

# FRIENDS OF RIDLEY PARK

England & Wales · Charity number 1177588

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** CIO

**Registered** 2018-03-19

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

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**Address** 4 Park View  
Blyth  
NE24 3AY

**Phone** 07857269583

**Email** [forpblyth@gmail.com](mailto:forpblyth@gmail.com)

## Activities

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**Objects:** FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT OF THE INHABITANTS OF BLYTH AND THE SURROUNDING AREA ("THE AREA OF BENEFIT") TO PROVIDE OR ASSIST IN THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOR RECREATION AND OTHER LEISURE TIME OCCUPATION IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE WITH THE OBJECT OF IMPROVING THEIR CONDITIONS OF LIFE FOR THE INHABITANTS OF THE AREA OF BENEFIT IN PARTICULAR BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY BY THE PRESERVATION, PROMOTION, SUPPORT, ASSISTANCE AND IMPROVEMENT OF RIDLEY PARK.

**Activities:** Friends of Ridley Park organise the hire and management of the pavilion for the benefit of the local community. Activities include gardening, tree planting, nature projects, talks, a bird screen area and heritage projects. Throughout the year, we carry out clean ups and litter picks in addition to fundraising for improvements within the park.

## Classification

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- **How:** Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Recreation
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

## Geography

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- Northumberland

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-09-30	£3,131	£1,602	-	-
2024-09-30	£4,350	£26,605	-	-
2023-09-30	£3,771	£715	-	-
2022-09-30	£8,317	£815	-	-
2021-09-30	£18,389	£1,548	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
FIONA MARY GIBSON		2018-02-21
John David Young		2023-12-06
John Stenhouse		2025-02-05

**FRIENDS OF RIDLEY PARK**

England & Wales - Charity number 1177588

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# Accounts

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## Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From: 01/10/24 Period start date To: 30/09/25 Period end date

Charity name: FRIENDS OF RIDLEY PARK (FORP)

Charity registration number: 1177588

## Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<p><b>FORP was set up to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• help the inhabitants of Blyth and its surrounding area by providing or assisting in the provision of facilities for recreation and other leisure time occupation.</li><li>• improve the conditions of life for the inhabitants in the area of benefit by the preservation, promotion, support, assistance and improvement of Ridley Park.</li></ul>
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p><b>Park entrance project to improve the main entrance to make it more attractive to the local community.</b></p> <p>Construction is underway and installation is due for Spring 2026. Fundraising continues for a ringfenced maintenance fund with ticket sales and donations from One Lottery.</p> <p><b>Nature projects to improve and promote biodiversity in the park.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Contribution towards wooden pergola and climbing roses (with funding from Co-op Community Fund In previous financial year)</li><li>• Gardening equipment for volunteers</li><li>• Seasonal planting</li><li>• Bird feeder</li></ul> <p><b>Public Liability Insurance</b> To ensure all volunteers, their events and activities in the park setting are covered.</p>

		<p><b>Pavilion upkeep</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CCTV monitor was replaced and security lights cleaned</li> <li>• Nature mural on back of pavilion was repainted</li> <li>• Toilets were repainted</li> </ul>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The trustees have observed the Commission's statutory guidance on public benefit to improve facilities and activities within Ridley Park.

**Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	<p>Treasurer: 2.5 hours weekly (130 hours)  Secretary: 2.5 hours weekly (130 hours)  Trustee: 1 hour weekly (70 hours)  Trustee: 7 hours  Accounts auditor: 8 hours  Weekly Jobs in the Park: 288 hours per year  Community event attendance: 24 hours</p> <p><b>Total for year: 657 hours</b></p>
Other		

## Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
<p>Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.</p>	<p>Para 1.20</p>	<p><b>Park entrance</b></p> <p>During this financial year FORP has continued to liaise with Northumberland County Council who will project manage the works. The contract was awarded to Stephen Lunn, Anvilman, Red Row, Northumberland and he is currently working on its fabrication. The installation is due to take place in 2026.</p> <p>FORP fundraising efforts for the park entrance continued through One Lottery ticket sales and donations from prize-winners to build up and ring fence a maintenance fund. This project will substantially enhance and promote the park to the community. The park entrance has been driven forward by community involvement. It was designed by students from The Blyth Academy with the aim of giving young people pride in a local feature.</p> <p><b>Nature projects</b></p> <p>FORP liaised with Northumberland County Council regarding the new wooden pergola in the rose garden and contributed towards its new climbing roses.</p> <p>Croftway School children did summer planting over two sessions as part of their community week.</p> <p>Garden equipment was donated by ASDA Community Champion to replace broken equipment. Other items were replaced from member funds.</p> <p>Members often engage with the public to explain the planting strategies in the park. The gardening equipment has allowed members to participate more easily in nature activities within Ridley Park and introduce new members to gardening activities.</p> <p><b>Pavilion upkeep</b></p> <p>The CCTV monitor was replaced and its cameras cleaned upon receiving a grant from the local Blyth Town Councillor.</p>

A large external nature mural was repainted in September 2025. Members worked together to repaint and varnish the mural featuring a squirrel, fox and leaves through the seasons which had fallen into disrepair.

The pavilion toilets were repainted by volunteers. The ASDA Community Champion donated painting equipment.

These all contribute to the overall pavilion upkeep by the volunteers and improve the experience of visitors to the park and pavilion by keeping the area well-maintained and problem free.

**Other achievements**

These relied heavily on volunteer time and minimal or no financial input from FORP. Members bring a positive presence to the park to improve the park for all the community. Some members work together on creative projects, while others are active on engagement with groups in the wider community. Activities include:

**JOBS IN THE PARK** (weekly): litter picking, deadheading roses, bird-screen and pavilion cleaning, light gardening, window displays, nest box audit and report, Blyth Rotary crocus planting for World Polio Day.

Members provide a welcoming and positive presence in the park. Visitors frequently comment how beautiful and well-kept Ridley Park is and appreciate the activities carried out by the volunteers.

**HERITAGE ACTIVITIES to promote and record the park characters.**

Bill & Ben mascots were decorated throughout the year.

A festive edition of FORP CONNECT was produced to help charity trustees stay in touch with Ridley Park, especially those with an underlying health condition, living alone or socially isolated. It is also considered a valuable archive resource for FORP.

**PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT** to promote Ridley Park and the activities of FORP to the wider community. Volunteers attended the following:

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Northumberland Wildlife Trust</li> <li>• Thriving Together Network</li> <li>• Love to Volunteer event</li> <li>• Best of Blyth Community Celebration</li> <li>• Blyth Library Carnival event</li> <li>• Blyth CVA event</li> <li>• University of the Third Age (U3A)</li> </ul> <p><b>AWARDS</b> FORP contributed to the Green Flag 2024-2025 award by their community involvement in Ridley Park.</p> <p><b>PAVILION USE</b> Different groups and individuals from the wider community used the space throughout the year, including a regular summer presence from the Royal British Legion.</p> <p>Blyth Town Council used the pavilion as a base during park events and Northumberland County Council used it for their free tree collection scheme and training sessions.</p> <p>The pavilion benefits from its location in a park and is accessible for a variety of community uses.</p>

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
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Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

## Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	<p>Expenditure continues to be carefully monitored. One Lottery ticket sales and prize-winner donations is allocated to the maintenance fund for the new park entrance. All other income from pavilion hire, Easyfundraising, bank interest and donations is allocated to the Miscellaneous fund unless otherwise specified. Members then agree to allocate funds to a particular project.</p> <p>Pavilion hire income has increased this year due in part to repeat bookings.</p> <p>The insurance premium was renegotiated this year leading to a decrease in the premium. This outlay continues to be an annual challenge for this small charity.</p> <p>Income is also generated by an interest paying account linked to the current account. The account name is changing to become a Charity Account.</p>
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Friends of Ridley Park aim to hold £1000 in reserves as this will ensure we can cover our Public Liability insurance costs.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£1000.00
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	

Other		
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## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Appointed by Charity Trustees of Friends of Ridley Park

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	Safeguarding Policy Data Protection Policy Health & Safety Policy Equality and Diversity Policy Volunteer Policy Social Media Policy
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

## Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Friends of Ridley Park
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1177588
Charity's principal address	11 Manor Place Morpeth NE61 1FB

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**Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity**

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Fiona Gibson		March 2018 - present	Trustees of Friends of Ridley Park
2	John Young	Treasurer	November 2023 - present	Trustees of Friends of Ridley Park
3	John Stenhouse		February 2025 - present	Trustees of Friends of Ridley Park
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**Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved**

Director name		

**Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity**

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	


## Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

### Additional information (optional)

#### Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
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#### Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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## Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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## Other optional information

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## Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

<b>Signature(s)</b>		
<b>Full name(s)</b>	Fiona Mary Gibson	
<b>Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)</b>	Trustee	
<b>Date</b>	1 December 2025	

# **FRIENDS OF RIDLEY PARK**

Wensleydale Terrace, Blyth, NE24 3HF

Charity Commission Number: 1177588

## **Statement of Accounts**

For the Year Ended

30<sup>th</sup> September 2025

**FRIENDS OF RIDLEY PARK**

Charity Commission Number: 1177588

**RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT - YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2025**

Total Funds at 1st October 2024 7,464.43

**RECEIPTS****Donations**

Donations - General	120.16	
Donations - Pavilion Use	1,125.00	
Donations - One Lottery Prizes	374.88	
		1,620.04

**Grants & Awards**

Adrian Cartie (Blyth Town Council) Award		310.00
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**Other Receipts**

Easy Fundraising Receipts	84.25	
One Lottery Ticket Sales Refunds	1,053.00	
Lloyds Bank Savings Account Interest	64.12	
		1,201.37

TOTAL RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR 3,131.41

10,595.84

**PAYMENTS****Miscellaneous Project**

Insurance - Combined Policy	313.83	
NCC - Gaming Licence for One Lottery	20.00	
Flowers for Member	30.00	
Gardening Equipment	9.98	
Replacement CCTV Monitor	194.40	
Plants for Planter	31.50	
Pavilion Maintenance Materials	56.98	
RNLI Donation on behalf of Joan Dearden	30.00	
Plants for Croft Academy	20.26	
		706.95

**Bird Screen & Nest Boxes Project**

Rodent-Proof Bird Feeder		34.90
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**Nature Project**

NCC - Contribution towards Pergola & Roses		860.00
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TOTAL PAID DURING THE YEAR 1,601.85

Total Funds at 30th September 2025 8,993.99

10,595.84

**FRIENDS OF RIDLEY PARK**

Charity Commission Number: 1177588

**STATEMENT OF MEMBER'S FUNDS AS AT 30TH SEPTEMBER 2025**

**Assets & Liabilities**

Assets

Cash at Bank & In Hand:

Balance at Lloyds Bank

8,959.92

Cash in Hand

34.07

Total Assets

8,993.99

Liabilities

Total Liabilities

0.00

8,993.99

Represented By:-

**Member's Funds:**

Miscellaneous Project

2,042.64

Park Entrance Project

6,751.35

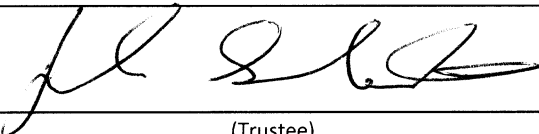
Bird Screen & Nest Boxes Project

200.00

8,993.99

Signed on behalf of all Trustees:

Signature



(Trustee)

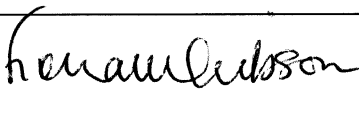
Date

3. 11. 2025

Name

JOHN STEINHILBER

Signature



(Trustee)

Date

3. 11. 2025

Name

FIONA M GIBSON

# FRIENDS OF RIDLEY PARK

Accounts for the Year Ended 30<sup>th</sup> September 2025

## Independent Examiner's Report

Having examined the accounts of "Friends of Ridley Park", the receipts and payments are, to the best of my knowledge, a true and accurate record.

