



community relationships, especially with dog walkers (who have an innate sense of park ownership). Dog control is the biggest issue of concern in the UK (according to national Greenspace research in 2004) and OWBC could make great inroads to improve the public perception of its clean parks. Powers of enforcement must be balanced with a positive rewarding stance to the dog-owner user group. (eg. "Scruffs", dog training days, dog Olympics).

6.7 Combating vandalism

The park has some history as a meeting place for young people at night and criminal acts do occur, as is the case in many urban parks. Vandalism does not generally occur in Parklife-run projects, through a number of measures:

- o *Education* of younger users about the value of good health, wildlife and green space amenities, using hands-on projects conducted with the community, local groups and local schools. The Council has experience of implementing this kind of 'educational' initiatives.
- o *Ongoing community involvement* in the project during each phase of implementation. This normally includes younger age groups and fosters a strong sense of community ownership among them, as already felt by the older generations. It will be particularly important to identify groups of young people who have been regularly damaging park structures or have criminal records, and to involve them, for example, in the design of play/sports areas and items of public art;

- o *Robust design* by the consultants, youth-run site security, site surgeries during construction works, and after completion a rapid response to vandalism damage (i.e. 24 hours) by Council staff/ contractors;
- o *Park Watch Scheme*, encouraging the 'Friends' group to undertake passive surveillance and report vandalism or suspicious behaviour to the Council;
- o *Multi-level use* of the park buildings and sports areas, removing any misconception that the facilities are exclusive to any one group (e.g. college).
- o *Lighting* of the key north-south routes through the park at night, as described above.



Metalwork prototypes for the head of a play structure called 'Nessie' designed and made from mini-digger buckets by young people from Airedale High School, Castleford, Yorks.



6.8 Promotion and marketing

A programme of promotion and marketing will be crucial for the success of the project, and its organisation is proposed in two stages:

- (i) pre-implementation to raise additional funds and to encourage community involvement;
- (ii) during implementation and throughout the continued development of the park.

Both stages should target the private, public and educational sectors including the local community. The first stage will involve community group bids to external funders. The second stage is primarily concerned with marketing the facilities of the park and the events taking place. An on-site surgery should be set up in the park during works, in order to maintain community involvement throughout the implementation stage.



Braille signs in a sensory garden, Peace Memorial Park, Wigston.



History seat designed in conjunction with students of Guthlaxton college



7.0 IMPLEMENTATION

7.1 Project Priorities

The proposals for the park are set out in the tables below. The proposals have been prioritised in accordance with the following criteria :-

- o **High visual impact** projects in the early years, coupled with a sequence of events that will grab local headlines and have a real impact on the lives of local residents and park users. For PR value the first phase of improvements have been selected for early impact (quick wins).
- o **Important to local people.** Projects that reflect the expressed wishes of local people (refer to Appendix D).
- o **Ease of implementation.** Projects have given a higher priority where they are already planned or are considered easy to achieve on site, without needing lengthy approvals. Local people desire to see some *immediate* improvements, since they have already been waiting for many years !

7.2 The Implementation Process and Accountability

The implementation stage should be organised so that it remains transparent and accountable throughout. To achieve this and enable the proposals to progress as and when funding becomes available, the work is divided into a number of packages or projects. This way both the content of each project and the order in which it is implemented can be manipulated to suit funding opportunities and local wishes. For example, if a group of students wishes to start the botanical garden earlier than programmed, then work could be brought forward. If contributory funding can be secured for certain proposals, then these can be brought forward. Retaining this flexibility ensures that local people are integral to the process and that it remains accountable throughout its implementation.



7.3 Community Engagement during Implementation

To involve the local South Wigston community during implementation on site, we propose a fairly radical initiative involving direct participation in the construction process by local people including young offenders. We recommend that the park be used as a venue for a number of employment-generating arts and landscape construction projects. These projects will be based upon the proposals contained in this report. Each construction element/area (e.g. a new seating area) will be treated as a component of a series of work experience projects, where feasible. The approach closely follows LA21 principles¹. Each project will:

- o Engage the community, especially the local schools, colleges and non-joiners;
- o Present career opportunities for the local workforce, especially school leavers and the unemployed.

The projects may include the design/construction of park furniture, paving finishes, play sculptures, tree planting, and so

on. All projects will involve professional artists, parks consultants, landscape contractors (employing work experience students/apprentices) and members of the community including the unemployed, students and schoolchildren as appropriate.

