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Media Release

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Boultham Park project great for biodiversity

MORE trees are being planted at Boultham Park in Lincoln to compensate for those that are having to be removed as part of a £1.17million National Lottery Heritage Fund / City of Lincoln Council funded restoration project.

Around 38 trees are being removed to let in light, allow bank restoration works and reduce leaf litter, which will improve water quality, habitat options and biodiversity at the historic lake.

City of Lincoln Council's portfolio holder for Remarkable Place, Cllr Bob Bushell said: *"The only trees to be removed will be those needed to make the project successful and we'll plant more than we take out."*

"The wood from trees that are being removed will not be wasted either. It will be used in habitat and community projects elsewhere in the park."

Tammy Smalley, Head of Conservation for Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust said: *"There will be wider wildlife benefits through the proposed tree works at Boultham Park Lake. The removal of some of the trees on the lakeside will enable greater light penetration and less leaf litter will fall into the lake which will improve water quality and use by wildlife within the water."*

"Tree removal in some parts will also allow for the introduction of some key, native, water-loving wildflowers. This will increase biodiversity through floral diversity and also provide greater habitat diversity for water creatures to enjoy."

"The trees planted elsewhere in the park will ensure that there is no net loss in tree provision for wildlife too and dead wood is great for bugs and fungi. Exciting times for Boultham Park!"

The tree work, which will take place during February, is just a small part of a much wider project to improve biodiversity and restore the lake which is also supported by the Boultham Park Advisory Group and Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust.

The project will give more opportunities for people to get involved with the park, create more space for wildlife to flourish and open up natural and cultural heritage to existing and new visitors.

Also featured in the plans is a public art trail which will encourage people to explore the lake area with detailed information on wildlife and how people can help encourage and protect biodiversity along the route.

A programme of activities will be delivered with the emphasis on biodiversity, community events and restoring lost activities. These activities will take place over three years and will be aimed at encouraging a wider range of people to get involved and learn more about the lake and its natural and social heritage.

The 90-year-old public park has already benefitted from a £4.1million project that has restored key heritage features including the bandstand, main gates, a fountain garden and the sundial.

As well as new pathways, park furniture, way-finder signage and interpretation, the project has created a new park café and glasshouse and restored the old stable block building to form an education centre for the Linkage Boultham Park College.

This was a partnership project between City of Lincoln Council and the Linkage Community Trust with £2.7 million funding from the National Lottery Parks for People Programme

- To find out more about the tree works visitors are invited to the Boultham Park Café on February 4 between 2-4pm

ENDS