

Minds, Machines & Movies - a flight through time

The vision for the park

To collaboratively create a heritage trail of ten statement sculptures, including an outdoor performance space, through the park to celebrate and recognise the Asylum, the history of aviation and the story of Leavesden Film Studios.

Workshops & programmes

The Heritage Trail and park

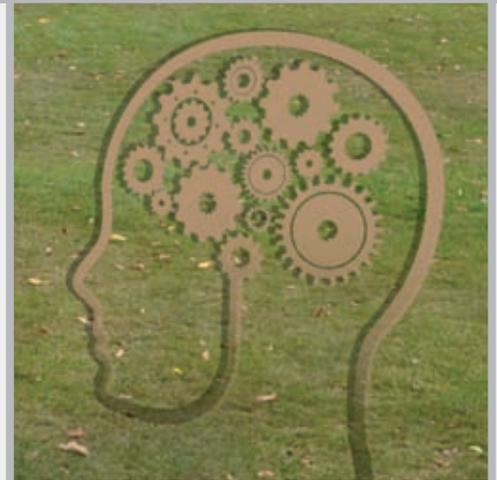
- Demonstrations, workshops and community activities with the artists to develop the art work before, during and after installation
- Health Walks, exercise sessions and guided walks with local historical groups
- Memory and reminiscent sessions with partner community organisations.

Performance space

- Community activities, including seasonal celebrations
- Arts programme through the school holidays
- Community theatre groups, schools and musicians
- Park Ranger and Play Ranger activities to use the performance space as an activity base.

Heritage Wildlife Centre

- Guided walks and activities with the Countryside Management Service, Park Ranger and historians
- Woodland school activities led from the Centre
- Meeting place and hub for 'The Friends of' group
- Provision of interpretation boards explaining the history of the site for all visitors.



Cost details

In order to deliver this vision, a Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) bid will be submitted and will include the following projects and costs:

| Item | Project total | TRDC | HLF | Partner funding |
|-----------------------|---------------|----------|----------|-----------------|
| Heritage trail | £400,000 | £150,000 | £100,000 | £150,000 |
| Performance space | TBC | £25,000 | TBC | - |
| Interpretation boards | £30,000 | - | £30,000 | - |

Phased delivery & timescales

Committee report September 2015

Phase 1 Three Rivers to appoint consultants to prepare the HLF Bid Stage 1 Application, October 2015

Phase 2 Arts consultants to work up the HLF Bid Stage 2 Application, early 2016

Phase 3 Consultants to create a board from the partners to develop a brief for the art selection and installation of the Mind, Machines and Movies Heritage Trail, summer 2016.

Potential partners

Abbots Langley Parish Council, the YMCA, Warner Bros., local schools, Art Council, Friends of Leavesden Country Park, Local Historical Societies and other community groups.

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The following poem, penned by an anonymous hand, was found attached to a notice board at Rolls Royce and eloquently laments the passing of the factory . . .

The Leavesden plant is closing
It's all been carefully planned
They say there is no option
They're sure we'll understand

They blame it on defence cuts
and so we have heard tell
On corporate rationalization
(They can flog the site as well)

Where Halifaxes once were built
At Leavesden Number One
The buildings will be silent
Their useful life now done

While just across the airfield
At Leavesden Number two
They'll be breaking up the runway
Where once Mosquitoes flew

But the engines that were built here
Like Goblin, Ghost and Gem
The Gypsy, Gnome and Gyron
We'll long remember them

The Heritage Collection
Alas will have to go
They're only bits of hardware
Why all these cries of woe?

They may be bits of hardware
But to an engineer
They mean the 'Leavesden Spirit'
That we created here

And when we've all departed
and development begins
We hope we'll be remembered
In spite of all our sins

When the Cherry Orchard's vanished
and with it the canteen
Perhaps they'll build a theme park
Where the factory had been

With part of it devoted to the
Story of the site
and the part we played at Leavesden
In the history of flight.

