

The “Friends of Emersons Green Park” Constitution (Unincorporated Association)

1. Name of the Organisation

“The name of the group is ‘Friends of Emersons Green Park’

2. Area of Benefit

The area of benefit of the Association shall be the BS16 7 postcode area

3. Aim/Objects

The association exists to promote interest in Emersons Green Village park in such a way as to

- include the concerns of all local residents and park users
- increase knowledge and appreciation of the natural world
- encourage people to care for and respect all aspects of the park

4. Powers

- Establish and maintain a community orchard within the park managed through a voluntary agreement with South Gloucestershire Council.
- Create lists of people interested in the park and communicate news to them
- Run events for local residents and park users
- Raise funds for projects in pursuit of our aims
- Do any other such lawful things as are necessary to achieve the aims.

5. Membership

Membership of the association is open to all residents of BS16 7 postcode and others who regularly make use of the park

a) Ordinary Members

People become members by completing an online form administered through our website or a paper-based form. There is no subscription fee.

b) Termination of Membership

Membership of an individual will be terminated by the management committee if the person moves out of the BS16 7 postcode area and has not indicated their intention to continue to use the park.

The management committee also reserves the right to terminate the membership of any individual who persistently acts against the aims of the association. The aggrieved party may appeal this decision by making representation to the committee in person and/or be represented by a local public person such as a councillor.

6. Meeting of the Organisation

a) General Meetings

There will be one general meeting each year, which will be the Annual General Meeting. All members will be invited to this meeting with 21 days notice.

The AGM will have a quorum of five people.

The annual meeting will

- Receive a report on the year's activities
- Review and approve the accounts of the association
- Elect the members of the management committee.

b) Special General Meetings

If something arises of major public interest in regard to the park then members may call a special general meeting. The matter of concern should be communicated initially to the Chair of the management committee together with the names of five members who are requesting a special public meeting. The Management Committee will then organise a special meeting of members to discuss it, giving at least 7 days notice of meeting.

7. The Management Committee

a) Role

There shall be elected a management committee whose duty it shall be to carry out the general policy of the association and provide for the administration of the affairs, finances and property of the association.

The management committee will be elected by the members at the AGM and will meet at least three times per year.

The management committee must consult members before making a decision if

- a matter of major public concern arises
- an intended decision impacts on or substantially alters the stated aims of the association

b) Composition

The management committee will consist of between three and eight members and will elect a Chair, Secretary and Treasurer.

The founding management committee will serve until the first AGM when all shall be subject to election.

New management committee members may be co-opted by decision of the management committee at any time. Any such co-opted members will have full voting rights from the time of their co-option. They will then stand for election at the next AGM.

Management committee members shall retire two years after their first election and may be re-elected at the AGM at which they retire.

c) Conduct

The quorum of the management committee shall be three. Voting will be by show of hands.

Management committee meetings will be open to all members who have a particular issue to raise. Such visiting members will not have voting rights on the committee.

The management committee reserves the right to ask visiting members to withdraw when sensitive matters are being discussed.

Minutes of the management committee meetings will be available through the Friends of Emersons Green Park website.

8. Finance

The Association will open a bank account. There will be three named signatories to this account who are also members of the management committee. All withdrawals must be authorised by two of the three signatories, who are not related and who do not live at the same address.

The financial year will end on March 31st. Auditing rules will be followed in accordance with Charity Commission guidelines as specified by the level of annual income.

The Treasurer will be a signatory to the bank account and will report the state of the account to the management committee at each meeting as well as to the AGM each year.

9. Alterations to the Rules

Any change in the rules must be decided by a 2/3rds majority at a general meeting called with 21 days notice.

10. Dissolution

The association may be dissolved by resolution at a general meeting. If a publicised meeting to dissolve the association fails to attract a quorum then a second meeting will be similarly publicised where the motion to dissolve can be passed by simple majority.

Any assets remaining after dissolution will be passed to a similar 'Friends of the Park' group in South Gloucestershire.

11. EQUALITIES POLICY

- 11.1 The Friends of Emersons Green Park is a voluntary group committed to being an equal opportunities organisation. This means that it is the policy of the Group to ensure that no volunteers receive less favourable treatment on the grounds of disability, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, race, colour or nationality, age, political and religious beliefs or be disadvantaged by conditions or requirements which cannot be shown to be justifiable.
- 11.2 The Group will ensure that discriminatory practices are identified and removed and non-discriminatory practices are introduced in all areas of the organisation.
- 11.3 This group/project is committed to working in a way which values and treats all people with respect and dignity, and celebrates diversity. The group/project, through its practices, will ensure that no member, service, user, employee, volunteer or job applicant will receive less favourable treatment or suffer unlawful discrimination on the grounds of age, colour, impairment, marital status, lifestyle and culture, nationality, race, gender or sexuality, or on the grounds of economic or social status."

12. Other policies

Policies relating to child protection and Equality/Diversity equalities are appended

The Management Committee consists of

Name	Signature
1. Susan Andrew.....	<i>S. Andrews</i>
2. Joy Flood.....	<i>Joy Flood</i>
3. Tony Flood.....	<i>T. Flood</i>
4. Amparo Herrero.....	<i>Amparo</i>
5. Chris Sunderland.....	<i>C.A. Sunderland</i>
6. Roberta Sunderland.....	<i>R. Sunderland</i>

This document dated 4th March 2019