

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF FRIENDS GROUPS FOR PARKS & GREEN SPACES?



FOR VOLUNTEERS

- HEALTH**
Improve fitness and wellbeing
- EMPOWERMENT**
Experience ownership, take initiative and make a difference
- INFLUENCE**
Have a real say in decision-making and improvements
- MEANING**
Give purpose and pride
- ENJOYMENT**
Being involved is exciting and fun
- FRESH AIR**
Great way to get outside and into green space
- AWARENESS**
Get to know about nature, the community and the neighbourhood
- CONNECTIONS**
Connect with others and explore common interests
- LEARNING**
Use, acquire and develop skills
- RECOGNITION**
Be part of activity which is valued and appreciated

FOR GREEN SPACE

- INVESTMENT**
Additional funding, volunteering, skills and lobbying
- PROTECTION**
Monitoring, championing and defence of site
- PROMOTION**
Publicity and encouragement to use
- DECISION-MAKING**
Better and more popular decisions, engagement and continuity
- USAGE**
More visitors, natural benefits and appreciation
- SAFETY**
Community surveillance helps deter crime
- IMPROVEMENT**
Better standards, and extra facilities and features
- ANIMATION**
More activities and initiatives, vibrancy and innovation
- COLLABORATION**
Development of relations and partnerships
- MAINTENANCE**
Fast reporting, timely action and extra help

FOR MANAGERS

- EYES & EARS**
People watching out and reporting back
- RECOGNITION**
Appreciation of work done
- SUPPORT**
Help with maintenance, promotion and activities
- IMPROVEMENT**
Aspirations and standards raised
- PARTNERSHIP**
People to discuss, work and coordinate with
- FEEDBACK**
Information and views
- SATISFACTION**
Increased public usage and happiness
- CHAMPIONS**
People speaking out for the needs of the space
- EXPERTISE**
Extra knowledge and skills through volunteers
- INVESTMENT**
Additional funding and new projects

FOR COMMUNITIES

- STANDARDS**
Improvement, greater usage and optimism
- CONNECTIONS**
Physical and social interaction
- COHESION**
Connect diverse interests, ages and backgrounds
- PROTECTION**
Community champions and long term investment
- PRIDE**
Sense of achievement and ownership
- WELLBEING**
Enabling and promoting positive lifestyles
- OPPORTUNITIES**
Encouraging volunteering and participation
- AWARENESS**
Spreading information and communication
- COMMUNITY SPIRIT**
Encouraging solidarity and co-operation
- INSPIRATION**
Example of what can be achieved by community action