



Pride  
in West Park  
*together we can...*

**West Park Friends Group  
Constitution  
Updated: February 2008**

**1. Introduction**

This document sets out the structure and purpose of the West Park Friends Group and its aims and objectives. The document can only be changed with the approval of the group.

**2. Background**

West Park is the largest and most prestigious park in the Borough of Erewash. The Friends Group has been initiated by the Green Space & Street Scene Team at Erewash Borough Council for a variety of reasons.

It is hoped that it will improve communication between parks users, the Council and other stakeholders, such as the Police. It is also hoped that the forum will help to improve quality standards, address issues affecting the park and contribute towards development and regenerating projects. It is also hoped that the forum can be used to exchange ideas, establish meaningful consultation and feed into the decision making process.

**3. Identified Stakeholders**

- Erewash Borough Council – various key departments and divisions led by the Green Space and Street Scene Division.
- Councillors (Local and those with relevant lead responsibilities)
- All park users (including individuals and clubs)
- Friends of Forbes Hole
- Groundwork Derby & Derbyshire
- Long Eaton Horticultural Society
- Neighbouring Schools and Colleges
- West Park Leisure Centre
- Derbyshire Police
- Dales Agricultural Rural Training
- Long Eaton Natural History Society
- Neighbouring residents
- Neighbouring businesses
- Long Eaton School
- Brackenfield School

**4. Membership**

Membership of the group shall be open to anyone who is interested in helping the group to achieve its aim and willing to abide by the rules of the group.

## **5. Finances**

The Friends Group will have no budget as such. However, where appropriate, the group will be consulted when Erewash Borough Council make major purchases affecting the park are made. This includes any development and regenerating projects.

The group will be encouraged to explore funding from other sources such as grants and sponsorship. A bank account has been set up so that funds can be managed correctly. The account will be managed by the Treasurer. The Treasurer and Account Signatory will both need to sign for the withdrawal of funds.

## **6. Meetings**

Meetings will take place on a regular basis at West Park Leisure Centre. Rooms will be booked by a member of the Green Space & Street Scene Team at Erewash Borough Council.

The meetings will normally be chaired by the elected Chair or Vice Chair.

Notes will be taken by the Secretary and circulated to the group. In the absence of the Secretary or a volunteer deputy, a Council Officer will carry out this function. Any member can ask for items to be added to the agenda. The agenda will be set by the Secretary. Erewash Borough Council will provide the group with assistance with photocopying and postage when required.

Smaller, informal ad-hoc meetings will take place as and when necessary in order to progress issues, tasks and projects.

## **7. Responsibility**

All members will have equal responsibility for making the group a success.

## **8. Electing Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer**

Members of the group will have responsibility for electing a Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer with each member having one equal vote.

## **9. Aims and objectives**

- Improve security within the park and help tackle anti-social behaviour.
- Help to deal with problems and issues.
- Improve park attendance and increase the use of facilities.
- Improve the quality of the park and its facilities
- Make the park accessible to all.
- Encourage young people to take ownership for the park and respect its facilities.
- Support the Adopt-a-Park scheme and the Pride in Erewash initiative.
- Share information and ideas.
- Feed into the Management Plan for the park.
- Help the park become a “good neighbour”.
- Contribute towards development and regenerating projects.
- Support applications for quality awards such as Green Flag.

- Support Long Eaton's entry into the East Midlands in Bloom competition.
- Maintain a variety of habitats in order to encourage biodiversity.
- What ever the group do to improve West Park, it will be done well.

## **10. Elected posts**

**Chair:** Alison Mace

**Vice Chair:** Sam Panzera

**Secretary:** John Clarke

**Treasurer:** John Clarke

**Account Signatory:** Margaret Thornton