



# TRANSFORMING UNLOVED SPACES: SITE INFORMATION



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# TRANSFORMING UNLOVED SPACES: SITE BRIEF

## ABBOTTS PARK, E10 6XH





## **ABBOTTS PARK, FOREST WARD**

### **DESCRIPTION OF SITE**

The seating area in Abbots Park is on the Leigh Road side, next to a children's play area. There are currently a number of concrete picnic benches under some large trees.

### **WHY THIS SITE?**

Abbots Park is a well-used park. Families and young people as well as nurseries and schools in the area visit regularly and use the play spaces and outdoor gym. It is seen as a community hub with potential for people to socialise and for children and families to play.

The current seating area inside the park looks tired and uninviting. The trees block a lot of light, meaning that the grass is patchy and not much else has grown in the area. The seating area is an important aspect to get right if people are to spend more time in the park and so it is an ideal space for transformation.

### **SUGGESTIONS FOR APPROACHES**

The space would need to remain a picnic seating area, however we would welcome ideas for additional structures and interventions that will make the area more inviting and family friendly.

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

For any garden or planting projects, ongoing gardening and maintenance would need to be considered.





# TRANSFORMING UNLOVED SPACES: SITE BRIEF

## ALBERT CRESCENT, E4 6SH





## ALBERT CRESCENT, VALLEY WARD

### DESCRIPTION OF SITE

This is an open area which is situated at a busy junction, with a bus terminal nearby. It is used as a seating area by local residents who visit the nearby shops and there are also some trees and up-lighting in the space.

### WHY THIS SITE?

This is a multi- purpose community space. It is a focal point for the local area with some notable art deco buildings nearby. It has seating and it hosts a monthly market. Residents would like to see improvements which help it become a more pleasant and welcoming environment. Locals have said that they would like to see it as the heart of the shopping area, a place to sit down and as a new meeting point.

### SUGGESTIONS FOR APPROACHES

Issues with the space that have been identified by residents and Cllr Jemma Hemsted include:

- Lack of cohesiveness and integration with the surroundings and nearby buildings
- Lack of character and identity
- Unwelcoming, hard landscape

Any scheme would need to address some or all of the above issues, whilst considering the current use of the space. Any design needs to ensure that it doesn't become too cluttered and that it remains accessible.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

*Love South Chingford* are running a campaign to bring life back to the high streets in the area and would need to be consulted in the development stage of any project.

Any project should exclude the tree which is in the brick planter.



# TRANSFORMING UNLOVED SPACES: SITE BRIEF

## ALDRICHE WAY, E4 9LT





## **ALDRICHE WAY, HALE END AND HIGHAMS PARK WARD**

### **DESCRIPTION OF SITE**

This empty space is situated at the centre of the Aldriche Way Estate. It is overlooked by many residential properties, and is next to a children's play area which also has some picnic benches.

### **WHY THIS SITE?**

Local residents feel there needs to be a communal space for people to gather on the Aldriche Way estate, where residents enjoy spending time and which can facilitate community events.

This particular site was chosen as it is seen as a blank canvas, it has a central location and close proximity to the existing play area and seating. Residents do gather and spend time here, but there needs to be better provision so that the whole community are able to benefit.

### **SUGGESTIONS FOR APPROACHES**

The aim is to create a communal space, transforming the area into a place where residents enjoy spending time. This new space could include, and is not limited to:

- A structure from which to serve food and drinks during events, and sell produce from gardens
- Seating
- Low level lighting
- Planters, or growing area (which would be maintained by local gardeners)

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Any artist, architect or designer proposing a project for this site will need a demonstrable track record in working collaboratively with communities. The local schools have close connections with the estate and would potentially like to be involved in a project

There are a number of residential flats in this area, so any proposal which includes lighting will need to show consideration of this.





# TRANSFORMING UNLOVED SPACES: SITE BRIEF

## ATTLEE TERRACE, E17 3EQ





## **ATTLEE TERRACE, HOE STREET WARD**

### **DESCRIPTION OF SITE**

The sunken garden on the Attlee Terrace estate currently has a number of raised beds, benches and a clay oven. The garden, whilst visible from the road, is surrounded by the housing estate and is primarily for the use of residents.

### **WHY THIS SITE?**

The garden is run by local stakeholders who work and volunteer in the community. It is felt by these groups that the garden is still under used by the residents that live on the estate and it needs an additional space so that more activities and events can be held there.

The usage of the garden is not as high as it could be and it's been a challenge to attract residents to use it, but there is an appreciation for the fact that the garden is there has been a gradual increase in the numbers of visitors.

### **SUGGESTIONS FOR APPROACHES**

Local groups and residents would like an activity space – a structure that can be used by residents and that will enhance the work that takes place in the garden. Any structure would need to include a space which could facilitate workshops, classes and events for the local community.