Signed:

Joan H Dearden

Name:

Joan Dearden

Date:

26/10/2025

Address:

27, Forster Street  
Blyth  
Northumberland  
NE24 3BG

Phone:

07926 522553

Charity Commission Number: 1177588

**FRIENDS OF RIDLEY PARK**

England & Wales - Charity number 1177588

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# Accounts

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## Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From: 01/10/23 Period start date To: 30/09/24 Period end date

Charity name: FRIENDS OF RIDLEY PARK (FORP)

Charity registration number: 1177588

## Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<p><b>FORP was set up to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• help the inhabitants of Blyth and its surrounding area by providing or assisting in the provision of facilities for recreation and other leisure time occupation.</li><li>• improve the conditions of life for the inhabitants in the area of benefit by the preservation, promotion, support, assistance and improvement of Ridley Park.</li></ul>
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p><b>Park entrance project to improve the main entrance to make it more attractive to the local community.</b> Funding was received from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• One Lottery</li><li>• Pavilion hire donations</li><li>• Bank interest</li><li>• Easyfundraising</li></ul> <p><b>Nature projects to improve and promote biodiversity in the park.</b> Funding was received from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Co-op Community Fund</li></ul> <p><b>Picnic bench to provide additional seating and disabled access around the play areas.</b> This was completed in August 2024 but full funding was received during 2022/23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Northumberland County Council Community grant</li><li>• Private donation</li></ul>

		<p>No funding was required for the following activities.</p> <p><b>Heritage activities to promote and record the past of the park characters.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bill &amp; Ben mascots</li> <li>• FORP CONNECT newsletters</li> </ul> <p><b>Public Engagement to promote Ridley Park and the activities of Friends of Ridley Park to the wider community.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thriving Together Network Event</li> <li>• Northumberland Wildlife Trust &amp; Natural England Green Social prescribing event</li> <li>• Blyth Library Green Living Day</li> <li>• Blyth Town Carnival parade</li> <li>• Northumberland County Council “Love your Park” promotion</li> <li>• Visit from Friends of Astley Park</li> <li>• Blyth Library Skills Share Day</li> <li>• Blythfest “stained glass” window display</li> </ul> <p><b>Training/awards:</b> FORP contribute to the award by their community involvement in Ridley Park.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Green Flag award 2024 - 2025</li> </ul>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The trustees have observed the Commission’s statutory guidance on public benefit to improve facilities and activities within Ridley Park.

**Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	<p>Treasurer: 2.5 hours weekly (130 hours)  Secretary: 2.5 hours weekly (130 hours)  Trustee: 1 hour weekly (70 hours)  Accounts auditor: 8 hours  Weekly Jobs in the Park: 306 hours per year  Community event attendance: 70 hours  <b>Total for year: 784 hours</b></p>

Other		
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## Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
<p>Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.</p>	<p>Para 1.20</p>	<p><b>Park entrance</b>  During this financial year FORP has continued to liaise with Northumberland County Council who will project manage the works. FORP transferred the sum of £24,000 as its contribution towards the new park entrance to Northumberland County Council in August 2024. By 30 September 2024, the commission award letter was prepared and waiting for finance panel final approval. All approvals for the project are now in place.</p> <p>FORP fundraising efforts for the park entrance continued through One Lottery ticket sales, bank interest and pavilion hire donations. This is to build up and ring fence a maintenance fund for this project which will substantially enhance and promote the park to the community. The park entrance has been driven forward by community involvement. It was designed by students from The Blyth Academy with the aim of giving young people pride in a local feature.</p> <p><b>Nature projects</b>  This financial year saw the continuation of nature projects started during 2022 - 2023 (Asda funding of £400 received in the previous year) and the new projects undertaken upon receipt of Co-op funding (£1874.11) received in November 2023.</p> <p>Completed projects: bug hotel planting; purchase of two monkey puzzle trees and perennials, support for bird screen and nest boxes project, purchase of bat detector and garden tools, pollinator posters for the pavilion and bird screen poster of birds in the park were designed by members, one large bed of perennial plants purchased for an area near the rose garden.</p> <p>These have contributed to raising awareness of biodiversity to members and the general public by explaining the planting strategies in the park. The purchase of equipment has allowed</p>

members to participate more easily in nature activities within Ridley Park.

With the remaining balance from the nature funding project, members have agreed to contribute £700 to a new wooden pergola in the rose garden and £160 for climbing roses. This is due to be completed late 2024.

#### **Picnic bench**

A grant of £500 was received in 2022 - 2023 financial year from the Northumberland County Council to buy a picnic bench made of recycled materials with wheelchair access. A private donation was received to make up the balance of funding.

This bench was installed in August 2024 and provides a wheelchair accessible picnic table for the general public. It is situated close to the toilets and entrance to the park. This bench replaces a wooden bench previously vandalised and makes good use of existing hardstanding.

#### **Other achievements**

These relied on volunteer time and minimal or no financial input from FORP. Members bring a positive presence to the park to improve the park for all the community. Some members work together on creative projects, while others are active on engagement with groups in the wider community:

- **JOBS IN THE PARK** (weekly session)  
Activities include litter picking, deadheading roses, bird-screen and pavilion maintenance, light gardening, window displays, nest box audit and report, RSPB bird survey, Blyth Rotary crocus planting for World Polio Day. Members provide a welcoming and positive presence in the park. Visitors frequently comment how beautiful and well-kept Ridley Park is and appreciate the activities carried out by the volunteers.
- **FORP CONNECT** - 4 digital editions of the newsletter were produced. This helps charity trustees stay in touch with Ridley Park, especially those with an underlying health condition, living alone or socially isolated. The newsletter

		<p>started during COVID-19 and has continued to be well-received. It is also considered a valuable archive resource for FORP.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>BILL &amp; BEN FORP MASCOTS:</b> volunteers took them to the official opening of the new Co-op store in Blyth, the Easter event in Ridley Park and Blyth Town Pirate Carnival Parade. Bill &amp; Ben mascots are beautifully decorated throughout the year and provide a delightful link with the park's past. A member has produced a history book and timeline of Bill &amp; Ben for the general public to enjoy.</li><li>• <b>CREATIVE PROJECTS</b> - Christmas tree decorations were handmade by members for the annual tree festival; Stained glass images of flora and fauna of the park were made for the pavilion windows as part of Blythfest. This has allowed the creative talent of members to come together and produce something for all the community to enjoy.</li><li>• <b>PAVILION USE</b> - different groups and individuals from the wider community have used the space throughout the year. In addition, Blyth Town Council used the pavilion as a base during park events and Northumberland County Council used the pavilion for their Green Spaces team and first aid training sessions. The pavilion benefits from its location in a park and is suitable for a variety of community uses.</li></ul>
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**Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

## Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	<p>Expenditure continues to be carefully monitored. The bank balance has decreased substantially this year due to the payment of FORP's contribution of £24,000 to the new park entrance. Funding received for other specific projects has now been used and the projects either completed or remaining funds allocated.</p> <p>The insurance premium has increased year on year which can put pressure on cashflow for smaller projects and overheads.</p> <p>New income has been generated this year by an interest paying account linked to the current account.</p>
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Friends of Ridley Park aim to hold £1000 in reserves as this will ensure we can cover our Public Liability insurance costs which continue to increase each year.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£1000.00
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		

## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Appointed by Charity Trustees of Friends of Ridley Park

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	Safeguarding Policy Data Protection Policy Health & Safety Policy Equality and Diversity Policy Volunteer Policy Social Media Policy
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

## Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Friends of Ridley Park
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1177588
Charity's principal address	4 Park View Blyth NE24 3AY

**Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity**

	<b>Trustee name</b>	<b>Office (if any)</b>	<b>Dates acted if not for whole year</b>	<b>Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)</b>
1	Fiona Gibson			Trustees of Friends of Ridley Park
2	John Young	Treasurer	November 2023 - present	Trustees of Friends of Ridley Park
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**Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved**

<b>Director name</b>		

**Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity**

<b>Trustee name</b>	<b>Dates acted if not for whole year</b>	

## Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

### Additional information (optional)

#### Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
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#### Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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## Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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## Other optional information

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## Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

<b>Signature(s)</b>		
<b>Full name(s)</b>	Fiona Mary Gibson	
<b>Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)</b>	Trustee	
<b>Date</b>	27 November 2024	

# **FRIENDS OF RIDLEY PARK**

Wensleydale Terrace, Blyth, NE24 3HF

Charity Commission Number: 1177588

## **Statement of Accounts**

For the Year Ended

30<sup>th</sup> September 2024

**FRIENDS OF RIDLEY PARK**

Charity Commission Number: 1177588

**RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT - YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2024**

Total Funds at 1st October 2023 29,719.68

**RECEIPTS**Donations

Donations - Pavilion Use	665.00	
Donations - One Lottery Prizes	384.72	
		<u>1,049.72</u>

Grants & Awards

Co-op Local Community Scheme	1,874.77	
		<u>1,874.77</u>

Other Receipts

Easy Fundraising Receipts	101.56	
One Lottery Ticket Sales Refunds	1,022.00	
Lloyds Bank Savings Account Interest	301.39	
		<u>1,424.95</u>

TOTAL RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR 4,349.44

34,069.12**PAYMENTS**Miscellaneous Project

Insurance - Combined Policy	388.50	
NCC - Gaming Licence for One Lottery	20.00	
Flowers for Member	41.50	
Gardening Equipment	14.75	
1st Aid Kit Refill	19.74	
Gift Voucher for Retiring Trustee	50.00	
Bill & Ben Maintenance	16.50	
Postages	1.95	
Craft Materials	20.00	
		<u>572.94</u>

Park Entrance Project

Contribution Towards NCC Park Entrance Costs	24,000.00	
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Bird Screen & Nest Boxes Project

Bird Food	42.00	
Bird Screen Poster	18.00	
Nest Boxes Maintenance	9.00	
		<u>69.00</u>

Nature Project

Trees	48.00	
Bat Detector	78.99	
Garden Tools	34.00	
Posters	35.00	
Plants	928.85	
		<u>1,124.84</u>

Seating Project

NCC - Clifton Picnic Table	837.91	
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TOTAL PAID DURING THE YEAR 26,604.69

Total Funds at 30th September 2024 7,464.43

34,069.12

**STATEMENT OF MEMBER'S FUNDS AS AT 30TH SEPTEMBER 2024**

**Assets & Liabilities**

Assets

Cash at Bank & In Hand:

Balance at Lloyds Bank

7,450.36

Cash in Hand

14.07

Total Assets

7,464.43

Liabilities

Total Liabilities

0.00

7,464.43

Represented By:-

**Member's Funds:**

Miscellaneous Project

939.30

Park Entrance Project

5,174.22

Bird Screen & Nest Boxes Project

413.66

Nature Project

875.16

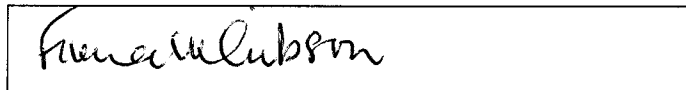
Seating Project

62.09

7,464.43

Signed on behalf of all Trustees:

Signature



(Trustee)

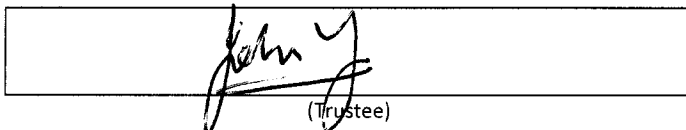
Name

FIONA M GIBSON

Date

23/11/24

Signature



(Trustee)

Name

JOHN YOUNG

Date

23/11/24

# FRIENDS OF RIDLEY PARK

Accounts for the Year Ended 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024

## Independent Examiner's Report

Having examined the accounts of "Friends of Ridley Park", the receipts and payments are, to the best of my knowledge, a true and accurate record.

Signed: Joan A Dearden

Name: Joan Dearden

Date: 6/11/2024

Address: 27 FORSTER STREET  
BLYTH  
NORTHUMBERLAND  
NE24 3BQ

Phone: 07926 522553

Charity Commission Number: 1177588

**FRIENDS OF RIDLEY PARK**

England & Wales - Charity number 1177588

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# Accounts

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## Trustees' Annual Report for the period

**From: 01/10/22 Period start date To: 30/09/23 Period end date**

**Charity name: FRIENDS OF RIDLEY PARK (FORP)**

**Charity registration number: 1177588**

## Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<p><b>FORP was set up to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• help the inhabitants of Blyth and its surrounding area by providing or assisting in the provision of facilities for recreation and other leisure time occupation.</li> <li>• improve the conditions of life for the inhabitants in the area of benefit by the preservation, promotion, support, assistance and improvement of Ridley Park.</li> </ul>
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p><b>Park entrance project received funding from:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One Lottery</li> <li>• Public donations</li> <li>• Pavilion hire donations</li> <li>• Easy Fundraising</li> <li>• Amazon Smile</li> </ul> <p><b>Park improvements - disabled access picnic bench</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Northumberland County Council grant</li> <li>• Public donation</li> </ul> <p><b>Nature related activities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ASDA funding for biodiversity projects</li> <li>• Successfully applied for September 2022 - September 2023 Co-op community funding scheme for biodiversity projects</li> <li>• Northumberland Day bat walk</li> <li>• Bird screen maintenance</li> <li>• Bulb planting</li> <li>• Nest box audit</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Light gardening</li> <li>• Litter picking</li> <li>• RSPB Birdwatch survey</li> <li>• Northumberland in Bloom award ceremony</li> <li>• Green Flag Judges visit</li> </ul> <p><b>Heritage:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bill &amp; Ben mascots</li> <li>• FORP CONNECT newsletters</li> <li>• Coronation Day window display</li> </ul> <p><b>Public Engagement</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public library display</li> <li>• Pride of Pace Blyth town exhibition</li> <li>• <i>Revitalising our Estuaries</i> exhibition with Groundworks</li> <li>• Women’s Institute talk</li> <li>• Blyth Culture Network &amp; Blythfest window display</li> <li>• Blyth Town Carnival parade</li> <li>• Blyth Library Green Living Day</li> <li>• Northumberland County Council “Love your Park’ promotion</li> </ul> <p><b>Training/awards:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ERIC wildlife recording training</li> <li>• Christmas tree - seasons of the park, 1<sup>st</sup> prize in community competition</li> <li>• Green Flag award</li> </ul>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The trustees have observed the Commission’s statutory guidance on public benefit to improve facilities and activities within Ridley Park.

**Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	Treasurer: 4 hours weekly (192 hours) Secretary: 4 hours weekly (192 hours) Trustee: 20 hours

		Accounts auditor: 8 hours Weekly Jobs in the Park: 384 hours per year Community event attendance: 70 hours  Total for year: 866 hours
Other		

## Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
<p>Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.</p>	<p>Para 1.20</p>	<p>During this financial year FORP received final approval for the balance of funding of £26,000 for the park entrance project from Northumberland County Council. FORP fundraising efforts have continued to build up and ring fence a maintenance fund for this project which will substantially enhance and promote the park to the community.</p> <p>A grant of £500 was received from the Northumberland County Council to buy a picnic bench made of recycled materials with wheelchair access. This will replace a wooden picnic table which was vandalised and will reinstate an amenity to park users.</p> <p>Other achievements relied on volunteer time and minimal or no financial input from FORP. Members bring a positive presence to the park to improve the park for all the community. Some members work together on creative projects, while others are active on engagement with groups in the wider community:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JOBS IN THE PARK (weekly session) - 384 hours of volunteer time: litter picking, deadheading roses, bird-screen and pavilion maintenance, light gardening, window displays, nest box audit and report. Bill &amp; Ben change themes throughout the year.</li> <li>• FORP CONNECT - 7 digital editions of the newsletter were produced to help charity trustees stay in touch,</li> </ul>

		<p>especially those with an underlying health condition, living alone or socially isolated. The newsletter started during COVID-19 and is considered a valuable archive resource for FORP.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>BILL &amp; BEN FORP MASCOTS:</b> volunteers took them to the King's Coronation event and Blyth Town Carnival Parade</li> <li>• <b>REVITALISING OUR ESTUARIES PROJECT</b> collaboration with Groundworks North-East involved planting wildflower plugs in the park and a public exhibition was held in the pavilion.</li> <li>• <b>CREATIVE PROJECT -</b> Christmas tree and decorations were handmade for the annual tree festival. FORP won 1<sup>st</sup> prize in 2022.</li> </ul>
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

## Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	Following on from COVID 19, expenditure has been carefully monitored. Use of the pavilion has generated a welcome increase in income this year.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Friends of Ridley Park aim to hold £1000 in reserves as this will ensure we can cover our Public Liability insurance costs.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£1000.00
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		

## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Appointed by Charity Trustees of Friends of Ridley Park

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	Safeguarding Policy GDPR Policy Health & Safety Policy Equal Opportunities Policy Volunteer Policy
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

## Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Friends of Ridley Park
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1177588
Charity's principal address	4 Park View Blyth NE24 3AY

**Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity**

	<b>Trustee name</b>	<b>Office (if any)</b>	<b>Dates acted if not for whole year</b>	<b>Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)</b>
1	Fiona Gibson	Chair		Trustees of Friends of Ridley Park
2	Gerald Wallace	Vice Chair		Trustees of Friends of Ridley Park
3	Stu Olley			Trustees of Friends of Ridley Park
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**Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved**

<b>Director name</b>		

**Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity**

<b>Trustee name</b>	<b>Dates acted if not for whole year</b>	

## Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

### Additional information (optional)

#### Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
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#### Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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### Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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### Other optional information

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## Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

<b>Signature(s)</b>		
<b>Full name(s)</b>	Fiona Mary Gibson	
<b>Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)</b>	Trustee	
<b>Date</b>	24 January 2024	

# **FRIENDS OF RIDLEY PARK**

Wensleydale Terrace, Blyth, NE24 3HF

Charity Commission Number: 1177588

## **Statement of Accounts**

For the Year Ended

30<sup>th</sup> September 2023

**FRIENDS OF RIDLEY PARK**

Charity Commission Number: 1177588

**RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT - YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2023**

Total Funds at 1st October 2022 26,663.59

**RECEIPTS**

Membership Fees 21.00

Donations

Collections	19.19	
Donations - General	442.00	
Donations - Pavilion Use	630.00	
Donations - One Lottery Prizes	421.68	
		1,512.87

Grants & Awards

Asda Green Token Scheme	400.00	
Northumberland County Council Microgrant	500.00	
		900.00

Other Receipts

Amazon Smile Receipts	50.63	
Easy Fundraising Receipts	86.31	
One Lottery Ticket Sales Refunds	1,200.00	
		1,336.94

TOTAL RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR 3,770.81

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**30,434.40****PAYMENTS**Miscellaneous Project

Insurance - Combined Policy	350.47	
NCC - Gaming Licence for One Lottery	20.00	
Christmas Tree Decorations	13.99	
New Lock and Keys	37.00	
National Garden Tokens - Gifts	100.00	
'Bill & Ben' Photographs	7.50	
Notice Board Materials	25.00	
		553.96

Bird Screen & Nest Boxes Project

Bird Screen - Bird Food	85.76	
Bird Screen - Maintenance Costs	75.00	
		160.76

TOTAL PAID DURING THE YEAR 714.72

Total Funds at 30th September 2023 29,719.68

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**30,434.40**

STATEMENT OF MEMBER'S FUNDS AS AT 30TH SEPTEMBER 2023

Assets & Liabilities

Notes

Assets

Cash at Bank & In Hand:

Balance at Lloyds Bank	29,634.66
Cash in Hand	85.02

Total Assets 29,719.68

Liabilities

Deferred Income:

Blyth Town Council Grant	1	15,000.00
Joicey Trust Grant	2	5,000.00

Total Liabilities (20,000.00)

9,719.68

Represented By:-

Member's Funds:

Miscellaneous Project	631.31
Park Entrance Project	7,580.48
Bird Screen & Nest Boxes Project	207.89
Nature Project	400.00
Seating Project	900.00

9,719.68

Notes:

- 1 FORP received a Community Support Grant of £15,000 from Blyth Town Council on 29th March 2021. The grant was offered towards the Park Entrance Project with the proviso that certain conditions be met before the funds were expended; the main condition being that the remaining funds be raised to complete the project. The conditions attached to the grant have, as at the year-end date, not yet been met. Consequently, this amount is treated as Deferred Income as at 30th September 2023 as there is a possibility that it might have to be repaid to Blyth Town Council.
  