In addition to the above, the project should remain transparent and accountable to the community throughout the implementation phase, through efforts such as: -

- o Displays on the Blaby Road frontage during each phase of consultation;
- o A feedback leaflet for public input;
- o Targeting of specific interest groups and age-groups for specific input;
- o Press releases to the local media;

¹ One of the principles of Local Agenda 21 is that environmental, economic and social issues can be made to work together for the common good. LA21 recognises that sustainable development is primarily the responsibility of local government. At the heart of LA21 lie common belief systems, patterns of trust, notions of citizenship and voluntary activity, organisational capacity and social capital. The improvements to the parks provide a practical way of approaching the social issues that LA21 seeks to embrace, such as children's freedom and mobility, fitness and health, and access to public places.



7.4 Cost Estimates and Phasing

The cost estimates are given below for budgeting purposes only. Figures are at 2008 estimates and show professional fees and design risk/contingencies but exclude inflation. All figures are subject to revision during the detailed design and ongoing consultation stages. Phases referred to in the table are as follows:

NOTE: figures are CAPITAL works only, and exclude the REVENUE cost of improved maintenance and management of the park as recommended in this report. For example, no revenue estimate is included for the cost of creating a line of communication for Council to report to Friends group, or for drawing up a zoned maintenance plan for the upgraded park.

Phase	Budget Estimate £'000
1	TBA
2	
3	
TOTAL	



COST ESTIMATE

NOTE: This estimate has been prepared from a SKETCH scheme for initial budgeting purposes only. It contains approximate estimates that may be subject to refinement during more detailed design stages.

NOTE: All rates are 2008 estimates and include for supply and installation to Parklife specification (except where noted 'by others'), carting debris off site and 12 months Defects Liability Period for all materials and workmanship.

Area	Description	Qty	Unit	Rate £	TOTAL £
all	PRELIMINARIES				
1	Allow for preliminaries incl setting out, security, gate locks, tree protection etc. Note that Whole of Site is to be handed over. Heras Fence to Skip Area		1 Item	47,000.00	47,000
2	Allow for site signs as nec for CDM regs and install A0 size public information displays on existing park noticeboards		2 Item	750.00	1,500
A	BLABY ROAD FRONTAGE				
	Removals				
1	Remove boundary railings and posts and cart to Council depot within 2 miles	70	Lm	35.00	2,450
2	Excavate asphalt roadway and import and spread topsoil	50	m2	42.00	2,100
	Surfacing works				
3	Resurfacing of pavement	210	m2	45.00	9,450
	Resurfacing of pavement sett trim/kerb	430	Lm	55.00	23,650
4	Land raising and dress with Type 1, sitting mounds, using inert construction waste	1077	m3	12.00	12,924
5	Granite cladding of embankments	535	m2	123.00	65,805
6	Engraving of slabs with historical stories	35	m2	180.00	6,300
7	Granite steps on embankments	234	m2	145.00	33,930
8	Bonded gravel paving inside seating area	400	m2	51.00	20,400
9	Wetpour surface 40mm inside seating area 20 x 5m	100	m2	75.00	7,500



10	path resurfacing in asphalt after wall construction	100	m2	75.00	7,500
11	Bedding and laying of exposed aggregate concrete stream bed incl pebbles	14	m2	59.00	826
	Groundworks	26	m2	59.00	1,534
12	Path drains and gullies incl connection to ex system	210	Lm	36.00	7,560
13	Backfill embanked pyramid hills with inert waste	167	m3	39.00	6,513
14	Topdress with 300mm min depth topsoil	50	no.	305.00	15,250
	Planting				
15	Turfing of mounds incl cultivation	387	m2	8.00	3,096
16	Groundcover planting	440	m2	45.00	19,800
17	Trees semi-mature 40-50cm girth incl grilles and guards	8	no.	2,500.00	20,000
18	Specimen shrubs	88	m2	26.00	2,288
	Play equipment				
19	Nest swing (2.4m high) Sutcliffe SNSO80	1	item	3,560.00	3,560
20	Spinner plate bespoke	1	item	4,887.00	4,887
21	Belt bridge trampoline custom	1	item	37,165.00	37,165
	Furniture				
22	seating, signs and bins	1	item	9,000.00	9,000
23	lighting allowance	1	item	18,000.00	18,000



