

THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF PARKS AND GREEN SPACES

England & Wales · Charity number 1185924

Details

Other names	NFPGS
Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2019-10-22
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	7 Carrick Gardens London N17 7AX
Phone	02082169651
Email	info@natfedparks.org.uk
Website	https://www.natfedparks.org.uk/

Activities

Objects: TO PROMOTE THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR CONCERNED WITH THE PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE UK'S PARKS AND OPEN GREEN SPACES OF ALL KINDS AS PUBLIC FACILITIES AND RESOURCES FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC BY:A) INFLUENCING STRATEGIC DECISION-MAKING AND POLICY, AND LOBBYING FOR STATUTORY RECOGNITION AND ADEQUATE FUNDING FOR PUBLIC GREEN SPACE;B) ADDRESSING THE DEFICIENCIES OF GREEN SPACE IN THE ENVIRONMENT;C) ADVANCING THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC IN THE ENJOYMENT, UNDERSTANDING, APPRECIATION AND CONSERVATION OF OPEN SPACES;D) PROMOTING THE DEVELOPMENT AND EMPOWERMENT OF FRIENDS/COMMUNITY GROUPS FOR PARKS AND OPEN SPACES, AND THEIR FORUMS AND NETWORKS, THEIR COMMUNICATION AND COOPERATION, AND THEIR FULL INVOLVEMENT IN THE MANAGEMENT OF THEIR PARKS AND OPEN SPACES;E) RAISING THE PROFILE OF MEMBERS AND THE FRIENDS GROUPS MOVEMENT AS A WHOLE."VOLUNTARY SECTOR" IS DEFINED AS "CHARITIES AND VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS".CHARITIES ARE ORGANISATIONS, WHICH ARE ESTABLISHED FOR EXCLUSIVELY CHARITABLE PURPOSES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAW OF ENGLAND AND WALES.VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS ARE INDEPENDENT ORGANISATIONS WHICH ARE ESTABLISHED FOR PURPOSES THAT ADD VALUE TO THE COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE, OR A SIGNIFICANT SECTION OF THE COMMUNITY, AND WHICH ARE NOT PERMITTED BY THEIR CONSTITUTION TO MAKE A PROFIT FOR PRIVATE DISTRIBUTION. VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS DO NOT INCLUDE LOCAL GOVERNMENT OR OTHER STATUTORY ORGANISATIONS.

Activities: The Federation works with the dynamic and inspirational grassroots movement of over 6,000 local Friends of Parks groups, supporting volunteers who act on behalf of the communities who use and care about our vital public green spaces of all kinds. We exist to represent their activities, issues and concerns and strengthen their passionate and knowledgeable voices.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Environment/conservation/heritage, Economic/community Development/employment, Recreation
- **Who:** Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Northern Ireland
- Scotland
- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-04-05	£10,022	£2,405	-	-
2024-04-05	£3,868	£286	-	-
2023-04-05	£7,110	£1,956	-	-
2022-04-05	£809	£2,886	-	-
2021-04-05	£51,207	£42,055	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
David Morris	Chair	2019-11-23
Michelle Elizabeth Furtado		2019-11-23
Nicola Dempsey		2024-11-16
Nigel Thomas Sharp		2019-11-23
Patricia Gross		2026-04-01
Paul Ely		2022-11-01
Sarah Elizabeth Royal		2019-11-23
Shelly Quinton-Hulme MBE		2021-04-10
Wendy Blythe		2025-09-27

THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF PARKS AND GREEN SPACES

England & Wales - Charity number 1185924

Accounts

*National Federation of
Parks and Green Spaces*

Supporting Grass Roots

Annual Report 2024/2025

Reporting period:

06/04/2024 – 05/04/2025

National Federation of Parks and Green Spaces (NFPGS)

charity registration number: 1185924

Registered address: 7 Carrick Gardens, London, N17 7AX

Email: info@natfedparks.org.uk

Websites: <https://www.natfedparks.org.uk>/<https://www.parkscommunity.org.uk>

Who are we and what do we do?

The National Federation of Parks and Green Spaces [NFPGS] is a CIO* and is governed by our constitution which can be found on our website (<https://natfedparks.org.uk/resources/>). The NFPGS was originally constituted in 2010 but converted to a CIO on the 23rd November 2019 which was registered with the Charity Commission on the 22/10/2019.

OUR MISSION

(What we do)

The NFPGS promotes the voluntary sector concerned with the protection and improvement of the UK's parks and open green spaces of all kinds as public facilities and resources for the benefit of the public. It does this by providing advocacy, advice and information to its members and the wider public in support of its' charitable objects. It acts as an umbrella for Friends Groups Forums and other stakeholders of public open spaces nationally.