- 2 FORP received a Grant of £5,000 from The Joicey Trust on 4th July 2022. The grant was offered towards the Park Entrance Project with the proviso that certain conditions be met before the funds were expended; the main conditions being that the the project should be fully funded but not over funded and that the project is going ahead. The conditions attached to the grant have, as at the year-end date, not yet been met. Consequently, this amount is treated as Deferred Income as at 30th September 2023 as there is a possibility that it might have to be repaid to The Joicey Trust.

Signed on behalf of all Trustees:

Signature

*Fiona M Gibson*

(Trustee)

Name

FIONA M GIBSON

Date

06/11/23.

Signature

*Gerald H Wallace*

(Trustee)

Name

Gerald H Wallace

Date

08/11/23

# FRIENDS OF RIDLEY PARK

Accounts for the Year Ended 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023

## Independent Examiner's Report

Having examined the accounts of "Friends of Ridley Park", the receipts and payments are, to the best of my knowledge, a true and accurate record.

Signed: Joan A Dearden

Name: Joan Dearden

Date: 1/11/2023

Address: 27 FORSTER STREET  
BLYTH  
NORTHUMBERLAND  
NE24 3BS

Phone: 07926 522553

Charity Commission Number: 1177588

**FRIENDS OF RIDLEY PARK**

England & Wales - Charity number 1177588

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# Accounts

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## Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From: 01/10/21 Period start date To: 30/09/22 Period end date

Charity name: FRIENDS OF RIDLEY PARK (FORP)

Charity registration number: 1177588

## Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<b>FORP was set up to:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• help the inhabitants of Blyth and its surrounding area by providing or assisting in the provision of facilities for recreation and other leisure time occupation.</li><li>• improve the conditions of life for the inhabitants in the area of benefit by the preservation, promotion, support, assistance and improvement of Ridley Park.</li></ul>
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<b>Park entrance project funding from:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Joicey Trust</li><li>• One Lottery</li><li>• Easy fundraising</li><li>• Amazon Smile</li><li>• Public and corporate donations</li></ul> <b>Nature activities:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bird screen maintenance</li><li>• Perennial &amp; bulb planting</li><li>• Nest box audit</li><li>• Light gardening</li><li>• Litter picking</li><li>• iNaturalist data recording</li></ul> <b>Heritage:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bill &amp; Ben mascots</li><li>• FORP CONNECT</li><li>• Bowl bugs</li></ul>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	<b>The trustees have observed the Commission's statutory guidance on public benefit to improve facilities and activities within Ridley Park.</b>

**Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	
Other		

## Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p><b>During this financial year FORP received a £5000 grant from The Joicey Trust and £250 from the Port of Blyth which are ringfenced for the park entrance project. Final approval for the balance of funding from a funder is pending. FORP fundraising efforts continued to prioritise the park entrance project which will substantially enhance and promote the park to the community.</b></p> <p><b>A grant of £250 was received from the Rotary Club of Blyth to buy perennial plants and bulbs to improve biodiversity and raise awareness amongst the public of collecting wildlife data.</b></p> <p><b>Other achievements relied on volunteer time and minimal or no financial input from FORP. Members bring a positive presence to the park to improve the park for all the community. Some members work together on creative projects, while others are active on engagement with groups in the wider community:</b></p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of FORP. Display of achievements in park pavilion window and Blyth Library.</li> <li>• Weekly <i>Jobs in the Park</i> 356 hours of volunteer time: litter picking, deadheading roses, bird-screen and pavilion maintenance, light gardening, window displays, nest box audit and report.</li> </ul> <p>420 hours of volunteer time: meetings, administration, funding applications, creative projects, community engagement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FORP CONNECT - 12 digital editions of the newsletter were produced to help charity trustees stay in touch, especially those with underlying health conditions, living alone or socially isolated. The newsletter started during COVID-19 and is now considered a valuable archive resource for FORP.</li> <li>• Free trees obtained from Northumberland County Council (NCC) tree planting scheme for the local Queen's Platinum Jubilee Tree Canopy.</li> <li>• Bill &amp; Ben, FORP mascots: members took them on park outings, to Blyth Town Carnival parade, and to the <i>Pride of Blyth</i> town exhibition.</li> <li>• Members attended training sessions run by NCC and ERIC North -East.</li> <li>• Northumbria in Bloom Gold award in parks category, meeting judges and representing the park at award ceremony.</li> <li>• <i>Revitalising our Estuaries Project</i> collaboration with Groundworks North-East involved planting wildflower plugs.</li> <li>• Creative projects: bowl bugs, Platinum Jubilee bunting and Christmas Tree for annual local church festive display</li> </ul>
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

## Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	Following on from COVID 19, expenditure has been carefully monitored. Use of the pavilion has generated a small income stream.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Friends of Ridley Park aim to hold £1000 in reserves as this will ensure we can cover our Public Liability insurance costs.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	<b>£1000.00</b>
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		

## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	<b>Constitution</b>
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	<b>Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)</b>
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	<b>Appointed by Charity Trustees of Friends of Ridley Park</b>

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	<b>Safeguarding Policy GDPR Policy Health &amp; Safety Policy Equal Opportunities Policy Volunteer Policy</b>
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

### Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Friends of Ridley Park
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1177588
Charity's principal address	4 Park View Blyth NE24 3AY

**Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity**

	<b>Trustee name</b>	<b>Office (if any)</b>	<b>Dates acted if not for whole year</b>	<b>Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)</b>
1	Fiona Gibson	Chair	2018-present	Trustees of Friends of Ridley Park
2	Gerald Wallace	Vice Chair	2018-present	Trustees of Friends of Ridley Park
3	Stuart Olley	Assistant Secretary	2018-present	Trustees of Friends of Ridley Park
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**Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved**

<b>Director name</b>		

**Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity**

<b>Trustee name</b>	<b>Dates acted if not for whole year</b>	

## Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

### Additional information (optional)

#### Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
-----------------	------	---------


#### Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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## Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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## Other optional information

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## Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