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Any artist, architect or designer proposing a project for this site will need a demonstrable track record in working collaboratively with communities.





# TRANSFORMING UNLOVED SPACES: SITE BRIEF

## BLACKHORSE ROAD, E17 7DP





## **BLACKHORSE ROAD NEAR STONEYDOWN PARK, HIGH STREET WARD**

### **DESCRIPTION OF SITE**

The area is adjacent to Stoneydown Park on Blackhorse Road. The site at the corner of Freedom Close and Blackhorse Road has also been identified as needing improvement as part of Making Places. The site is made up of hard standing space, grass and trees as well as an access driveway for vehicles.

### **WHY THIS SITE?**

The area is seen locally to detract from Stoneydown Park. It has been neglected for some time and has no features to signify that the park is in such close proximity. Residents have reported a number of problems on the site, such as littering, illegal parking, and street drinking.

The site also has a lot of potential – it has large beautiful trees, is adjacent to a popular and well-loved park, and runs along a very busy main road and housing as well as being in close proximity to a number of schools who may be interested in being involved in future projects.

### **SUGGESTIONS FOR APPROACHES**

Residents have suggested that a solution which incorporates the site into the park through design and style may discourage the problems that have been happening. Any scheme would need to involve re-landscaping of the site and physical improvement. Given the schools and residential properties in the area, a project on this site could involve local groups and residents in playing a key role in the development of ideas for the site.

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Any artist, architect or designer proposing a project for this site will need a demonstrable track record in working collaboratively with communities and stakeholders.

The vehicle access point to the play park will need to be kept clear as part of any project.





# TRANSFORMING UNLOVED SPACES: SITE BRIEF

**BRIERLEY ROAD, E11 4JE**





## **BRIERLEY ROAD, CATHALL WARD**

### **DESCRIPTION OF SITE**

The corner of Brierley Road and Langthorne Road comprises of a pathway which has become partly obscured, a grass area and overgrown shrubs.

### **WHY THIS SITE?**

This is a prominent space in the area which has become neglected. It is sometimes used as a dumping ground, encouraging littering. The site was nominated by residents who walk past the space regularly and see the potential for it to be reimagined, having a positive impact on the whole area. The site has significant footfall throughout the day from nearby residencies, Downsell School and Langthorne Medical Centre. The transformation of this site would benefit many people in the neighbourhood.

### **SUGGESTIONS FOR APPROACHES**

Residents would like to see the history of the local area represented in this project. There are historical associations with Langthorne Workhouse/Hospital and Langthorne Abbey. The local streets at one time housed people working in the former Temple Mills Railway terminal.

The area is used primarily as a walkway, so a path should be incorporated into any design. It is hoped that an intervention would brighten the area, and make it a place that people care for and enjoy walking through. Any scheme would need to incorporate re-landscaping of the site and physical improvement.

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

There is a number of residential flats and houses in this area, so any proposal which includes lighting will need to show consideration of this.





# TRANSFORMING UNLOVED SPACES: SITE BRIEF

## CHEF'S CORNER. E11 3NH





## CHEF'S CORNER, CANN HALL WARD

### DESCRIPTION OF SITE

The wall of the Chef's Corner building on 102 Cann Hall Road, also known as Butler's Bakery is predominantly blue and has an original 'Golden Brown' sign. A more recent addition is the bronze bee which is part of the local [dis]tinct arts trail.

### WHY THIS SITE?

Residents feel that the wall looks run down and unattractive. It is a very visible and prominent space, in one of the busiest parts of the area. The building itself has an interesting history and transformation of this wall could help to enliven the area. It would help to enhance the identity and offering of the area, as it is at the centre of a number of shops and cafes.

### SUGGESTIONS FOR APPROACHES

Residents have suggested that would like to see a mural that links past to present, and brings out the stories of the building and local communities. Themes of migration and building new lives have been put forward. The Butler family have owned the building for over 35 years, and ran a West Indian bakery on the site from which there is still an existing sign. Any project put forward would need to incorporate the Golden Brown sign, the Butler's Bakery sign and the bronze bee.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Any artist or designer proposing a project for this site will need a demonstrable track record in working collaboratively with communities to deliver a public realm artwork.





# TRANSFORMING UNLOVED SPACES: SITE BRIEF

## GREENLEAF ROAD, E17 4QR





## **GREENLEAF ROAD, WILLIAM MORRIS WARD**

### **DESCRIPTION OF SITE**

The junction of Hoe Street and Greenleaf Road in Walthamstow. The site comprises 17 Greenleaf Road on one side and the William Morris Community Centre on the other up to the corner of Hoe Street.

### **WHY THIS SITE?**

This site has been chosen because residents (who nominated this site more than any other) would like to see creative and engaging solutions to what has become an area with anti-social behaviour problems. The site was identified by local young women and their parents, who feel unsafe walking past the corner at night. Engagement with the community has begun to find out what might help make the corner feel safer and more attractive for everyone.

