



MANAGEMENT AND

MAINTENANCE AIMS

AND OBJECTIVES

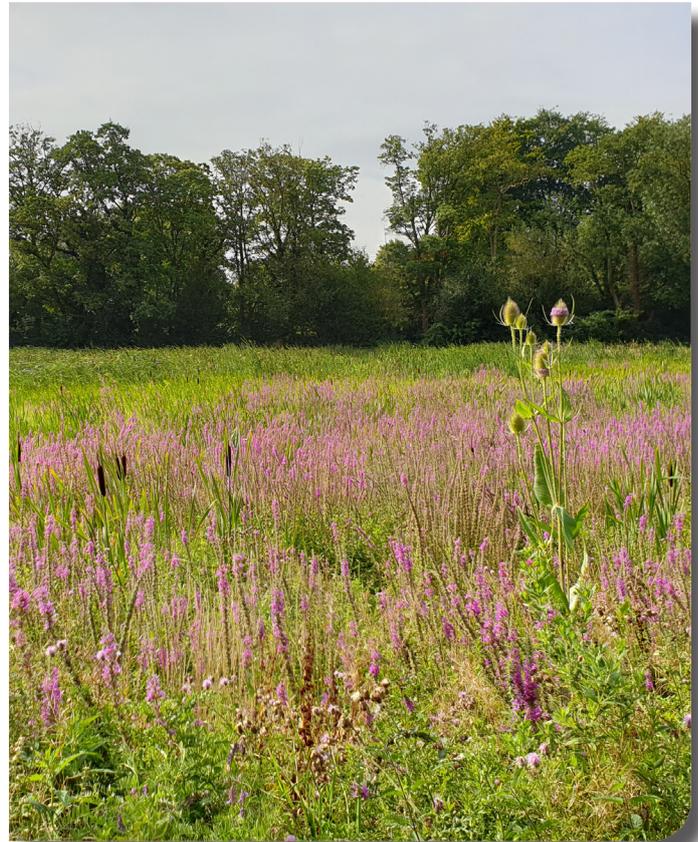
## AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aim of this section is to outline WDC's main objectives in relation to the future management of Abbey Fields over the next 10 years. The objectives take into consideration all the issues identified within Section 13 and provide a focus for the future direction for all WDC officers and Key Stakeholders involved in Abbey Fields to fulfil the vision for Abbey Fields.

The overall vision for Abbey Fields is:

*"Abbey Fields is a green space rich in wildlife and steeped in history that protects, conserves and sensitively adapts to the needs of the changing climate and increasing population, whilst providing a high quality welcome and inclusive experience for all users to enjoy the benefits that Abbey Fields has to offer, now and in the future."*

Abbey Fields has come into its current publicly accessible form organically over many years. It has steadily increased in size, changing its management to suit the requirements of the time and evolving into an highly respected green space for people, heritage and wildlife. As Abbey Fields moves forward WDC recognises that Abbey Fields needs to adapt to changing climate, to cope with the increasing demands from an expanding population and to protect, conserve and adapt its varied habitats and rich heritage. To do this WDC needs to work with the strong voluntary organisations who have built a valued reputation within Abbey Fields and to set key aims and objectives to achieve the overall Vision for Abbey Fields and to do this together.



The aims for Abbey Fields are:

- To create a Fields that is positive, welcoming and inclusive, balancing the sensitivities of Abbey Fields and promoting health and well-being, increasing the quality of lives of the local community
- Ensure a healthy, safe and secure experience for Abbey Fields users
- To provide a clean and well-maintained Abbey Fields with high standards in maintenance of the landscape character zones, water bodies, play and leisure facilities and built structures
- To protect, conserve and sensitively adapt the historic fabric, environment, archaeological remains and veteran trees of Abbey Fields to provide an important historic and natural resource for current and future generations to respect and learn about Abbey Fields heritage and wildlife.
- To manage, enhance and increase the wildlife habitats within Abbey Fields to ensure the Fields adapts to the changing climate and maintains an important resource for wildlife and for the enjoyment of people.
- To encourage sustainable practices and technologies in the management and operation of Abbey Fields along with the promotion of sustainable walkable and cyclable routes to Abbey Fields from within Kenilworth.
- To create and implement a cohesive masterplan that unites the character zones of Abbey Fields and creates a distinct sense of place.
- To use digital technologies within Abbey Fields and Social Media to bring the Fields into the 21st Century and a resource for positive communication and education
- Engender local pride, providing opportunities to increase community use and involvement through volunteer groups, partnerships and events, education and interpretation.
- A Fields that has a shared vision from all its stakeholders
- Raise the profile of Abbey Fields



The objectives will help to deliver these aims and are defined by each topic area listed below:

**P = Planning Policy Context**

**M = Management and Maintenance Arrangements**

**T = Trees in Abbey Fields**

**E = Ecology Baseline Review**

**H = Hydrology**

**VA = Visitor accessibility**

**V = Visual Survey and Analysis**

**B = Built Structures**

**L = Land Use**



The objectives by criteria are outlined below:

## **P1**

Apply planning policies, strategies and designations to protect, conserve and adapt the historic and natural aspects of Abbey Fields, considering the needs of the community.

## **M1**

Management and Maintenance needs to balance the needs of the historic, wildlife and amenity value of Abbey Fields. All contracts and SLAs will need to operate to the requirements of Abbey Fields as it adapts with the changing climate and raises its profile as an important historic and wildlife resource with high quality amenity value.

## **T1**

Conserve, enhance and reinstate where possible historic trees with consideration of ecological benefits and statutory permissions. Create specific management objectives for veteran trees and promote their value within Abbey Fields. Control the spread of invasive non-native species and manage the threat of disease and climate change with the consideration of adaptive tree species.

## **E1**

Conserve, manage, enhance and increase the habitats within Abbey Fields with consideration of ecological surveys, LBAP and statutory permissions. Increase wildlife interpretation and promote positive engagement with ecological resources. Encourage schools and volunteer groups to study and engage with the natural landscape, whilst promoting a peaceful enjoyment of nature within Abbey Fields.

## **H1**

Conserve existing hydrological features of the Brooks, Lake, ditches and rain garden ensuring they function as they are intended. With statutory permissions create hydrological features such as ponds, swales and rain gardens to resolve water related issues on site to improve pedestrian access through natural drainage, whilst creating new wildlife habitats and adapting to the needs of climate change.