



# Ward Flexibility Funding Application Form

Thank you for your interest in Stockport Council's Ward Flexibility Fund. To give your group the best chance of success please read the guidance notes and the questions on the application form carefully.

Please ensure that all boxes on this form are completed. You must also include all additional information that is requested.

## 1. About Your Organisation

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### 1. Name of Organisation/ Group

Friends of Marple Memorial Park

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### 2. Organisation/Individual Address

[REDACTED]

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### 3. Main Contact Details (for correspondence)

Title: Mr

Name: Mark Whittaker

Role: Chairman

Address: [REDACTED],

Postcode: [REDACTED]

Home Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Mobile Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Email Address: [REDACTED]



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#### 4. Please provide your bank account details

Account Name: [REDACTED]

Account Number: [REDACTED]

Sort Code: [REDACTED]

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#### 5. What is the status of your Organisation/ Group?

*Please Tick*

A New Group	<input type="checkbox"/>	Voluntary Organisation	<b>YES</b>
A Registered Charity No.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Company Limited by Guarantee No.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Applying for Charitable Status	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unregistered Association	<input type="checkbox"/>
Friendly Society	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Housing Association	<input type="checkbox"/>		

#### 6. Please describe the main activities of your Organisation/ Group

Friends of Memorial Park are a group of local people whose aim is to provide opportunities for community members to improve and promote the use, awareness and care of facilities within Marple Memorial Park in order to make the park a welcoming, safe and enjoyable environment for all.

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#### 7. When was your Organisation/Group established?

**December 2003**

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#### 8. Does your organisation have the following policies and procedures in place?

*If you are awarded a grant you will be required to send copies of all relevant documents as part of the grant agreement.*

A governance/management committee	<b>YES</b>
A Constitution/governing document/set of rules	<b>YES</b>
An Equal Opportunities Policy	<b>YES</b>
A Child Protection Policy (where necessary)	<input type="checkbox"/>
A Health and Safety Public liability	<b>YES</b>



## 2. About Your Application

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### 9. Please give us a brief description of your proposed/planned project or activity

Over the last 20 years Friends of Marple Memorial Park have received a number of requests from the public for outdoor exercise equipment. We made two unsuccessful grant applications for this purpose prior to focusing on the Skatepark Project between 2011 and 2021.

In more recent times, thanks to our 50-50 Club, we were able to continue raising funds for projects in the park throughout the Covid19 pandemic. In 2021, with many of our proposals on hold due to uncertainty about the impact of the Marple Community Hub scheme (Play Area improvements, Public Toilet Block refurbishment and installation of a Water Fountain) we decided to focus our fundraising efforts on a new outdoor exercise equipment project.

In 2022 we ring-fenced £10k of our own funds and submitted a 10k grant application to the Stockport Fund. Our application was considered to have great merit but was not funded.

Since then we have pressed on with fund-raising ourselves and have now managed to ring-fence £22,000 of funds toward this project with the help and support of the Marple Community.

Last year we developed a brief for our proposals and with the support of the council's Neighbourhood Team went out to tender, obtaining bids from 3 potential equipment suppliers. This made it clear that we would need a minimum budget of £25k and ideally at least £30k.

Tenders have been carefully analysed and following site visits to view existing outdoor exercise equipment installations across 6 other community parks in the Greater Manchester region, we have chosen a preferred supplier to work with based on the very high quality of their equipment.

We are now in the final stages of developing and fine tuning our proposals and are almost ready to go ahead with a final scheme, subject to achieving a final funding sum of £30,000.

Currently we expect to be able to ring-fence a further £2,000 of funding raised within the community at our next meeting on 13 April. We have just learned that an application to the Macnair Trust for £1,500 has been successful. We have also been pledged £2,500 from the organisers of the Stockport Fund and £1,000 from the council's Neighbourhood Team.

This leaves us just **£1,000 short** of being in a position to place an order via the council's Neighbourhood Team in April 2023 for installation during the summer of this year.

This application seeks the support of Marple Area Committee with an award from their Flexibility Funding Budget, to please enable Friends of Marple Memorial Park to go ahead with our proposed Outdoor Exercise Equipment Project for the benefit of the Marple Community.

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### 10. Who will benefit from this grant?

A wide cross-section of the Marple Community would benefit from the availability of good quality free to use outdoor exercise equipment in our local park. The physical and mental health benefits of exercise and the outdoors are well known and our inclusive outdoor equipment would enable regular exercise at a time to suit users without costly gym membership fees.

The convenience of location and year-round availability could encourage activities that have been linked to increased fitness and cardiovascular function, reduced obesity, reduced blood pressure, and reduced risk in diseases such as type 2 diabetes and cancer.

The mental health benefits of being outdoors and exercising will also be greatly enhanced by the location of the equipment, which will be sited in the park to enable users to enjoy the wonderful views of the hills towards Mellor, Hayfield and the Peak District beyond.



### 10(a) How Many Stockport residents will benefit?

We believe that hundreds and even thousands of Marple and Stockport residents will benefit from the availability of free-to-use outdoor exercise equipment in our park. The equipment will be suitable for all abilities ranging from those less able up to local “fitness fanatics”.

10(b) Are there any restrictions on who will benefit from the funding? No.

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### 11. Your Project's Budget

The initial baseline budget of £25k for this project was set after studies of other recent installations in Stockport parks helped to determine a realistic entry level scheme.

