



Friends of Glentrammon Recreation Ground and Foxbury Wood

Working in partnership with



Dear Resident,

Issue 3

Introduction

As we approach our second AGM (29th October 2012) it presents us with an opportunity to review the past year and look back at what we have achieved and what has yet to be done. This year has mainly been about the playground and although the physical works are now complete we still have some commitments to the National Lottery as well as an ongoing review the impact of the new equipment and the increased use of the park.

The past year has also seen new benches installed around the perimeter of both the lower and upper fields as well as picnic benches on the lower field. We have recently started a review of the entrances and have already made some improvements to the Windsor Drive entrance when we held a community workday on the 3rd March.

Glentrammon Playground

The new sign and bike racks have been installed and the playground is now officially complete. As mentioned in a previous newsletter and at the Opening Event the new playground is simply named Glentrammon Playground.

The opening event on the 7th July was very successful and I would like to thank all of you who contributed either with your time or by donations. In total we raised £1045.68, a large portion of which will be used to add a number of graphics and games to the Tarmac surfaces in the playground over the coming months.

I, and others from the Friends, have visited the park every day over the summer break and we are happy to see that the park and playground have become the family destination that we had hoped for. On the busiest days we observed more than 100 adults and children in and around the playground. Families are using it for picnics and children are now heading there after school.

Speaking on behalf of the Friends I can honestly say that the use of the playground has exceeded our expectations and we hope that the local community will continue to make good use of it.

Important Notice

Please note that we are aware of the soil erosion around the mounds and would ask you to ensure that your children take care, particularly by the slopes around the tunnel where some concrete has become exposed, while this matter is addressed. Litter has also been a problem in the playground and I would ask you all to please be responsible and use the bins provided.

Other News

For those of you with skateboards, scooters, & roller blades, or even your children! Why not try out the newly created skate park in Tubbenden Recreation Ground, Tubbenden Lane, BR6 9NW. It is a modest beginning, currently with two Quarter pipes with, (soon to be added), a fun box all surfaced with Skatelite boards and a smooth Tarmac surround. Other larger skate parks are situated in Biggin Hill Recreation Ground, Church Road, Biggin Hill, TN16 3LB and Church House Gardens, Bromley Town centre, BR2 0EN.

Reminder

Please help us to keep the park and the playground in a condition for everyone to enjoy by reporting any antisocial behaviour or environmental issues to:

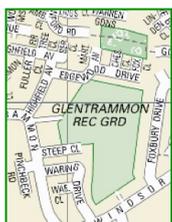
**999 – for an emergency situation, 101 – for a non-emergency situation,
0208 721 2605 – for the Safer Neighbourhood Team**

If you have any comments or would like to find out more information about the Friends group then please visit our website www.glentrammonfriends.weebly.com or email contact.glentrammon@gmail.com.

Best regards

Stephen Ernoult
Chairman, Friends of Glentrammon Recreation Ground and Foxbury Wood

AGM – 29th October 2012



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What have we done 2011/2012?

Playground:

- More than doubled the size
- Secured funding and significantly improved the playground so that it targets a broader age range
- Involved the community and gave children and families choice



New bench

A hand rail has been added to these steps

Windsor Drive entrance enhancement

New bins installed at main entrances



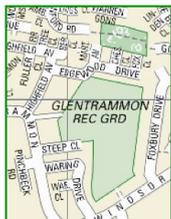
Ball Court:

- Worked with the London Borough of Bromley to install new fencing around the ball court. This had been much requested by local children and families

