Dear Resident,

Success

It is with great pleasure that I can announce that we have been successful in our application for Lottery funding to enable us to make improvements to the Playground at Glentrammon Recreation Ground.

History

When the Friends’ group was first set up the improvement of the playground was highlighted as a community priority and during our first few months we had the opportunity to apply for a grant from the Big Lottery Fund's Community Spaces programme. We enlisted the help of the school and surveyed over 240 students, older siblings and parents. This consultation allowed the children to choose the equipment they preferred and aided us in the redesign of the playground. We also consulted 1600+ local homes and most residents agreed that the Playground was in need of development and 100% of respondents supported our application.

Please see the centre pages for the Playground design and images of the equipment to be installed.

Timetable of works

Please note that the Playground is due to be closed from the 30th April 2012 until the 29th June 2012.

Alternative playgrounds

During the improvement works the playground will be closed. Alternative facilities can be found at:

- Goddington Park
- Chelsfield Playground
- Priory Gardens Playground
- Goddington Lane
- Chelsfield Village
- can be accessed via Church Hill or
- BR6
- Bucks Cross Road
- Orpington High Street

Launch Event - 07 July 2012

The Friends group and Council are in the process of arranging a launch event to be held on the 07 July 2012 to celebrate the completion of works and the opening of the redeveloped playground. More detail to follow.

Due to a clash with the Chelsfield Village Fair we have moved the launch from the 14 July to the 7 July 2012.

Note of thanks

We would like to thank the Council and the members of the Parks and Greenspace team for all of their help during the application process and for their ongoing support with the project. We would also like to thank Green Street Green Primary for allowing us to engage with the children. Special thanks should be given to the Community Spaces programme as a whole for affording us this opportunity. Finally I would like to express our gratitude to the people, representing a variety of organisations (St. Marys Church, The Maypole Project, Safer Neighbourhoods Team, the ward Councillors and the GSG Village Society) that wrote letters of support.

I hope that you agree that this is very welcome news - especially in the current financial climate.

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](http://www.glentrammonfriends.weebly.com) or email contact.glentrammon@gmail.com.

Best regards

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

Launch Event - 07 July 2012
7 This is a natural play feature incorporating a tunnel, bridge and slide. 8 There will be 3 picnic benches within the playground.
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, Principle Play and Projects Officer at the London Borough of Bromley on 0208 464 3333.

General news

As you may have noticed over the course of the past few months there have been some improvements made to the Park, including 2 new benches and some additional litter bins. The bins have been sited by the main entrances and the benches have been located at 2 convenient way points around the border of the upper and lower fields. We have 2 more benches to place, one donated by the Green Street Green Village Society and the other, a memorial bench that has been dedicated to the memory of Mark Lawrence, a life long user of the recreation ground.

The Borough has recently installed two new dog waste bins in Foxbury Woods.

The Friends group, in association with the Council, recently held a woodland workday where local volunteers performed some coppicing and general clearance in Foxbury Wood to improve sight-lines and planted new native hedging along the Windsor Drive entrance to the Park in response to feedback.

Breaking news

The Friends group and Borough has recently secured funding for the identified community orchard. The orchard will be located in the top field towards the Foxbury Drive/Windsor Drive corner. The orchard is featured in the long-term vision for the site, which was included as part of the wider community consultation when the Friends group was established. The orchard will contain different varieties of fruit bearing trees that the Friends group will help to maintain as part of our regular workdays. It has been agreed that the height of the trees, once fully established, will be no than 4m. The Trees will be planted this autumn. It is planned that the bench donated by the Village Society will be installed in this area.

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

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.

www.glentrammonfriends.weebly.com