

Millerground and Rayrigg Meadow on the shore of Lake Windermere gets a £150,000 boost from South Lakeland District Council (SLDC).

The Millerground Enhancement Group community project, led by Windermere & Bowness Civic Society, has just been awarded a grant of £50,000 from the SLDC 'Locally Important Projects' fund. In addition SLDC has also committed a further £100,000 from its capital fund for 2017/18. Together with funds already raised, this will help the Group to achieve its aims of restoring Millerground and Rayrigg Meadow. Much work has already been done by local students and volunteers helping National Trust rangers to plant wildflowers, bluebells, daffodils, clear undergrowth and repair pathways. This money will enable the lakeshore, footpaths, picnic area and playground to be restored, making the whole area once more a welcoming and attractive place for all local residents and visitors to enjoy.

The footpath from the car park to the lakeshore will be improved to allow much easier access for pushchairs and wheelchairs, and those who find steps and gradients difficult. This will be a great benefit to assist the elderly and disabled to enjoy this location. An exciting new playground will be installed offering natural-themed adventurous play for all ages and abilities. The lakeshore around Rayrigg jetties will be substantially improved to provide family-friendly access to the edge of the lake. The view from the top of the bank will continue to be opened up and new seating and picnic benches will be installed to appreciate the view. Detailed planning and additional consultation will take place in 2016 with the main work happening in early 2017.

Millerground will host the very popular free of charge 'Swim Safe' event this summer from 4th July to 13th August. This provides children aged 7-14 with an opportunity to swim and learn to be safe in open water through swimming tuition and water safety advice sessions. To register for tuition or to volunteer as a helper please visit the Swim Safe website: www.swimming.org/swimsafe

For more information on the Millerground Enhancement Group please email John Saunders at millerground@windermerebownesscivicsociety.org.uk