Item	Description	Qty	Unit	Rate £	TOTAL £
B	BOWLING GREEN , PAVILION AND SPORTS COURT				
1	Bowling green perimeter paving	144	m2	25.00	3,600
2	Water tank replacement u/g incl new pump	1	item	2,337.00	2,337
3	Water tank connection to downwater pipes incl sump and filter	1	item	3,087.00	3,087
4	Pavilion extension incl fees, fitting out - 50% matchfunding contribution	1	item	150,000.00	150,000
5	Pavilion apron paving/decking	120	m2	34.00	4,080
6	Supplementary tree planting between court and green	90	m2	35.00	3,150
7	extension of ball court	120	m2	45.00	5,400
8	Re-fencing of ball court	140	Lm	130.00	18,200
9	painting and linemarking of ball court	1200	m2	8.00	9,600
10	pavilion overspill car park Hexagrid surfacing and topsoiling	600	m2	35.00	21,000
11	pavilion overspill car park tree planting on grid incl protection	9	no.	400.00	3,600
12	shrub planting around pavilion incl climbers to screen the thing	40	m2	45.00	1,800
13	shrub planting around bowling green fence to screen and add seasonal interest	100	m2	25.00	2,500
14	hedge planting around car park and pavilion	90	Lm	45.00	4,050
15	Asphalt footpath connecting pavilion to college changing rooms	65	Lm	120.00	7,800
C	AVENUE ALONG EAST BOUNDARY				
1	Formal tree planting	22	no.	120.00	2,640
2	Low level lighting (by others)	22	no.	0.00	-
3	Supplementary boundary hedge planting	240	m2	25.00	6,000
D	PLAY AREAS				
1	Adventure playground	1	item	90,000.00	90,000
2	Toddler playground	1	item	60,000.00	60,000
E	SPORTS PITCHES				
1	Repair of cricket sq by grounds mtnce contractor (existing contract)	1	item	0.00	-
2	Perimeter woodland planting using 60-90cm transplants in rabbit guards	10200	m2	2.00	20,400



3	Perimeter tree planting using EHS stock	34	no.	260.00	8,840
4	protective chesvale fencing in isolated lengths	180	Lm	14.00	2,520
5	New all-steel seats on conc pads along ex paths	14	no.	880.00	12,320
G	WILDLIFE LAKE AND UNDULATING WOODLAND				
1	woodland planting using 60-90cm transplants in rabbit guards	2800	M2	2.00	5,600
2	Lake excavation including benched profile for semi-aquatics	1800	m3	15.00	27,000
3	Lake semi-aquatic planting	200	m2	25.00	5,000
4	Lake life rings	2	no.	700.00	1,400
3	Landsdown entrance improvements	1	item	12,000.00	12,000
	TOTAL build cost (excl VAT)				883,912
K	FEES, DESIGN RISK, CONTINGENCY				
1	Prof fees & design risk - Parklife as PM, QS, L'arch & CDM Co-ordinator 10.7% (LI rate)	1	Item		87,088.58
2	Prof fees & design risk - sub-consultant architect incl CDM mgmt 10.5%	1	Item		22,000.00
3	Prof fees & design risk - sub-consl'tt struc engineer (nom.)	1	Item		5,100.00
4	Prof fees & design risk - sub-consl'tt M&E engineer	1	Item		2,800.00
5	Prof fees - planning	1	Item		3,000.00
6	Prof fees - design workshops with children and young people	1	Item		5,000.00
7	Prof fees - youth training posts during construction	1	Item		6,200.00
7	Prof fees - 10 year Management Plan before final completion	1	Item		2,700.00
7	Prof fees – visitor count incl type, before commencement and at end of implementation	1	Item		2,000.00
14	Add Contingency Sum @ 10%	1	Item		81,391
	TOTAL prof fees, design risk and contingency (excl VAT)				217,280



7.5 Funding

Opportunities for a complete re-evaluation of a locally important and popular park such as Blaby Road Park are rare; hence this opportunity ought not to be overly compromised by a lack of funds. We therefore recommend that this report be used to inform multiple applications to external funding bodies for financial assistance to gear up 4-fold any available s106 monies (i.e. using s106 monies as 25% partnership funding, thereby increasing their value by four times). Applications should be made to a range of external funding bodies such as

- o Big Lottery Fund (BLF) Young People's Fund (www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/qa_ypf_2)
- o Football Foundation
- o Foundation for Sport and Art
- o Sport England
- o Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) Young Roots
- o Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) Your Heritage
- o Numerous other small community funds

The BLF programme above is primarily aimed at the third sector, groups such as charities, credit unions, self-help groups, social and community enterprises and community-based co-operatives. There is scope for partnership bids with the Borough Council, with for example the Friends as the lead applicant. A successful bid would rely on strong partnership with the Borough Council, which is implicit in both the proposed 'community' college and the enthusiasm of the Friends group.

A Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) Young Roots funding bid could be compiled to publicise the project through local youth involvement, using art, education and multi-media. The Guthlaxton and South Leicestershire Colleges (10mins from the park) could produce a video with local young people to support such an application.

In urban regeneration projects in the Borough, environmental improvements with a social and economic value are more likely to achieve financial support. In current thinking, community participation proposed in this report will make each proposal eligible for external funding from a range of sources, to which Parklife could apply with the help of local people and the Council.

To attract external funding, it will be crucial to convince external bodies that the proposals are *community-driven*. BLF is very keen on strong community consultation, which is good news for the proposals of this report, which largely have been derived from community aspirations and previous work.



Chief Executive of the Big Lottery Fund, Stephen Dunmore, regularly emphasises the importance of 'complementarity' between the myriad funding streams. Dunmore suggests that BLF funds can be used to match others, such as s106 funds.

"The common thread of all these programmes is that they all need to be very community-based, reflecting what communities feel needs to be done to raise the environmental standards of where they live."
Stephen Dunmore, Chief Executive, BLF.

There is a great deal of work to be done in the delivery of these proposals, in particular, funding acquisition, the detailed design of the plan-based proposals and the management improvements such as improving grounds maintenance and involving the community more closely. However, OWBC has experience of working closely with community groups and with Parklife's help could continue the good rapport developed during this project. This report should not be treated as a 'quick fix' but as a working plan, a means for implementing a shared VISION for Blaby Road Park.

It is also recommended that the consultancy in charge of delivery should also adopt a PROJECT MANAGEMENT role, hence the proposal above for accountability. All too often, implementation can be seen to over-promise and under-deliver new facilities (through, for example, poor cost

estimating), and the positive momentum among local people can dissipate. Many years have gone by while local people have been awaiting changes on site. The corollary to this is that major delivery all at once can cause 'growing pains' and must be managed carefully.

7.6 What next?

OWBC will establish a steering group with a project champion to secure funding and implement the project.

Consultant designers will produce detailed designs for each of the identified packages of work. This design work will remain as a "Consultation Draft" until approved by the steering group and circulated for wider consultation. A first phase of work will then be identified and a set of construction drawings and accompanying specifications produced. Upon approval the documents will be issued for competitive tender to a select number of construction companies. Best Value principles will be used to select a company and proceed to contract. At this stage, opportunities for local people to be involved in the construction will be identified (refer to section 7.3).

During the implementation of the first phase of improvements, future phases and funding will be planned.



APPENDIX A. Audit of condition of park facilities

		
Changing pavilion roof drainage in need of repair	Bowling green Irrigation tank in need of renewal, ballstop fencing not working	Changing pavilion appears unsightly and utilitarian in park landscape
		
Bowling green edging in need of renewal/trip hazard	Bench with scorched earth around base (Beirut?) unsuitable for elderly users – park furniture in need of renewal.	Bench with scorched earth around base (Beirut?) unsuitable for elderly users – park furniture in need of renewal.



Audit of condition of park facilities (cont./)

<p>Park entry off Landsdowne Grove in need of renewal to draw in more visitors</p>	<p>Pedestrian link south from park to canal and open countryside in need of enhancement (e.g. lighting, planting, interpretation)</p>	<p>Barren southern park boundary dominated by derelict concrete store, in need of enhancement to draw visitors into park.</p>	
<p>Underused ball court in good condition but lacking sport markings, spectator facilities or proper fencing. May need enlarging.</p>	<p>Boundary antagonism from football needs to be addressed.</p>	<p>Most existing furniture in need of repair</p>	<p>Missing memorial trees in need of replacement</p>



Audit of condition of park facilities (cont./)

<p>Boundary antagonism for residences needs addressing</p>	<p>Poorly assimilated youth shelter – youth facilities need enhancing</p>	<p>Ball court fencing in need of repair</p>
<p>Boundaries with residences need addressing</p>	<p>Mature Poplars on western park boundary showing basal decay.</p>	<p>Main park entrance off Blaby Road in need of enhancement to integrate park with street and draw in more visitors</p>



Audit of condition of park facilities (cont./)



Poorly assimilated play area with duplicated fencing in need of enhancement to improve appeal and use



Poorly assimilated skate park in middle of windswept site in need of landscape improvements



Poor drainage and pitch quality in need of repair at southern end of site



APPENDIX B. PUBLIC OPINION SURVEY RESULTS

How long do you typically stay on Blaby Road Park?

