

PARK BRIDGE MANAGEMENT PLAN — 2007-2012 —



 **Tameside**
Metropolitan Borough

"An excellent council"

Countryside Service Unit



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1. Summary

THIS MANAGEMENT PLAN IS DIVIDED INTO SECTIONS.

Section 2 gives information about the site details, including location, area, importance and of what the area comprises.

Section 3 highlights the strategic context in which the site is managed.

Section 4 is a statement of the vision for the future of the Park Bridge area.

Section 5 details the overall aims for the site.

Sections 6 to 13 state the objectives for the future management, and how these objectives are being, and will continue to be, met.

Section 14 is about how it will happen, detailing funding, staffing and monitoring and review.

Section 15 states how the management plan and the objectives will be monitored and reviewed.

Section 16 is the overall 5 Year Programme of Management programme for the area.

Section 17 is the site plan.

Supporting information and other pertinent documents are held at Park Bridge Heritage Centre.

The aims and objectives for management of the Park Bridge area, and from which the management prescription is derived, are the means by which the 'vision' (Section 5) will be realised. This is based on the Green Flag criteria and falls into eight broad categories:

- 1 Creating a sense of welcome to the area.
2. Ensuring a safe and healthy environment.
3. Ensuring the area is clean and well maintained.
- 4 Ensuring the area is managed in environmentally sensitive ways.
5. Conserving the historic heritage.
6. Encouraging community involvement.
7. Effective marketing of the area.
8. Implementing an effective management strategy.

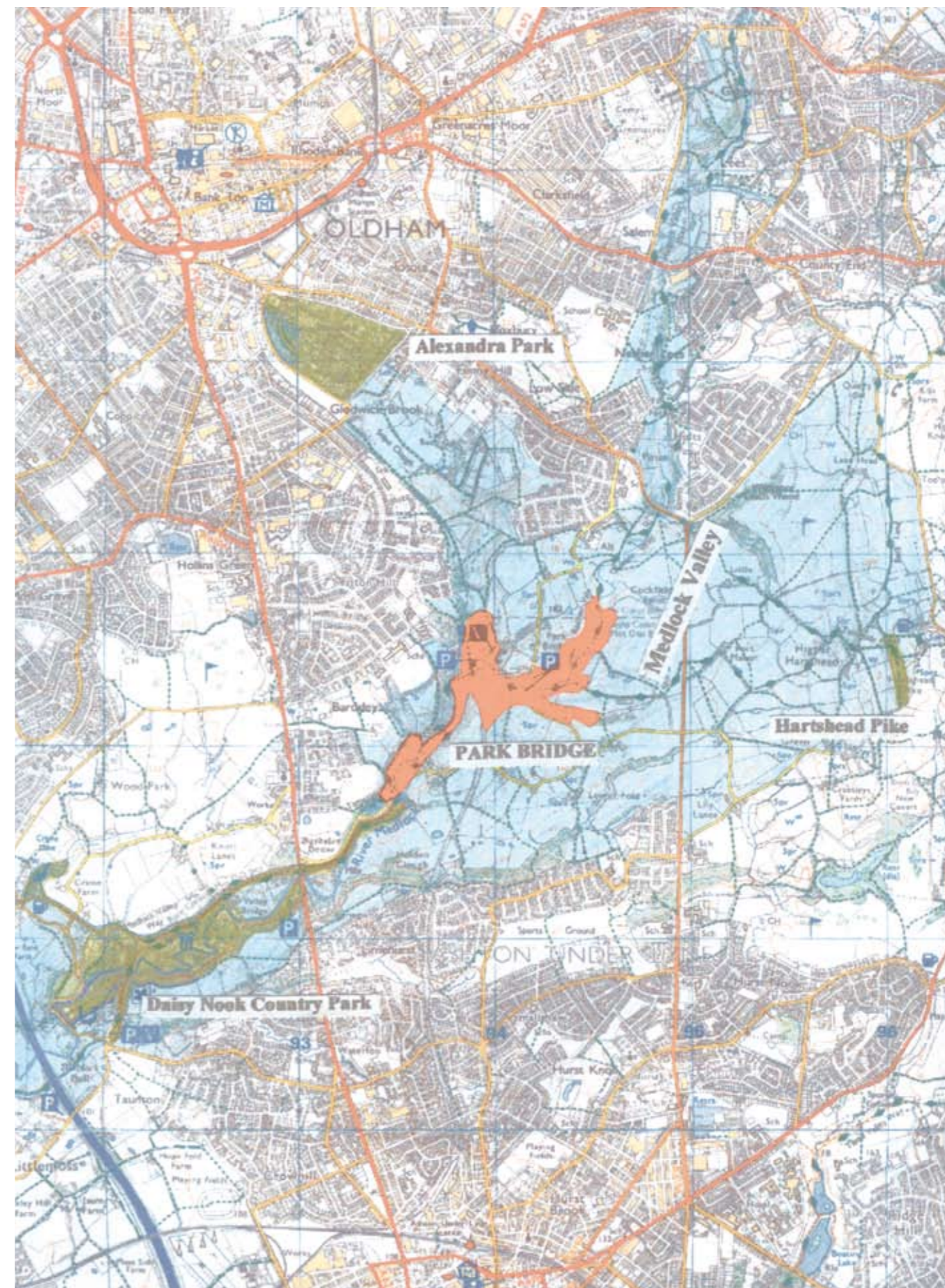
This Management Plan was reviewed in 2007 and covers the period 2007 -2012.



2. Site Details

Name:	Park Bridge
Contact:	Telephone : Countryside Service Unit Manager 0161 342 2320 Park Bridge Heritage Centre 0161 330 9613
Location:	Grid reference : Heritage Centre SD 939 024 Map coverage : Ordnance Survey sheets : 1 : 50,000 Landranger Map 109 : Manchester 1 : 25,000 Explorer Map 277 : Manchester and Salford Park Bridge lies in the valley of the River Medlock, midway between Ashton-under-Lyne and Oldham in the County of Greater Manchester. The area lies north east of the main A626. See Plan 1.
Greenspace context:	The Park Bridge area is one of a large number of linked greenspaces in the Medlock Valley, extending from the City Centre of Manchester to the Pennines, and managed for recreation and education, wildlife and their aesthetic value. Park Bridge links with the Hartshead Pike monument and viewpoint, Alexandra Park and Daisy Nook Country Park. See Plan 1. The local authorities have a strong history of partnership working in providing linked greenspace in the valley.
Area:	36.5 hectares.
Tenure:	The land is owned by Tameside Council except for 2.4 hectares which are owned by Oldham Council, but managed on their behalf by Tameside Council. The land is managed by Tameside Council's Countryside Service Unit which is part of the Sport and Culture Service within the Sustainable Communities function.
Site status:	Managed countryside heritage site. Parts are classified as Sites of Biological Importance on the Greater Manchester Register of SBIs. In 2004 Park Bridge was accredited with a 'Quality Assured Visitor Attraction' Award. Rocher Vale is due to be designated as a Local Nature Reserve early in 2008.
Legal interest:	Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council for the majority of the area. Oldham MBC for land at Fairbottom Bobs (managed by Tameside Council).
Access:	Access is from the A627 midway between Ashton under Lyne and Oldham. The site is signed from the A627

Plan 1 site Location



What the area comprises:

The Park Bridge site is based on the former ironworks village of Park Bridge.

The heart of the area is the Heritage Centre. There are the remains of former ironworks buildings and other features of industrial archaeological importance in a landscaped setting.

Park Bridge is a managed countryside site with a mix of habitats from amenity grass and shrub areas near the Heritage Centre, to informal grassland and flower rich grasslands, scrub, woodland, and wetland areas.

There are paths throughout the site to afford access for all, as far as possible given the geography of the site, and on site interpretation of features of interest (see Site Plan, Section 17).

Importance:

Park Bridge is the site of an early industrial community based on an ironworks that provided parts especially for the cotton industry, remaining in the same family for generations.

Park Bridge is one of the most important archaeological sites in the region. It contains important remains of the coal mining and ironworking industries and was the longest surviving example of an industrial community based on engineering in the North West.

