

Stanmer Estate Restoration Project



Draft Master Plan Consultation

24 March to 2 May 2014



Brighton & Hove
City Council



About the project

Stanmer Estate is a much loved public park and a nationally significant 18th century Grade II landscape. It also forms the setting for the Grade I listed Stanmer House, Grade II* Stable Block and 16 Grade II listed buildings.

Situated in the South Downs National Park, Stanmer Estate's beautiful woodland walks and extensive open landscape provide an important facility for city residents and visitors, with many using it for walking, enjoying nature, sports and other leisure activities and as a gateway to the wider South Downs National Park.

Stanmer Estate is also a working landscape, with farming, grazing and food growing taking place on its land and it is home to many residents in Stanmer Village and cottages around the estate.

In the summer of 2013 we held a public consultation to find out how you use it, what is important to you and what would help you to enjoy your visits even more. From your comments and ideas and by working with Stakeholders a draft Master Plan has now been developed.

We are aiming to restore the 18th Century landscape and buildings, enhance natural features and protect biodiversity, improve access, provide opportunities for involvement and education and to ensure the estate is managed in a sustainable way and reflects the needs of park users and the wider community.

We hope to achieve this through using external funding from various organisations such as Heritage Lottery Fund.

Who's involved?

Brighton & Hove City Parks Projects Team are leading on this project to develop a Master Plan for the whole Stanmer Estate.

The team is working closely with a number of partners to plan the project and explore all options. These include the South Downs National Park Authority, Brighton and Hove Food Partnership, Stanmer Preservation Society, Stanmer Stakeholders Group and council's Property and Design Team. The proposals for putting back into use derelict buildings and vacant plots are being led by the Property and Design Team in partnership with the South Downs National Park Authority.

Land Use Consultancy (LUC) have been commissioned by Brighton & Hove City Council to produce a landscape vision for the Council's 485 hectares land holding at Stanmer Estate. There are three key visions in the document;

- **Restore the Home Farm Complex**
- **Restore the entrance and Parkland to Stanmer House**
- **Restore the Walled Garden**

Please take the time to consider each one and provide feedback.

We will be working with local communities, residents from across the city, visitors and anyone with an interest in Stanmer Estate. Everyone will get the chance to have their say, give their suggestions for the future of Stanmer Estate and get involved with the project.

Tell us what you think

To make sure your views are considered please take the time to return the completed questionnaire by 2nd May and return it using the Freepost envelope provided. No stamp is required. Alternatively, you can help the council save money by filling out the questionnaire online.

You can find more and fill out the questionnaire at:
www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/stanmerplan



Map of Stanmer Estate



The Stanmer Estate



Legend

	Woodland & trees		General Grassland		Barn / Office / Greenhouse		Public RoW - Footpath
	Proposed parkland trees		Gardens		Pond		Contours
	Existing trees relocated		Nursery / Vegetable Plots		Road (Tarmac)		Barrier to public traffic
	Area returned to meadows / Chalk Downland / grazing		Fine Lawn		Track / Path		
	Area for visitor facilities / historical restoration		Arable Area		Car Park		
	Extended orchards		Listed Building / Structure		Yard		
	Key pedestrian circulation		House		Public Right of Way - Byway		

The Parkland and approach to Stanmer House

Vision

The restoration of the parkland and proper management of vehicle and pedestrian access to the village should enable the visitor experience of arriving at Stanmer Park to be as it was intended in its 18th Century design.



- ↖ We would like to remove unsightly bollards along the Drive
- ↑ We are aiming to improve management of traffic and parking
- ← New visitor facilities such as cycle hire could be introduced