### **SUGGESTIONS FOR APPROACHES**

By engaging people who spend time congregating in this area, particularly at night, and working with residents, we think can make a big difference. Our aim, through a project which will need a significant amount of engagement, is to develop an intervention which encourages everyone to respect and improve the space and to make a lasting change. This is a project where a range of people including local stakeholders and agencies need to pool their efforts to change this space. We are particularly keen to see the different groups of young people who spend time in this area play a key role in engaging with an artist or socially engaged design practice to identify and deliver a lasting and sustainable solution to the problem.

An innovative approach to lighting has been identified as a key issue and any scheme would most likely need to include this.

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Any artist, architect or designer proposing a project for this site will need a demonstrable track record in working collaboratively with communities and a broad and complex range of stakeholders. The site spans both public and private property and any scheme will need to allow time to build partnerships and navigate the complexities this presents.



# TRANSFORMING UNLOVED SPACES: SITE BRIEF

## HIGHAM HILL PARK, E17 5PX







## HIGHAM HILL PARK, HIGHAM HILL WARD

### DESCRIPTION OF SITE

The space is in Higham Hill Park, within the open expanse of recreational land. It is the area which is closest to the café and the children's play park.

The site is also very close to the entrance of the Higham Hill Hub, a community space which hosts a range of events and activities for local residents.

### WHY THIS SITE?

The site has been chosen as it is an important community space in the ward. Residents would like to see improvements which encourage more interesting activities to take place there and for the park to become more of a focal point for the local community.

### SUGGESTIONS FOR APPROACHES

Residents would like to see an open air performance space which is multi-use, and could be used as a seating or as a play area. There have already been discussions with local schools, dance and drama groups who are interested in performing in the space.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Any artist, architect or designer proposing a project for this site will need a demonstrable track record in working collaboratively with communities and a broad and complex range of stakeholders.





# TRANSFORMING UNLOVED SPACES: SITE BRIEF

## LEA BRIDGE LIBRARY, E10 7HU





## **FRIENDSHIP GARDENS, LEA BRIDGE LIBRARY, LEA BRIDGE WARD**

### **DESCRIPTION OF SITE**

The garden of Lea Bridge Library is mostly lawn, with some boulders, logs and a number of trees which provide lots of shade. Currently there are seven unused wooden planters in the garden, as well as some seating.

### **WHY THIS SITE?**

The library is popular, but currently the garden does not feel like part of it and could be a much more welcoming space. Residents would like to see the space being used by visitors and enjoyed by children, families and adults who regularly use the library.

It is hoped that by improving the area, residents and visitors will be more inclined to look after it and spend time here.

### **SUGGESTIONS FOR APPROACHES**

Improvements to the garden might be achieved through a planting scheme and/or by adding furniture and play equipment which visitors can interact with and use. Residents have suggested that a sensory garden would work well in the space, enhanced by seating, equipment and props for children to explore.

An area where people could read and where storytelling activities could take place would better connect it to the library, as well as for special events such as film screenings and small scale performances.

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

For any garden or planting projects, ongoing gardening and maintenance would need to be considered.





# TRANSFORMING UNLOVED SPACES: SITE BRIEF LOW HALL SPORTS GROUND, E17 8AX





## **LOW HALL SPORTS GROUND, MARKHOUSE WARD**

### **DESCRIPTION OF SITE**

This site is situated in woodland adjacent to the Low Hall Sports Ground.

### **WHY THIS SITE?**

This area had many nominations from local residents, who said that it is an underused space with lots of potential. The space is used by a forest school, but both residents would like to see the space made more accessible to different groups in the local community, hopefully attracting more visitors and local people to the site.

### **SUGGESTIONS FOR APPROACHES**

The design could focus on an outdoor performance space, which can also be used by an existing forest school and other schools and groups in the local area.

Any design should be in keeping with the natural environment and, where possible, include some interpretation and signage to help visitors explore the woodland outside of organised sessions

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

There are plans for wider regeneration of the Low Hall Sports Ground, which will affect the existing pavilion, tennis courts and playing fields. Therefore, any proposal should be within the boundaries of the woodland area and not in the area which is due to be regenerated.





# TRANSFORMING UNLOVED SPACES: SITE BRIEF NORTH CHINGFORD LIBRARY, E4 7EN





## **ALLEYWAY NEXT TO NORTH CHINGFORD LIBRARY, CHINGFORD GREEN WARD**

### **DESCRIPTION OF SITE**

The alleyway next to North Chingford library connects Station Road and Mornington Road. The space comprises of a pathway, an area with trees and plants and is bordered on one side by a wire fence and on the other side by the North Chingford library building. The alleyway is a key pedestrian route.

