

*National Federation of Parks  
and Green Spaces*



# **The Importance of working together**

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# National Federation of Parks & Green Spaces

- **Grassroots movement** of over 6,000 local groups
- **Protect and improve** UK's green spaces
- **Community voice** countrywide
- **Crisis** 'State of UK Parks' Report
- **Campaigning for Adequate Resources**
- **Pressure on government**
- **Networking** and promoting Forums
- **Share** knowledge and information
- **Partnerships** with green space organisations & managers



# The Importance of Community Action

- **What Friends Groups achieve**
  - Improvements to sites
  - Bringing in **more money**
  - **Protection**
  - **More events** and activities
  - **Community empowerment**
- **A focus for volunteering**
  - **Volunteers** are the Added Value to a green space
  - Volunteers need support, guidance, equipment and training
  - Generally can't expect a volunteer to cut grass, manage trees, fix paths etc
  - Should be fun, not duty
  - With correct maintenance and communication by the landowner, volunteers can bring in so much extra



# Importance of a Community Forum

- **More city/town/area forums needed**
- Community voice and network is very powerful!
- **A Community Forum can:**
  - **Protect** an area's open spaces
  - **Provide** strategic community voice
  - **Share** news, knowledge and skills
  - **Help** new groups to start up
  - **Attract** new partners and links
  - **Show** the importance of volunteers to open spaces
- A Forum is essential to **defend and protect all open spaces** in an area
- **Regional network** brings together Forums and individual groups



# How The Grass Roots Movement Can Protect our Parks

- Spread best practice and inspiration
- Achievements of National Federation
  - *Community voice*
  - *Lobbying*
  - *Parks Action Group*
  - *Charter for UK Parks*



**Wide benefits to parks, people and communities!**

# Summary of Area Parks & Green Space Forums

Current position showing active Area Forums and Networks registered with NFPGS [2018]

Edinburgh  
Glasgow



Newcastle  
Sunderland

**North West Parks Friends Forum**  
Manchester  
Hyndburn  
Lancaster  
Liverpool  
Pendle Parks Forum  
Stockport  
Trafford  
Wirral

Doncaster  
Kirklees  
Leeds  
Sheffield  
York

Cardiff

Derby  
Nottingham  
Nottinghamshire

Luton

Birmingham  
Bromsgrove & Redditch  
Coventry  
Dudley  
Sandwell  
Telford  
Walsall

## London Friends of Green Spaces Network

Brent (N)	Bromley
Camden	Croydon
Enfield	Greenwich
Hackney	Haringey
Harrow	Hounslow
Islington	Lambeth
Lewisham	Merton
Redbridge	Southwark
South-West London	
Tower Hamlets	
Waltham Forest	

Bristol  
Exeter  
Plymouth  
Poole  
S. Gloucester.  
Torbay

Adur & Worthing  
Basingstoke  
Bracknell Forest  
Brighton & Hove  
Greenhaven  
Reading  
Southampton