

FRIENDS OF SOMERSALL PARK CONSTITUTION

2014

Adopted on the 23rd day of September 2014.

Name

The name of the group is "The Friends of Somersall Park"

Aim

To promote the use of Somersall Park and its cultural, ecological and horticultural values.

Objectives

The group's objectives are:

1. To work with Chesterfield Borough Council in developing the site and promoting its use.
2. To raise funds to hold community events and improve park facilities.
3. To encourage wider community participation in the use and improvement of the park.

Membership

Membership shall be open to any person who has an interest in the park, and its future development, in line with the stated objectives.

The Committee may, with good reason, terminate the membership of an individual provided that the individual concerned shall have the right to be heard by the Committee before a decision is made.

The Committee

The Committee will consist of a Chair, Treasurer and Secretary proposed, and democratically elected by, the current membership of the group.

A Group Member is a person who has attended at least 75% of the meetings within the past year.

Officers of the Council will meet solely with members of the Committee to discuss business. Chesterfield Borough Council will not recognise sub-groups nor meet with other representatives of the group.

Meetings

The inaugural general meeting will be held in August 2014, followed by an Annual General Meeting no more than 15 months after the previous one, and normally 12 months after.

There shall be a minimum of four ordinary meetings of the group per annum, the timing of which shall be decided by the Committee.

Special General Meetings of the group shall be held at the written request of 25 per cent or more members of the group.

The Committee shall give at least 21 day's notice to members of the Annual General Meeting each year and at least 7 day's notice of other meetings.

In the event of equality in the votes cast at an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting the motion shall fail.

The Annual General Meeting will, from time to time, consider and approve standing orders for the conduct of meetings and financial regulations.

Members of the Committee shall meet with officers of Chesterfield Borough Council Greenspaces team in accordance with the communication protocol during normal office hours.

Powers

To raise funds from trusts, grant making bodies, public donations, subscriptions or any other lawful means to pursue the objectives.

To buy, sell, or take on lease property, premises or equipment in pursuit of the objectives.

To employ and pay any persons to carry out the work of the group as approved by the Committee.

The group, its servants or agents shall not make any physical alteration, repair or improvement to any Council land, facility or structure without the prior authorisation of Chesterfield Borough Council.

Expenditure and Receipts

The funds of the group, including all donations, contributions and bequests, shall be paid into a bank or building society account operated by the Committee in the name of the group.

All cheques drawn on the account must be signed by at least two members of the Committee.

The funds belonging to the group shall only be used in furthering the objectives.

The Treasurer shall be responsible for the accurate recording of the accounts and presentation of an update at each meeting. Full accounts for the year must be presented to the Annual General Meeting and be externally inspected or audited.

Amendments

This Constitution may be amended by a 2/3rds majority of the members voting at an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting of the group confirmed by a simple majority of the members voting at a further Special General Meeting held not

less than 28 days after the previous meeting, providing that, at both meetings, the majority of those present and voting are residents of the local neighbourhood.

Dissolution

The group may dissolve following the consent of two thirds of the membership present and voting at a special general meeting called with 14 day's notice.

Any remaining funds must be used to pay off outstanding invoices and, if any further remains, be returned to fund donors. Any remaining funds shall be transferred to groups pursuing similar aims within the locality.

ADOPTED BY:

Name: Rebecca Robinson

Committee Role: Chair

Signature:

Date: 23/09/2014

&

Adopted by:

Name: Allissa Charlesworth

Committee Role: Deputy Chair

Signature:

Date: 23/09/2014