



In July 2025, the Council adopted the Bramcote Quarry site, which adjoins Bramcote Hills Park. A public consultation on the future of the quarry site, including its proposed name, is scheduled to take place from 2 to 31 March 2026. With the incorporation of this additional land, into the wider Bramcote Hills footprint, the area is expanding significantly and is increasingly functioning as a destination site for both local residents and visitors from further afield.

Feedback gathered through multiple rounds of public consultation on Bramcote Hills Park, including the most recent consultation undertaken in 2023, has consistently highlighted a lack of toilet facilities as a key issue affecting visitor experience. Historically, the potential introduction of toilet facilities and a small café was explored in 2018 but the proposals did not progress due to cost constraints at that time.

Given the expansion of the overall site and continued calls for improved amenities, it is now proposed that work commences on the development of new visitor facilities within the park. The outline requirements for this provision includes:

- A café to support day-to-day park users and enhance the destination offer.
- A meeting room capable of accommodating up to 40 people, supporting community use, education sessions, volunteer groups, and partner organisations.
- Associated support spaces, such as storage or small ancillary rooms, as required.
- A dedicated toilet block, accessible to all users of the site, including visitors not using the café.

Initial discussions with Asset Management indicate a ballpark capital cost in the region of £1 million for a development of this scale. Given the highly sensitive location of the proposed facility, positioned within a key green space at the heart of the park, it will be essential to ensure that any new building is designed and delivered to the highest possible environmental standards.

Accordingly, the new facility should adopt a sustainable, low-carbon (or net-zero) design approach, potentially incorporating:

- Passivhaus principles or equivalent
- A green (living) roof to enhance biodiversity
- Solar PV to support on-site renewable energy generation
- High-performance insulation and glazing
- A ground-source heat pump or similar low-carbon heating solution
- Natural ventilation and maximised daylight
- High-quality, durable materials that complement the character of the park

Delivering the building to these standards is considered essential to ensure it sits sensitively within its landscape setting, minimises operational carbon emissions, and reflects the Council's broader environmental commitments. As Bramcote Hills Park and the adjoining quarry continue to develop as a destination of Borough-wide significance, the provision of high-quality, sustainable visitor facilities will be critical in supporting current and future usage.

In addition to providing improved amenities, the facility also presents opportunities for income generation. This would include potential revenue from the café operation, likely to be delivered through a concession arrangement, as well as income from the proposed meeting room. The meeting space would benefit from an attractive, high-quality setting within the park, offering strong potential to appeal to community groups, organisations, and small businesses seeking a well-located venue.

To progress the proposed facility, a sum of £4,000 is being sought to commission initial concept drawings and obtain more detailed cost estimates for the scheme. These early-stage design and costing activities are essential to establish a realistic budget and to ensure that any future proposal brought forward is both viable and deliverable.

Once the required fee has been secured and the drawings and costings have been completed, a further report will be presented to Cabinet, setting out the details of the proposed project in full. This will include design concepts, revised financial implications, deliverability considerations, and a recommended delivery route. Progression of the scheme will remain subject to planning permission, as well as the necessary financial approvals.

The Environment Team has already undertaken initial checks on potential funding mechanisms. It has been confirmed that Section 106 contributions cannot be used for this project. In addition, FCC funding has recently been utilised for previous enhancement works within the park and is not available for this phase. However, a range of other external funding opportunities will continue to be explored to support delivery of the proposed facilities.

#### Walking Route and Parkrun opportunities – Project update

The Environment Team is developing a new integrated walking route that will link five Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) within a 5-kilometre circuit. The indicative route is shown in Image 2.

The LNR's are already connected through a network of Public Rights of Way, and planned path improvement works at Pit Lane, Trowell, and Stapleford Hill will further enhance accessibility and continuity. The team is in the process of refining the route as a potential promoted walk that will showcase green infrastructure in this part of the Borough and will improve opportunities for residents to engage with nature.

This work will support wider strategic aims, contributing to the delivery of the Council's Blue-Green Infrastructure Strategy and the Climate Change and Green Futures Strategy, while also offering wellbeing benefits through increased access to high-quality natural spaces.

In addition, following the adoption of the quarry site, the Council is exploring the feasibility of establishing a Parkrun event within the Bramcote Hills and quarry area. This exploratory work is at an early stage, and any proposal would need to address route safety, accessibility, and compatibility with existing park infrastructure before any progression.

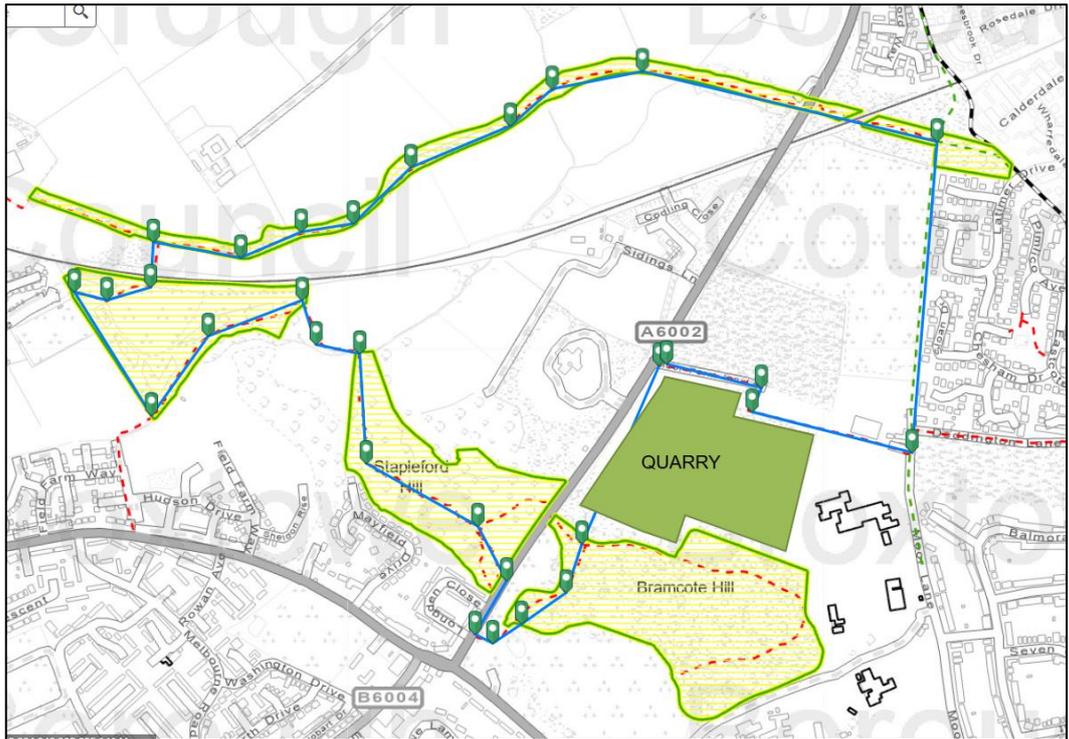


Image 2: Proposed 5 LNR's in 5km route (Blue line).