

S Hutchinson
The Nineveh Charitable Trust,
8 Mill Lane,
Saffron Waldon,
Essex,
CB10 2AS

19th May 2025

Dear Trustees,

Funding Report: Nene Park Trust; Grant for Park Training Costs

This is a final report regarding the grant of £4,273.00 made to us towards the costs of training of our forestry and horticulture staff.

We had provided a list of planned training for our staff, based on the individual needs of the staff as well as the needs of our charity. Some of the training had already been funded by us and of the remaining you kindly paid 50% of it in May 2024. This meant we were able to cover sixteen training sessions and certificates for our Park Management Staff.

The training took place over the winter of 2024/2025, as this is a quieter period for our park, and allowed sessions to take place without impacting on our day-to-day work. By this time there had been some slight changes in staff, plus an opportunity to complete two new courses – Cat and Genny, and Abrasive Wheels – was offered to us due to the purchase of new equipment for the park that was not included in the original list. This was seen as a priority once identified as we didn't have anyone trained to use this new kit, and that, along with the staff changes, meant the original training requirements were adapted slightly.

The total spend came to a total of £4310.40, of which £4,273.00 was covered by your grant. The breakdown of courses completed and associated costs is below:

- One Digger Full Course (£250) x1 = £250
- Three Chainsaw Full Courses (£450) x3 = £1,350
- Three Logging Trailer Courses (£250) x3 = £750
- Two Side Arm Flail refreshers (£350) x2 = £700
- Three Cat and Genny – Training First Safety Courses (£166.80) x3 = £500.40
- Four Abrasive Wheels Courses (£190) x4 = £760

Our Park Management Team Rangers fed back about the training received, and were particularly pleased on expanding their skills further.



Nene Park Trust, Ham Farm House, Ham Lane, Peterborough, PE2 5UU

t: 01733 234193 f: 01733 361342

www.nenepark.org.uk

Paul Easthope reported that the “Side arm flail refresher course really helped reinforce my skills and was important because it has kept me up to date on safe use and best practice. The CAT and Genny training was also a very useful course; as an excavator operator it gave me added confidence and important information. I have used the machines for a long time but this course helped me get to know some of the other things it can do beyond the basic operation I was familiar with.”



The Abrasive Wheels training meant that more rangers can safely use a range of hand held grinders, and cutting disks to cut various materials including telegraph and flag poles, and bricks. This then offers more assistance and support to senior rangers with some of the infrastructure work around the park.

The chainsaw training was completed in Bedfordshire, which rangers found particularly useful as there was less distraction than when on our usual site, plus working and training in a different woodland helped them to concentrate as they did not know the area or trees as well as our own.

Chris Jones completed the logger trailer operations, which helps with moving timber safely from hard-to-reach areas in the park. This supports not only keeping the park tidy and safe for our visitors, but also conservation, as can also be used for moving timber to specific areas to create log shelters for insects and invertebrates.



Company registered in England No 2288607

Registered Office: Nene Park Trust, Ham Farm House, Ham Lane, Peterborough, PE2 5UU

Registered Charity No 800067

Nene Park Trust, Ham Farm House, Ham Lane, Peterborough, PE2 5UU

t: 01733 234193 f: 01733 361342

www.nenepark.org.uk



We had some reports that one of the trainers was not as effective as the other; they didn't find him quite as thorough at times and would have to ask and request further information. For future and current training we have taken on this feedback and shall use the more detailed trainer. Planned Park Management training costs for this year are £9,700, which accounts for refresher training, new certificates for staff expanding their role, and access and recreation provision. As we work hard to oversee more land for the public, and encourage healthy and biodiverse sites, we know training demands and costs shall continue to increase. We shall search for contributions each year through core cost grants, knowing what a difference it makes not only to our team but also to the general public through the provision of safe, beautiful and natural spaces.

Chris Rollason, our Conservation Manager and Deputy Park Manager said "From my point of view the training is helping to improve the skills base of our fairly young and inexperienced Ranger team. The cost of training and the amount of training required to carry out these diverse Ranger roles is substantial and so the funding has been a huge help in relation to these costs for us as a charity organisation."

The funding also meant we were able to provide additional training above the required sessions for our Horticulture apprentice, who has since passed her course and become our new Creative Landscape Officer, who shall work with our community group and visitors to create welcoming wellbeing spaces across our sites.

Now that training is complete we shall be sharing a post on social media and our website with your logo in the next few weeks, informing our visitors of your support.



Company registered in England No 2288607

Registered Office: Nene Park Trust, Ham Farm House, Ham Lane, Peterborough, PE2 5UU

Registered Charity No 800067



Nene Park Trust

Nene Park Trust, Ham Farm House, Ham Lane, Peterborough, PE2 5UU

t: 01733 234193 f: 01733 361342

www.nenepark.org.uk

Over the last twelve months we have continued to grow our offer for the residents of Peterborough, providing wellbeing activities, creating natural reed beds and wildflower fields, and reintroducing biodiverse planting to both wetlands and farmlands.

The changing weather has continued to challenge us, with 2024 being a year of numerous flooding incidents of our parkland and plains, as per our design; however, it also put a halt to recovery works we were completing on one of our meres with our volunteers. This year the dry weather causes its own issues and concerns, and the summer months may bring fires and drought. However, our Park Rangers are prepared to handle the variety of conditions that will come our way, and their training, covered by yourselves, has equipped them to ensure the park will be safe to visit, and will be healthy whatever happens.

We would be more than happy to welcome you to our main site, Ferry Meadows Country Park in Peterborough, to show you around and see some of what we do. If you would like to visit us, please do email or let us know at the above address. Thank you again for your generosity in funding such a large proportion of our Park Management training costs and helping us to provide a greenspace we can be proud of.

Yours faithfully,

Adrian Oates

Head of Fundraising

Adrian.Oates@neneparktrust.org.uk



Company registered in England No 2288607

Registered Office: Nene Park Trust, Ham Farm House, Ham Lane, Peterborough, PE2 5UU

Registered Charity No 800067