OUR GOALS / PURPOSE

(What we must achieve)

- Influencing strategic decision making and policy, and lobbying for statutory recognition and adequate funding for public green space
- Addressing the deficiencies of green space in the environment
- Advancing the education of the public in the enjoyment, understanding, appreciation, and conservation of open spaces.
- Promoting the development and empowerment of Friends / Community Groups for parks and open spaces, and their forums and networks, their communication and cooperation, and their full involvement in the management of their parks and open spaces
- Raising the profile of members and the Friends Groups movement as a whole.

OUR VISION

(What we want to be)

The Federation to become the 'go to' organisation and resource for all information for and about the Friends Groups' movement, and by coordinating and strengthening that movement thereby have a real and positive influence over the future of the UK's green spaces.

OUR BEHAVIOURS

(How we will work)

- Inclusive
- Transparent
- Respectful
- Encouraging
- Sharing
- Focused
- Outspoken
- Collaborative

*A Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) is a corporate form of business designed for (and only available to) charitable organisations in England and Wales, similar to (but with important differences from) a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation.[1] CIO status is conferred by the Charity Commission for England and Wales on application by a charity, whether new or existing.

Charitable Objects [as registered with the Charity Commission]

To promote the voluntary sector concerned with the protection and improvement of the UK's parks and open green spaces of all kinds as public facilities and resources for the benefit of the public by:

- a) influencing strategic decision-making and policy, and lobbying for statutory recognition and adequate funding for public green space;
- b) addressing the deficiencies of green space in the environment;
- c) advancing the education of the public in the enjoyment, understanding, appreciation and conservation of open spaces;
- d) promoting the development and empowerment of friends/community groups for parks and open spaces, and their forums and networks, their communication and cooperation, and their full involvement in the management of their parks and open spaces;
- e) raising the profile of members and the friends groups movement as a whole. "voluntary sector" is defined as "charities and voluntary organisations".

Charities are organisations, which are established for exclusively charitable purposes in accordance with the law of England and Wales. Voluntary organisations are independent organisations which are established for purposes that add value to the community as a whole, or a significant section of the community, and which are not permitted by their constitution to make a profit for private distribution. Voluntary organisations do not include local government or other statutory organisations.

What the charity does:

- General Charitable Purposes
- Environment / conservation / heritage
- Economic / Community Development / employment
- Recreation

Who the charity helps:

- Other Charities or Voluntary Bodies
- The General Public / humankind

How the charity helps:

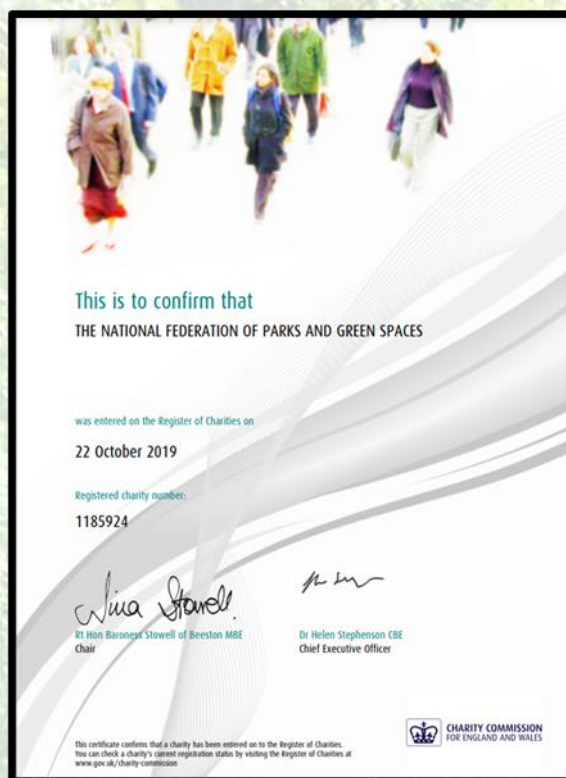
- Provides Advocacy / advice / information
- Sponsors Or Undertakes Research
- Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body

Where the charity operates:

