners to monitor
Safety	Any required safety inspections in line with standards across the rest of the park. <i>Visual inspection carried out by parks staff. Parks and open spaces risk</i>	ROSPA Parks Manager

	<i>assessment carried out every 3 years by an independent body.</i>	
Gas Main	Be aware of the gas main running across the land. Shown on attached plan	Any liaison re gas line maintenance must be overseen by the Keswick Parks Manager.
Maintenance of Boundaries and Drainage Gully	Please see section '5. Watercourses' above for recommendation regarding watercourses.	Responsibility for these, lies with the Keswick Parks Trust - although on occasion external funding may be applied for through this existing community partnership
Benches	These will be oiled from time to time, natural deterioration will occur. If they become dangerous - they will be removed by Parks Team, any new benches will require funding though the partnership group.	Parks Team

7. Opportunities and constraints

In carrying out the above actions, there will be opportunities to work with Sustainable Keswick to engage volunteers from the local community.

There is an opportunity to inform the public of site information, management practices and the value of the woodland for nature recovery, through an 'interpretation board' on site – **this is recommended** as an excellent way to engage the public, help them to value the site and understand its management.

The site has the potential to be well used by people - both local and from further afield. Increased use has the potential to cause wear to the path, so this should be monitored to inform requirements for upkeep and repair. However it is considered important to refrain

from an upgrade of the path to a bound tarmac surface which would significantly alter the character of the wood.

Invasive non-native species have the capacity to cause a detrimental effect on woodland and other flora. In the case of Elizabeth's Wood the threat is principally from Himalayan Balsam. 'Balsam-bashing' or pulling is a great volunteer task for the summer.

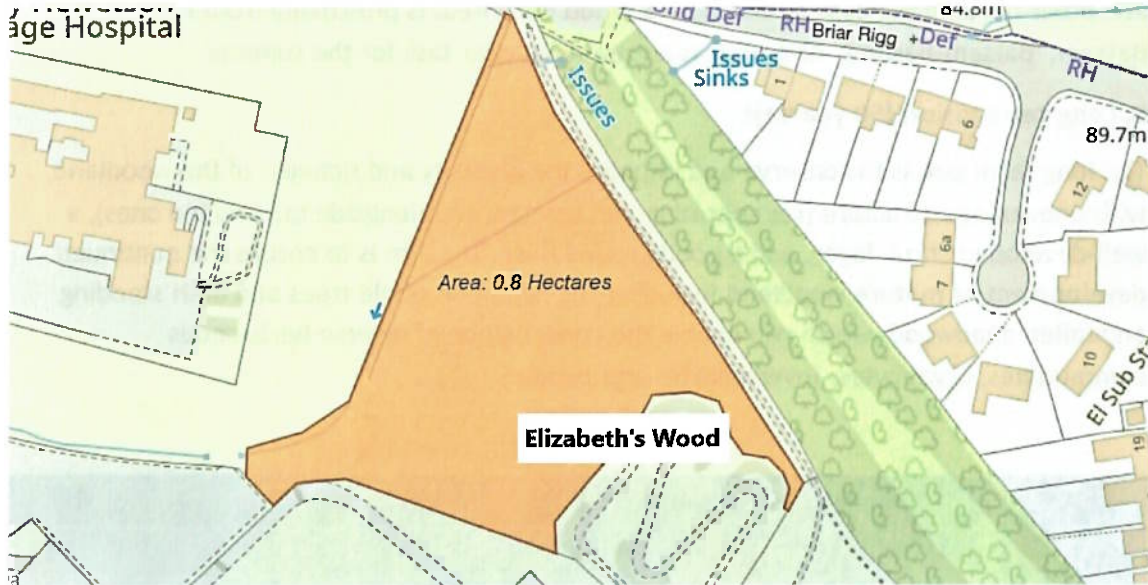
8. Long term vision (50 years+)

The long term aim is to conserve and improve the diversity and richness of the woodland, with uneven age structure (regenerating and young trees alongside tall and old ones), a well-developed shrub layer, and a good ground flora. The aim is to ensure the continued development of mature woodland including the retention of old trees and both standing and fallen deadwood, which will enable the conservation of diverse herbaceous communities, bryophytes, invertebrates and people!



Appendix 1: Site map

Map shows approximate area of Elizabeth's Wood and location at the north western end of Fitz Park, Keswick.