The area is of considerable geological value and has locally interesting nature conservation value. Park Bridge is set in an interesting, varied and attractive countryside, protected as Green Belt. A summary of the industrial and nature conservation value of the site is available on request at the Heritage Centre.

The works closed in 1963 and underwent reclamation in the late 1970s, including conversion of the works' stables to a Heritage Centre, a base for the countryside service. Further enhancements, development and changes to management occurred in the subsequent years, including a major Heritage Lottery Project running from 1999 to 2002.

Heritage Lottery funding, and other funding from the Countryside Agency, the Environment Agency and the capital and revenue programmes of Tameside and Oldham Councils enabled work to be undertaken on refurbishment and upgrading of the Heritage Centre, improving access for all, revealing and consolidating the features of archaeological importance, and widening appreciation and understanding of the area.

Present use:

The site is regularly used by local people and visitors from Ashton and Oldham and elsewhere in Greater Manchester and adjoining areas, for a variety of activities. There is a well developed environmental education service with local schools, and an annual programme of events based at Park Bridge.

The Tameside Trail, Oldham Way and Medlock Valley Way (medium distance recreation trails) all pass through Park Bridge.

Park Bridge currently receives some 30,000 visitors per year.

Summary of Resources:

The Park Bridge area is managed by Tameside Council's Countryside Service Unit in partnership with others as referred to in Section 12 of this Management Plan. The staff at Park Bridge include countryside rangers, information officers and estate rangers. They work in partnership with local residents, volunteers and others. The day to day management of the area is funded from the Council's Countryside Service Unit Revenue Budget. One off developments and improvements are funded from a combination of the Council's capital programme and external grants. See Section 14 : Management.



3. Strategic context

The Park Bridge site is managed in context with the main overarching policies of the Council in particular:

TAMESIDE COUNCIL'S VISION AND VALUES

The Council's overall vision is to maximise the well-being of the people of the Borough. In achieving this vision it will:

- Establish open systems of listening and communicating
- Develop innovative ways of involving the community
- Be flexible and adaptive to the changing needs of the Borough
- Work in a co-operative and co-ordinated way to improve the quality of Services
- Provide equality of access to services
- Develop public confidence in local democracy and the Council

THE COMMUNITY STRATEGY

Based upon extensive consultation with local people, businesses and partner organisations in 2002, the Tameside Strategic Partnership (TSP) established the key issues facing the Borough for the next ten years. From this the Partnership produced the 2003-2013 Community Strategy, which sets out six themes for the future of Tameside. These themes are:

- **Supportive Communities**
Promoting a cohesive Borough with strong and positive relationships between people from all backgrounds and cultures, and where all people have similar life opportunities.
- **A Safe Environment**
Reducing crime and improving community safety
- **A Prosperous Society**
Improving the local economy through strong sustainable businesses, a skilled workforce and good quality housing.
- **A Learning Community**
Raising educational achievement and learning opportunities.
- **A Healthy Population**
Improving health and support for vulnerable people.
- **An Attractive Borough**
Protecting our environment and creating a cleaner, greener neighbourhood.

OTHER LINKING STRATEGIES

Various other Council policy documents set the context for the way in which Park Bridge is managed.

Relevant policy documents are :

- **Countryside Service Business Plan Countryside Service Business Plan**
A working document for delivering the Council's Countryside Service. The plan delivers best value through continuous improvement, performance monitoring, action plans, equalities and resources.
- **A Countryside Strategy for Tameside 2008-2013.**
This strategy sets the framework for management of the Borough's countryside over a five year period. It aims to increase awareness, understanding and enjoyment of the countryside; improve opportunities for everyone to have responsible access to it; safeguard and enhance the landscape and nature conservation value of the countryside
- **Nature Conservation Strategy.**
Being reviewed during 2008, the Strategy will run alongside the Greater Manchester Biodiversity Action Plan. Management of Park Bridge, to enhance its nature conservation value, is one of the area's key aims.
- **Rights of Way Improvement Plan**
The framework for managing the Borough's rights of way network and facilitating access to the countryside.
- **Health and Well-being Strategy**
A vision for improving the health of all Tameside's residents. Access to the countryside and its health benefits form a part of this strategy.
- **Children's Play Strategy**
Setting out how the Council will improve the quality of children's play in Tameside. A children's wayfaring course is being developed, and funded, at Park Bridge as a result of this strategy.

PERFORMANCE

The performance of Tameside Council is judged annually as part of Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA). In 2007 Tameside retained its status as an 'Excellent' Council and was deemed "Improving Strongly" under the CPA. The management of Park Bridge and of the Countryside Service continues to contribute to this achievement.

Relevant performance indicators continue to be measured and published within monitoring statements. The performance measures relevant to Park Bridge are:

No	Performance Indicator	Target				
		06/07	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11
1	Cost of the Countryside Service per visit to main countryside sites	£2.00	£1.95	£1.90	£1.85	£1.80
2	Number of visitors to main countryside sites	375k	380k	385k	390k	395k
3	Visitor satisfaction with managed countryside sites	80%	84%	87%	90%	92%
4	Satisfaction with the countryside events and activities programme	85%	88%	91%	93%	95%
5	Number of days worked by Voluntary Rangers	1000	1050	1100	1150	1200
6	Number of people actively engaged each year on countryside events and activities	6000	6250	6500	6750	7000

The Countryside Service exceeded all its targets in previous years and as a result targets are reviewed annually. These targets are challenging and show a continual improvement year on year.

4.Vision for Park Bridge

This section contains a statement of Tameside Countryside Service's vision for the future of the Park Bridge area. This statement forms the basis for the future management of the area.



"The vision for Park Bridge is of a place where landscape, heritage, nature conservation and informal countryside recreation are in balance. It is a place where heritage and the natural beauty are safeguarded, where wildlife thrives and where visitors, regardless of their ability or background, can spend an enjoyable and fulfilling time."

We believe this vision can best be achieved by continuing to work closely with the users of the area and partnership agencies, and in accordance with the five year Management Prescription set out in Section 16.

5. Overall aims for Park Bridge

1. To safeguard and enhance the heritage of the Park Bridge site for future generations.
2. To maintain and where appropriate enhance the nature conservation value of the site.
3. To facilitate and develop access, recreation and education for all, irrespective of ability or background, in a way compatible with the heritage and nature conservation value of the site.
4. To provide a high quality service to visitors and to facilitate community involvement in the management of the site.
5. To maintain a safe and healthy environment.



6. Creating a sense of welcome to the area

"You never get a second chance to make a first impression"

Providing access to, through and within the Park Bridge site is fundamental to helping visitors enjoy the area and understand its heritage and wildlife value. There is a network of paths providing safe access to the area, routes linking the various features of historic and landscape interest within the area and links to the wider countryside. Visitors to Park Bridge should feel welcome and have a sense of belonging.

The welcome should start before visitors even get to the site. This includes ease of contacting the staff to find out information and the availability of information about the area in a variety of formats.

Objectives

1. To provide a welcoming and easily accessible site.
2. To provide good quality and safe access.
3. To provide clear, well maintained signage, appropriate to the area's heritage.
4. To continue to provide and improve access to the area and facilities for everyone who wants it.
5. To be open in providing information and to consult visitors about how welcoming Park Bridge is.

How the objectives are being met

1. WELCOMING

Park Bridge has been annually inspected to be a 'Quality Assured Visitor Attraction' by Visit Britain since 2004.

Access to the Park Bridge site is free of charge and available 365 days a year.

The Countryside Service feature on the Council's website and information about Park Bridge, and what visitors can expect to find there, opening times of the Heritage Centre and how to get there, are all included. The website address is www.tameside.gov.uk/countryside following links to Park Bridge.

There is a notice board outside the Heritage Centre giving information about forthcoming events, emergency contact numbers, first aid and other information.

The Visitor Centre entrance and opening times are clearly signed.

Staff have received 'Welcome Host' training and are clearly identifiable through their uniform, are very experienced in dealing with common problems encountered by visitors.

There is information on display at Park Bridge telling people who manages the area, and a contact number.

There is a countryside hotline, which is based at Park Bridge, and the line is available during normal working hours for people to find out information about Park Bridge.

There are several publications about Park Bridge, available at various venues throughout Tameside, and that can be ordered through the website. These publications all summarise what visitors can expect to find when they get to the area.