- Throughout England and Wales
- Northern Ireland
- Scotland

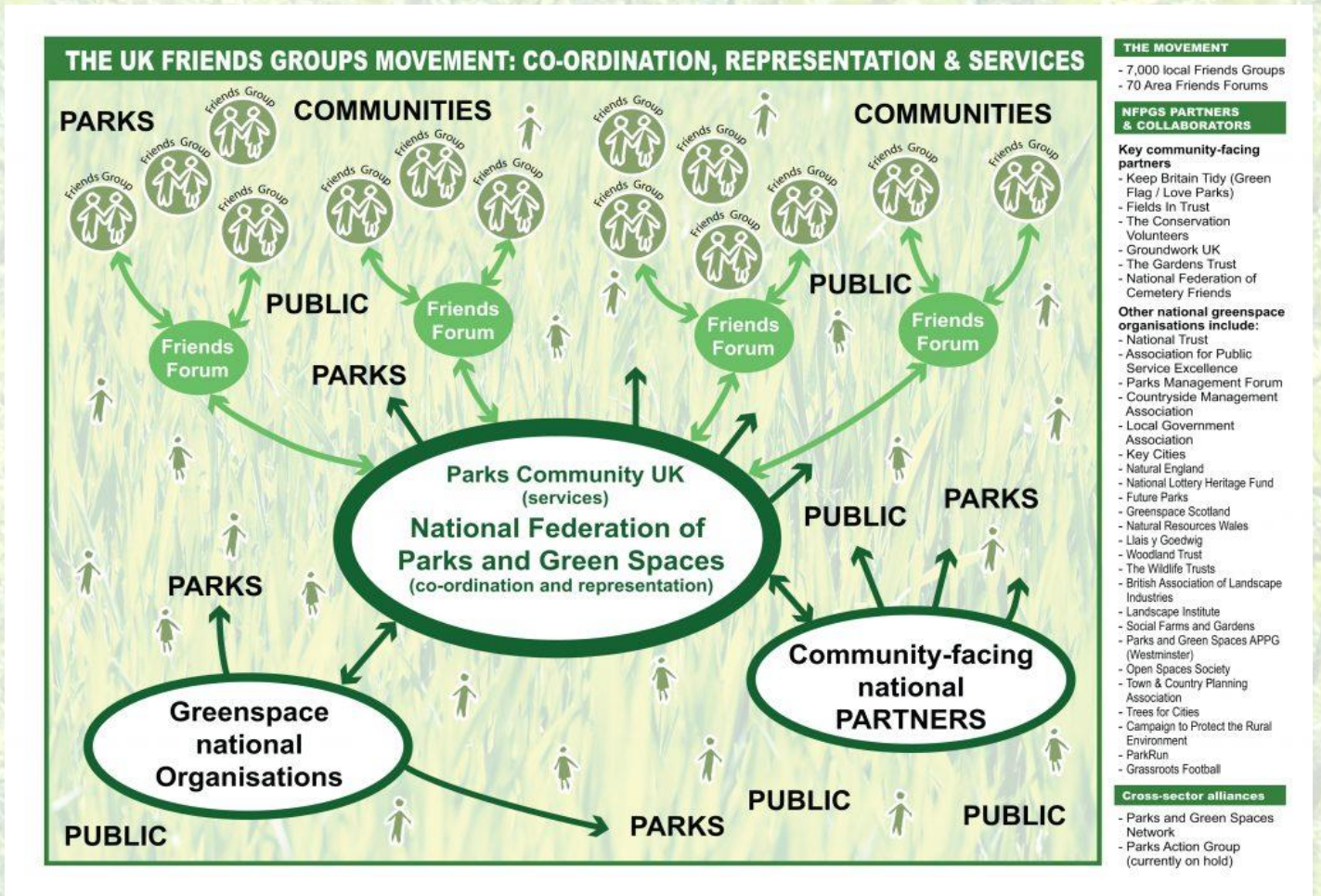
Activities - how the charity spends its money:

The Federation works with the dynamic and inspirational grassroots movement of over 7,000 local Friends of Parks groups, supporting volunteers who act on behalf of the communities who use and care about our vital public green spaces of all kinds. We exist to represent their activities, issues and concerns and strengthen their