January 2024 update	Initial activities	Actions Achieved	Future Actions	Action Assigned to	Target date
Information Sharing	Promotion of local carbon reduction schemes such as the Keswick Lions Repair Café, WI and Sustainable Keswick activities	Some info has been successfully shared but we can do more on Facebook / website etc	Take part in Great Big Green Week 8-16 June 2024, work together with Sustainable Keswick and other partners on this	Town Clerk, Parks Manager, Councillors	Have a plan for an activity/s by May meetings. Other comms work is ongoing.
Local Planning	Consider environmental impacts and emissions in addition to aesthetics and planning regulations	General environmental considerations are made in relation to planning applications	Use an environmental impact checklist in commenting on applications.	Planning Group	Ongoing
Transport	Contribute to consultations and partnership working with CCC / LDNPA / Stagecoach on new transport initiatives. Engage with Community Car Share opportunities and cycling and walking initiatives. Lobby for and support initiatives which promote electric public transport	Responded to two consultations on transport and decarbonisation of transport from TFN and CCC. Additional bike racks and repair stations have been placed around the town. Staff are actively pursuing car share opportunities for travel to work	Monitor the feasibility work currently ongoing through RCEF and support the outcomes. Hope Park seeking to put a bike rack in by the GNAAS helicopter – to seek grant money	Town Councillors Town Clerk	Ongoing Apr-24
Energy reduction	Change to 100% renewable power where we can. Reduce consumption	Council has moved to SSE Green Energy tariff for Parks Buildings	Review at end of contract Communicate national and regional energy saving initiatives	Responsible Finance Officer, Parks Manager	Fixed contract end date 31/03/2026,

January 2024 update	Initial activities	Actions Achieved	Future Actions	Action Assigned to	Target date
<p>Reducing waste and encouraging sustainable consumption.</p>	<p>Introduce reusable glasses for Council festivals and event.</p> <p>Prohibition of the use of disposable BBQs on Town Council Land.</p>	<p>Both of these initial targets have been achieved.</p>	<p>Begin to look at future energy reductions, especially in relation to solar power and water consumption</p> <p>New target could be the further reduction of waste at Coronation event, Proms in the Park etc</p> <p>Take your drinks bottles and cans home to recycle etc</p> <p>Repost the 'Recycle Cumbria' (CCC) social media campaign messages.</p> <p>Further promote the plastic free Code of Conduct, especially with the changes to businesses using single use plastics.</p>	<p>Events Committee/Parks Manager/Parks Trustees/Town Council</p>	<p>Target is to reduce energy by 5% by 31 December 2024, measured both by fuel and electricity consumption, against 2023 full year.</p> <p>6th June D Day, Party in the Park and Scruffs 22nd and 23rd June 2024</p> <p>Ongoing</p>

January 2024 update	Initial activities	Actions Achieved	Future Actions	Action Assigned to	Target date
			<p>Consider how we can reduce the amount of waste dumped in the parks which is not generated by the parks eg takeaway containers, drinks bottles etc</p>	<p>Town Clerk, Responsible Finance Officer, Accountant and Town Council.</p>	<p>Discuss at March and September Trust</p>
<p>Banking and insurance.</p>	<p>Look at ethical investments and banking</p>	<p>RFO has identified sinking funds which could be ethically invested.</p> <p>Insurances are with Zurich which appears to have a robust ethical investment policy.</p> <p>Began work with W&F Council to review Responsible Investment Policy</p>	<p>With Town Council approval, set up investment account which does not invest in new fossil fuel developments.</p> <p>In the longer term continue to investigate current accounts.</p>	<p>Money invested with CCLA and Unity Bank</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>Divest from fossil fuel investment.</p>	<p>Tree planting and improving biodiversity,</p>	<p>Eliminated the general use of Glyphosate weedkiller.</p> <p>Creation of bug hotel in Fitz Park</p> <p>Shift towards planting hardy perennials and native pollinators</p>	<p>Continue to develop bee and butterfly friendly areas.</p> <p>Use of green manure over winter in beds instead of fertilisers</p> <p>Continue to look at low energy alternatives to equipment where possible</p>	<p>Parks Manager/ Keswick Parks Trustees</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>Parks.</p> <p>Protect and Enhance Nature, restoring nature for all.</p>					