Under 15 minutes	26%
Quarter to half an hour	26%
Half an hour to 2 hours	9%
Over 2 hours	38%

How often do you pass through Blaby Road Park?

Every day - once a day or more	36%
2-3 times per week	34%
Once per week	8%
Less than once/month	23%

When do you mostly use Blaby Road Park?

Weekday	38%
Weekend	19%
Weekday and weekend	43%

How do you normally travel to Blaby Road Park?

Walk	81%
Cycle	8%
Car/motorbike	11%

Approximately how long does your normal journey take?

Less than 5 mins	32%
5-10 mins	19%
10-15 mins	28%
15 – 20 mins	11%
20-30	8%
More than 30	2%

What do you usually use Blaby Road Park for (MOSTLY)?

A thorough route on the way to somewhere	28%
As a break from work / shopping	6%
A place to meet friends	26%
Relaxation picnic casual games on grass	2%
Organised sports match e.g. football games, bowling	9%
Pleasant walk	8%
Walk the dog	17%
Children's play area	2%
Other	2%

What if anything prevents you from using Blaby Road Park?

Don't feel safe - Teenagers drinking	40%
Not enough to do	19%
Not a particularly attractive place to visit	13%
Illness	4%



Age Group

16 = age 10 – 19	38%
20-29	13%
2 = age 30 – 44	23%
2 = age 45 – 64	17%
65 plus	9%
Other	25%

How would you rate the appearance of Blaby Road Park?

Good	9%
Fair	49%
Poor	42%

How easy is it for you to get around Blaby Road Park?

Excellent	4%
Good	62%
Fair	28%
Poor – no access to invalidity scooters from alleyways between houses.	6%

What do you think about the range of visitor facilities that are available?

Good	6%
Fair	15%
Poor	58%
Don't know	21%

Can you think of anything that would encourage you to use Blaby Road Park more often, or to stay longer?

Yes	77%
No	15%
Don't know	8%

Would you use a youth and community facility if we extended the existing pavilion?

Yes	90%
No, because of ill health, but yes it's a good idea for others to use.	10%

Male or female

Female	30%
Male	70%

What would you like to see in the facility?

Pool/snooker, large function room for parties and events. Somewhere to sit and talk with friends, free toilets and drinking facilities.

How many of you would use it? (When asking young people on the skate park)

All of us! = 30 – 40 young people.



Other residents requests and comments from questionnaires.

Better lighting along main pathways

More benches around the park – need to be higher as some are too low for pensioners

Park warden

Security cameras

Dogs to be kept on leads and cleaned up after

Mud ramps for bikes

Repairs to skate park

Benches inside the skate park to prevent young people sitting in the middle of it, as they sit in the way smoking and drinking

More regular policing

Play area for 8-12 years

Roof over skate park to prevent it being slippery and dangerous in the rain.

Somewhere to get a drink from.

Feeling of security - to feel safe walking thorough the park

Floodlights for football pitch

Under 11s football pitch

Revamped tennis court

Shelter if it rains

On-site opportunity to get a hot or cold drink

Place to sit and chat

See regular staff in control, visible

Café in park

Extra lighting and caretaker on park 24/7

Better sports facilities

More footpaths, more general regulations

The removal of loitering youths

More seats and better lighting

More facilities – tea rooms

Removal of ???? Youths

Sports run by Clubs College etc

Carnival

New clubhouse, changing rooms



**Blaby Road Park
User Survey focusing on Young People
December 2007**

1. How often do you use the park?
2. How long do you spend here?
3. Which parts of the park do you use?
4. What do you like about the park?
5. What do you dislike about the park?
6. What do you do while you are here?
Play sports
Talk to friends
Sit in the shelter
7. What do you think people your age need in parks?
8. Do you go to Three Corners?
9. How long have you been coming to this park?
10. Have you seen any changes?
11. Is the park a safe place to be in the day?/after dark
12. Are some parts of the park less safe? which are they?
13. Where do you live?
14. How old are you?

