

# Beckenham Place Park



## Flood storage

As one of the largest green spaces in the area, the park provides an opportunity to temporarily store flood water, keeping it away from homes and businesses downstream. Storing water here also minimises the amount of works required on the river downstream. Water would only store at the park during infrequent extreme flood incidents. These incidents could be many years apart. When flooded, water would remain within the park for approximately one day before returning back to normal.

To enable this we would need to re-landscape parts of the park to include raised earth embankments. This work would also provide an opportunity to further enhance this side of the park.



### River

The river is a valuable feature within the park for people to enjoy and for the wildlife it supports. The river would be a key focal point of the park, similar to Ladywell Fields (photo left).

The river would be realigned in the centre and at the southern end of the park.

The new river alignment would provide an opportunity to improve the river habitat, allowing more species to thrive.

### Embankments

Earth embankments would be created to safely retain floodwater temporarily within parts of the park to protect homes and businesses.

They would mainly be managed as conservation grassland / meadow with wildflowers, similar to Sutcliffe Park (photo right). In places, small groups of native flowering/fruited shrubs would be introduced to add visual and biodiversity interest.

The embankment would be at its maximum height above existing ground levels at the north of the park – up to approximately four metres high. The height of the embankment gradually reduces as it moves south until it reaches existing high ground levels.

The embankment behind properties at the Ravensbourne Avenue end of the park would be approximately one metre high.



### Recreation

Green spaces enhance quality of life and provide places for people to enjoy. Research shows that nearby natural spaces can benefit health and reduce social problems in the local community. The park is already well loved by parts of the community. By enhancing the recreation facilities at the park it could become more attractive to a wider group of people.

New trails would encourage exploration of the new landscape at the park. Natural play areas would be created for children to enjoy. The new embankment could become part of the play space, similar to Wandle Park (photo left). Play trails along the river and through the park, could include natural play structures – for example, timber stepping posts, balance beams and boulders.

### Cross-section 'A-A' at the north of the park

