



Minster Park

Sunderland
City Council



Made possible with

Heritage
Fund



Minster Park

Sunderland City Council secured £1.9m in funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund in 2018 to deliver the Bishopwearmouth Townscape Heritage Scheme.

The Minster Park redevelopment was a major investment for the Scheme, using public funding to improve public access, enhance the historic built environment and invigorate this part of Sunderland City Centre.

The park opened in August 2020 and was a finalist in the Northern Design Awards and Landscape Institute Awards in 2021.

Minster Park lies within the Bishopwearmouth Conservation Area, contains a registered village green and is adjacent to the Grade II* listed Sunderland Minster and Grade II listed Mowbray Almshouses.

The park was once the heart of Bishopwearmouth village with groups of 17th and 18th century cottages and later mansions centred around a village green.

More information about the heritage of Bishopwearmouth can be found at: sunderland.gov.uk/bishopwearmouth

Acer palmatum **'Atropupurea'**



A small tree of bushy habit, with bronze-crimson leaves divided into about seven lobes,

and becoming brilliant red in autumn. Inconspicuous red-purple flowers in spring may be followed by winged, purple fruits.

Amelanchier lamarkii



A large erect deciduous shrub or small tree of open habit, with bronze-tinged young leaves

turning orange and red in autumn. White flowers in short lax racemes as the leaves unfurl. Fruit a red to dark purple-black berry, soon eaten by birds.

Betula pendula utilis **'Doorenbos'**



Doorenbos' is a medium-sized deciduous tree with ascending branches

forming an oval crown; bark

clear white on trunk and branches. Leaves ovate, turning yellow in autumn. Male catkins to 15cm in length.

Cedrus atlantica **'Glauca'**



Glauca Group are large evergreen conifers, at first conical, later developing a

broad crown, with spreading branches bearing silvery blue-green needles to 2.5cm, long, and ovoid cones to 9cm.

Gleditsia Triacanthus **'Sunburst'**



'Sunburst' is a small deciduous tree with a rounded crown. Leaves bipinnate, with

small, leaflets, golden-yellow in early summer, becoming greener in summer.

Ginkgo biloba **'Saratoga'**



A conical, deciduous tree to 12m with long, narrow fan shaped leaves with lacy

edges, turning pendulous and golden yellow in autumn.

Liquidambar styraciflua **'Worplesdon'**



A broad-crowned medium-sized deciduous tree with five-lobed, maple-like

leaves which turn to deep orange and yellow in autumn.

Picea omorika



An evergreen conifer forming a graceful, slender tree of narrowly conical habit,

with dark foliage, whitish beneath, in drooping sprays curving up at the tips.

Taxus baccata fastigiata **'Aurea'**



An upright columnar conifer, with evergreen dark green, yellow golden foliage. Placed

in a sunny spot this will enhance the golden yellow foliage.

Fagus sylvatica



A large, vigorous deciduous tree with a broad, spreading crown. Leaves

broadly elliptic, yellow-green in spring, rich russet-brown in autumn. Flowers small, green, followed by bristly fruits.

Aquilegia vulgaris **'Munstead White'**



An upright plant to 80cm, with divided, light green leaves and abundant, pure white

flowers 5cm in width, with short, curled spurs.

Viburnun plicatum 'Mariesii'



A large deciduous shrub with wide-spreading, tiered branches and

prominently veined, dark green, ovate leaves, purple in autumn. Large lacecap heads of white flowers in late spring are occasionally followed by red, later black.

Iris 'Casque d'Or'



A bearded iris with thick rhizome roots and sword-shaped, strap-like green leaves.

In mid-to late spring it produces large, orange and yellow flowers where the darker orange-brown fall petals are suffused with white.

Geranium renardii



A clump-forming herbaceous perennial to 30cm, with handsome grey-green, lobed and finely wrinkled basal

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leaves. White or pale mauve flowers 3cm in width have prominent violet veins.

Salvia caradonna



A perennial cultivar with upright racemes of violet- purple flowers through the

summer above narrow, rough, grey-green leaves.

Sesleria autumnalis



A perennial grass to 60cm, forming a neat clump of rough, linear leaves, with a narrow, lax,

silvery-white panicle to 10cm in length in late summer.

Libertia Formosa



A robust evergreen plant forming a mass of narrowly sword-shaped, leathery

leaves; bowl-shaped white flowers 3cm wide are borne in clusters on stiff stems in late spring and early summer.

Panicum 'Northwind'



A deciduous, perennial grass, to 1.5m tall, forming an upright clump of flat, linear, blue-green leaves turning yellow and orange in autumn. Large, airy sprays of tiny pink and green flowers are produced in late summer and persist into mid-autumn.

Phlomis ruselliana



A hairy perennial to 90cm in height, with large, ovate, rough-textured grey-green leaves. Stout stems bear whorls of hooded, soft yellow flowers 3cm in length.

Nepetea racemosa 'Walkers Low'



Has attractive colouring, the flowers being quite a deep blue-mauve, the leaves silvery and aromatic, and the stems dark. Comes into flower in early

summer, and will continue into autumn if flushes are deadheaded.

Verbascum chaixii 'Album'



A perennial forming a rosette of greyish-hairy leaves, with a narrow panicle of white flowers with purple centres, in late summer.

Wildflower



Flowery grasslands like those planted around the edge of Minster Park are packed full of a wide range of different plant species including 'wildflowers' - herbaceous plants with colourful and often showy flowers.

Spring bulbs



Planted in autumn and spending winter in the ground before flowering spring,

volunteers helped plant Alliums, Crocus, Galanthus and Tulip bulbs in 2021.

'Alpines'



Refers to a wide range of small, hardy plants that are suitable to be grown in containers

and rock gardens. A variety of alpines were planted here including Alyssum, Geraniums, Sempervivum and Thymus.



The central sensory garden of Minster Park echoes the footprint of the old streets of Littlegate and Southgate.

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