The Countryside Service Unit as a whole has developed a Service Charter which sets out the standards of service visitors can expect. These standards are applicable to the Park Bridge area. The Charter can also be found on the website.

2. GOOD AND SAFE ACCESS

The nearest public transport and bus stops are on the main Oldham Road, with signposts directing people to the site.

The approach is maintained to a high standard, appropriate to a countryside heritage site, with site furniture and features helping to create the sense of heritage.

The landscaping and features are maintained to a high standard, in keeping with the particular areas of the site, with the areas surrounding the Visitor Centre being formally maintained to present a caring and welcoming site.

The old railway running from Ashton town centre has been turned into a multi user trail by Sustrans, enabling visitors to safely access Park Bridge from the greatest areas of local population

The buildings and structures are kept in a good state of repair.

All paths, signs, fences and other infrastructure are regularly inspected and repairs rapidly effected, or, in the case of larger repairs, built into annual programmes of work.



3. SIGNAGE

There are road signs directing people to the site from main road junctions.

Signage is clear and of a high standard, from the main Oldham Road turning, all the way to the Park Bridge site. It is consistent with signage elsewhere in Tameside's countryside.

Signage throughout the area is clear and of a high quality, in keeping with the area's heritage, directing visitors to the various parts of the site. Main site signs and directional signage have a standardised design of white lettering on a black background.

There is an attractive orientation board on the outside of the Centre and a separate welcome board on entering the Centre.

4. EQUAL ACCESS FOR ALL

There are paths throughout the site to afford access for all, as far as possible given the geography of the site, and on site interpretation of features of interest.

A disability access audit was carried out in November 2006 by the Fieldfare Trust for Park Bridge and an action plan drawn up to ensure that the facility will be as accessible to everyone as possible.

The displays in the Centre are accessible by all sectors of the community. The text is clear and easy to read.

There is something for people of all ages and abilities to enjoy at the Visitor Centre.

There is a parking area for disabled drivers adjoining the Centre, a disabled persons' toilet and a stairlift giving easy access between floors within the Centre.

The facilities available at Park Bridge for people with special needs are set out in the Council's Countryside website under Disability.

We provide information to users in a way that best suits their needs. For example large print versions of our publications are available, we go outside to give talks about the area to people who may not be able to reach Park Bridge, we run outdoor classroom events for schools, tailored to the needs of the particular class.



The paths are signposted and waymarked, and the signage is regularly inspected and repaired as required.

Physical barriers are kept to a minimum, sufficient only to prevent unauthorised vehicle access on to paths, or to prevent horse riders using inappropriate areas. Where access controls are necessary, they are designed to accommodate wheelchairs.

There are frequent seats and picnic tables throughout the area.

Vegetation is regularly cut back to provide good sight lines.

Any access work undertaken is in accordance with the BT / Fieldfare Trust guidelines Countryside Access for All'

Guided walks by the ranger service form an integral part of helping people enjoy their visit.

5. OPENNESS AND CONSULTATION

The Countryside Service were involved in the Council's achievement of a Charter Mark Award in 2007.

We are open in telling visitors how the service is run, how much it costs and whether standards are being met. This information is available in the Heritage Centre, and is regularly updated.

Our standards of service are on display at the Centre and on the website.

We consult our visitors on the welcome provided, using a comments book, regular visitor surveys, and through consultation with the Park Bridge Focus Group and Alt Hill Residents Association. User and non-user surveys are conducted at regular intervals.

Planned improvements are displayed in the Heritage Centre and on the website.



7. Ensuring a Safe and Healthy Environment

It has been the experience of the Council's Countryside Service over the years that effective management of the safety aspects of an area helps to give visitors the confidence to use and enjoy it. A well managed site, where vandalism is quickly repaired, also helps to make people think twice before committing wilful damage, and helps in the presentation of a well cared for site.

The health benefits of a visit to the countryside are nowadays widely recognised: a reduction in stress, recuperation after illness, and getting and staying fit. Park Bridge and the Countryside Service as a whole, has a role to play in improving the health of its visitors.

Objectives

- 1. To provide a physical environment where visitors can feel safe.
- 2. To ensure a culture of security.
- 3. To reduce the amount of dog dirt left on site
- 4. To maximise the role that Park Bridge can play in improving the health of the residents of Tameside.

How the objectives are being met

1. SAFE EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES

Park Bridge is subject to the Countryside Service Unit's Health and Safety Compendium which comprehensively covers the safety of site, visitors and staff, and with risk assessments having been carried out for a wide range of situations and activities. The compendium covers, for instance, the regular inspection and recording of sites, the controls to be in place for the running of various kinds of events etc. A copy of the compendium is kept at Park Bridge Heritage Centre and all staff are aware of its contents.

The fire procedures and other matters relating to fire safety are set out in the Compendium, and adhered to.

There are toilet and baby changing facilities in the Centre. They are inspected regularly and kept clean and well maintained by staff.

The area is maintained and managed to a high standard.

The area is regularly patrolled to inspect for damage (such as broken steps, slippery paths) and for items such as 'sharps'.

First Aid facilities are available in the Heritage Centre and all staff are trained first aiders. Notice boards give details of emergency numbers and on where to go for first aid in the event of an accident.

Vandalism is dealt with promptly. Rangers and Voluntary Rangers report damage to the Head of Countryside. Urgent repairs are effected rapidly, others are built into work programmes through planning of work at regular Rangers Action Meetings.

All events are covered by risk assessments and policies as set out in the Health and Safety Compendium.

We require events run by others on our land to be subject to a full risk assessment and to be subject to at least 28 days notice.

2. PERSONAL SECURITY

There is a strong uni-formed site presence, by staff who are friendly and approachable and are well known to many of our regular visitors. Permanent members of staff are supplemented, often at busier times, by voluntary rangers, who assist in the Centre, with site patrols, with events, and with site Management.



Encroaching vegetation is kept back from paths to give good visibility and access.

The Countryside Service has links with the police and town patrollers to assist with more severe instances of antisocial behaviour, and they patrol the area from time to time.

Staff have undertaken 'working safely' training, adhere to a lone working policy and when on site are in contact with the Centre by mobile phone or radio in case of emergency.

A security review, involving Park Bridge staff, is undertaken at regular intervals and appropriate improvements made.

Staff and volunteers are police vetted as necessary in line with current policy and recommendations.

Park Bridge Heritage Centre and car park are covered by CCTV monitoring.

3. DOG FOULING

Dog fouling is not a major issue at Park Bridge. Nevertheless, in the picnic and sitting areas signage requests visitors to keep dogs under control and to clean up after them. Free poop bags are available in the Centre.

There is a Countryside Service 'Control of Dogs' leaflet available in the Visitor Centre.

The countryside events programme occasionally features events aimed at dog owners and visits by the Council's Patrollers increase people's awareness of cleaning up after their dog.

Dog waste bins have been installed and are regularly emptied and cleaned by a Council contractor.

4. HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

The benefits of the countryside for health and well-being are featured on the Countryside Service website.

There is a programme of events, including guided walks, running throughout the year. The leaflet is widely distributed at visitor centres, tourist information centres, schools etc and the events are published on the website.

Footpaths are clear and well signposted, and there are opportunities for longer or shorter walks in the area.

Gentle strolls, aimed at those recovering from illness, or with mobility problems have featured on our countryside events and activities programmes since 2004, and a number start from Park Bridge.

Funding has been secured to develop a children's discovery trail and wayfaring course around the site during 2007. This will give further opportunities for children to get exercise in a fun and stimulating way.



The Countryside Service work in partnership with the Council's Health and Physical Activity Manager to deliver the Health and Physical Activity Strategy.

There is ample seating in a range of locations around the site for visitors to either sit and watch children play or to find a quiet spot for solitude and contemplation.



8. A Clean and Well Managed Area

The importance of keeping a site well maintained can not be underestimated, it gives visitors the feeling that the site is valued, that someone cares, a sense of security, that I would like to come here again.

Objectives

- To keep the area free of litter, waste and graffiti.
- To manage and maintain a high quality landscape.
- To manage and maintain the buildings and structures to a high standard.
- To maintain equipment to a high standard.

