

# KEY ISSUES AND OBSERVATIONS

## The Key Issues:

- The Saxon Burial Ground – consider options for re-routing of tarmac footpath to minimize damage, improve acid grassland, the understanding of burial mounds and improve visitor experience.
- The Old Reservoir – examine the feasibility of returning the area of the Old Reservoir to the park, through new access, taking into account the areas unique flora.
- The Rose Garden and its relationship to Ranger's House – explore the relationship of the Rose Garden to the Ranger's House and to the Park through historic research. Explore the potential of enhancing/ re-designing the Rose Garden to provide an outstanding horticultural visitor attraction, that takes a contemporary view of the Rose Garden and re-establishes the relationship between Ranger's House and the Park.
- The Dell and boundary planting - explore the potential of enhancing bio-diversity in the planting and management of this area, with a view to creating a national collection of *Crateagus* or *Sorbus*, that would become a feature of horticultural interest. Consider improved access to the Dell.



## Observations:

- The Saxon Burial Ground – a popular linking route from Conduit Avenue towards the Blackheath Avenue. Most users are unaware of the historic importance of the mounds.
- The Old Reservoir – Park users are not currently allowed on to this large mound. It would be a great location to enjoy views to the Royal Observatory tower, in a tranquil setting.
- The Rose Garden and its relationship to Ranger's House – the garden provides limited flowering interest and feels quite cut off from the rest of the Park. The gateway to the Ranger's House is very difficult to spot and the garden has a poor relationship with the house itself.
- The Dell and boundary planting – The mass of *Rhododendron* makes the area rather dull and unappealing, whilst adding limited horticultural interest or wildlife value. The planting around Chesterfield Gate has become overgrown and in unwelcoming.



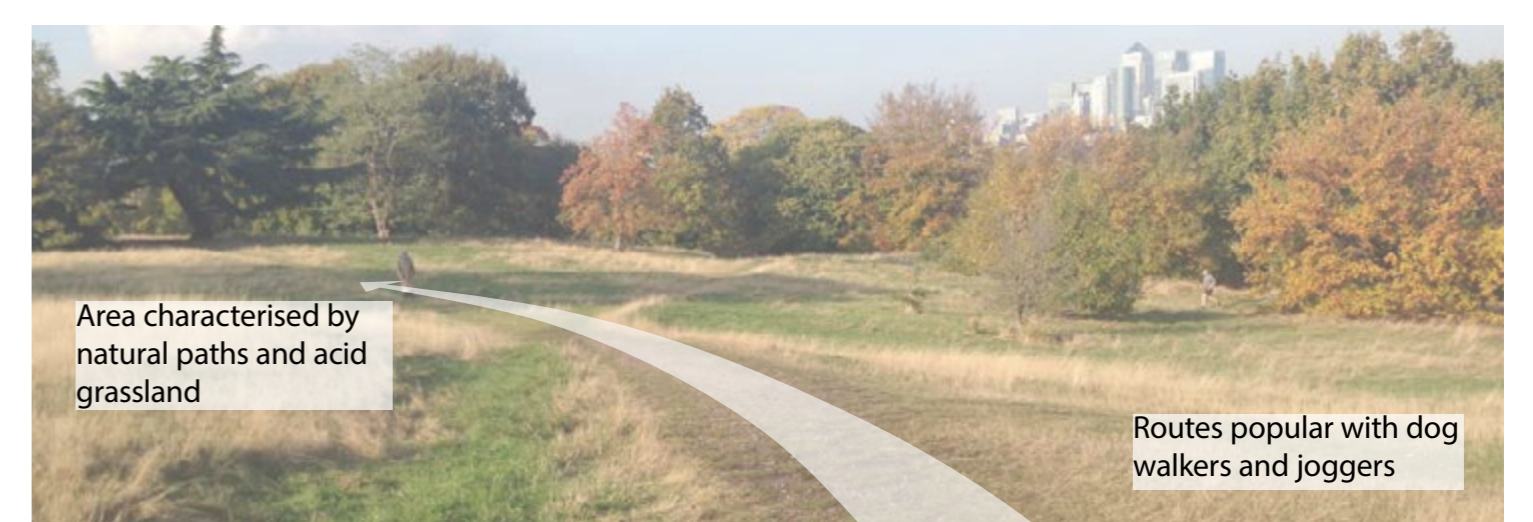
The Dell



The Rose Garden



The Old Reservoir



The Saxon Burial Ground

