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Brockwell Hall Restoration Project issues update about plans for the building

Mon 27th July, 2020 - by mike urban - 4 Comments.



In early 2019, a £387,500 grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) was awarded to Lambeth Council to develop designs and proposals to [restore and transform Brockwell Hall, Stables and Coach House](#) into a “venue for weddings and corporate bookings, food and drink, exhibitions and community meetings and events.”



It's been estimated that the total cost of the Brockwell Hall restoration will be around £6m, with Lambeth Council and Brockwell Park Community Partners (BPCP) expected to submit a fully developed proposal for the Hall by the end of this year.

If the bid for a Lottery grant is successful, the hall will be refurbished and brought into new uses by 2023.

Although Brixton Buzz is delighted to see the building being brought back to its former glory, the possibility that the cafe may be decanted out of the main building is of some concern.



Here's their full update – be sure to add your own thoughts in the comments box below or on the [forum discussion](#).

Brockwell Hall Restoration

The lead architectural consultants are working towards an interim report to the Lottery Heritage Fund at the end of July as well as a planning application to Lambeth in the same month.

At present they are in “pre-planning”, that is, working on their proposals for Brockwell Hall with advice on planning and conservation issues from Lambeth and are also in discussion with Historic England over conservation issues within the Hall.

The new design is an improvement over the early proposals agreed by BPCP but follows the spirit of the original plan. The aims of the revised design concept are:

- *To retain cafe use, if possible, within the main house and service wing*
- *To create a permanent community event space that will not obscure the facade of the Stable Block, when restored*
- *To create passive level access to all areas*
- *To restore the setting of the house, stables and gardens (Walled Garden) to allow a better understanding of the heritage of the Hall.*

Cafe

The room that currently houses the cafe kitchen and servery will be restored to its original state.

The cafe area will move to the service wing, as originally envisaged but the cafe footprint will incorporate the current Picture Room, with access opened up through the fireplace wall into the rooms behind.

This would be in keeping with the use of the Picture Room in the past as a tea room and would provide a much more comfortable environment than that on offer at present!

Since our intention was always to improve people's experience and open up the Hall to provide greater public access, this is a welcome development.

Event venue

Although concern about conservation and planning issues had suggested that the new event venue in the Stable Yard might have to be a temporary marquee, the current proposal for the event venue is that it should be a purpose-built timber and glass building, again, offering more "celebratory" surroundings.

It would be located closer to the service wing of the Hall, with an open space in front of the Stable Block.

Access

The architects are also working on a design to allow level access into the Hall at the main entrance, thus making wheelchair access possible. Inside the building there will be a lift, making the first floor accessible to people with limited mobility.

Toilets

We have been at pains to argue for much better toilet provision at the Hall. It is not satisfactory for people to have to leave the cafe and walk through the park, often in the rain, to the nearest ones.

There will have to be a toilet attached to the cafe to conform with the law and it is planned to have two on the ground floor at present, one of which will have to be fully accessible.

This will encourage people to stay longer in the park and at the cafe, making Brockwell Park a more accessible destination. The current public toilets will be upgraded

Volunteering

The consultant team are working on a cultural programme for the Hall and on a volunteer policy.

We have been arguing for dedicated volunteer space at the Hall, which could operate independently of the working hours of Lambeth's park maintenance operations, making it possible for a more diverse group of volunteers to become involved in the park.

Consultation

Our consultation on the current plans will necessarily be an online at present.

The project consultants will carry out their own consultation on the Hall via the

project website: <http://www.brockwellhallrestoration.org.uk> where you can comment on the proposals

The project will also go to a formal planning application which will allow for further public comment.

Any comments you have or requests for more details can also be sent to us at brockwellparkcommunitypartners@gmail.com



More info

- [Brockwell Hall Restoration Project \(BHRP\)](#)
- [Have Your Say on the BHRP site](#)
- [Brockwell Park Community Partners](#)

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- [Brockwell Park news and chat](#) (over 650 posts)

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