How the objectives are being met

1. LITTER AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

Regular litter patrols are undertaken by staff and volunteers. Patrolling frequencies are set out in the Health and Safety Compendium. Staff, including volunteers, pick up any litter in the area during the course of their regular patrols, informal site visits or when undertaking practical work in the area.

Members of the public are encouraged to take their litter home and therefore litter bins are not generally provided, other than those at the Heritage Centre. The insignificant amounts of litter picked up around Park Bridge bear testament to the fact that this policy is generally working. This will be kept under review.

Green waste, such as woodland thinnings and hedgerow prunings are either chipped back onto site or used to provide habitat conservation piles.

2. GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

Park Bridge forms part of Tameside's winning application to Britain in Bloom. During 2007 Tameside again won the North West England large city category and will be representing the region in the National Finals during 2008.

Amenity grass and shrub areas are maintained by the District Assemblies function in accordance with a clearly specified schedule. Other areas are managed by the ranger service, with help from voluntary Rangers and work experience students.

An Annual Site Maintenance Plan sets out the maintenance programme for the Heritage Centre and each area of Park Bridge (Section 11).

The shrub beds around the site of the ruins are, during Spring 2008, going to be revamped. Local children and residents will be asked to plant and maintain a new butterfly friendly garden.

3. BUILDINGS AND INFRASTRUCTURE MAINTENANCE

The buildings and structures are regularly inspected and a record kept of the inspections. Any repair or improvement work identified is built into a rolling programme.

Repairs which cannot be readily put right by staff members are undertaken by external contractors which regularly work for the Council.

Building maintenance is undertaken as part of a programmed cycle from annual cleaning of the gutters to painting of the toilets every 4 years (Section 11).

The archaeological features around the site are subject to an annual management programme agreed with the University of Manchester Archaeological Unit.

A cleaning contract has been let for the Centre to ensure it is kept in a clean condition for visitors.

4. EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE

All equipment (mowers, etc.) is maintained to a high standard in accordance with the requirements of the Service's Health and Safety Compendium, each item being covered by a risk assessment and policy.

Staff are trained in the use of all equipment, either formally or through 'toolbox training'.

Active monitoring of maintenance is regularly undertaken for all main pieces of tools and equipment, as well as annual Portable Appliance Testing (PAT), and regular noise and vibration testing as part of the Council's Hand Arm Vibration Policy.

Relevant Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is provided for all staff.

Fuel and oil is kept in small amounts and in secure containers. Smoking is not permitted while operating machinery.

There is no specific equipment (such as play equipment) used by members of the public, although all external structures and infrastructure is inspected at least every six months as part of formal health and safety inspections.



9. Sustainability

"We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors but borrow it from our children"
(Chief Seattle)

Sustainable countryside management is about maximising the visitor's sense of enjoyment and quality of experience within the carrying capacity of a particular site.

Objectives

1. To maximise the area's environmental value.
2. To maximise the resource conservation and recycling.

How the objectives are being met

1. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Park Bridge is managed in accordance with the Council's Local Agenda 21 policies and under the provisions of the Nature Conservation Strategy for Tameside.

The area is managed with a variety of habitats to enrich species diversity and the Rocher Vale part of the site is going to be designated as a Local Nature Reserve early in 2008.

There is an overall programme of management for each specific area of the site, setting out how the various habitats are to be managed (See Section 16).

The Countryside Service has a team of Local Nature Reserve Rangers who as well as directly managing Rocher Vale, provide technical advice and expertise for Park Bridge staff.

Rocher Vale will be designated as a Local Nature Reserve early in 2008.

The displays in the Heritage Centre reinforce the sustainability message for visitors and the outdoor education service to schools is an important way of spreading the sustainability message.

The Centre displays a Countryside Service Environmental Statement.

An outdoor education service is available to schools as an important way of spreading the environmental message.

The Service runs a monthly Kids in the Environment (KITE) group for 7 to 11 year olds, giving them the chance to learn about the environment in a fun and stimulating way.



Staff receive training in habitat management and sustainability where resources allow.

Contractors working at Park Bridge are required to sign a safe working practice statement which includes use of sustainable materials. The contracts will specify which materials are to be used.

Overall responsibility for good environmental management at Park Bridge rests with the Countryside Service Unit Manager and Senior Ranger.

2. PESTICIDES

Herbicides are in use but only where absolutely necessary, for instance in the control of weed growth around obstacles and on steps where manual time resources are not sustainable.

Only staff formally trained use pesticides on the Park Bridge site and the storage and transportation of the pesticides are in line with the law. No pesticides are stored at Park Bridge.

3. PEAT USE

Peat is not used at Park Bridge. Where there are flower tubs and hanging baskets, peat substitutes are used with annuals grown at the Council's own nursery.

4. WASTE MINIMALISATION

Materials used are from sustainable sources where ever possible.

Tree and shrub thinnings are shredded and used as a mulch, placed on site as habitat mounds for small mammals, or left in situ to rot down naturally.

Office materials (such as paper) are recycled where possible. Lighting in the Centre is low energy and cisterns and taps are on energy saving systems, so that only the minimum amount of water is used. Energy bills are also monitored to identify problems.

Timber is from sustainable sources.

Vehicles and machinery are regularly serviced to minimise fuel consumption and emissions



5. ARBORICULTURE AND WOODLAND MANAGEMENT

All trees within the Park Bridge site are inspected annually and after severe weather, as part of the Council's tree hazard inspection guidelines.

The mature and more recently planted woodlands are managed to provide a rich and diverse woodland habitat, with a predominance of native species. Where possible deadwood is left in situ for invertebrates and fungi, amongst others.

The Countryside Service are working towards UK Woodland Assurance Standard for all of its main woodlands. The plan is to achieve this during 2008.

Any new planting on the site is from local nurseries.



10. Conservation and Heritage

The value of Park Bridge lies in its industrial heritage in a countryside setting, this combined with a mosaic of habitats, provides an interesting site for visitors and a diverse wildlife.

There are wooded areas, an established pond with wetland edges, unmanaged grass areas, areas cut to create meadows and areas of cut grass for picnics and fun. The many walls and hedges on the site are valuable habitats as are the conserved chimneys, providing nesting opportunities for kestrels and owls.

Objectives

- 1. To manage the various habitats such that they achieve their maximum value for wildlife, and together provide a rich mosaic of habitats.
- 2. To manage the buildings and structures to enable visitors to appreciate and understand the past history of the Park Bridge site.

How the objectives are being met

1. HABITAT MANAGEMENT

There is an overall management prescription Site Master Plan for each specific area of the site, setting out how the various habitats are to be managed (See Section 12).

The success of the management regimes is annually monitored against the management prescriptions, and any changes built into future programmes of work.

Local expertise (local residents, volunteers, etc.) is used to provide advice on local species and habitat management, and to help with the conservation events on the annual public events programme.

The Rocher Vale part of the site is managed predominantly for its nature conservation value as a Site of Biological Importance, and it will be designated as a Local Nature Reserve early in 2008.

Nesting boxes are set up in appropriate locations.

Staff are trained in habitat management.

Access is directed away from particularly valuable parts of the area.



2. BUILDING MANAGEMENT

Regular safety inspections and maintenance inspections of the buildings and structures are undertaken and works required built into the annual programme.

There are information boards and leaflets explaining to visitors the former use and importance of the buildings and structures.

Consultation with the University of Manchester Archaeological Unit has provided both a maintenance plan for the archaeological features and generated discussion for future developments.

