

# LOWER CENTRAL GARDENS TRUST BOARD

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Report Subject	<b>Parks Update – October 2017</b>
Meeting date	9 <sup>th</sup> October 2017
Cabinet Portfolio	Lower Central Gardens Trust
Corporate Lead	Michael Rowland – Head of Parks Development
Service Director	Gary Josey – Housing & Community Services
Status	Public
Classification	For information to the Trust
Key Decision	No
Impacts on Key Policy Framework	n/a
Report author	Michael Rowland, Head of Parks Development ☎ 01202 451632 ✉ <a href="mailto:michael.rowland@bournemouth.gov.uk">michael.rowland@bournemouth.gov.uk</a>
Executive Summary	This reports sets out update information for the Lower Gardens Trust Board on specific items as requested at the last meeting of the Board in May 2017.
<b>Recommendations</b>	<b>That the trustees note and comment on the content of the following report.</b>
Reasons for the recommendations	To inform the trustees of the recent progress relating to the general management and development of the gardens.

## **1. Lower Gardens Former Balloon and Kiosk Site**

- 1.1 Work to remove the balloon fixtures and fittings from the gardens is complete.
- 1.2 An electrical supply and duct has been fitted running north-south along the rear of this lawn - alongside the stream - to connect with the existing supply on the ice rink site.
- 1.3 The current agreement for the existing concessionaire for the balloon catering kiosk - S&D Leisure – ends on November 10<sup>th</sup>.
- 1.4 It is proposed that 'Park Cafes,' run by Bournemouth Parks Service operate a facility in this location when the current agreement ends. Operation may initially be from a temporary facility, which will be subject to planning consent.

## **2. Aviary Replacement Project**

- 2.1 The Bournemouth Parks Foundation has now reached over £84,000 in donations and pledges towards the new aviary. Feedback has been received from the Heritage Lottery Fund relating to an expression of interest form, this will inform the development of a stage one funding bid in the coming months.

## **3. Park Development**

- 3.1 Initial work to develop concepts and gain pre-planning advice for the replacement of the balloon kiosk, the arts exhibition area and the toilets has begun. Trustees will be consulted at the concept stage to inform detailed design decisions.

## **4. Awards**

- 4.1 The Lower Central Gardens retained its Green Flag Award as part of the Lower, Central & Upper Gardens submission to Keep Britain Tidy Group's parks award scheme. The site has held the award since 1999.
- 4.2 The Lower Gardens received a Gold Award and was awarded best large park at South and South East England In Bloom.

## **5. Anti-social behaviour**

- 5.1 Parks staff based in the Lower Gardens, but also covering other town centre sites, roundabouts and verges are have worked extremely hard this year to retain standards within the Lower Gardens following a spate of vandalism within the park. Trampling of flower beds and broken glass around the toilets was recorded on an almost daily basis throughout the summer holidays, on several occasions entire beds of flowers were completely trampled. Where individuals have been identified they are being dealt with through the criminal justice system.