<b>Signature(s)</b>	<i>Fiona Mary Gibson</i>	
<b>Full name(s)</b>	Fiona Mary Gibson	
<b>Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)</b>	Chair	
<b>Date</b>	16 November 2022	

# **FRIENDS OF RIDLEY PARK**

Wensleydale Terrace, Blyth, NE24 3HF

Charity Commission Number: 1177588

## **Statement of Accounts**

For the Year Ended

30<sup>th</sup> September 2022

**RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT - YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2022**

Total Funds at 1st October 2021 19,161.07

**RECEIPTS**

Membership Fees 36.00

Donations

Collections	53.04	
Donations - General	321.99	
Donations - One Lottery Prizes	439.02	
Gift Aid Refunds	216.47	
		<u>1,030.52</u>

Grants

Port of Blyth	250.00	
The Rotary Club of Blyth	250.00	
The Joicey Trust	5,000.00	
		<u>5,500.00</u>

Other Receipts

Amazon Smile Receipts	32.43	
Easy Fundraising Receipts	187.42	
One Lottery Ticket Sales Refunds	1,531.00	
		<u>1,750.85</u>

TOTAL RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR 8,317.37

27,478.44

**PAYMENTS**

Miscellaneous Project

Insurance - Combined Policy	331.81	
NCC - Gaming Licence for One Lottery	20.00	
Stationery	6.49	
Flowers	47.25	
Cleaning Materials	17.33	
Carnival Banner	49.83	
		<u>472.71</u>

Bird Screen & Nest Boxes Project

Bird Screen - Bird Food	88.99	
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Nature Project

Plants Purchased	253.15	
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TOTAL PAID DURING THE YEAR 814.85

Total Funds at 30th September 2022 26,663.59

27,478.44

STATEMENT OF MEMBER'S FUNDS AS AT 30TH SEPTEMBER 2022

<u>Assets &amp; Liabilities</u>	<u>Notes</u>	
<u>Assets</u>		
Cash at Bank & In Hand:		
Balance at Lloyds Bank		26,572.76
Cash in Hand		90.83
 Total Assets		26,663.59
 <u>Liabilities</u>		
Deferred Income:		
Blyth Town Council Grant	1	15,000.00
Joicey Trust Grant	2	5,000.00
 Total Liabilities		(20,000.00)
		6,663.59

Represented By:-

Member's Funds:


Miscellaneous Project	1,174.27
Park Entrance Project	5,140.67
Bird Screen & Nest Boxes Project	348.65
	6,663.59

Notes:

- FORP received a Community Support Grant of £15,000 from Blyth Town Council on 29th March 2021. The grant was offered towards the Park Entrance Project with the proviso that certain conditions be met before the funds were expended; the main condition being that the remaining funds be raised to complete the project. The conditions attached to the grant have, as at the year-end date, not yet been met. Consequently, this amount is treated as Deferred Income as at 30th September 2022 as there is a possibility that it might have to be repaid to Blyth Town Council.
- FORP received a Grant of £5,000 from The Joicey Trust on 4th July 2022. The grant was offered towards the Park Entrance Project with the proviso that certain conditions be met before the funds were expended; the main conditions being that the the project should be fully funded but not over funded and that the project is going ahead. The conditions attached to the grant have, as at the year-end date, not yet been met. Consequently, this amount is treated as Deferred Income as at 30th September 2022 as there is a possibility that it might have to be repaid to The Joicey Trust.

Signed on behalf of all Trustees:

Signature

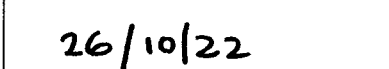


(Trustee)

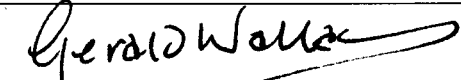
Name



Date

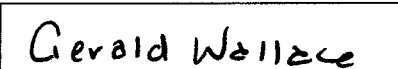


Signature

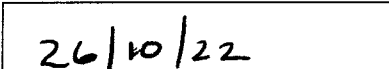


(Trustee)

Name



Date



# FRIENDS OF RIDLEY PARK

Accounts for the Year Ended 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022

## Independent Examiner's Report

Having examined the accounts of "Friends of Ridley Park", the receipts and payments are, to the best of my knowledge, a true and accurate record.

Signed: Lindsay John McDougall

Name: Lindsay John McDougall

Date: 21/10/2022

Address: 45, Pendleton Drive

Cramlington

Northumberland

NE23 3TU

Phone: 01670 735036

Charity Commission Number: 1177588

**FRIENDS OF RIDLEY PARK**

England & Wales - Charity number 1177588

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# Accounts

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## Trustees' Annual Report for the period

**From: 01/10/20** Period start date      **To: 30/09/21** Period end date

**Charity name: FRIENDS OF RIDLEY PARK**

**Charity registration number: 1177588**

### Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<p><b>Friends of Ridley Park was set up to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• help the inhabitants of Blyth and its surrounding area by providing or assisting in the provision of facilities for recreation and other leisure time occupation.</li> <li>• improve the conditions of life for the inhabitants in the area of benefit by the preservation, promotion, support, assistance and improvement of Ridley Park.</li> </ul>
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p><b>Nature activities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bug hotel</li> <li>• Wildlife photos</li> <li>• Bird screen maintenance</li> </ul> <p><b>Gardening/park assistance:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tree project</li> <li>• Hedging planted</li> <li>• Light gardening</li> <li>• Litter picking</li> </ul> <p><b>Heritage:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• COVID-19 commemoration plaque</li> <li>• Bill &amp; Ben mascots</li> <li>• FORP CONNECT</li> </ul> <p><b>Fundraising for park entrance project</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One Lottery</li> <li>• Easy Fundraising</li> <li>• Amazon Smile</li> <li>• Public donations</li> </ul>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	<p><b>The trustees have observed the Commission's statutory guidance on public benefit to improve facilities and activities within Ridley Park.</b></p>

#### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	

Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	<b>Volunteers have spent 500 hours this year working on the park entrance project. Weekly tasks amount to 20 hours of volunteer time.</b>
Other		

## Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>The activities of Friends of Ridley Park were once again impacted by COVID-19 and restricted to outdoors.</p> <p>During this financial year FORP received the grant of £15000 which is ringfenced for the park entrance project. A further grant of £5000 was secured, payable once the balance of funding for the park entrance project is achieved. This project will substantially enhance and promote the park to the community. The group continue to fundraise for this project.</p> <p>Due to restricted income, most of the achievements this year relied on volunteer time and minimal or no financial input from Friends of Ridley Park:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Free hedging from NCC tree planting scheme.</li> <li>• Bench painting, using the local Probation service and materials from the County Council. This improves park seating for the general public.</li> <li>• FORP CONNECT - 51 digital editions of newsletter produced to help charity trustees stay in touch, especially those with underlying health conditions, living alone and socially isolated.</li> </ul>

