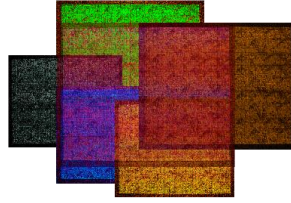


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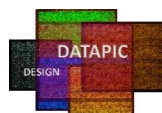
Design and Project Management Consultants

## Design/Access and Planning Statement

For the

Pathways application at :-

Dick Whittington Park,  
Little London,  
Longhope,  
GL17 0PH.



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## **Introduction**

This application seeks to obtain permission for the installation of a number of pathways around the site at Dick Whittington Park.

As part of the increased demand for outdoor activities the Park is looking to offer Nature walks around the scenic valley setting.

## **Background**

The site began as a Farm Park with a blend of indoor and outdoor facilities for visitors.

When the Farm / Animal element of the park was removed the site became more concentrated on the Visitor Centre, Café and Play Barn facilities.

Covid 19 wreaked havoc on this business. With most of the business offerings being indoors and with limited numbers able to attend due to Covid, it was decided to expand the business into other options that the beautiful position of the site provides.

It is a large site with lots of woodland and viewpoints with established fauna, and the plan is to expand the opportunity of Nature/ Planted walks around the site. To do this a series of pathways will be required to make the site accessible to everyone.

## **Ecological and Biodiversity Considerations**

The proposed pathways will be constructed in such a way as to not disturb the ground below and harm any of the established tree routes in the locality.

Slotted pipe will be laid under the paths to allow free drainage from side to side and not allow water build up. This will also act as tunnels for insects and small animals.

## **Construction and Materials**

The paths will be constructed using a compacted subbase with 2 layers of Coxwell gravel compacted as a surface finish. Timber edging will retain the gravel, and sloping soil either side will blend the pathways into the surroundings.



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## Visitor Numbers / Traffic

Previous applications have approved an increase in the number of visitors to the site to circa 80,000 per annum. Currently the park is operating much lower than this number and so has significant scope for usage expansion within the approved visitor level.

The car park area and access roads are of good quality to enable the enhanced visitor numbers.



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