11. Annual Site Maintenance Plan

ITEM	FREQUENCY	AGENCY
THE APPROACH TO PARK BRIDGE		
Inspect and maintain fencing, stiles, signposting and waymarking, interpretation boards as required	Ongoing	TCS
Inspect and maintain paths and multi use track as required	Ongoing	TCS
Cut back vegetation overhanging multi use track and road	May	TCS
Clear litter	Daily	TCS
Mow grass verges	Fortnightly, April-Sept	TCS
Inspect, clean and repair the roadside entrance ‘sculpture’	Weekly	TCS
Repair cobbled speed ramps, Waggon Road, as required DLO	April	TCS, Engineering
Inspect and clear as required the roadside drains	Monthly	TCS
Undertake management of woodland areas	January	TCS
Cut and remove Himalayan balsam from roadside woodlands	June	TCS
Control spread of Japanese knotweed by hand pulling and remove from site	June	TCS
Remove ragwort adjacent to grazed land by hand pulling and remove from site	June	TCS
Prepare and Cetol / Paint site furniture	April	TCS
Coppice the trees on the bank between the Waggon Road and river, overlooking the Heritage Centre area	January, every three years from 2004/5	TCS
FAIRBOTTOM BOBS		
Inspect and maintain fencing, signposting and waymarking, interpretation boards as required.	Ongoing	TCS
Inspect and maintain paths as required	Ongoing	TCS, OCS
Cut back vegetation overhanging paths	April	TCS, OCS
Clear litter	Weekly	TCS, OCS
Mow the grass verges	Monthly, April-Sept	TCS, OCS
Remove trees and seedlings from the archaeological remains as required	Ongoing	TCS, OCS
Inspect and repair as necessary the archaeological features	Ongoing	TCS, OCS, UMAU

ITEM	FREQUENCY	AGENCY
BRIGHT SHOP		
Inspect brick walls and repair as necessary	Ongoing	TCS
Inspect the boundary railings and repair as necessary	Ongoing	TCS
Prepare and Cetol / paint site furniture	April	TCS
Clear litter	Daily	TCS
Inspect the footpath and repair as necessary	Ongoing	TCS
Cut and rake the wildflower meadow areas, and remove cuttings	September	TCS
Monitor and record species in the invertebrate ponds and elsewhere on site	July	TCS, wildlife ranger,
Inspect and maintain interpretation panels and signposting as required		Ongoing TCS
Inspect car park and undertake any maintenance / repairs as required		Monthly TCS
Manage woodland along river bank	January	TCS
HERITAGE CENTRE SURROUNDS		
Inspect and maintain fencing, stiles, signposting and waymarking, interpretation boards as required	Ongoing	TCS
Inspect and maintain paths and multi use path as required	Ongoing	TCS
Power wash the stone flag paths to prevent build up of algae	As required	TCS
Cut back vegetation overhanging the pavement, paths and road	April / Oct	TCS
Clear litter	Daily	TCS
Amenity grass areas : mow	Fortnightly, April-Sept	GMDLO
Amenity shrub areas : prune	February	GMDLO
Inspect, clean and repair the roadside entrance ‘sculpture’	Ongoing	TCS
Inspect and clear as required the roadside drains	Ongoing	TCS
flagged paths, sett areas and tarmac surfaces : inspect and repair as required		Ongoing TCS
Prepare and Cetol / paint site furniture	April	TCS
Review of signage in area outside the Heritage Centre	Every three years from 2003/4	TCS
Inspect and maintain the wayfaring course	Ongoing	TCS

ITEM	FREQUENCY	AGENCY
FORMER RAILWAY SIDINGS		
Inspect steps and path from Alt Hill Road, and repair as required	Ongoing	TCS
Litter pick	Monthly	TCS
Thin scrub to maintain satisfactory mosaic of scrub/grass/heather	January	TCS
Monitor and record the habitat	July	TCS, wildlife ranger, GMEU
ROCHER VALE		
Inspect and maintain fencing, stiles, signposting and waymarking, interpretation boards as required	Ongoing	TCS
Inspect and maintain paths as required	Ongoing	TCS
Cut back vegetation overhanging paths and remove trees likely to damage walls and other structures	May	TCS
Clear litter	Daily	TCS
Amenity grass areas : mow	Fortnightly, April-Sept	GMDLO
Prepare and Cetol / paint site furniture	April	TCS
Keep archaeological features free from vegetation	Ongoing	TCS
Manage heather bank by burning TCS	January, on five year cycle, starting 2007/8	
Control bracken and scrub from invading the heathland areas	Ongoing	TCS
Control the invasion of scrub and undergrowth from the important geological areas	Ongoing	TCS
Dredge and remove 25% of the vegetation within the leat on a four year cycle. Maintain flow of water from the river.	November	TCS
Undertake management programme within the woodland areas	December	TCS
Grass cut and rake the wildflower area	September	TCS
Paint railings on entrance to site as required	Ongoing	TCS
Undertake ecological survey	July	TCS, wildlife ranger, GMEU
Remove graffiti from structures	Ongoing	TCS
TCS : Tameside Countryside Service OCS : Oldham Countryside Service GMDLO : Tameside Grounds Maintenance Direct Labour Organisation UMAU : University of Manchester Archaeological Unit GMEU : Greater Manchester Ecology Unit		

12. Community Involvement

A key to the success of Park Bridge has been the involvement of the community and other partners in its management. This helps to bring in expertise, a sense of ownership and involvement, and additional resources.

Who are the community?

The community at Park Bridge is:

- The local residents who live in Park Bridge village.
- Visitors to the area, participants on events, individuals and families (all ages and backgrounds) coming to the Heritage Centre and surrounding area as part of a countryside visit, walkers and cyclists in the area or on one of the longer named trails. Visitors are mostly from within a ten mile radius, but a number come from further afield.
- People who presently make only limited use of Lyme field, such as ethnic minorities.
- School and uniformed groups on an educational visit.

How do we know?

- We count visitors to the Heritage Centre and there is an electronic counter on the site below. This helps us to know how many visitors we get.
- We regularly undertake visitor surveys to determine the profile of our visitors, what they think about the area and where they come from.

What other partners are there?

- Funding and advisory agencies, such as Natural England and the Environment Agency.
- Other service areas within Tameside Council e.g. rights of way officer, arts and events, museums and libraries, sports development.
- Greater Manchester Ecology Unit.
- University of Manchester Archaeological Unit.
- Park Bridge Focus Group
- Alt Hill Residents Association.
- Volunteers.
- Outside events organisers.

Objectives

1. To involve the community in the development and management of Park Bridge
2. To manage an appropriate mix of facilities for the community.

How the objectives are being met

1. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

There is a committed group of voluntary rangers who assist in the management of the area, helping at the Heritage Centre, running and assisting with the events programme, undertaking conservation work, patrolling, and outreach work. Voluntary Rangers annually complete in the region of 1100 days working in the countryside of Tameside, many of which were undertaken at Park Bridge. A Voluntary Rangers' leaflet, which applies to the whole Countryside Service, outlines the work of the volunteers, and invites new volunteers to join the service. This features on the website.



We regularly undertake site surveys to find out from users whether we are providing the kind of service they want. This includes barriers to use, things they particularly like, changes they would like to see. Their views are used to make appropriate changes to the way we manage Park Bridge. These changes are considered at regular Rangers Action Meetings and, where required, are either implemented straight away, or built into future programmes of work. An example of this is the development of the Children's wayfaring course following requests to develop more activities for children.

There is an annual events and activity programme running throughout the year and many events either are based at, or start from Park Bridge Heritage Centre. We seek the views of participants on events about the content and quality of the events, and use these views to make suitable changes to our events. An example of a change made during 2007 was the introduction of an 'Urban Wildlife Walk', following a suggestion from the 2006/07 survey.

The management plan is on display at the visitor centre and we ask people for their comments on it. During the Plan's annual review we take note of comments and changes that the public would like to see. For instance this year we have included more information about the history of the site and included a section on our plans to improve facilities for children's play out on site.

Proposed changes are displayed in the Heritage Centre for visitors to comment on. We tell people what recent changes we have undertaken through information available in the Heritage Centre.

We also publish a Countryside Annual Review on our website, which includes work undertaken at Park Bridge.

There is a general comments book in the Heritage Centre, which also helps us to plan changes to our management of the area.

The Countryside Service provides the venue and sits on the meetings of the Alt Hill Residents Association and Park Bridge Focus Group. These groups are consulted on a wide range of issues relating to Park Bridge. For instance in late 2007, the potential for designating Park Bridge as a Country Park was high on the agenda.

It is recognised that only a very small percentage of visits to the site are by ethnic minority groups. Resources have been put in place to try and address this issue by Information Officers proactively targeting groups and arranging follow up visits, special events etc. Work on this project will start in 2008.

We liaise with local conservation groups and bodies, such as the Environment Agency and the Greater Manchester Ecology Unit, for specific advice on management of the area.

