

Leathermarket Gardens

Consultation report





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Introduction and Background

- Leathermarket Gardens is a small park situated in London Bridge & West Bermondsey ward in the North of the borough.
- The site where Leathermarket is situated was previously used as a Tannery, Warehouses and in the late 1950's a housing estate. The gardens were stablished in the 1970's.
- The site is bordered by a mixture of social and private housing and caters to a diverse community.
- The eastern part of the park was restored in 1999 with the aid grant from Heritage Lottery Fund. However, the western section of the park did not benefit from this restoration.

The Project

- Leathermarket playground is a small hard surfaced area located in the South-West corner.
- The proposed project is to improve the playground by :
 - Replacing the poor condition hard surfaces with a new rubber safety surface.
 - Introducing shrubs and flowering plants
 - Increasing the number of trees. by planting 7 trees. Only one dead tree has been removed.
 - Installing new play equipment, increasing the total number of items in the playground
 - Installing play equipment that is suitable for children of varying ability and with disabilities
 - Creating a new entrance that is accessible
 - Refurbish the existing concrete boat by adding new features to it

This report provides a summary of the consultation process and the feedback received.

Consultation activity

- The community consultation took place in January 2019.
- The proposed design was published on the Council website.
- Residents and local stakeholders were asked to provide comments on the design by email or telephone.
- To advertise the consultation to local people, notices were attached to the fences near the playground, and Leathermarket JMB, Bermondsey Village Hall Trust and Snowfield School were notified.
- The responses received contained some great ideas. A stakeholder focus group meeting was held at the Council offices with residents and the Landscape Architect to discuss suggestions and take on board feedback.

Next steps

- The final plans will be published on the Southwark website and emailed to the residents on the project mailing list.
- The final plans will also be presented to the year 5 and year 6 children from the Snowfields Primary School.
- Works are due to start on site in early 2020

Summary of feedback received

Some popular suggestions from the residents have been incorporated in the design such as to retain the concrete boat, plant more trees and flowering plants and include more challenging play equipment.

However other suggestions such as sand and water play, climbing equipment on trees and woodchippings instead of wet pour unfortunately cannot be incorporated due to Health and Safety and maintenance issues.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 Summary of key points from consultation
- Appendix 2 Design Leathermarket Gardens Playground
- Appendix 3 Planting Design Leathermarket Gardens Playground
- Appendix 4 Leathermarket Planting Schedule
- Appendix 5 New Equipment

Appendix 1 Summary of key points from consultations

This summary highlights the key findings from the public consultation

Suggestions we could incorporate										
Consultation comment	Design response									
Stepping stones for balancing on and seating	They have been added to the design									
Long bench seating could have varied heights and surfaces	The shape of the bench has been modified so that it also has a play value									
Trees for shade	We will replace the removed tree and plant another six									
Seating and landscaping	They have been added to the design									
Building wall into a bouldering wall?	Climbing equipment is incorporated with the wood climbing frame The building wall does not belong to the council and therefore climbing stones cannot be attached to it									
Insect hotel	It has been added to the design									
Shelter	A small playhouse has been added to the design									
Wild flowers	Flowering plants have been added to the design									
Floor trampoline	It has been added to the design									
Changes to surfaces	The whole playground will be re-surface due to uneven levels and deteriorated surfaces									
Low-maintenance "greening" initiatives	They have been added to the design									
New gate	A new entrance gate has been added to the design on the north east corner									
Roundabouts faster the better	A whirlwind and a roundabout have been added to the design									

Wooden Climbing frame & walkways.	A wood climbing frame is included within the design									
Swings	Three sets of swings are included within the design									
New seesaw	The current see saw will remain in place									
Retain yellow seat/'eggcup' spinning 'thing'	This item has been retained									
Picnic tables	The picnic tables will be refurbished									
Retain concrete boat	The concrete boat will be retained and refurbished									
Unnecessary railings reduction	The railings will no longer be reduced									
No hidden areas	There are no hidden areas which could encourage anti-social behaviour									
Metal rather than wood	Wooden equipment is specially made from Robinia trees which are more sustainable than using metal									
Games incorporated into the floor	This may be incorporated, if budget allows it									
Sustainable materials and natural materials	Where possible wood has been used rather than metal. Recycled plastic benches are also being considered									
Stainless steel slide as high as possible	It has been added to the design									
Picture of he concrete boat in a plaque if it has to be removed	The concrete boat will be retained and refurbished									
Xylophones and other percussive musicals	They may be incorporated if budget allows it									



