

Nonsuch Park Joint Management Committee
29 October 2018

EVENTS IN THE PARK

Head of Service / Contact: Amardip Healy, Chief Legal Officer

Annexes/Appendices (attached):

Other available papers (not attached):

Report summary

To note the current event calendar, the success of Nonsuch Park Open Day and consider a proposal to host the 2019 Town & Country Show in Nonsuch Park.

Recommendation (s)

- (1) That the committee notes the current event calendar.
- (2) To note the success of Nonsuch Park Open day and feedback from visitors.
- (3) To approve the proposal to host the 2019 Town & Country Show

1 Forthcoming Events 2018/19

Sunday	14 October 18	Mabac League Race (Ian Strong)
Friday	26 October 18	Rik Vercoe - Phoenix Running
Saturday	10 November 18	Park Run – Remembrance Run
Sunday	9 December 18	St Raphael's Santa Dash
Sunday/Monday	26/27 May 19	Town & Country Show
Sunday	9 June 19	Teddy Bears Picnic (provisional)
Sunday	13 September 19	Nonsuch Open Day

2 60th Anniversary of Nonsuch Palace Excavation

2.1 As a theme throughout 2019, Officers will be asking all Event organisers to promote the 60th Anniversary of the Nonsuch Palace Excavation.

2.2 Although the idea is in the embryo stage, Officers will work with the park community and event organisers to develop ideas and opportunities.

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3 Nonsuch Park Open Day

3.1 The year's Nonsuch Park Open Day was held on 9 September and was well attended and enjoyed by approximately 1000 visitors.

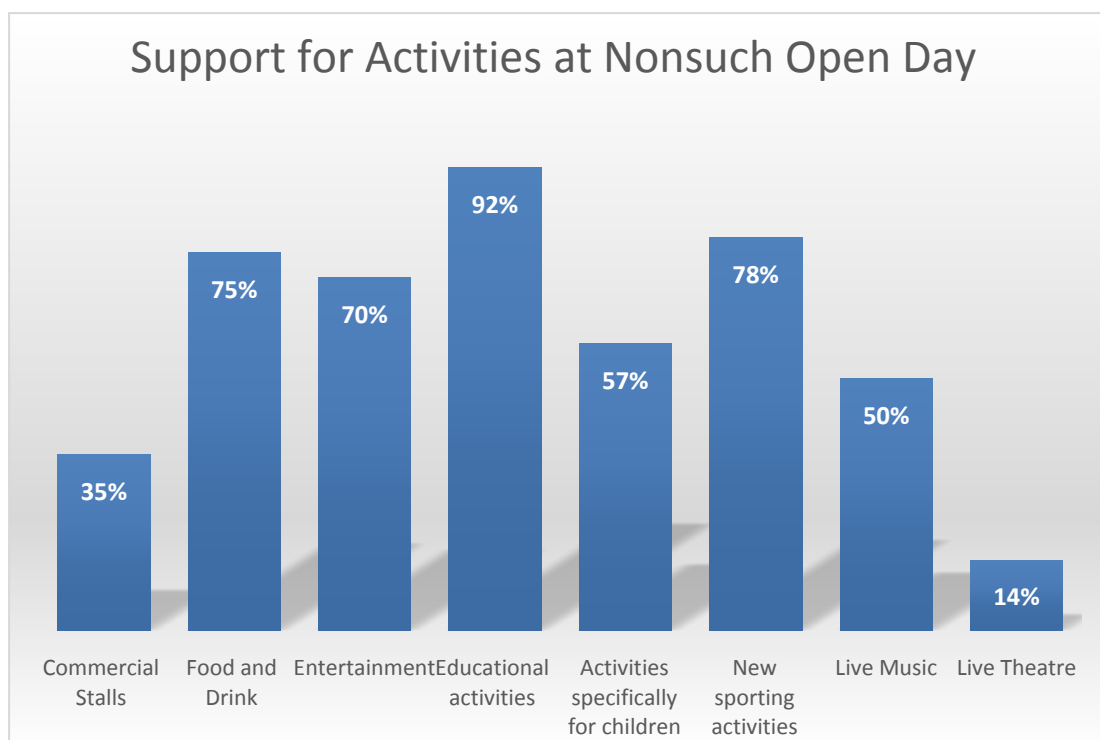
3.2 At the request of the Joint Management Committee, a short survey was undertaken to gauge public opinion of the event and to find out what activities they would like to see in the future.