January 2024 update	Initial activities	Actions Achieved	Future Actions	Action Assigned to	Target date
		<p>Eliminated the use of compost containing peat</p> <p>Compost all arisings from the Parks</p> <p>Planted 500 additional trees and shrubs</p> <p>Created an additional Wildflower bed in Hope Park</p> <p>Woodland walk area created</p> <p>Assisted with the control of Himalayan Balsam</p> <p>ASPEN Lower emission fuel is now used in Parks machinery</p> <p>Bark is collected from local tree surgeons and reused as mulch throughout Hope and Fitz Park, reducing costs for both partners</p> <p>Two Dennis mowers replaced with electric mowers, two hedgecutters and trimmers also electric versions</p> <p>Additional Wildflower beds have been planted in Hope Park.</p> <p>Moved from tender bedding plants to hardy pollinators</p>	<p>Support the CALC Green Space to Grow initiative</p> <p>Further switch overs from petrol and diesel to electric machinery.</p> <p>Ongoing tree planting in Fitz Park to replace felled trees and enhance existing planting</p>		

January 2024 update	Initial activities	Actions Achieved	Future Actions	Action Assigned to	Target date
		<p>Park Staff have arranged a car share system for travel to and from work. A more effective recycling system has been established. There is a strong commitment to delivering the Climate Change Action Plan</p> <p>An additional battery strimmer/cutter has been purchased</p> <p>Wood reused following tree felling – benches were made from the old oak trees, as well as good planks of wood in the children's play area.</p>		Town Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer	Insert Date
Policy		<p>Procurement policy has been amended to include ethical practices and whole life costs of purchases</p> <p>Introduced a Code of Conduct which prohibits the use of single use plastics at Council Festivals and Events and by third parties using Our Parks</p>		Town Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer	Initial 31/03/2022
Monitoring of Carbon Footprint	To measure the Carbon Footprint of the Town Council and The Park Trusts	This work has been done for previous year	Target reductions and actions to be agreed.	Responsible Finance Officer	Annual Review
Training	PROPOSED NEW TARGET:	To date, four parks staff have attended the training, all three	Train further Council members	Town Clerk/Parks Manager	

January 2024 update	Initial activities	Actions Achieved	Future Actions	Action Assigned to	Target date
	To offer all Clrfs, Office and Parks staff CARBON LITERACY training either through CALC or CAFs.	office staff and one Trustee have completed the accredited training. Staff are working on actions which can be added to	TWO FURTHER COUNCILORS HAVE been nominated to attend in March 2024		1st half 2024 financial year
Park Users	Talk to all parks users (sports clubs) regarding their carbon footprint			Trust Chair and Vice chair	01/08/2024, to report to September Trust meeting

Acronyms:

- CALC – Cumbria Association of Local Councils
- TFN – Transport for the North
- CAF_s – Cumbria Action for Sustainability
- RCEF – Rural Community Energy Fund
- Carbon Literacy Training - <https://calfs.org.uk/climate-and-carbon-literacy-training/>

Carbon Footprint (Tonnes of CO2E)	2022/23	2023/24
Town Hall	13.6	13.6
Fitz Park Trust	33.4	43
Hope Park Trust	24.9	24.9

HOPE PARK

Budget 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024

Budget Summary as at 31 December 2023

3rd Quarter

Expenditure:	AGREED Budget 23/24	Expenditure to 31.12.23	% of budget spent
Golf Cups & tee Mats	600	9	1.50
Tools	1,500	718	47.87
Materials	2,000	432	21.60
Maintenance	2,000	1,023	51.15
Repairs - Paths/fences	6,000	-	0.00
Repairs - Buildings	1,600	1,463	91.44
Repairs - Course	1,500	1,030	68.67
Repairs - Machinery	2,500	2,560	102.40
Repairs - Van service/repairs	1,000	819	81.90
Fuel and licences	5,000	2,273	45.46
Plants & Compost	4,000	2,070	51.75
Trees and shrubs	800	60	7.50
Fertilisers	850	278	32.71
Electricity and heating oil	2,500	1,260	50.40
Water rates	600	214	35.67
Wages (Gardeners)	47,985	27,120	56.52
Wages (Management)	24,817	18,089	72.89
Admin and on costs	28,418	19,800	69.67
Insurance (including Trustees Indemnity)	4,400	3,419	77.70
Telephone	400	298	74.50
Advertising - Including Staff Recruitment	600	153	25.50
Trade Refuse Collection	1,206	769	63.76
Training costs	1,100	525	47.73
Staff Recognition	250	143	57.20
Workwear	1,500	567	37.80
Equipment	400	188	47.00
Audit Fee & Accounts Preparation	850	-	0.00
Bird/squirrel feeding station	400	232	58.00
Contingency	3,000	-	0.00
Health and Safety	800	314	39.25
Computer equipment & subscriptions	800	152	19.00
Web & Internet Costs	800	951	118.88
Tree Work & Surveys	2,500	1,429	57.16
Professional Fees	500	-	0.00
Signs Expense	400	400	100.00
Drainage (filling) work to fairway	1,000	-	0.00
Contribution to future Hire Purchase	1,600	1,600	100.00
Contribution to future Parks Van - Hire Purchase	4,100	4,100	100.00
Climate Change costs	700	398	56.86
Contribution to Building Fund	1,000	1,000	100.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURE:	161,976	95,856	59.18