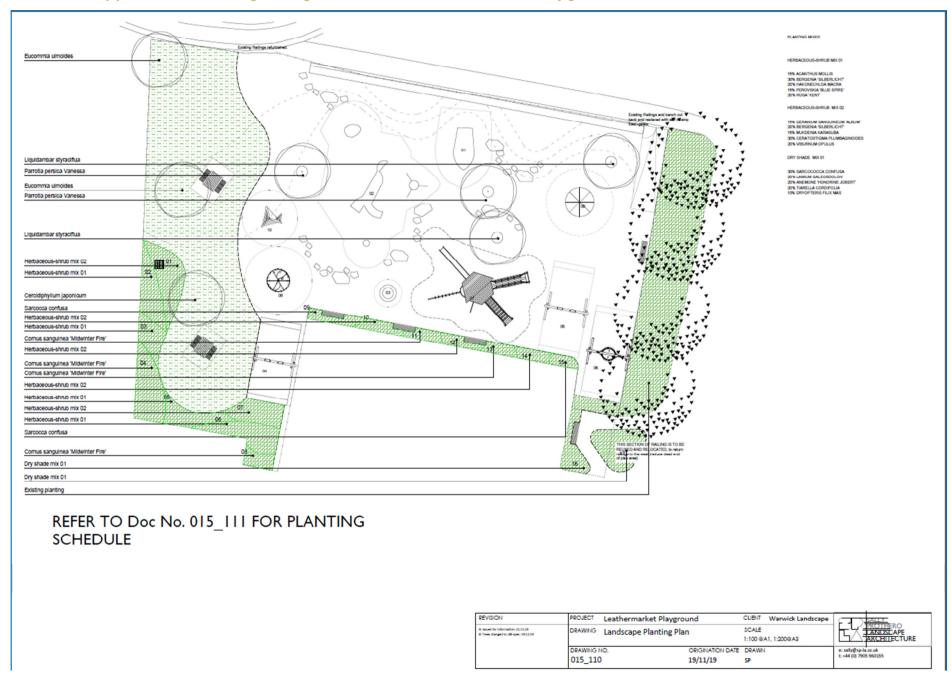
Suggestions we could not incorporate										
Consultation comment	Design response									
Hills/ramps	It has not been incorporated as the site is flat and importing soil is expensive and bad for the environment due to the carbon footprint of the transportation									
Log chip or something more natural rather than tarmac	It cannot be incorporated due to Health & Safety and maintenance issues									
Climbing equipment of trees	It cannot be incorporated due to Health & Safety and maintenance issues									
With regards to the proposed 4-tower Unit the current play structure is very well suited to a wide age range, as the stairs allows access for smaller children in the 2-4 year range. With the new proposed unit, however, the lack of stairs excludes smaller children from independently accessing it	Unfortunately the current structure is quite old and it needs to be removed due to unavailability of parts for repair. The playground equipment on the toddlers area remains as it is. It will be however cleaning, lubricated and damage components replaced as necessary.									
Pulley systems for moving wood clippings or sand	It cannot be incorporated due to Heath and Safety and maintenance issues									
Zip line	A good idea, but unfortunately there is not enough space to incorporate a zip line without removing other pieces of equipment, compromising the design. The repetitive noise has been found to disturb nearby residents									
Designated football area and basket ball hoops	We understand it is important to provide spaces for sport activities; however there is not enough space to incorporate them within this small playground. There are nearby places to play basketball, football and tennis at Tabard Gardens, Mint Street Park and Tanner Street Park									
Tree-house type structure	It cannot be incorporated due to Health & Safety and maintenance issues but a house structure at ground level will be installed									
Tyres for planters	They have not been incorporated for aesthetics reasons									
Fallen logs, balance beams and ropes for balancing on and seating	Stepping stones have the similar play value and they have been to the design.									