New bench

Pathway installed in 2011





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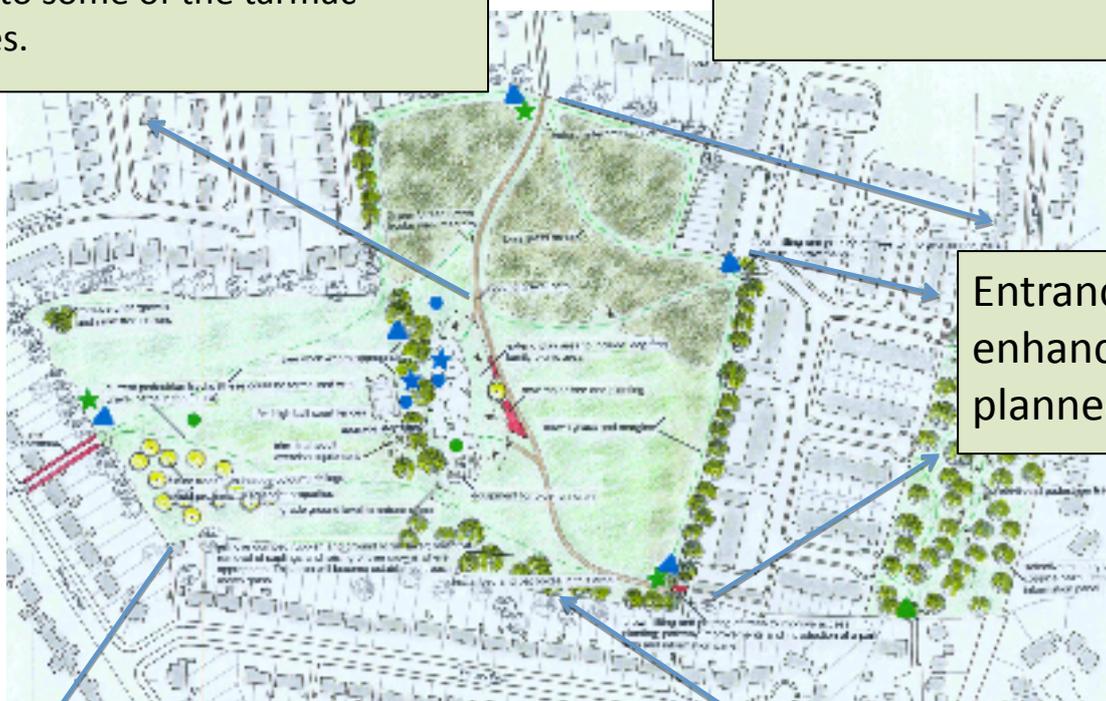
What have we got planned for 2012/2013?

Playground:

- Addition of painted graphics and games to some of the tarmac surfaces.

New benches:

- The installation of two new benches. One donated by the GSG Village Society and the second donated in memory of Mark Lawrence



Entrance enhancements planned

Community orchard:

- 20 – 30 traditional Kentish fruit trees will be planted in the Autumn near to the substation along the Foxbury Drive / Windsor Drive border

Consideration has been given so that these will not impact significantly on the playing field

New trees:

- Investigation into the feasibility of adding trees to the Foxbury Drive border of the lower field to fill in gaps that have been created by felled trees

Feedback

If you have any comments or would like to find out more about the Playground project then please visit our website or email contact.glentrammon@gmail.com. If you would like to discuss an issue or talk to the Project Manager then please contact Andy Biggs, Principal Play and Projects Officer at the London Borough of Bromley on 0208 464 3333.

General news

As well as the obvious improvements to the playground the park has also had some other additions. We have added another bench located at the bottom of the lower field and a picnic bench located in the middle of the tall grass. We have noticed that all of the benches are being well used and we look forward to the installation of a final bench in the top field later on in the year.

As stated in the last newsletter the Friends group and Borough have secured funding for the planned community orchard. The trees will be planted in the top corner of the top field and will feature different varieties of local fruit bearing trees. The height of the trees will be managed and will not exceed 13ft/4m. The final bench, donated by the Green Street Green Village Society, will be installed near the new orchard area.

I think that it is important to note that the position of the Friends group is that the top field should remain primarily an open space to be used for sport or other 'open space' activities. The orchard will be planted not to impede this, whilst adding some variety to the landscape.

Breaking news

The Friends group is working in partnership with the Council on improving the entrances and we are currently examining the possibility of adding a ramp to the Edgewood Drive entrance to add buggy and wheelchair accessibility. If you have any comments about any of the entrances we would welcome your input.

Scenes from the park



Call to action

We are currently researching the history of both Glentrammon Recreation Ground and Foxbury Wood. We would very much appreciate any information that you can contribute. We would also appreciate any photos that you might have of the park over the past 100 years – particularly of any old football matches or of the pavilion.

Summary of what we have found to date:

In the 1800s the land was listed on the tithe map of the Parish of Chelsfield; we believe the fields were known as Upper Beeches and Lower Beeches or Upper Ash Field and Lower Ash Field. In the early 1900s the land belonged to Glentrammon Park Estates; after this it seems to have been owned by a Mr. Gill who passed away in 1925. The land was then caught up in a town planning issue between Mr. Gill's family and the Council until 1929 when the trail runs cold. On a map of the area from 1933 the land is labelled as a recreation ground so this issue must have been resolved.

Membership

If you are interested in finding out more about the group and getting involved why not become a member? Membership of the group is free but if you would like to support us then we would welcome a voluntary £2 donation from your household that would help with the minor expenses we incur in running the group. A membership form can be found on the website.

Committee Vacancies

We currently have four vacancies on the committee. The positions are Group Secretary, Deputy Chair and two ordinary members. If you are interested in joining the Friends committee please contact us, contact.glentrammon@gmail.com.

www.glentrammonfriends.weebly.com