inc Aspen Fuel

inc instal new contract

Moved to Fund

Moved to Fund

retain gold

Moved to Fund

Income:	AGREED Budget 23/24	Actual Income to 31.12.23	% of budget Income
Games - Licence to Occupy	171,030	171,030	100.00
Rent for Buildings - Café, Golf Hut & Toilets	25,000	25,000	100.00
Bank interest	-	86	0.00
Donations & Money Spinner - General Fund	300	50	16.67
Bird/Squirrel Feed Station Donations	200	322	161.00
Hire of Park	550	947	172.18
Max Donations - General Fund	10,000	6,503	65.03
Gift Aid/Just Giving	150	366	244.00
CCLA Investment Interest	-	786	0.00
TOTAL INCOME:	207230	205,090	98.97

SURPLUS/deficit	45254	109,234
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Max the Miracle Dog donations - GENERAL FUND	
Balance as at 31st March 2023	38,521
Expenditure Mower (agreed at July Trust)	11,905 (-)
Transfer	
Income	6,503 (+)
Balance to date	33,119

Designated/Restricted Fund Balances	
Development & Equipment Fund	42,422
Building Fund	26,519
Memorial Seats & Tree Fund	1,777
Woodland Walk Grant - Restricted	2,193

FITZ PARK

1st April 2023 - 31st March 2024

Budget Summary as at 31 December 2023 - 3rd Quarter

Expenditure:	AGREED Budget 23/24	Expenditure to 31.12.23	% of budget spent	
Materials	3,000	442	14.73	
Games Equipment - Including CSA	300	91	30.33	
Repairs - Paths, fences & walls	5,000	-	0.00	
Repairs - Buildings	3,000	323	10.77	
Repairs - Greens and courts	3,000	2,596	86.53	
Repairs & Maintenance - children's play area	8,500	3,940	46.35	
Repairs - Bridges (Wivell & Knights)	250	-	0.00	
Trade refuse	2,600	2,360	90.77	
Plants, trees & shrubs	500	196	39.20	
Fertiliser	1,500	840	56.00	
Electricity	3,200	4,633	144.78	Increase Usage
CSA Electricity	800	199	24.88	
CSA Expenditure	1,100	718	65.27	
Water Rates	1,000	1,626	162.60	Increase Usage
Wages (Management)	24,817	18,089	72.89	
Wages, NI & SA (Snr Gardener, Gardener & Ground Maint)	93,652	61,411	65.57	
Grass cutting - outside contract	9,220	6,398	69.39	
Admin and on costs	28,418	19,800	69.67	
Insurance	7,200	6,218	86.36	
Advertising & Staff Recruitment	700	153	21.86	
Car Park - Management Fee & Maintenance	8,500	10,806	127.13	Income Higher
Audit fee & Accounts Preparation	850	-	0.00	
Tools	1,000	739	73.90	
Health and Safety	400	165	41.25	
Sinking Fund	7,500	7,500	100.00	Transfer
Signs Expense	700	28	4.00	
Tree Work	4,000	80	2.00	
Workwear	1,600	600	37.50	
Contingency	2,500	-	0.00	
Professional Fees	8,000	8,000	100.00	Fitz Development
Maintenance	2,000	290	14.50	
BMX Track Expenditure	1,000	162	16.20	
Bank Charges	600	388	64.67	
Training	1,000	217	21.70	
Staff Recognition	250	250	100.00	
Fuel	3,500	1,622	46.34	As Agreed
Repairs - Machinery	1,100	1,097	99.73	
Outdoor Gym	150	75	50.00	
Climate Change costs	1,000	358	35.80	As Agreed
Repairs - Parks Hire Damage	-	-	0.00	
Projects Funded by Donations - Including Mayors Fund	-	1,500	0.00	Elizabeth's Wood Park
Total Expenditure:	243407	163,910	67.34	

