

FOPP ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Background

Princes Park is an important example of a green haven in a city setting. It was the property of the Crown from the time of King John and part of the ancient hunting park of Tooteth which for centuries was inhabited only by deer and their keepers.

The park was officially opened in 1842 and passed into public ownership in 1918. It covers 110 acres and is a Grade II municipal park including a lake, the foundations of a former listed boathouse and the Sunburst entrance gates.

The park is open to the public 365 days a year. The main accesses to the park are via Princes Road, Windermere Terrace and Belvidere Road.

It is regularly used for recreational and sporting activity and there is a well equipped children's play area.

Every week a 5km Parkrun takes place. There are 6 hard tennis courts. WoodHenge was created in 2015 and is a centre for community celebrations at winter & summer solstice

The park is surrounded by three schools and people of all ages enjoy the open space.

Whilst recognising that the Park has a minimal adverse impact on the environment we recognise that virtually all the activities of an organisation or individual have some impact on the environment and that in pursuing our aims and objectives we must take the opportunity to protect the Park's biodiversity and nurture the environmental status.

Friends of Princes Park [FOPP] are committed to the conservation and improvement of the environment and to minimising the environmental impacts of the risks arising from its activities. The group will manage its operations in ways that are environmentally sustainable and economically feasible and provide appropriate environmental information for its members.

Aims and Objectives

In order to achieve this. FOPP will:-

- Promote sound environmental management policies that aim to meet and comply with all relevant environmental regulations;
- Make efficient and environmentally responsible use of raw materials, energy and water;
- Promote environmentally responsible procurement of goods and services;
- Minimise waste production as far as practicable; re-use or re-cycle waste where appropriate. FoPP will look into the provision of recycling bins.
- Reduce and where practicable, prevent pollution;
- Minimise the impact of transport on the environment by promoting the use of sustainable transport to its members;
- Be fully committed to the protection and enhancement of biodiversity;
- Raise awareness of members of the group's environmental impact activities and performance and promote individual good practice;
- Whenever possible work with schools and other community projects to promote educational opportunities and environmental awareness.
- Contribute to sustaining the attractive appearance of the park by monitoring the regular grass cutting, weed control, tree care and general maintenance of the grounds. Keeping contractors informed about environmental issues that may affect them.
- Review this policy annually;

Environmental Impacts

We have identified the following environmental impacts associated with the management of Princes Park.

Litter and waste bins

We aim to keep the park as litter free as possible by encouraging the use of litter bins. There are at least 11 waste bins and 5 dog waste bins. LCC empty the litter bins twice a week.

At present the main bins are for general waste. FOPP are looking into the provision of recycling bins in the future.

Organised litter picking sessions take place a few times each year and the group have invested in litter picking implements, gloves etc. to comply with health and safety regulations.

Dog Walking

We work to eliminate dog fouling. Dog waste bins are situated around the park and dog walkers are encouraged to use these. We discourage owners from allowing their dogs to swim in the lake and aim to improve signage alongside lake improvements in 2018/2019.

Benches

There are many benches for the public to sit on around the park. They are inspected for condition and safety by LCC. FOPP will also monitor the condition of these and ensure that any that have deteriorated are repaired or replaced.

Fishing

An angling permit from Liverpool City Council is required by those fishing in the park lake. By agreeing to this fishermen/women are made aware of the Anglers Code of Conduct. This promotes good angling practice and helps to conserve the quality of the lake. Future improvements to the lake will enable FOPP to work with LCC and encourage best fishing practice.

Energy

There are no lights in the park. This saves energy, discourages use at nighttime and allows wildlife more space.

Biodiversity

We aim to ensure that biodiversity within Princes Park is maintained and enhanced.

In the future we hope to have bird boxes, bat boxes, homes for owls and bug hotels in place. Fallen timber is left whenever possible, there are areas designated as ecological zones to encourage natural growth & wildlife.

Trees

FOPP have implemented a programme of tree planting and over the past 12 years have planted over 3000 new trees. Where possible trees have been ethically obtained. The more exotic trees were mainly grown from seed or as grafts and were sourced as locally as possible. Once or twice each year groups of friends come together to help with their maintenance and coppicing. Apart from bird boxes we do not like to see items nailed to trees.

Products

We ensure that wherever possible we will avoid the use of environmentally damaging substances. Re-cycled or environmentally friendly products are used where possible.

Walks

Walks for the public in the park with Friends are promoted each year and advertised through posters & the website. Environmental information leaflets are available during these walks. People are encouraged to use the pathways wherever possible. The park is used as a cycle route by many but the use of motor cycles or vehicles is NOT permitted.

Office Supplies

FOPP keep paperwork to a minimum and use recycled paper. Empty ink cartridges are donated to charity. Communications are carried out electronically and through the website <http://www.friendsofprincespark18.org.uk>

Whilst FOPP accepts the main responsibility for implementation of this policy, individuals have a very important role in co-operating with those responsible for safeguarding the environment.

Alongside this policy FOPP aim to produce an Environmental Action Plan with targets for measurable improvements that will be reviewed annually.

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Adopted by Friends of Princes Park

Name:

Committee Role:

Signature:

Date:



Friends of
Princes Park