3.3 Officers interviewed approximately 50 members of the public, mainly in groups including families, couples and individuals. Participants came from Reigate, Morden, Croydon, Epsom & Ewell and the largest number came from Sutton. Stallholders were also interviewed.

3.4 The most popular comments were:

- More advertising, particularly in the Sutton and Cheam area.
- More food and drink on offer
- More local organisations should be encouraged to participate
- More entertainment/demonstrations
- Support for keeping it a free to enter event

3.5 The chart below shows the level of support for a range of activities that could be included in the future:



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- 3.6 Although on a relatively small scale, the survey revealed common themes and interests amongst visitors.
- 3.7 It is proposed that this feedback should be noted and used to inform the development of the Open Day for next year.

4 Proposals for 2019 Town & Country Show

- 4.1 The Town & Country Show has been held in the London Road Dog Free area of the park for the past three years. The event is a traditional mix of catering stalls, artisan food and drink products, crafts, demonstrations, dog shows and other forms of entertainment.
- 4.2 The Town & Country Show is hosted by Classic Events who are a commercial operator specialising in outdoor events and festivals.
- 4.3 For the first two years, the event was held over a two-day period in June, but this year the event was moved to the bank holiday weekend of 26/27 May, which proved more successful for the operators, with an estimated 4000 visitors over the course of the event.
- 4.4 This year Officers attended the event on both days to assess the operation and management. It was concluded that the event was professionally managed and provided enjoyable entertainment for the community.
- 4.5 However, concerns have been raised by Nonsuch Watch mainly with regard to the event parking. This year, parking was permitted in the London Road car park and on the field adjacent to the event space. This was agreed by the Joint Management Committee following advice given by Epsom & Ewell Borough Council's in-house Ecologist, who stated that temporary parking limited to a two-day period was unlikely to cause a detrimental impact to the habitat in this area.
- 4.6 Prior to the next event, further advice will be taken from our Countryside Team to determine if any further steps could be taken to reduce environmental impact.
- 4.7 Whilst visiting the event, Officers witnessed some encroachment of cars near the Palace site and communicated this to the event organisers who quickly responded and prevented further cars from using this area. Next year Officers will work with the organisers to ensure that allocated parking is strictly adhered to; failure to comply with this agreement will result in the loss of the reinstatement bond.
- 4.8 It is estimated that this year approximately 400 cars relating to the event parked in the London Road car park and surrounding land and organisers are requesting the same arrangement for the 2019 event.

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- 4.9 Therefore, the proposal for 2019 is for the Town & Country Show to be held on Sunday 26 May and Monday 27 May at the London Road Dog Free area, with parking permitted for approximately 400 cars in the London Road Car Park and field adjacent to the event site. It is proposed that parking on the field should only be permitted subject to suitable ground conditions and the event organisers providing satisfactory contingency parking arrangements in the case of inclement weather.
- 4.10 In addition, following a root and branch review of Epsom & Ewell's outdoor event arrangements, it is recommended that this event be referred to the Council's Safety Advisory Group (a multi-agency risk management group) to ensure that the event organisers have all the appropriate measures in place to control potential risks.
- 4.11 It is proposed that the fee of £5000 + VAT remains the same for this year with the introduction of a £1000 refundable reinstatement bond.

5 Financial and Manpower Implications

- 5.1 This event generates a sizeable income for the park.
- 5.2 Officer resource will be necessary to process this event application and ensure compliance with the terms of the arrangement.

6 Legal Implications (including implications for matters relating to equality)

- 6.1 This proposal will require the event organisers to have the necessary public liability insurance, risk assessments and Event Management Plan in place prior to a review by the Safety Advisory Group.

7 Partnerships

- 7.1 This event promotes partnership working between commercial event operators and the Joint Management Committee.

8 Conclusion and Recommendations

- 8.1 That the committee notes the forthcoming event calendar
- 8.2 That the committee notes the feedback from Nonsuch Park Open Day
- 8.3 That the committee approves the proposal to host the Town & Country Show as set out in section 3 of this report.

Ward(s) affected: Nonsuch Ward; (EEBC)