



Meeting Title	Marble Hill Steering Group
Date	Tuesday 24 April
Location	Marble Hill House
Present	Colin Cooper (SWLEN) Luke Dudley (Orleans Park School) John Anderson (Marble Hill Society), Sue Hamilton Miller (Twickenham Society) Rhys Williams (St Mary's School) David Bird (Marble Hill Cricket Club) Maria Walker (Twickenham Film Studios) Janine Fotiadis-Negrepontes (Love Marble Hill) Claire Chapman (Brilliant Play) Katy Lamb (Marble Hill Play Centre) Berny Simcox (Environment Trust)

Item	Topics	Actions
1. Minutes of the 20 th March Steering Group and Actions	2:12: included in the agenda for today's meeting 3: KP to share detail of project with Thamesians: a meeting is being scheduled to do this.	No outstanding actions
2. Play Area consultation workshop	<p>Presentation on Play Workshop KP, Audience Development Manager</p> <p>Present overview of findings from play workshop. Jill Jones instigated the fenced play area originally. It was set up as a baby area and general consensus from the workshop was to keep it as 0-5. Possibility of including low level mazes include planting Think about wider play area- borough play map Movement of fence area- people felt it wasn't necessary to move the fence, extend it instead. Suggestion of small scale events e.g. petting zoo. Story telling came up repeatedly from several tables Equipment for hire- boxes of soft play toys, deck chairs etc. Water fountain</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CC: There used to be a water fountain there years ago which also had a lower space for dogs as well - SW: Will send info through by end of week re grants for water fountains - CC advised 2 grants available for water fountains. <p>Small strand of people suggested there should be somewhere located near the café area for 0-9, additional climbing area. Lots of people suggested to go elsewhere on the park for play. Natural areas in the park- concern for ecology was highlighted by a few people.</p>	

	<p>Den building- include space for kids with variety of special needs. Encourage tree climbing Ecology events – Love Marble Hill suggested variety of events based around ecology. Work more closely with MH Play centre on family events. KP covered slide on ideas that got mixed reviews. Dogs- subject came up during play workshop. People had some strongly minded views on dogs. Some people did not want any more fenced areas and wanted to allow dogs open access were others highlighted concern for children and young in to park as dogs will come up and jump on them. EH are looking to update bylaws in line with surrounding Richmond parks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - JFN questioned number of people who were concerned saying it was only one person. KP explained variety of people who raised concern from different workshop groups - CC highlighted this concern was also raised in the park with the children and it is an ongoing concern for families. <p>Group Discussion: MW: likes the natural affect play suggestion. Bee hives etc. Activities for kids to learn from. DB: No need for another play area enough in the area KL: clarifies age group for MH play centre 0-5 and 5-15 for One o Clock club. Bery: Is there really a need for equipment. Sad that we have to provide equipment when there is an entire open park with green space. CCo: raised concern for One o Clock club taking business away from it. KL: Understands the need to keep people by the café but is there something else we could provide instead like low level activites in the park e.g. croquet. Provided a safe contained area by the café will help people relax in the area- have a toy corner. Rhys: He was at play workshop but felt his table really only focused on 0-5 not older kids. Feels we have the opportunity at MH to provide open space for older kids to ball play ball on the open green etc. this is not offered by any other play facility in the area and should be highlighted. Parents relax by café kids play ball. CCh: No point in duplicating what we already have. There is not the material left in the park to build dens. Tree climbing – important to have balance. Use trees that fall naturally. Not many trees in the park that are suitable for climbing. Alex: We have annual tree survey that assesses trees. Difficult to actively encourage tree climbing and ensure it’s not to the detriment of tree ecology. SHM: Natural play ground in Teddington for children with disabilities- good for ideas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Idea stone sun dial and petanque <p>CC: Natural play should be encouraged JA: There is a difficulty that lots of parents don’t allow tree climbing KL: Could we have den building by the café or a more complicated</p>	
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	<p>floor maze for the older kids. AS: HLF approved purposes. Play facility in vicinity of café. Investigate scope for flexibility. A core audience for any café is parents with young kids CC: What is being considered for older children? LD: Teenagers like open space. The park is a safe area to hang out, kick a ball around, safe area not isolated. There is someone you can call on if you need assistance. DB: was there always play area in park plan? AS: yes reason it is being discussed is it caused so much contention Maria: Could you move the café to the sports area? Move the café to play area (one o clock club) instead of moving play area to café. SHM: Diamond Jubilee gardens – great example of merging the two Maria: All play areas should be inclusive and wheelchair accessible. We want to have a park for the 21st century.</p>	
<p>3. Brief update on other recent/forthcoming meetings</p>	<p>Meeting planned on 25 April with residents of Montpelier Row. Their primary concern is the café.</p> <p>Garden symposium 20 June – this will involve a number of garden experts and Love Marble Hill will be making their contribution. This will allow us to look at new information and challenges in an informed way. EH is confident in the historical basis for the garden but always open to new developments.</p> <p>JFN: is June 20 soon enough? AS: It takes time to organise symposiums and get the specialists all in one room. We believe this is the best way to address the historical accuracy.</p> <p>SHM: Our priority should be that we save the house. Whatever other compromises need to be made it is vital to restore the house and make it viable.</p> <p>AS: we need to unite the house and garden in the way it was always intended, and that is one of our agreed purposes. To get the HLF grant our research must be robust and this symposium will help us with that.</p> <p>Meeting with Love Marble Hill Very constructive meeting. There were clear differences of opinion. They brought a counter-proposal for the cafe which we will be discussing at the café workshop. Eco centre: we are following up on initial suggestions to use an area in the sports block for a series of pop-up events Included discussion about putting in cycle ports</p> <p>Meeting with Marble Hill Play Centre Positive meeting with many areas for partnership/ crossover Pressing need for MHPC to find sustainable way to make their</p>	

	business model work	
4. Other Commercial opportunities	<p><u>Commercial Opportunities</u></p> <p>Concerts AS: in the past these have caused considerable damage to park. EH is only prepared to run concert when promoter takes risk. Usually this means it requires at least 3 shows to make them commercially viable. Content NB- everyone has a view on what should be held and they require planning permission at MH. Concerts can attract around 8000 people, while pop up cinemas average around 200. MW: Kew and Hampton run very successful shows. It should be possible here too. RW: We could have the same profile here as at Hampton. It takes time to grow but get it right. There are good transport links and it is unique that there are so many local residents/ local community to support.</p> <p>Weddings AS : Business model in the planning application at present stacks up. There are a number of quite stringent restrictions in the house – for example no stilettos and no red wine. If we had a marquee at the side of the house it would be a suitable venue for high ends wedding and financially would ‘stack up’. It would only stay up for the wedding and then be taken down. We would have to apply for planning permission for this. MW: Wooden structure to house weddings would help to reduce noise levels. You could use the building all year round for conferences – it could also be used as an eco centre.</p>	
5. AOB	<p>Landscape consultation will be 12 May Café consultation will be 2 June EH is sending out the second newsletter in a week’s time We previously publicized a Steering Group meeting in May but this will not now take place. The next Steering Group will be on 12 June, when we will pick up on both the consultation workshops.</p>	