



# 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 Etherow Country Park

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### 2. Organisation/Individual Address

Operating out of Etherow Country Park

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

Title: Mr

Name: Michael Ormston

Role: Treasurer

Address:

Postcode:

Home Phone Number:

Mobile Phone Number:

Email Address:

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## 4. Please provide your bank account details

Return to:  
Democratic Services  
Town Hall, Stockport SK1 3XE  
[democratic.services@stockport.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@stockport.gov.uk)

Account Name:

Account Number:

Sort Code:

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

*Please Tick*

- |                                |                          |                                  |                                     |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| A New Group                    | <input type="checkbox"/> | Voluntary Organisation           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 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"/> |                                  |                                     |

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

We are a voluntary group whose members care deeply about their local environment and in particular, the amazing variety of habitats, flora, wildlife, etc which exist in Etherow Country Park.

The Group, which currently comprises 25 members, meets weekly to carry out a range of conservation and maintenance activities. Working on woodland, meadows and garden areas.

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

Not certain, but approx. 1990.

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

## 2. About Your Application

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

*You may wish to include details of what activities will take place, where will it happen, how often and who will take part. If you are applying for equipment you can tell us what will it be used for and why is it needed.*

One of our major ongoing projects is to improve the quality and diversity of the two main wildflower meadow areas in the park – Aviary Field and Sunny Corner – and to maintain the ‘veteran’ orchard, adjacent to Aviary Field.

These areas are gradually being encroached on by brambles, nettles, bracken, balsam, etc and whilst we do our best to contain them manually, using slashers, loppers, etc, we would be able to achieve much more if we could use a heavy duty strimmer/brushcutter. This would enable us to gradually push these back, regaining ground for the meadows which has been lost in recent years, and improve the wildflower growing capability of the fields.

This will enhance the overall appearance and diversity of the fields, making them more attractive for a variety of leisure activities – e.g. family activities – picnics, etc, wellbeing and mental health improvement.

It will also enable us to improve the quality of the paths, improving public access to the ‘veteran’ orchard area.

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

*e.g. local residents, young people, older people and how?*

Local residents, residents of Stockport and visitors from a wider area. People with poor mental health, for whom access to such natural resources is particularly beneficial.

These areas of the Park are approximately 20 minutes walk beyond the central reservoir area and the weir. Access is along a single track tarmac road (which provides vehicular access for the residents of the one property along the road only), hence will be accessible to the majority of people, including a degree of wheelchair accessibility

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

We estimate that double digit thousands of people visit the park annually, and local residents have many repeat visits.

#### **10(b) Are there any restrictions on who will benefit from the funding?**

Anyone unable to cover the approximate 1.25 miles from the main park entrance/car park to the meadows on foot/via wheelchair.

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### **11. Your Project’s Budget**

*Please provide a breakdown of cost for your project including VAT where applicable and submit any estimates for the purchase of equipment or work to be done.*

Our project involves the purchase of a heavy duty, battery powered brushcutter, capable of clearing brambles, nettles, bracken etc.

We have identified two suitable models, the slightly cheaper of which is a Stihl FSA 80 Cordless Brushcutter Autocut 27-2.

**11(a) How much will the project/activity cost in total?**

£590 including VAT – this includes an additional battery in order to provide sufficient operating time and a safety helmet/visor.

In due course when improvements are achieved, we are likely to purchase appropriate bulbs or wildflower plugs to further enhance these areas, but this will be as and when we have funds available.

**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**

None

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

£590

**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?**

N/A

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

Start            The equipment will be bought immediately, should the grant be awarded, and put to use straightaway.

Finish

### 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.**

Note, visitors come from across the Borough and we cannot estimate which areas.

**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 & Stockport Central	<input type="checkbox"/>	£
Davenport & Cale Green	<input type="checkbox"/>	£
Edgeley	<input type="checkbox"/>	£
Manor	<input type="checkbox"/>	£
<b>Cheadle Area Committee</b>		
Cheadle East & Cheadle Hulme North	<input type="checkbox"/>	£
Cheadle West & Gatley	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	£590
Marple South & High Lane	<input type="checkbox"/>	£
<b>Stepping Hill Area Committee</b>		
Hazel Grove	<input type="checkbox"/>	£
Norbury & Woodsmoor	<input type="checkbox"/>	£
Offerton	<input type="checkbox"/>	£
<b>Werneth Area Committee</b>		
Bredbury & Woodley	<input type="checkbox"/>	£
Bredbury Green & Romiley	<input type="checkbox"/>	£
<b>Totals</b>		<b>£590</b>

This total should add up to the figure you provided in **Question 12**



Return to:  
 Democratic Services  
 Town Hall, Stockport SK1 3XE  
 democratic.services@stockport.gov.uk

## 4. Application Checklist and Declaration

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: Michael Phillip Ormston

Signature: .....

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

Date: 10 June 2024

Return to:  
Democratic Services  
Town Hall, Stockport SK1 3XE  
democratic.services@stockport.gov.uk