	There is no space/budget for additional similar items.
Mini statues/displays of thing made of leather (status can be just placed on brick wall way apart from each other). Like a shoe, a bag and a belt (or anything related).	Artwork or sculptures cannot be incorporated into the design due to budget constraints
Drinking fountain	There is no available budget to install and maintain it. Southwark Council is working in partnership with the Mayor of London and Thames Water to install drinking fountains in the borough, and this could be possible in the future
Sand and water	These cannot be incorporated due to Health and Safety and maintenance issues
Metal piping as a tunnel to crawl through	It has not been incorporated as it creates hidden spaces which could encourage anti-social behaviour
Large, free-play horizontal-vertical cargo net.	This has not been incorporated due to the lack of space
Bamboo or willow planting to make dens and hideouts	It has not been incorporated as it creates hidden spaces which could encourage anti-social behaviour
Unnecessary new easy-gate	A second new easy gate is necessary to comply with playground safety standards

Appendix 2 Design Leathermarket Gardens Playground



Appendix 3 Planting Design Leathermarket Gardens Playground

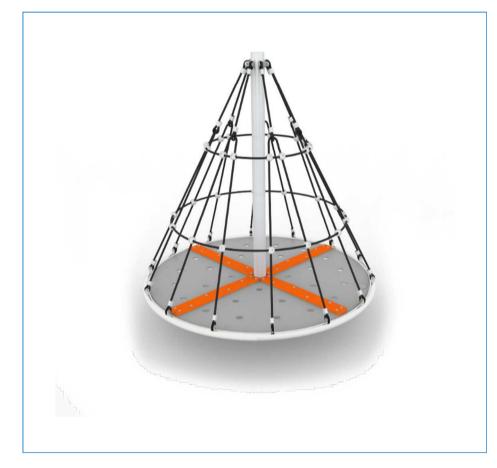


Appendix 4 Leathermarket Planting Schedule

Rev A:	22.11.19 0.12.19 Trees changed to LBS spec																					
Nev B. 13	5.12.19 Trees changed to LB3 spec			13m2	10m2	7m2	15m2	8m2	12m2	9m2	4m2	4m2	4m2	3m2	3m2	3m2	3m2	3m2	12m2	14	m2	
Mix 1	species	%	Pot Size				03 Bed04															TOTAL
	Acanthus mollis		15% 3l		10)	7	8	3 1	2												37
	Bergenia 'Silberlicht'		30% 3I		21	1	14	16	5 2	4												75
	Hakonechloa macra		20% 31		14	1	10	11	1 1	7												52
	Perovskia 'Blue Spire'		15% 3I		10)	7	8	3 1	2												37
	Rosa 'Kent'		20% 31		14	1	10	11	1	7												52
Mix 2																						
	Geranium sanguineum album		15% 3I	13						9			4			3		3				32
	Bergenia 'Silberlicht'		20% 31	18						13	3		6			5		5				47
	Mukdenia karasuba		15% 3I	13						9)		4			3		3				32
	Ceratostigma plumbaginoides		30% 3I	21						18			8			6		6				59
	Viburnum opulus		20% 31	27						13	1		6			5		5				56
Ory Shad																						
	Sarcococca confusa		30% 1.5																	32	38	70
	Lamium galeobdolon		20% 1.5																	21	25	46
	Anemone 'Honorine Jobert'		20% 1.5																	21	25	46
	Tiarella cordifolia		20% 1.5																	21	25	46
	Dryopteris felix mas		10% 1.5																	11	13	24
Cornus s	anguinea 'Midwinter Fire'																					
		:	100% 5I				75				20			15		15	5					125
Sarcocoo	ca confusa																					
		:	100% 5I									20)					1	.5			35
	5l @ 5/m2																					
	3l @ 7/m2																					
	1.5l @ 9/m2																					
rees																						
	2 Liquidambar styraciflua						less unava															
	Parrotia persica Vanessa Eucommia ulmoides			tall do	ıble stak	ced wi	th cross pi	ece														

Appendix 5 New Equipment













6 Nest swing

5 Twin swing





3 Trampoline

4 Toddler's swing





10 Toddler's swing

8 Swirl roundabout