

Appendix 3: Review of Landscape Actions from 2006 Conservation & Management Plan

This document is a review of the recommended actions in Bureau Veritas' report in the Port Sunlight Conservation & Management Plan (2006). Page numbers noted in the table below refer back to this document. The reviewed actions cover residential properties, public buildings, garages, public realm and street furniture. The review notes any suggested actions in Bureau Veritas' report and if they were completed, partially completed or have not yet been completed. For any outstanding works the review will explain why these works have not yet commenced and suggest next steps to complete the action (if applicable), including ongoing projects within Port Sunlight Village Trust. If applicable, the 'next steps' will feature in the Action Plan of the new Conservation Management Plan (CMP).

Abbreviations

HLF – Heritage Lottery Fund

LLBCO – Local Listed Building Consent Order

WBC – Wirral Borough Council

	Item	Action	Done	Partially done	Not done	Next steps	
1	Tourism and arrival points	Create a sense of arrival through new signage, possible alternative access to the art gallery, restrict parking and engage in tree felling and management.		Some looked at but could still introduce signage and lighting at Bolton Road roundabout.		Instructions needed for tour operators - arrival & parking (piazza). Review methods of increasing expenditure in the village and expand into other venues, eg create a restaurant? Donations from external coach tours visiting the village but not visiting Port Sunlight Museum.	X
2	Tree density in public areas	Soon need to be thinned out to prevent more expensive operation with greater potential for disfigurement of retained trees.		Maintain and restore vistas.		Ongoing maintenance.	X
3	Tree density - residential frontages	Soon need to be thinned out to prevent more expensive operation with greater potential for disfigurement of retained trees.		Some thinning has already occurred, but more needs to be done.	Trees affecting frontages on Greendale Road - organise walk around to identify.	Ongoing maintenance.	X
4	Tree damage to pavements	Individual trees to be surveyed, selective trees to be felled and protective measures to be implemented.		Still issues - how to deal with it?	WBC highways department's limited resources mean repair but no resolution.	New trees planted to have root protection barriers.	X
5	Tree damage to vehicles	Selective felling of trees which are leaning severely.	Completed tree survey - to be repeated every five years.		Address falling limbs on trees (spot check) - someone trained to do this within the Trust.	Arboriculture Survey and Report - £500 per year to inspect everything. Amenity Tree Care.	X
6	Trees obscuring buildings	Such trees to be included in felling programme and possible replacements to be considered.			Look at original design intent for village, eg clear view from Greendale to Christ Church.	Memorial trees/benches are proliferating - an alternative solution must be found, eg Marie Curie 'Field of Hope'.	X

7	Conifers requiring pruning	These conifers are in need of early attention (thinning and pruning) due to their close building proximity. The adjacent open space to the north (behind Hulme Hall and Jubilee Crescent) is somewhat redundant and in need of review of use (potential for new residential development?)		Ongoing - Hulme Hall car park.		Ongoing maintenance.	X
8	Strips behind stone edgings/plinths (previously railings before removal in WW2)	Full survey of all unfilled strips is required - a clear policy decision can then be made on viability of filling in remaining strips.		Ongoing maintenance.	Reintroduce railings? How can we reduce maintenance? Infill gaps, eg Hulme Hall?	Not a priority - replace on ad hoc basis.	X
9	Obstacles to hedge cutting (posts and miscellaneous items impede easy maintenance)	Survey all hedges to identify items which could be removed to speed up maintenance operations.				Not a priority - delete from new CMP.	X
10	Rose beds	Initial replanting has taken very well. Remaining beds are programmed for replanting in autumn 2006. Care needs to be taken to ensure previous mistakes are not repeated.	Done.			How significant are the rose beds? Need to consider practical maintenance - can we justify time that could be better spent on more significant works?	X
11	Shrub beds	Certain beds contain shrubs which are perhaps out of keeping and may benefit from smaller shrubs which require less pruning.			More pressing than the above - need to empty shrub beds. Review species and appropriateness. Stricter planting schedule needed.	Research required into original planting scheme, which could present a partnership scheme with Unilever Archives. Minimum maintenance vs. appropriateness for character area.	X
12	Bedding and basket displays	Highly labour-intensive maintenance - rethink strategy on bedding plants.			Rethink bedding plants - ask James Hayes if knows of detailed historic plans for landscape.	Consider sponsorship of beds and create a sense of arrival in key areas, eg Bolton Road roundabout.	X
13	Herbaceous planting	Re-introduce herbaceous material (possibly in favour of some of the bedding displays) - suggest 'amphitheatre' at the top of the north-east nose of The Dell.		Some herbaceous planting now in village (Hesketh Hall).		More training required in herbaceous planting for staff.	X
14	Naturalised bulb planting	Maintain diversity in planting interest through different seasons.	Wild garlic and bluebells have been planted.		Sections of daffodils could be regenerated.	N/A	

