



CONSTITUTION 2023

Friends of Redcatch Park (FORP)

AIMS:

- To enhance, improve, and protect the green space and public facilities, known as Redcatch Park, for the benefit of the public;
- To promote the use of the park and raise the profile of the park in the local community;
- To improve the habitat value of the park; and
- To secure funds to improve the infrastructure of the park.

To further these aims, the group may exercise the following powers:

- To raise funds and receive contributions, donations and otherwise, provided that the group shall not undertake any permanent trading activity;
- To carry out or contribute financially, or in kind, to work of restoration, improvement or enhancement of Redcatch Park;
- To bring together representatives of voluntary and statutory organisations, government departments and individuals;
- To make representations to appropriate authorities and other parties on behalf of park users (following consultation as appropriate);
- To liaise and work with Bristol City Council on park matters;
- To hold meetings;
- To pay the necessary expenses involved in running the group;
- To support or stage any events or activities as decided by the committee; and
- To undertake any other lawful activity to further the group's aims.

MEMBERSHIP AS A FRIEND:

- Membership as a Friend will be open to any person wishing to support the aims of the group.
- The group will be non-party-political, non-sectarian and will be committed to non-discriminatory practices and equal opportunities.
- There will be an annual membership fee for Friends. The price of the subscription will be agreed annually at the Annual General Meeting of the Friends (AGM).
- Park users who do not wish to pay the annual subscription can join the mailing list for the website to get updates and can make suggestions for initiatives but will not be eligible to vote.
- Subscribed Friends can attend and vote at the AGM or if invited to do so by the committee at any other meeting.
- Any subscribed Friend can put themselves or anyone else forward as a committee member at the AGM.



MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:

- Membership of FORP management committee is voluntary. Volunteers will not receive remuneration for their services to the organisation.
- As the elected representatives of FORP, the committee members will suggest, vote on and instigate any new initiatives.
- The Friends will vote annually at the AGM as to whom should be elected to the following committee member positions: Chair, Vice-chair, Secretary and Treasurer. Those committee members will serve one year, after which they may stand for re-election.
- The Friends will further vote as to 3 to 10 people whom should also be elected to the management committee along with the Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer and whom will direct the policy and management of the group.
- Other committee members may be elected as decided by the directors of FORP who will have the power to co-opt members on a non-voting, temporary basis, until the next AGM.
- The management committee will meet no less than quarterly in December, March, June, and September or in alternative months as agreed. Additional meetings can be held as decided necessary by the management committee.
- Any meeting will be open to representation by any person, organisation, or official body, if so invited or by agreement of the management committee.

FINANCES:

- Out of monies received, all proper expenses will be paid and the residue used to forward the aims of the group.
- An annual membership fee for Friends will be charged and a subscribed membership list of Friends will be kept. There will be a 50% reduction of the annual membership fee for pensioners and those claiming benefits.
- Subscribed Friends can leave at any time and no further subscription will be taken.
- Subscription money will be used towards all running costs, including: meetings, stationery, printing, website and email hosting, annual fees and ad hoc initiatives in the park.
- Any money not required for immediate application may be invested in a way prescribed by law.
- Individual members will, in no case, have liabilities for any monies.
- Any money raised shall be used to further the aims of the group and for no other purpose.
- A bank account exists in the name of the group.
- The account requires 2 signatures on any cheque or other bank document (except paying in slips). There are 2 signatories available to the treasurer for signing cheques/bank documents.
- A simple written note of the group's financial position, will be produced and available at committee meetings.
- A statement of accounts verified by a competent person who is independent of the group shall be tabled at the AGM.
- No member shall derive any financial benefit from the group, except for payment of 'reasonable expenses'.
- No money will be paid out in the name of the group without a receipt being presented.



MEETINGS:

- An AGM will be held each year in October at which an annual report and accounts will be presented, subscription determined, and members of the management committee voted to be elected.
- Notice of the meeting will be posted at least fourteen days before the meeting. An agenda will be circulated in advance of the meeting:
- An Extra Ordinary General Meeting (EGM) can be held at the chair’s discretion or by a written request to the chair of not less than 6 members. The meeting shall be called within twenty-one days of such a request and appropriate measures taken to inform all members. An EGM should only consider the business specified in the request.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSITUTION:

- This constitution may be amended by a vote of Members present at any AGM or EGM meeting provided that fourteen days notice of the proposed amendment has been given.

DISSOLUTION:

- The group may be dissolved by resolution of the management committee following a vote by Friends at an AGM or EGM.
- The resolution will give instructions for the disposal of any assets held by, or in the name of the group.
- After satisfaction of all debts and liabilities, any assets will not be paid to, or distributed among, the members of the group, but will be given or transferred to any other charitable organisation or organisations having similar objectives to the group.

Adopted on theday of2023

Signed (Chair)

Signed(Treasurer)



Signed(Secretary)