We liaise and work with the University of Manchester Archaeological Unit in excavating and consolidating the area's industrial heritage, and providing information to visitors.

We run an outdoor education programme with schools and uniformed groups, tailored to meet the particular requirements of the schools and based on the National Curriculum. Following visits, the views of teachers on the quality of experience are sought.

The Council has a published procedure for dealing with complaints, which is on display at Park Bridge and published on the website.

Park Bridge is home to many people who have a keen interest in their local environment. Although not voluntary rangers, they like to be involved and act as extra eyes and ears at all times day and night. Out of affection, and a sense of ownership they get involved in a range of practical projects from woodland and meadow management to pond maintenance and river clean ups.

2. MIX OF FACILITIES

We have developed and manage a mix of uses and activities at Park Bridge, compatible with its wildlife importance and its historic value. Recreation uses include:

- Informal family visit to the area
- Strolling / walking
- Visiting Park Bridge Heritage Centre
- A Tea Room
- Seating and quiet areas
- Parking and toilet facilities
- Schools education visits
- An events and activities programme running throughout the year
- Children's Discovery Trail (new for 2007)
- History trail
- Children's wayfaring course

We seek the views of our users about the balance of uses and changes they may wish to see. We use these views to plan changes. An example of this is the potential to designate Park Bridge as a Country Park



13 Marketing

In order that the local community and visitors are aware of Park Bridge, information should be provided which raises awareness of and provides information and understanding of the site. It should be available in a range of formats and be available to all who require it.

Objectives

1. To promote Park Bridge in the context of an overall marketing strategy.
2. To provide a range of information about the area, and promote Park Bridge as a resource for the whole community.

How the objectives are met

1. MARKETING STRATEGY

There is an overall countryside marketing strategy which will be periodically reviewed. This concentrates on marketing Park Bridge for its special interest, countryside recreation, industrial history and wildlife in an attractive landscaped setting.

An Interpretive Master Plan has been developed with staff and interested parties for the countryside of Tameside.

2. PROVISION OF APPROPRIATE INFORMATION

Park Bridge features in a range of publications and walks leaflets, which are available at various outlets, and can be purchased online.

There are well designed and informative displays in the Heritage Centre about the various themes of interest at Park Bridge, including the results of research into the social and economic history of the Park Bridge site.

We regularly send out press releases about the area and the events and activities on offer. Many of these feature prominently as part of information given out over Tameside Radio.

The site, events and activities feature on the Countryside website.

Countryside issues often feature in the Council's Tameside Citizen Newspaper and within other local newspapers.

There is an annual events and activity programme running throughout the year and many events either are based at, or start from Park Bridge.

We run an outdoor education programme with schools and uniformed groups, tailored to meet the particular requirements of the schools and based on the National Curriculum.



We have an education pack which gives information about the Park Bridge area and of the educational opportunities available. This is periodically revised and updated.

Access to the Visitor Centre and site is free. We do not normally charge for events (except to cover the cost of materials) and there is a range of free leaflets.

There is on site interpretation detailing the heritage of the site. Signage is well designed, well sited, and kept in good repair.

We regularly extol the merits of Park Bridge with potential funders and politicians.

We are open about the standards visitors can expect when they visit Park Bridge. These standards appear in the service charter and can be accessed on the website.

14. Management

Funding

Revenue budget

The day to day costs of managing Park Bridge are met from within Countryside Service Unit Revenue Budget. There is not a separate Park Bridge budget as this allows greater flexibility in the deployment of the overall budget according to need. This budget includes, among other things, staff, vehicles, materials, buildings running costs and site management.

The current year's budget is monitored throughout the year by the Head of Countryside and Administrative Assistant, in conjunction with an appointed Council Finance Officer, and is subject to a full three monthly review. This enables any changing needs to be assessed. At the half year review the planned programme of improvements for the following year is being assessed, together with the revenue (and capital) consequences. Planning for the next year's programme takes into account projects and work identified by staff and elected members, as well as those highlighted by our visitors in various ways (letters, e-mails, phone calls, comments to staff at the Heritage Centre and on site).

Where revenue pressures are identified, there is a process for the identification of additional revenue funding from within the Council.

The pricing policy for the Countryside Service's is as follows, and is based on the principle that access is for everyone, not least the less-well-off:

- The pricing policy is reviewed in October.
- Access to Park Bridge (including the Heritage Centre) is free.
- Leaflets and publications and souvenirs are charged for, and the price is annually reviewed.
- School visits are charged according to length of session and class size.
- For events where there is hired transport and materials (such as craft events), a small charge is made.

CAPITAL PROGRAMME

From time to time work is identified that cannot be funded from the revenue budget. In these circumstances bids will be made to appropriate funding agencies, including the Council's own capital programme.

INCOME GENERATION

Opportunities for generating income will continue to be explored. This will include sales, donations, and external grants.

Staffing

Park Bridge comes under the management of the Council's Countryside Service Unit, which is part of the Cultural and Customer Services division of Neighbourhood and Community Services.

The Area Ranger Team and three Information Officers are based at Park Bridge. Additionally the Head of Countryside and Senior Estate Ranger often work from the Centre, assisting staff with the planned maintenance programme.

There are several Voluntary Rangers who assist with estate management, conservation tasks, patrolling, visitor surveys, staffing the Centre and events.

Staffing within the whole of the Countryside Service is annually reviewed in light of any changing needs. However the present staffing levels are sufficient to manage Park Bridge effectively.

Training

The Council as a whole, and this includes Park Bridge, has been awarded Investor in People. Under this all staff receive annual development reviews, which identify employee objectives and in turn training needs. The training needs take into account the skills and knowledge required to manage Park Bridge, and this has included, among other things, welcome host, IT skills, first aid, working safely, woodland management, etc.



The Council has a central training budget, with a proportion being allocated to Culture and Customer Services and hence to staff at Park Bridge. Where relevant, any shortfall is met from the Countryside Service Unit revenue budget.

The voluntary rangers also receive appropriate training in various skills, via on-site training, special training weekends and external training.

15. Monitoring and Review

The Management Prescription in Section 16 has a currency of five years.

The prescription will be annually reviewed and a copy of the review kept and displayed at Park Bridge in the supporting information file.

Monitoring will review, in particular:

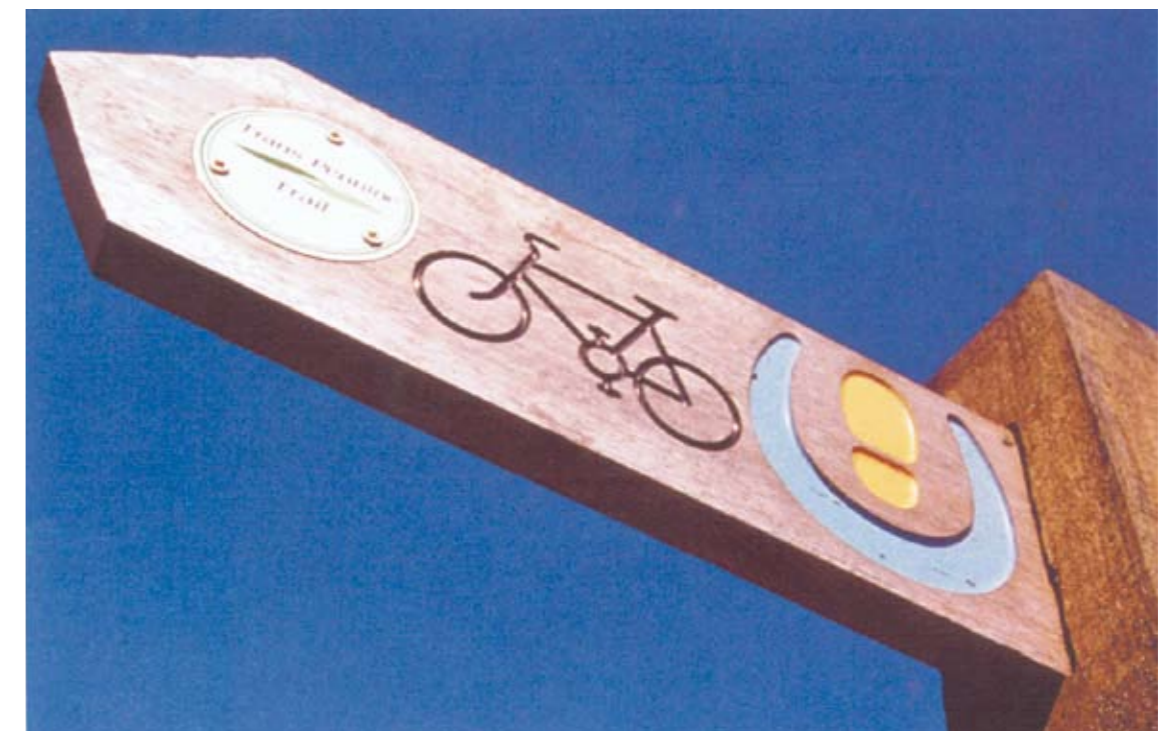
- The condition of the industrial remains.
- The condition of buildings.
- The Heritage Centre, various aspects.
- The appropriateness of the landscape maintenance regimes.
- The quality of the habitats and any steps needed for change.
- Marketing.
- Income generation.
- Visitor management.
- Visitor numbers.
- Performance measures and general service standards.
- Staff training.
- Budget allocation.
- Opportunities and a programme for further research into the history of Park Bridge