Income:	AGREED Budget for 23/24	Income to 31.12.23	% of budget income
Licence Fee - Games & Catering	4,000	3,150	78.75
Café HNW - Utilities	1,600	1,500	93.75
Crosthwaite Road Car Park	28,000	46,446	165.88
Wayleaves	33	33	100.00
Insurance Reimbursements	1,400	1,245	88.93
Hire of Fitz Park	1,000	929	92.90
Donations	200	40	20.00
Tennis Club - Licence Agreement	1,300	1,474	113.38
Football Club - Lease	1,000	1,000	100.00
Car Park Levy - Football Club	8,000	11,226	140.33
CSA Electricity	500	277	55.40
Play Area Donations	300	321	107.00
Bank Interest & Loyalty Reward	100	80	80.00
Gift Aid/Just Giving	1,000	53	5.30
Allerdale Lottery	400	345	86.25
Recharge of grasscutting to Townsfield	1,000	-	0.00
Mayors Challenge	-	925	0.00
Sinking Fund Interest	-	1,317	0.00
BMX Income	-	80	0.00
CCLA Investment Interest	-	495	0.00
Grant from Keswick Town Council*	173574	173,574	100.00
Grant from Allerdale Borough Council*	20000	20,000	100.00
<i>*(to cover deficit of £193,574)</i>			
Total Income:	243407	264,510	108.67

NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT 0 100,600

Fitz Developments - Prof Fees (Revenue Budget above) & Sinking Fund	
Professional Fees - Expenditure	8,000.00
Sinking Fund - Expenditure	3,365.00
Total Expenditure to Date	11,365.00

As agreed at Sept 2023 Trust

Designated Fund & Project Balances	
Sinking Fund	100,000
BMX Track	652
Memorials Fund - Trees & Benches	1,916
Future Developments Fund	106,295
Sensory Garden (Wivell Park)	1,834
Flood Recovery Fund	-
CCF Resilience Grant	-
Outdoor Gym	2,911
Tree Carving	441
Pups Shelter	-
CCC Bike Rack	-

Capped at £100k as agreed Sept 2023 Trust

Keswick Museum event in Fitz Park

Steve Bogle <learning@keswickmuseum.org.uk>

Thu 2024-01-11 10:40

To:Town Clerk <townclerk@keswicktowncouncil.gov.uk>

Good Morning,

After the great success of the Keswick Museum Schools day and Summer Fair last May, we would like to request permission to hold similar events this coming summer.

Schools' day – Friday 24th May.

This will be an event run in collaboration with local schools, involving reenactors and aspects of the museum collection being in the park near to the museum park entrance and setting up a number of gazebos.

Summer Fair – Saturday 25th May.

Event show casing our collection through interactive sessions and demonstrations in Fitz Park.

The planned activities are:

historical re-enactors coving the various time periods based on the museum's collection,
Storytelling,
Wriggly Rivers workshop lead by WCRT,
Meet a falcon and modern falconer – flying demonstrations will NOT be part of the activity,
Object handling and meet the curator,
And activities from other local groups.

Again a number of gazebos will be set up near the Museum park entrance for the event.

If you require more information on any of the above activities, I am happy to provide further details.

Many thanks

Steve Bogle

Learning and Engagement
Keswick Museum
Station Road
Keswick
Cumbria
CA12 4NF
017687 73263

www.keswickmuseum.org.uk

Twitter @keswickmuseum
fb @KeswickMuseum

KESWICK
MUSEUM

SHARING OUR STORIES

Keswick Athletic Club Events in Fitz Park -2024

Steve Harwood <steve.harwood@keswicktowncouncil.gov.uk>

Tue 2024-02-20 14:18

To:Town Clerk <townclerk@keswicktowncouncil.gov.uk>

Cc:Jean Murray <jean.murray@keswicktowncouncil.gov.uk>;Chris Houghton <chris.houghton@keswicktowncouncil.gov.uk>

Hi Vivien,

For your information I set out below the current list of Keswick Athletic Club races for this year using the Cricket Club as Race Headquarters to report to the March Meeting of the Park Trustees.

Sunday 21 April	British Inter Counties Fell Race Championship which is also a selection race for the European Mountain Running Championships in France at the end of May. 1.00pm start from Fitz Park.
Wednesday 24 April	Keswick Round the Houses Race. 7.00pm start in Town Centre.
Wednesday 15 May	Latrigg Race. 7.00pm start.
Wednesday 12 June	Round Latrigg Race. 7.00pm start.
Sunday 7 July	Skiddaw Race. 12.30pm start
Wednesday 14 Aug	Not Round Latrigg Race. 7.00pm start.
Cumbria League Cross Country Races in November / December	to be confirmed.

Regards,
Steve.