### **WHY THIS SITE?**

The site is a source of disquiet for residents of Chingford. It has been neglected and has often been used for dumping rubbish and encourages anti-social behaviour. The space has been vacant for many years, with the disused toilet building, wire fencing and exposed polythene adding to the sense that the site is uncared for.

The space is seen to be part of an important and central area and it is very near to the Chingford Assembly Hall. It is a well-used pathway for residents to access the high street and local amenities so many people would benefit if the space were to be transformed, made safer and more inviting.

### **SUGGESTIONS FOR APPROACHES**

The aim of this intervention would be to brighten up the space through planting, an artistic or lighting intervention whilst retaining its function as a pathway. Residents like the idea of growing more plants in this space but easy maintenance is essential.

Many residents have suggested that some aspect of visual art would make an interesting feature of the space and would like any new artwork to connect to the community and heritage of the area.

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

There are separate plans underway for the disused public toilet building, so any project should not include the building.

The space is situated within the Chingford Green conservation area, so new structures may need planning permission if over 1m in height. This would be supported by Waltham Forest Council upon the awarding of the project.





# TRANSFORMING UNLOVED SPACES: SITE BRIEF NORTH CHINGFORD LIBRARY, E4 7EN







## **ALLEYWAY NEXT TO NORTH CHINGFORD LIBRARY, CHINGFORD GREEN WARD**

### **DESCRIPTION OF SITE**

The alleyway next to North Chingford library connects Station Road and Mornington Road. The space comprises of a pathway, an area with trees and plants and is bordered on one side by a wire fence and on the other side by the North Chingford library building. The alleyway is a key pedestrian route.

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# TRANSFORMING UNLOVED SPACES: SITE BRIEF

## THE HIGHAMS PARK



*Top: Henry's Avenue*

*Bottom: Tamworth Avenue*

*Overleaf: Keynsham Avenue*







## THE HIGHAMS PARK ENTRANCES, HATCH LANE WARD

### DESCRIPTION OF SITE

The three main entrances to The Highams Park are at Henry's Avenue, Keynsham Avenue and Tamworth Avenue. Henry's Avenue is the main vehicle access point, and the other two entrances are primarily for pedestrian access.

### WHY THIS SITE?

The site is important to the local community and it has an interesting history. The Highams Park was designed by Sir Humphry Repton in 1794 and there were 176 prefab homes built after the Second World from 1947 – 1961. It is now home to many plant and tree species, making it a place of interest for conservation and scientific study. The entrances to the park have been identified as needing transformation by residents –they are important as they give the first impression of the park.

### SUGGESTIONS FOR APPROACHES

A successful design would unify the entrances and make them look more in keeping with the rest of the park. It is important to link the three entrances through look and feel whilst keeping in mind the separate functions.

Currently the entrances at Tamworth Avenue and Keynsham Avenue are disjointed and are made up of different materials. The removal of the current gates and replacement with a more coherent design would make the entrances more attractive and welcoming. At all three gates, the gate function for pedestrians is not necessary. However there have previously been problems with mopeds accessing the site, so a solution to this should be considered in the design.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The signage which is near to the entrances will be refreshed at the same time as the Making Places project is installed, and will remain in a similar style to signs that are already there.

The Friends of The Highams Park, The Highams Park Forum and The Highams Park Planning Group support the park and would want to be engaged in the scheme





# TRANSFORMING UNLOVED SPACES: SITE BRIEF

## THE LINEAR PARK, E11 4EN





## THE LINEAR PARK, GROVE GREEN WARD

### DESCRIPTION OF SITE

The Linear Park runs alongside the A12 in Leyton, with various entrances off Grove Green Road. The park is long and narrow with a pathway, grassed areas and some herb and flower beds. The space is currently fenced in, and features raised brick planters and has several control boxes for the A12 motorway.

### WHY THIS SITE?

Many local residents feel that this is a neglected park and is in need of an uplift. Others have suggested that it's a hidden gem with great potential.

### SUGGESTIONS FOR APPROACHES

The aim is to boost the profile of the park through an artist led installation, encouraging more people to visit and use the space. The widest point of the site (near Dyers Hall Road) could be set aside for Making Places. Alternatively, the area behind the existing park footpath which stretches out for the length of the park could be used.

The park has an interesting history – it was created when the A12 link road was built (around 1993), which meant some streets and homes in the area were demolished to make space, displacing many local residents. The scheme was very controversial and received national news coverage. Linear Park was formed from a leftover space following the construction of the A12. Any proposal which incorporates the heritage and stories from the local area would be encouraged.

Residents and local groups have contacted the Council about introducing a community growing scheme, so this kind of project would also be encouraged.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The park is also due to undergo work as part of the Enjoy Waltham Forest Scheme. The proposals currently are to remove the boundary fencing and raised brick planters, as well as improving the footway and cycle track on Grove Green Road. Any proposals should work around these plans.