16. Programme of Management

ITEM	FREQUENCY	AGENCY	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
Creating a sense of welcome							
Review and update website relating to Park Bridge	April	CSUM	X	X	X	X	X
Keep information cabinet and notice board up to date	Ongoing	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Undertake annual full inspection of buildings and structure and plan and implement necessary repairs	November / ongoing	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Undertake any necessary decorating of the Heritage Centre	Ongoing	Contractor	X	X	X	X	X
Review standards of service	November	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Review performance measures	November	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Prepare annual programme of access and other land management tasks	August	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Cetol site furniture and clean site boards	April	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Check signposting and waymarking and undertake repairs / changes	Apr/Jul/Oct/Jan	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Promote trails passing through Park Bridge	Ongoing	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Continue regular patrols of Park Bridge at frequencies set out in H & S Compendium	Ongoing	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Review design aspects of the Park Bridge area	October	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Ensure alterations to land, buildings and Heritage Centre displays take into account the needs of people with special needs	Ongoing	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Hold two focus group meetings	Aug/Jan	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Attend residents' group meetings	Annually	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Hold team meetings	Monthly	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Plan monthly work programme for staff and volunteers	Monthly	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Review access and facilities for visitors, including those with special needs	March	TCS	X	X	X	X	X

ITEM	FREQUENCY	AGENCY	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
Commission production of new permanent display of transport at Park Bridge	April	TCS/consultants			X		
Safe and Healthy Environment							
Input into review of Countryside Service H & S Compendium	April	TCS/CSUM	X	X	X	X	X
Review COSHH register	October	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Undertake regular patrols of the Park Bridge area: see Sense of Welcome							
Log site damage and agree programme for repair	Ongoing	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Undertake Health and Safety Active Monitoring as set out in the Health and Safety Compendium	Ongoing	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Maintain links with the police and town patrollers	Ongoing	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Monitor control of dogs in the Park Bridge area	Ongoing	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Continue to participate in Healthstart programme	Ongoing	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Police vet new members of staff (including voluntary rangers)	Ongoing	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Plan and undertake any awareness raising of visitor responsibilities	January	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Reset kerbs and pavement opposite Heritage Centre	May	TCS	X				



ITEM	FREQUENCY	AGENCY	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
Clean and well managed area							
Continue day to day litter patrols	Ongoing	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Manage / maintain the landscape in accordance with the Landscape Master Plan (see Section 12 of the Management Plan)	Ongoing	TCS/ GMDSO/	X	X	X	X	X
Maintain equipment and undertake safety inspections	Ongoing	TCS/CTrans	X	X	X	X	X
Review DLO grounds maintenance programme	Every 5 years	TCS		X			
Inspect site furniture and repair and replace as necessary	Monthly	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Litter pick area around the Heritage Centre, Rocher Vale and Bright Shop	Daily	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Litter pick other areas as set out in Landscape Master Plan	Ongoing	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Monitor dog waste bin emptying	Weekly	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Undertake day to day cleaning of Heritage Centre	Two days per week	CCDLO	X	X	X	X	X
Review Heritage Centre cleaning contract	January	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Undertake painting and decorating programme	Ongoing	TCS/ contractor	X	X	X	X	X
Undertake maintenance of the Heritage Centre exhibits and displays	Every 6 months	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Plan temporary display programme for next year	January	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Sustainability							
Continue landscape / habitat management and review as set out in the Landscape Master Plan	Ongoing	TCS/GMEU GMDLO	X	X	X	X	X
Continue recycling of 'green' and other materials	Ongoing	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Monitor electricity and water use	Quarterly	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Continue to develop the KITE Club	Ongoing	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Revamp the courtyard herb garden	May	TCS		X			
Lay hedgerow below the Heritage Centre	December	TCS		X			
Undertake tree hazard inspections	December	TCS	X	X	X	X	X

ITEM	FREQUENCY	AGENCY	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
Conservation and Heritage							
Develop partnership for habitat monitoring and monitor habitats as referred to in the Landscape Master Plan	Ongoing	TCS/wildlife ranger/GMEU	X	X	X	X	X
Undertake review of SBIs	Biennially	GMEU	X		X		
Building maintenance : see under Sense of Welcome							
Liaise with English Heritage on assessment of Park Bridge under the Monuments Protection Programme	Dependent on EH programme	TCS					
Investigate Country Park Status	March	TCS/PBC		X			
Local Nature Reserve status for Rocher Vale	September	TCS/PBC		X			
Seek inclusion of Rocher Vale (geological value) on SSSI and RIGG registers	September	TCS/PBC			X		
Undertake annual inspection of features of archaeological value and plan ongoing maintenance and future repairs	October	TCS/UMAU	X	X	X	X	X
Identify additional excavation and consolidation of sites of archaeological value	October	TCS/UMAU	X	X			
Maintain consolidated remains of Park Bridge ironworks, tramway, Rocher New Pit and Fairbottom Bobs Colliery in good state of repair	Ongoing	TCS/UMAU /OCS	X	X	X	X	X
Undertake and commission further research into the industrial and social history of Park Bridge	Ongoing	TCS/UMAU	X	X	X	X	X
Continue to generate information from visitors to Park Bridge and others	Ongoing	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Install a flag paved area and lower the kerb at the interpretation boards opposite the Heritage Centre	May	TCS	X				
Community involvement							
Plan and undertake surveys, and identify and implement action arising	Dec (plan) / ongoing	TCS	X		X	X	X
Plan events and run programme	Oct / Apr (plan) / ongoing	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Undertake review of the events programme				X		X	
Run outdoor education programme with schools	Ongoing	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Hold focus group meetings : see Sense of Welcome							
Continue to liaise with conservation bodies and individuals	Ongoing	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Continue liaison with Oldham Council and other service areas of Tameside Council	Ongoing	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Increase the opportunities available to volunteers of Park Bridge	Ongoing	TCS		X	X	X	X

ITEM	FREQUENCY	AGENCY	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
Display list of actions completed in previous six months	Apr / Oct	TCE	X	X	X	X	X
Include Park Bridge in annual report	June	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Consult organisations representing people with special needs	Ongoing	TCE	X	X	X	X	X
Review partnerships	November	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Maintain records of numbers of visitors to Park Bridge	Ongoing	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Plan and undertake visits to and by schools	Ongoing	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Undertake surveys of users of the education service and act on the findings	Every 2 years	TCS		X		X	
Review and reprint Outdoor Education leaflet	May	TCS			X		
Continue to develop topics within the Education Pack	Ongoing	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Further upgrade the education resources room	December	TCS			X		
Continue work of archive gathering with the local community	Ongoing	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Produce an Interpretive Plan for the area	August	TCS	X				
Undertake project to increase number of ethnic minority groups visiting Park Bridge	Ongoing	TCS		X	X		

Marketing

Review Marketing Strategy	Every three years	TCS		X			X
Review the Park Bridge marketing leaflet	April	TCS		X			