RESULTS

6 questionnaires were filled in, yet some were filled by groups of youths at the same time. Due to the nature of the results they are difficult to formalise in a table. However these are some of the results captured: -



Dog owner questioned, Uses Park 3 times a day. 20 min to an hour at a time. Dislike youth shelter and youths. Poor maintenance. Need public loos, human waste in bushes, been using park for 30 years. Park has been left to rot. Bushes need cutting to improve views. Dog patrol takes alcohol of kids.

Group of youths. Use park all day. Sit, smoke and talk. Live locally, would like new play equipment, tree house, pool table, club hut to hang out, go carting courses, better goals, fair ground activities, paddling pools and toilets.

Group of 5 youths. Use park 2 – 3 hours every day. Like places to sit. Dislike goals being lifted and the amount of glass on pitch. They think football and tennis are important for the park. Shelter good when it rains, apart from the gaps, in wrong location. Like more sunny benches

3 teenagers who use park every day from 10 pm til 11.30 pm. Uses the entire park. Doesn't like much about it. Been visiting park for 5 years. Lack of facilities.

5 teenage girls. Use park everyday, all year approximately 1 hour a day. Like the open space, seating. Nice to hang out together with the boys. Use park for getting drunk and smoking. Need better shelter, toilet required.



APPENDIX C. REFERENCES

- 1 **South Wigston Regeneration Masterplan (2008)**
- 2 **South Wigston Regeneration Masterplan** (WM Consultants July 2003).
- 3 **Parks and Green Space: Engaging the Community** is a guide for local authorities that provides advice for those wishing to increase involvement with the community. More information is available at www.green-space.org.uk
- 4 **It's our space: a guide for community groups working to improve public space** is a client guide offering helpful advice on how to deliver projects of excellence. www.cabe.org.uk
- 5 **Spaceshaper** is a practical toolkit for use by anyone – whether a local community group or a professional – to measure the quality of a public space before investing time and money in improving it. The toolkit is positive and aims to encourage people to demand more from their local spaces www.cabe.org.uk
- 6 **What would you do with this space? Involving young people in the design and care of urban spaces, 2004**, aims to provide an inspiring and practical guide for practitioners on involving children and young people in public space and sets out some of the main issues that projects may face. A text version can be found at www.cabe.org.uk
- 7 **The Community Network** is a national free support network for those community-based groups involved with parks and green spaces. For information visit www.green-space.org.uk
- 8 **Towards an Excellent Service** is a performance management framework that enables assessment of services such as sport and recreation and parks and open spaces services against a range of criteria such as leadership and partnership working. More information is available from the Improvement and Development Agency (IDeA) www.idea.gov.uk
- 9 **Does Money Grow on Trees?** CABE Space [2005]
- 10 **A Guide to Producing Parks and Green Space Management Plans** CABE Space [2004]
- 11 **Manifesto for Better Public Spaces** CABE Space [2004]
- 12 **Physical Activity and the Built Environment** CABE [2006]



APPENDIX D. POSSIBLE EVENTS

We recommend that events at Blaby Road Park could include :-

- Dj-ing and mixing workshops
- Local Talent contest – singing, karaoke, fashion parade, poetry, comedy, MC-ing
- Ranger history tour of local parks
- Get locals fit Tai Chi in the mornings.
- Physical training exercises – provide trim trail in the park.
- Rangers supporting a healthier lifestyle.
- “Meet your Park Keeper” – organised days for park staff to introduce himself/herself to the public, and advertise organised activities taking place. There could be a central forum for ideas and suggestions – attended by the park Friends group where residents' views are obtained and used for the formation of action plans.
- Recycling awareness
- Photographing flowers, insects
- Tennis club coaching days
- Tree identification
- Myths and folklore behind Wigston's plants
- Bike maintenance workshops
- Blooming Marvellous – creating hanging baskets or window boxes to be proud of.
- Scruffs (similar to crufts)
- Education week- with an emphasis on getting fit.
- Easter holiday scheme, Easter Fun Day
- May Day Dog Show
- Summer Open Day
- Kite making and flying
- Easter Egg painting, Easter Bonnet and hat Showdown
- Story time for toddlers
- Ring of games- traditional children's playground games with the OWBC leisure staff
- Art in the park – huge scope
- Musical madness- making instruments out of recycled materials.
- Junk modelling - How many things can you make from a milk carton
- Football in the park.- providing equipment, coaches and referees.
- Circus tents, Fairs, Fetes, Performances
- History walk
- What have the Victorians done for us
- Paper plane workshop