

ATTLEE PARK BANDSTAND

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PROJECT TYPE
COMMUNITY & HERITAGE CONSERVATION

DATE
2013

LOCATION
ATTLEE PARK, BEDLINGTON

CLIENT
LEADING LINK

When Leading Link took on the management of the band stand refurbishment project at Attlee Park, they wanted to work with a local Architect who understood the cultural importance of the existing bandstand.

The original bandstand had been constructed in 1955 as a central focus & platform for the annual miners picnic. which was hosted in Bedlington from 1952 until 1992, and is still fondly remembered by many local residents today. Many called for the original bandstand to be demolished, but, with so many past speakers such as Clement Attlee and Arthur Scargill, Leading Link recognised the cultural & historical importance of the building.

The proposed design solution was one which not only refreshed the external appearance of the built fabric, but also worked with the existing structure, so that if ever required, the adaptations could be removed so that the building could be returned to its original form.

Given the intended use, a fully accessible ramp was incorporated into the design at the rear of the bandstand, thus facilitating performances from all groups, and allowing heavy equipment such as amplifiers, loudspeakers & scenery to be manouved onto the stage. This coupled with the extended stage, has resulted in a performance space that is now in high demand