Suppliers were asked to submit their best options for £25k, £30k and £35k budgets via tender to Stockport Council. This confirmed that although a £25k budget is viable, much better value for money can be achieved with a higher outlay. Following on from this, and after selecting a preferred supplier based on the quality of their equipment, we opted to find a balance between the level of funding that can be achieved and the time it would take to raise the money.

We believe we have achieved the best balance with a total budget of £30k and would like to place an order in April this year for completion during the summer of 2023.

We have examined the opportunity to order and install the equipment in two phases but there are financial advantages to being able to do this as a single order / site installation.

11(a) How much will the project/activity cost in total? £30,000.00

11(b) Tell us about other any other sources of income you have already applied for or raised so far in relation to this project

Friends of the Park have raised £22,000 so far and expect that to reach **£24,000** by the time of the April Marple Area Committee Meeting. This money has been raised with the support of local people who subscribe to our monthly 50-50 Club Draw, by local businesses who support our events, such as the Family Treasure Hunt in the park, by the people who have attended those events and by donations from many local businesses, organisations and individuals.

We have recently been awarded **£1,500** towards the project by the **Macnair Trust**.

Organisers of the Stockport Fund have pledged **£2,500** and the council's Neighbourhood Team has allocated **£1,000**, leaving us just **£1,000 short of the £30,000 we need**.

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### 12. How much are you applying for from the Ward Flexibility Budget?

Ideally £1,000 (£500 from each Ward). We could accept a reduced amount if funds are limited but would need to continue fund-raising and delay the project to make up the difference.

12(a) If the amount you are applying for covers only part of the project/activity, then please tell us how do you intend to fund any shortfall?

Please see answer to Q11(b) and Q12.

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### 13. What is the planned timescale for spending this grant?

**Start / Finish:**

Place order via the council in April and complete installation for the summer of 2023.



### 3. Which Wards are you Applying to?

You may tick more than one box. Please note that no grant of more than £1,000 in totality will ordinarily be made.

Please tell us for each ward you wish to make an application to:-

- (a) how many people will benefit in that ward; and  
 (b) what proportion of funding from your overall application you are seeking from each ward.

		Number of beneficiaries	How much funding you are seeking
<b>Bramhall &amp; Cheadle Hulme South Area Committee</b>			
Bramhall North	<input type="checkbox"/>		£
Bramhall South & Woodford	<input type="checkbox"/>		£
Cheadle Hulme South	<input type="checkbox"/>		£
<b>Central Stockport Area Committee</b>			
Brinnington & Central	<input type="checkbox"/>		£
Davenport & Cale Green	<input type="checkbox"/>		£
Edgeley & Cheadle Heath	<input type="checkbox"/>		£
Manor	<input type="checkbox"/>		£
<b>Cheadle Area Committee</b>			
Cheadle & Gatley	<input type="checkbox"/>		£
Cheadle Hulme North	<input type="checkbox"/>		£
Heald Green	<input type="checkbox"/>		£
<b>Heatons &amp; Reddish Area Committee</b>			
Heatons North	<input type="checkbox"/>		£
Heatons South	<input type="checkbox"/>		£
Reddish North	<input type="checkbox"/>		£
Reddish South	<input type="checkbox"/>		£
<b>Marple Area Committee</b>			
Marple North	<input type="checkbox"/>	5,000+	£500
Marple South	<input type="checkbox"/>	5,000+	£500
<b>Stepping Hill Area Committee</b>			
Hazel Grove	<input type="checkbox"/>		£
Offerton	<input type="checkbox"/>		£
Stepping Hill	<input type="checkbox"/>		£
<b>Werneth Area Committee</b>			
Bredbury & Woodley	<input type="checkbox"/>		£
Bredbury Green & Romiley	<input type="checkbox"/>		£
<b>Totals</b>			<b>£1,000.00</b>

This total should add up to the figure you provided in **Question**

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### 4. Application Checklist and Declaration



**STOCKPORT**  
METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

Return to:  
Democratic Services  
Town Hall, Stockport SK1 3XE

1. I am authorised to make this application on behalf of the above organisation
2. I certify that the information contained in this application is correct
3. If the information changes in any way I will inform Democratic Services accordingly.
4. I give permission for Democratic Services to contact my organisation and/or myself by phone, mail or e-mail with information about its activities and funding opportunities.
5. I/we agree (if required) to attend an Area Committee meeting to explain how the proposal will improve the environmental, economic or social wellbeing of the area and to answer any questions.
6. Our details can be used for promotional purposes should this request be successful
7. I/We will use this grant for the proposed project/activities stated in our application.
8. I/we will not use the grant for any other purpose prior to contacting Democratic Services in order to seek authorisation.
9. I/we will provide appropriate proof of expenditure to Democratic Services, within 12 months from the Grant being made.
10. I/we will highlight the support of the Area Committee in recent publicity material.
11. I/we agree to providing information to assist in the future monitoring of the effectiveness of the funding including reporting back to the Area Committee on how the grant has been spent and what difference it has made.
12. I/we agree that the content of this completed application form and any supplementary information provided may be published on the Council's website and other publications as part of the application process.

Print your name: [REDACTED]

Signature: [REDACTED]

**or** if submitted electronically tick this box to signify your agreement to the above terms YES

Date: 27 March 2022.