Estate Rail fencing in keeping with heritage landscape could be introduced →

The way the cycle and pedestrian Greenway could look ↘

Conveniently located interpretation, signage and seating ↓



Proposals

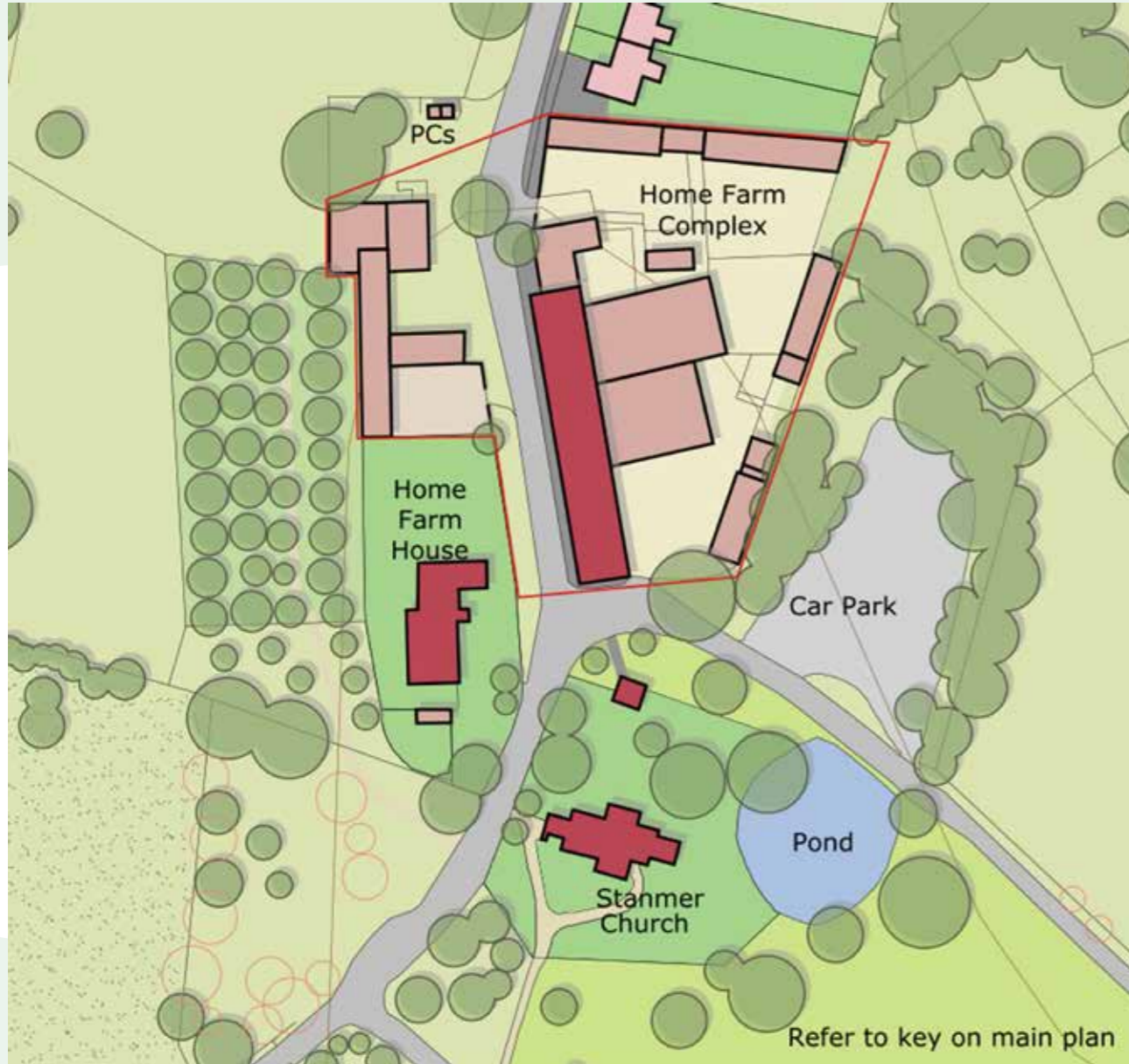
- Managed car park facilities and improved security
- Creation of 'Greenway' path for pedestrians and cyclists
- Removal of bollards and grass mounding
- Parkland tree clumps recreated
- Visitor information and facilities to include cycle hire and toilets



Restoration of the Home Farm Complex

Vision

The home farm complex consists of historically significant buildings, including listed buildings which have fallen into disrepair. The restoration of the buildings within the Home Farm complex will create a central hub with visitor facilities and information about the Estate and its place within the National Park. The works will enable buildings to be host to a range of suitable businesses and uses which will generate income – vital to support the maintenance of the estate.



Proposals

- Restore the buildings
- Identify suitable uses for all buildings within the complex
- Generate income to help fund on going estate management and maintenance
- Provide visitor centre providing information and facilities
- Provide a space for community meetings and events
- Improve access to learning and heritage through interpretation
- Offices for South Downs National Park Authority



Grade II Listed Long Barn to be restored ↑

Farm complex with a variety of buildings to be utilised ↗

Interior of Long Barn which could be used in many ways →



← ↙ ↓ Potential uses of the Home Farm complex include craft fairs, farmers markets and traditional crafts



Restoration of the Walled Garden

Vision

The historic walled garden and surrounding area is currently occupied by the councils Parks Operations Depot which includes offices and vehicle workshops. The works to relocate the depot activities will allow chalk downland grass land – a rare and valuable habitat to once again provide the perfect background to the village and house. Relocating the depot will also reduce the traffic movement in the park, especially large vehicles. By utilising the existing Walled Garden and working with existing and new partners to sustainably produce food, we aim to provide a resource that can be used for education, therapy and to access to heritage.



Proposals

- Restore the Walled Garden to provide an operational kitchen garden for demonstration, education and volunteering opportunities
- Create an educational centre to learn all aspects of growing fruit and vegetables and horticulture.
- Restore site of Parks Operations Depot to chalk grassland
- Bringing horticultural activities together working with existing and new partners
- Restore the ornamental Broad Walk back into use for horticultural training and enjoyment
- Restore the water catcher with the intention of using it for irrigation in the kitchen garden



Extent of industrial operations which could be relocated enabling landscape restoration and improved access ↑

City Parks Operations (to be relocated) include a large vehicle workshop ↗

Inside kitchen garden, there are features to be restored and space to be utilised →



← Chalk grassland to show how restored landscape could look

↙ Operational glass house

↓ Example of working kitchen garden – a resource available to all



Thank you for taking time to review the proposals.

What happens next?

The Masterplan will be developed further once the consultation is completed; a report will then be presented to council committees in July 2014 asking for permission to submit a grant funding bid. If approved, a bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) and Big Lottery Fund (BLF) will be made in August 2014 to apply for funds to take the plans into the next level of detail. After a further eighteen months of development a final plan will be ready for a second stage bid to HLF/BLF in 2016 which if successful would allow the project to be delivered on the ground 2017-2019.

In the current development phase we are continuing to work on areas not mentioned in this document such as detailed parking proposals, the future conservation of the Church and woodland management. Please check the website or contact us if you wish to be updated or involved as the project moves forward.

If you wish to find out more, please visit one of our staffed exhibitions.

Stanmer Church	Sunday 13 April, 2pm-4pm
Stanmer House	Saturday 19 April, 10am-4pm
The Level	Tuesday 22 April, 2pm-5pm
Jubilee Library	Friday 25 April, 10am-5pm

You can also find out more and fill in the questionnaire online by visiting www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/stanmerplan

Contact us:

By email ParksProjects@brighton-hove.gov.uk

By phone (01273) 292929

Or write to us at Brighton & Hove City Council, Cityparks Project Team, Hollingdean Depot, Upper Hollingdean Road, Brighton, BN1 7GA