		<p>This is valuable archive material of FORP during COVID-19.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bug hotel was completed and installed by members with information panel designed by FORP.</li> <li>• ZOOM Pro licence was donated, enabling monthly meetings and AGM to take place. It also allowed members to work remotely to review our policies and procedures.</li> <li>• Tree project: two specimen trees were planted, one of which has a dedication plaque to COVID-19</li> <li>• Bill &amp; Ben scrapbook of photos and timeline was produced. FORP members took them on park outings and joined in the town carnival parade.</li> </ul>
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**Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

## Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	<b>Due to COVID 19, all expenditure has been kept to a minimum as our income stream from use of the pavilion has stopped.</b>
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	<b>Friends of Ridley Park aim to hold £1000 in reserves as this will ensure we can cover our Public Liability insurance costs.</b>
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	<b>£1000.00</b>
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		

## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	<b>Constitution</b>
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	<b>Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)</b>
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	<b>Appointed by Charity Trustees of Friends of Ridley Park</b>

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	<b>Safeguarding Policy GDPR Policy Health &amp; Safety Policy Equal Opportunities Policy Volunteer Policy</b>
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

### Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Friends of Ridley Park
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1177588
Charity's principal address	4 Park View Blyth NE24 3AY

**Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity**

	<b>Trustee name</b>	<b>Office (if any)</b>	<b>Dates acted if not for whole year</b>	<b>Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)</b>
1	Fiona Gibson	Chair	2018-present	Trustees of Friends of Ridley Park
2	Gerald Wallace	Vice Chair	2018-present	Trustees of Friends of Ridley Park
3	Stuart Olley	Assistant Secretary	2018-present	Trustees of Friends of Ridley Park
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**Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved**

<b>Director name</b>		

**Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity**

<b>Trustee name</b>	<b>Dates acted if not for whole year</b>	

## Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

### Additional information (optional)

#### Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

#### Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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## Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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## Other optional information

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## Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

<b>Signature(s)</b>		
<b>Full name(s)</b>	Fiona Mary Gibson	
<b>Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)</b>	Chair	
<b>Date</b>	22 November 2021	

# **FRIENDS OF RIDLEY PARK**

Wensleydale Terrace, Blyth, NE24 3HF

Charity Commission Number: 1177588

## **Statement of Accounts**

For the Year Ended

30<sup>th</sup> September 2021

**RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT - YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2021**

Total Funds at 1st October 2020 2,320.60

**RECEIPTS**

<u>Membership Fees</u>		39.00	
<u>Donations</u>			
Collections	130.79		
Donations - General	1,654.02		
Donations - One Lottery Prizes	275.99		
Gift Aid Refunds	68.75		
			2,129.55
			<hr/>
<u>Grants</u>			
Blyth Town Council - Community Support Grant	15,000.00		
NCC - Empowering Communities Grant	200.00		
			15,200.00
			<hr/>
<u>Other Receipts</u>			
Amazon Smile Receipts	21.23		
Easy Fundraising Receipts	120.83		
One Lottery Ticket Sales Refunds	878.00		
			1,020.06
			<hr/>
<u>TOTAL RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR</u>			18,388.61
			<hr/>
			<u>20,709.21</u>

**PAYMENTS**

<u>Miscellaneous Project</u>			
Insurance - Combined Policy	276.52		
IT Costs - Zoom Software	115.10		
NCC - Gaming Licence for One Lottery	40.00		
Litter Picking Equipment	82.98		
			514.60
			<hr/>
<u>Park Entrance Project</u>			
Promotional Posters			33.00
<u>Bird Screen &amp; Nest Boxes Project</u>			
Bird Screen - Bird Food	160.00		
Bird Screen - Maintenance	74.21		
			234.21
			<hr/>
<u>Tree Trail Project</u>			
Trees Purchased	477.60		
Tree Plaque	228.00		
			705.60
			<hr/>
<u>Bug Hotel Project</u>			
Bug Hotel - Construction Costs			60.73
<u>TOTAL PAID DURING THE YEAR</u>			1,548.14
			<hr/>
<u>Total Funds at 30th September 2021</u>			19,161.07
			<hr/>
			<u>20,709.21</u>

**STATEMENT OF MEMBER'S FUNDS AS AT 30TH SEPTEMBER 2021**

**Assets & Liabilities**

Notes

Assets

Cash at Bank & In Hand:

Balance at Lloyds Bank	19,112.28
Cash in Hand	48.79

Total Assets 19,161.07

Liabilities

Deferred Income:

Blyth Town Council Grant	1	15,000.00
Funds held re Board Game Event	2	25.00
Prepaid Membership Fees	3	1.00

Total Liabilities (15,026.00)

4,135.07

Represented By:-

**Member's Funds:**

Miscellaneous Project	1,613.13
Park Entrance Project	2,091.29
Bird Screen & Nest Boxes Project	430.65

4,135.07

Notes:

- 1 FORP received a Community Support Grant of £15,000 from Blyth Town Council on 29th March 2021. The grant was offered towards the Park Entrance Project with the proviso that certain conditions be met before the funds were expended; the main condition being that the remaining funds be raised to complete the project. The conditions attached to the grant have, as at the year-end date, not yet been met. Consequently, this amount is treated as Deferred Income as at 30th September 2021 as there is a possibility that it might have to be repaid to Blyth Town Council.
  
- 2 Dave Foxhall paid a £25.00 deposit on 7th November 2019 to book the pavilion for his board game event. Due to Covid, the event did not take place but Dave asked that we retain his funds pending the re-arrangement of his event at some future date. As at 30th September 2021 the event still hasn't taken place so the £25.00 is now treated as Deferred Income.
  
- 3 FORP Member Bill Thompson duplicated his membership fee payment during the year. His extra £1.00 fee will be carried forward to the 21/22 financial year and it will be treated as Deferred Income in the accounts as at 30th September 2021.

Signed on behalf of all Trustees:

Signature

*Fiona McGibson*

(Trustee)

Name

FIONA MCGIBSON

Date

25/10/21

Signature

*Gerald Wallace*

(Trustee)

Name

GERALD WALLACE

Date

25/10/21

