



Isabella Plantation - Access Improvements

Over the past year or so The Royal Parks has been developing a funding proposal aimed at providing a range of improvements to the Isabella Plantation based primarily on access and disability. An initial meeting with the Heritage Lottery Fund has indicated that the project may be suitable for funding, so we have decided to progress the bid further to application stage in late August 2010.

Proposed improvements include:

- Resurfacing and redesign of the existing disabled car park, its approach road and improved access to the Gardens
- The creation of a high quality, sustainably built toilet block carefully located in the gardens woodland shelterbelt near the existing gate from the disabled car park. To include shelter, seating and a meeting point for visitors.
- Provision of seasonal catering
- Modernisation of the Plantations existing toilet block to make it accessible for all users
- Resurfacing and upgrading of the existing garden path network to provide a variety of more accessible routes around the Plantation.
- Improvements to signage, interpretation and literature
- Environmental/ecological improvements including: de-silting of ponds and provision of a more sustainable water storage and irrigation system collecting water harvested from the Parks natural supply.
- Upgrade of the existing motorised wheelchair service.
- The creation of a dedicated 3 year Partnership and Community Engagement Officer post working in partnership with local charities, schools and user groups to develop walks, talks, volunteer schemes and conservation opportunities both within the Plantation and the wider park.