

TWICKENHAM



Description

Celebrated as the home of English Rugby, the Twickenham area is relatively densely populated with a number of smaller open spaces, some of which have considerable historic landscape value and are linked by the Thames. It is a substantial shopping centre cut through by major roads.

Characteristics - Facts and Figures

- Population 38280
- Open space 52.53 hectares
- Bounded by the Thames to the West and Heathfield/Whitton to the East
- River Crane runs relatively through the centre
- Socio-demographic – Moderately dense population

Maps

The accompanying area Maps show analysis of:

- Hierarchy – the location of open spaces categorised according to the London Planning Advisory Committee (LPAC) size based hierarchy.
- Function – the main functions or types of open space e.g. parks and gardens; recreation ground; cemetery; allotment etc.
- Quality – an assessment of the overall quality of the open space, considering landscape quality, condition etc.
- Opportunities – identifies opportunities to improve access to open space, restore views, remove barriers to access etc.

Audit of Current Provision

NAME	AREA	FUNCTION	LPAC	PRIORITY
MARBLE HILL PARK	26.1	Park	D	
RADNOR GARDENS (PARK)	1.70	Park	S	55
YORK HOUSE	2.1	Park	L	117
EMBANKMENT, THE (PARK)	0.02	Open Space	S	28
FORTESCUE PLAY AREA	0.14	Open Space	S	45
GARFIELD CLOSE (HIGHWAYS)	0.1	Open Space	S	28
GRIMWOOD ROAD (TA CENTRE - PARKS)	0.2	Open Space	S	40
HOLLY ROAD GARDEN OF REST	0.18	Open Space	S	35
MARLOW CRESCENT (HOUSING)	0.22	Open Space	S	28
MILL ROAD OPEN SPACE	0.13	Open Space	S	66
TWICKENHAM BATHS EMBANKMENT	0.01	Open Space	S	35
TWICKENHAM GREEN	2.99	Open Space	L	40
WARREN GARDENS	0.23	Open Space	S	28
WATER LANE OPEN SPACE	0.07	Open Space	S	35
WELLESLEY RD (HIGHWAYS)	0.49	Open Space	S	28
CAMBRIDGE GARDENS	0.89	Recreation Ground	S	55

NAME	AREA	FUNCTION	LPAC	PRIORITY
GROVE GARDENS (PARK)	0.48	Recreation Ground	S	55
ORLEANS GARDENS	1.39	Recreation Ground	S	40
FULWELL PARK GOLF COURSE	27.22	Semi-natural		
KILMOREY MAUSOLEUM CONSERVATION AREA	0.13	Semi-natural	S	49
MEREWAY DISUSED ALLOTMENTS CONSERVATION	1.43	Semi-natural	S	51
ORLEANS HOUSE	3.35955	Semi-natural	L	65
THAMES TOWPATH - MARBLE HILL/RICHMOND	0.5243	Semi-natural	Lin	21
CIVIC CENTRE	0.2	Civic space		49
TWICKENHAM EMBANKMENT	0.4	Civic Space		126
CRANEFORD WAY RECREATION GROUND	1.8	Sports Ground	S	55
KNELLER GARDENS	5.0418	Sports Ground	L	77
MOORMEAD & BANDY RECREATION GROUND	3.4407	Sports Ground	L	50
CRANEFORD WAY PLAYGROUND		Playground	PG	40
FORTESCUE PLAYGROUND		Playground	PG	45
HOLLY ROAD GARDEN OF REST PLAYGROUND		Playground	PG	35
KNELLER GARDENS PLAYGROUND		Playground	PG	77
MOORMEAD & BANDY PLAYGROUND		Playground	PG	50
ORLEANDS GARDENS PLAYGROUND		Playground	PG	40
TWICKENHAM CEMETERY	6.26	Cemetery		21
BRIAR ROAD	1.84	Allotment		84
BROOK ROAD	0.2	Allotment		90
CAVENDISH HOUSE	0.93	Allotment		35
HEATH GARDENS	0.33	Allotment		60
MARSH FARM	0.37	Allotment		81
MILL ROAD	0.32	Allotment		72
SIXTH CROSS ROAD	1.36	Allotment		63
SOUTH CLOSE	0.06	Allotment		60

Analysis of access to parks and open spaces

100% of the area is within 3.2 km of a metropolitan/regional park, Richmond Park.

61% of the area is within 1.2 km of a district open space.

94% of the area is within 400m of a local open space

59% of the area is within 400 metres of an equipped playground

77% of the area is within 500 metres of an area of nature conservation interest

Note this analysis does not take into account GLA advice, which recommends that a 10-minute rail journey or 15 minute bus journey can also increase the catchment area of larger parks.

Commentary

Although there is 39% deficiency in the coverage of District Open Space the Twickenham Area is reasonably well covered for local open space. The area is well serviced by public transport with 3 train stations and several bus routes.

Barriers to access are marked on the area plan. These include:

- A316 and railway lines
- Lack of river crossings – Thames and Crane
- Access into and around sites and buildings for disabled people/people using buggies and prams

Local Considerations and Issues

- The need to ensure that local people have access to a substantial sized park/open space experience.
- Addressing shortage of equipped playgrounds.
- Improving local knowledge of the network of parks and open spaces opportunities.

Opportunities to address issues

- In order to address the relative shortage of a district sized park, the Council will treat Kneller Gardens/Crane Park together as a Key Park. The park will be maintained with a playground, Park Keeper and opportunities will be explored to transform the pavilion from a building which is mainly used for sports at weekends to a multi-use building which is used all week within daylight hours.
- Explore opportunities to gain access to areas, which are currently restricted open spaces.
- If physical access is not possible, explore opportunities to improve views into the sites or 'visual access'
- Create pleasant walking and cycling routes between sites – as proposed on the plan
- Improve knowledge of open space opportunities through marketing/signage improvements
- Adding playgrounds in areas of deficiency.

Recommendations/Priorities for Twickenham

Following analysis the following sites/priorities have been identified:

- Explore opportunities to gain access to areas, which are currently restricted open spaces. E.g. Oak Lane Cemetery and Brunel University Site.
- If physical access is not possible, explore opportunities to improve views into the sites or 'visual access' e.g. St Margaret's Trust Grounds
- Create pleasant walking and cycling routes between sites – as proposed on the plan. E.g See example of the Crane Corridor and Central Twickenham
- Staff Kneller Gardens (achieved 1st April 2003) as Key Park in order to partially compensate for lack of a District Park in these areas
- Carry out priority improvements identified by the Disability Access Audit – see appendix.
- Publicise and promote the disabled friendly Orleans Gardens playground
- Install play equipment at Radnor Gardens, Twickenham Embankment.
- Improve knowledge of open space opportunities through marketing/signage improvements. Add to signage scheme.
- Market the well-linked network of open spaces and historic sites in Central and East Twickenham and the riverside.
- Create a positive strategy for the River Crane corridor to include improving the open spaces and the linkages between them and rationalising management.
- Work in partnership with Marble Hill Park management in the promotion of events and activities within the area.
- Within Cambridge Gardens encourage the development of a café/restaurant in disused toilets and a tennis coaching/refreshment facility in replaced wooden pavilion.