



Friends of St. George's Park Constitution

1. Name of the group:

1.1. Friends of St. George's Park

2. Aim:

2.1. To help create a well maintained and safe public park that will enhance the quality of life for local people and act as a focus for bringing the community together

3. Objectives: The group will fulfil the aim by:

3.1. Encouraging more people, from all sections of the community, to use the park and to enjoy its full potential and promote an atmosphere of mutual appreciation and respect

3.2. Working together to make St. Georges Park a safe and inviting place to visit regardless of age, ethnic origin, ability, sex, belief or political affiliation, whilst recognising and promoting the value of the many differences within the local community

3.3. Developing & maintaining a positive relationship with Wyre Forest District Council Parks department

3.4. Applying for funding to maintain and increase the facilities in the park. This will include working in partnership with other organisations

3.5. Finding out the views of local people & the park users and involving them in decision making where possible

3.6. Working with Wyre Forest District Council and other bodies to ensure that the effects on St. Georges Park are considered in any plans or developments for the surrounding areas

3.7. linking with others to help protect and improve Kidderminster's green open spaces generally

4. Membership & Equality:

4.1. Membership will be open to anybody with an interest in the park, regardless of class, race, culture, religion, gender, age or sexual orientation as long as:

4.1.1. They agree with the aim of the group

4.1.2. They have given their name and address to be put on to the membership list

4.2. In order that the group is accessible to as many people as possible it will ensure the meetings are widely publicised and that the group fosters a welcoming atmosphere

4.3. The group is opposed to all forms of discrimination including racism, sexism and homophobia and expressions of such prejudice will not be tolerated at meetings or other activities

4.4. Group membership will be available to voluntary, statutory & private sector organisations. Multiple representatives will be allowed to attend public meetings but organisations will only be able to exercise one vote. Membership fees for organisations will be decided on an individual basis by the group

5. Organisation & Meetings:

5.1. Roles - Individual members will be elected to the following roles:

5.1.1. Chairperson, who will act as the main contact and spokesperson for the group and who will keep meetings fair, unbiased and on time

5.1.2. Treasurer, who will be responsible for maintaining a bank account for the group, holding the bank book, keeping receipts and a record of all income and expenditure of the group

5.1.3. Secretary, who will be responsible for other general administrative matters such as taking minutes and arranging meetings

5.2. Public meetings - will be held on a regular basis and will be open for members and guests to attend. The function of these meetings will be to keep members up to date with plans and decisions affecting the park and to collect the views of members and other park users. These meetings shall act as the decision making body of the group

5.3. All meetings will be minuted and copies of these will be available to any interested party

5.4. All members shall be given at least seven days notice of a meeting unless it is deemed an emergency meeting

6. Annual General Meeting:

- 6.1.** The Friends of St. Georges Park shall hold an Annual General Meeting (AGM) at not more than 15 month intervals
- 6.2.** Everybody on the membership list will receive at least two weeks notice of the Annual General Meeting by a mailing to the addresses on the membership list and by putting up notices in the park
- 6.3.** At this meeting the members will:
 - 6.3.1.** Hear a report on the activities of the group for the previous year and on the group's finances, prepared by the Treasurer
 - 6.3.2.** Decide whether there will be a membership subscription for the forthcoming year
 - 6.3.3.** Identify and discuss matters of particular importance for the forthcoming year
 - 6.3.4.** Make rules on the way the Friends group will operate e.g. by amending the Constitution
 - 6.3.5.** Conduct any other relevant business the meeting so decides

7. Finances:

- 7.1.** Any money obtained by the group shall be used only for the group
- 7.2.** Any bank accounts opened for the group shall be in the name of the group
- 7.3.** All money received in the form of donations, subscriptions or any other contributions will be put into the bank account and will be used to achieve the aim of the group
- 7.4.** Any cheque issued shall be signed by at least two of the nominated signatures
- 7.5.** The Treasurer will provide a breakdown of the finances of the group at each public meeting including income, expenditure & balance of funds

8. Disposal of Assets upon Closure of the Group:

- 8.1.** If a decision is taken to close the group the Chair, Treasurer and Secretary will agree the distribution of assets to support groups in the Kidderminster area having a similar aim to Friends of St. Georges Park.