



DeptfordFolk

Friends of Deptford Park & Folkestone Gardens Constitution

Adopted November 30th 2015

Amended November 2016

Resigned with new quorate members March 2017

1. Name

1. The group will be called “Deptford Folk ”
2. The group will be constituted as an independent group, with representatives from local community.
3. The group will work in close partnership with the Lewisham Council, the Council’s Park Management Team and other partners and stakeholders.

2. Aims

- To protect & promote Deptford Park & Folkestone Gardens
- To improve & enhance the quality of Deptford Park & Folkestone Gardens
- To help improve staffing & management of Deptford Park & Folkestone Gardens
- To ensure involvement of Friends/ Users groups as partners in the management of Deptford Park & Folkestone Gardens
- To encourage use and appreciation of our parks and open spaces in general
- To help secure resources for Deptford Park & Folkestone Gardens
- To encourage active volunteering in Deptford Park & Folkestone Gardens
- To organise events in liaison with the Council, its contractors, its consultants and other organisations
- To raise funds and make bids for grant aid or other external funding as may be available
- To work together with the local Police, the Council, local schools towards the preservation of the parks and gardens
- To work together with Lewisham Planning officers to ensure routes by which the parks are accessed remain accessible and are improved when the opportunity arises.

3. Membership and voting rights

1. Membership – Membership is open to members of the community who share and support the Aims of The group

2. Voting – Each member is entitled to one vote. Local councillors will not have voting rights.
3. Revocation or Refusal of Membership – This shall be at the discretion of the Committee, when it has become apparent that the member does not share the Aims of the group. The member has a right to be heard by the committee before a decision is made and can be accompanied by a friend.
4. Equal Opportunities - The group is open to all who wish to join, so long as they subscribe to, and agree with, the aims of the Association.

5. Finance

1. Money will only be used for the group's purposes and the treasurer will keep accounts.
2. The treasurer will report annually at the AGM
3. If a bank account is opened, all cheques must be signed by two committee members.
4. Committee members cannot receive any money from the group except to re-fund reasonable out of pocket expenses.

6. Committee Meetings

1. The organisation should hold regular meetings (at least 4 per year). All members shall be entitled to attend, and these meetings will be publicised. Local councillors and representatives from Lewisham Council and their Parks Management Team will be invited to attend.
2. Such officers shall be appointed as are required to conduct the administration of the organisation. These will include a chair, secretary and treasurer. The number of officers and their roles can be altered to reflect the changing needs of the organisation as per the constitution.

7. Annual General Meetings

1. The Annual General Meeting (AGM) should be held between 12-15 months of each year in January. 14 days' notice will be given to members prior to the AGM, telling them what is on the agenda.
2. A quorum of 5 people is needed to make any decisions on behalf of the Forum or to make amendments to the constitution, 1 of which must be the chair, treasurer or secretary.
3. The roles of chair, treasurer and secretary will be voted in at AGMs and each user group is entitled to one vote. Those seeking office must be on the membership list for at least 6 months before being proposed for office.
4. The treasurer will present an annual report and accounts at the AGM

8. Special General Meetings

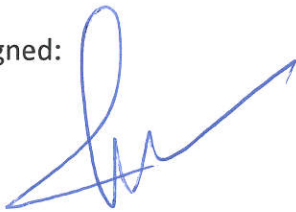
Special General Meetings may be called by the Committee for the following reasons. All members must be given 14 days notice and told what change is proposed. All decisions require a two-thirds majority of those voting.

1. Changing the Constitution - The constitution may be changed at an AGM or at a Special General Meeting.
2. Emergency Special General Meetings – to allow the members to decide on important issues.
3. Winding up – the group may be wound up by a two thirds majority of members present and voting at a Special General Meeting. Any money or property remaining after payment of debts must be returned to the appropriate funder or given to a group with similar (charitable) purposes. The committee will remain in office and take responsibility for winding up the group

9. Adoption of Terms of Reference

This constitution was adopted on 30/11/15, signed by quorate members, amended July 2016, and then signed by new quorate members on 21st March 2017 by the people whose signatures appear below. They will be the quorate committee until members change at an annual AGM.

Signed:



Trina Lynskey

Position: Deptford Folk Chair

Date: 21/3/2017

Signed:



Georgia Smith

Position: Deptford Folk Secretary

Date: 21/3/2017

Signed:



Scott Barkwith

Position: Deptford Folk Vice chair/Treasurer

Date: 21/3/2017