15	Wild flora and grass planting	Address public's perception of wild grassland and flora as sign of unmanaged landscape - education and involvement through local consultation and encouragement, with The Dell and larger open spaces being prime target areas.	Pilot behind the garden centre has been well received.		Clear communication on this via The Gazette and residents' and PSVT websites.	N/A	
16	Maintaining The Dell	Closely monitor drain, possibly with an ecological/hydrological survey each winter. Following this, decisions can be taken on how best to manage or develop this key feature, eg develop wild flora and varied grass-cutting regimes on the banks, develop more of a wetland habitat approach or maintain the status quo.		Partially done but not maintained - still need to tackle drain survey.		Engage with Historic England on tree planting - provide guidelines for tree memorials, ie decoration.	X
17	Grass cutting	Grass cutting regime to be reviewed (difficult to improve upon).	Similar situation now, difficult to improve on.			Remove from new CMP. Equipment is expensive. Only one member of staff is currently trained in grass maintenance - upskill other members of staff in case of holidays or sickness.	X
18	Bowling greens	Only two of the original four greens are now maintained (to standard amenity) namely the large Lever Green (next to Gladstone Theatre) and the Lady Green (northernmost of two greens adjacent to the Lever Women's Club). This leaves those living in the north and south of the village without ready access to any green. Reinstate large northern green if funding ever becomes available.	Now three bowling greens are maintained.		What can be done with north bowling green - community garden? Gated?	PSVT to discuss options for future use of the north bowling green.	X
19	Front gardens	Encourage distinctiveness in front gardens, sponsor categories of competition garden displays.		Done - 9/10 residents are content. Could improve community involvement (residents' consultation group).		N/A	
20	Litter picking and dog fouling	Daily litter picking to be carried out on zonal basis, bins to be emptied regularly (three times per week).	Environmental Officer employed on 15-hours per week contract.	Done, but dog fouling is an issue around Church Drive School. Create initiatives for dog management - education and residents' group.		This could be an opportunity to involve local schools - design signage for bins.	X
21	Lighting columns	Period or matching lighting columns being replaced with modern columns or fittings, detracting from the heritage of the village. Clear policy decision			To be done - set up meeting between Conservation Advisor, Heritage Manager, Landscape Supervisor	Consistency of approach needed - re-establish relationship with WBC's Highways Department.	X

		is needed for the future - meeting required with WBC to resolve key concerns.			and WBC - Trust to supplement cost for heritage.		
22	Finger posts and signage	In need of restoration or renewal - survey/research to be carried out of all existing and previous signage.		Ongoing - mention in Policy Section (Maintenance of Public Realm).		Ongoing - signage review in progress.	X
23	Miscellaneous bollards: private areas	Plethora of different types of bollards exist throughout the village, detracting from a strong village identity. Clear policy decision is needed for the future. A meeting is required with WBC to resolve key concerns.			Defined bollard standard.	Take out redundant bollards and those that detract - create policy for consistency.	X
24	Raised planters	Rationalised to one main type in keeping with the village character.			Consistency needed - allotment area particularly poor. Resident consultation. Leave examples such as Lancaster Close. Remove concrete planters.	Choose one consistent design and implement throughout the village.	X
25	Benches	Maintain village standard (Broxap 'Harrogate' seat).			Ongoing maintenance and repair needed - define standard. Historic records feed into this - project for HLF traineeship.	The wood here is sound but varnish is required. An annual inspection of benches should be carried out.	X
26	Litter bins	Maintain village standard (Broxap 'Chester' bin). News bins are to have a different ground fixing system as the old systems are rotten.		Ongoing but needs to be more proactive - survey all bins and identify standard.		Ongoing maintenance.	X
27	Fencing to extended rear gardens	Worst cases could be identified for remedial/replacement details.		Conservation Adviser currently working on - consistent design needed. Could be a work to be included in an extended LLBCO.		LLBCO Phase 2.	X
28	Services, telephone boxes	Properly manage and maintain under Public Realm Management Policy.		Ongoing.		Ongoing maintenance.	X
29	Shared responsibilities with WBC difficult to manage	WBC passes on responsibilities to Trust to manage - set up meeting with management at WBC.			To be organised.	PSVT to set up meeting with WBC to discuss shared ownership of the village.	X
30	Fountain maintenance	Regularly maintain the fountain.		Ongoing.		Currently leaking and UV filters are not working correctly - further assessment from external specialist required.	X
31	Loss of bandstand	Reinstate the bandstand.			To be confirmed.	Long term goal, not a current priority.	X

32	Interpretation panels look scruffy	Maintenance plan for interpretation and noticeboards.			To be organised.	PSVT to organise interpretation and noticeboards.	X
33	Speeding	Traffic calming measures to be implemented.		Options to be discussed at Residents' Consultation Group meeting.		Awaiting results from Speedwatch Initiative to determine where problem areas are.	X
34	Loss of landscaping features and accessibility issues at Gladstone Theatre	Re-landscape Gladstone Theatre, including disabled access (ramp).			Done but condition could be improved.	Ongoing maintenance.	X
35	Inappropriate use of surfacing materials	Procedural document with specifications to be written and followed for any surfacing works.			To be organised.	Operations Directorate to write procedural document for any surfacing works.	X