Resources

Full review budget for current year	October	TCS/FinOff	X	X	X	X	X
Roll forward three year budget proposals	December	TCS/FinOff	X	X	X	X	X
Plan detailed budget for next financial year	December	TCS/FinOff	X	X	X	X	X
Review fees and charges	November	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Review staffing levels	January	TCS/CSUM	X	X	X	X	X
Explore grant sources	Ongoing	TCS/CSUM	X	X	X	X	X
Undertake stock check and maintain records	March	TCS	X	X	X	X	X

Training

Undertake employee development reviews and identify training	January	TCS/CSUM	X	X	X	X	X
Identify training needs for voluntary rangers	November	TCS	X	X	X	X	X
Liaise with UMAU on providing training opportunities	Ongoing	TCS	X	X	X	X	X

ITEM	FREQUENCY	AGENCY	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
Miscellaneous							
Seek Green Flag award for Park Bridge	February	CSUM	X	X	X	X	X
Prepare Operational Diary for following year	January	TCS/CSUM	X	X	X	X	X
Prepare Action Plan for following year	November	TCS	X	X	X		
Review Action Plan achievements for previous year	April	TCS	X	X	X		
Provide input into Tameside Council's Cultural Service Business Plan for following year	December	TCS	X	X	X		
Review any new technology needs	November	TCS	X	X	X		
Prepare for Tameside in Bloom	April		X	X	X		

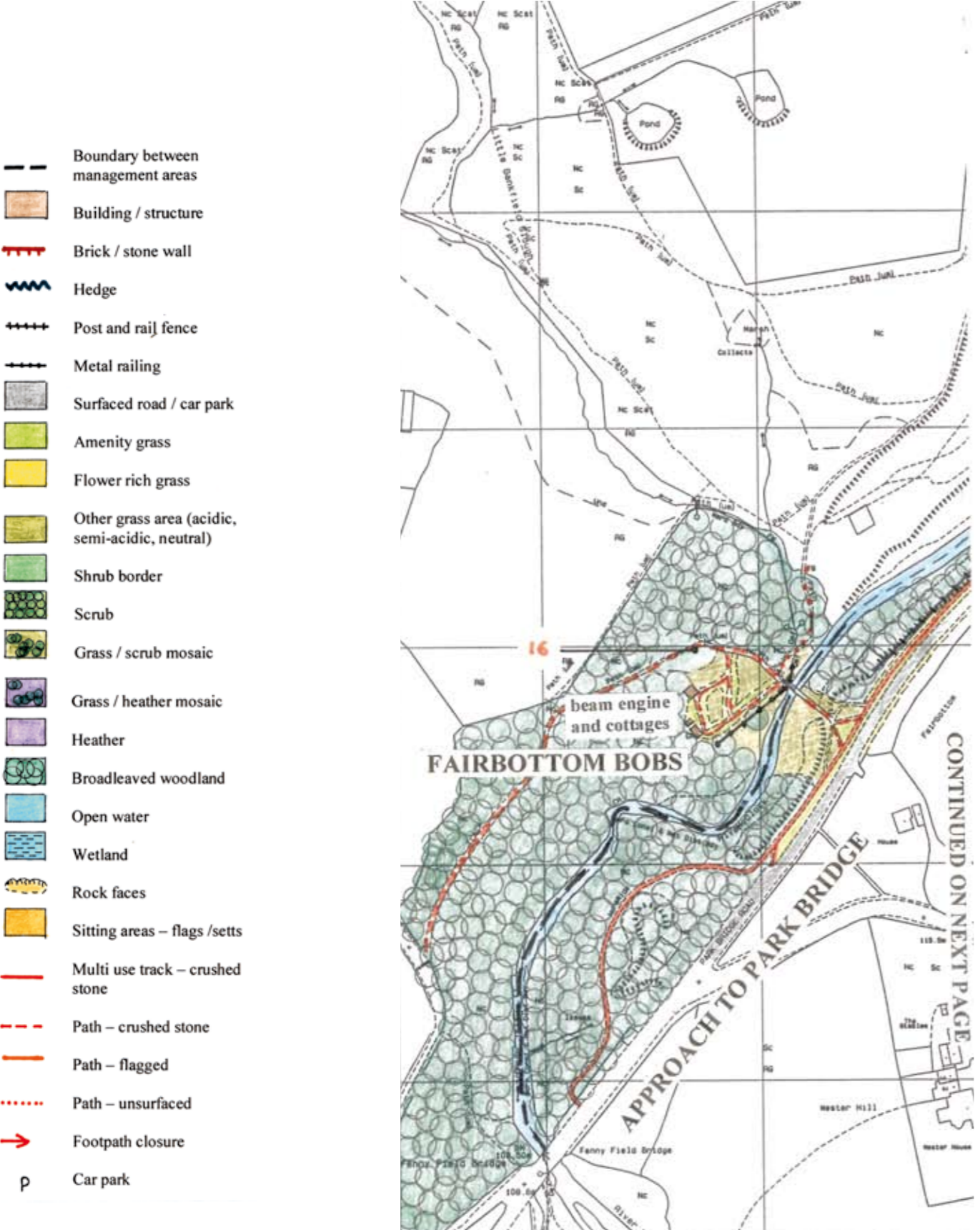
Key to abbreviations

TCS	Tameside Countryside Service (rangers)
CSUM	Countryside Service Unit Manager
GMEU	Greater Manchester Ecology Unit
PBC	Tameside Council Planning and Building Control
SBI	Site of Biological Importance
RIGG	Regionally Important Geological or Geomorphological Site
GMDLO	Grounds Maintenance Direct Labour Organisation
CCDLO	Catering and Cleaning Direct Labour Organisation
CTrans	Tameside Council central transport service
UMAU	University of Manchester Archaeological Unit
FinOff	Finance Officer
EnvServ	Environmental Services
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest

17. Site Plan

The following schedule lists the management tasks at Park Bridge for the five year currency of the Management Plan.

The numbers in red indicate locations of the works shown on Plan 3 : Landscape Master Plan.



HERITAGE CENTRE SURROUNDS

BRIGHT SHOP

HERITAGE CENTRE

Park Bridge

ROCHER VALE

ROCHER NEW PIT

RABBIT CLOUGH

FORMER RAILWAY SIDINGS

LEGEND

- Open Space (Yellow)
- Trees (Green)
- Water (Blue)
- Former Railway Sidings (Purple)
- Path (Dashed Line)
- Boundary (Solid Line)
- Building (Black Outline)
- Tree Symbol (Green Circle)
- Water Symbol (Blue Wavy Line)
- Path Symbol (Dashed Line)
- Boundary Symbol (Solid Line)
- Building Symbol (Black Outline)

[illegible]

HERITAGE CENTRE SURROUNDS

BRIGHT SHOP

Park Bridge

Heritage Centre

Rocher New Pit

ROCHER VALE

Rabbit Clough

FORMER RAILWAY SIDINGS

Fairbottom

HERITAGE CENTRE SURROUNDS

BRIGHT SHOP

Park Bridge

Heritage Centre

Rocher New Pit

ROCHER VALE

Rabbit Clough

FORMER RAILWAY SIDINGS

The map displays a complex landscape design with a central watercourse, Rocher Vale. To the north, the Heritage Centre and Park Bridge are situated. The western side features the Bright Shop and Fairbottom. The southern portion of the map is dominated by former railway sidings. Various colored areas represent different ecological or planning zones, while red dashed lines likely indicate proposed paths or boundaries. Numbered markers from 1 to 17 are distributed across the site, providing reference points for specific locations.

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HERITAGE CENTRE SURROUNDS

BRIGHT SHOP

HERITAGE CENTRE

Park Bridge

ROCHER VALE

Rocher New Pit

Rabbit Clough

FORMER RAILWAY SIDINGS

17 10 9 13 15 3 11 4 14 6 5 8 7 12

Continued from previous page

HERITAGE CENTRE SURROUNDS

BRIGHT SHOP

HERITAGE CENTRE

Park Bridge

ROCHER VALE

Rocher New Pit

Rabbit Clough

FORMER RAILWAY SIDINGS

17 10 9 13 15 3 11 4 14 6 5 8 7 12