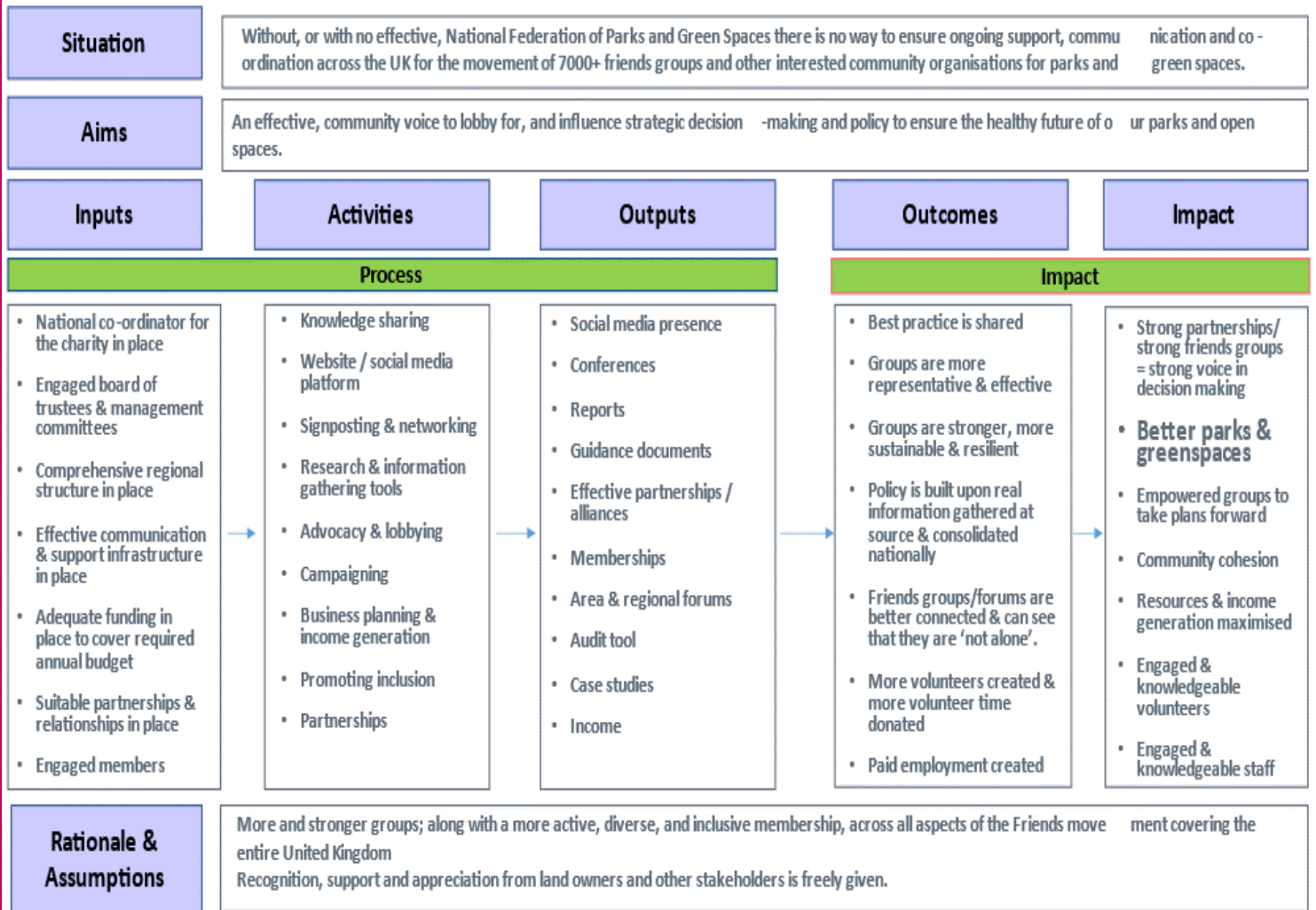
passionate and knowledgeable voices. To that end we communicate with local groups and Forums, manage websites and social media, produce newsletters and reports, organise meetings, liaise with Government, collaborate with other national bodies, contact the media, apply for funding, and manage our organisation.

To further explain what we do the following infographic(from 2019) shows how we fit together in the green spaces big picture.



Our theory of change also explains what we do, why, and the changes we hope to effect.

National Federation of Parks and Green Spaces Theory of Change



We aim to share learning, develop good practice, and strengthen grassroots organisation, coordination and co-operation throughout the UK. Most importantly, we raise the issues impacting on our open spaces, including seeking the effective protection and improvement of all the UK's 27,000 public parks and green spaces.

We want to see an active Friends Group for every public green space, and an active and independent Forum run by such groups in every area throughout the UK.

The Federation is a democratic, accountable, 'bottom up', grassroots organisation of the movement's area forums and networks (currently numbering over 70 such Forums actively networking and coordinating over 3,000 of the local groups). We are uniquely placed to be able to support and build up this grassroots movement.

We provide support for friends' groups working together to make a difference to their local area, city, region and nationally. Such groups and their coordination forums are dependent on unpaid and over-stretched volunteer commitment at every level, including our own Federation officers and representatives (who are also active in their local Friends Groups and Area Forums).

We call on all those who value the UK's green spaces to work together to speak out and defend them, to call for the effective action urgently needed at Government level – make parks a statutory service backed by adequate public funding and effective protection. We call on everyone to support and help build the Friends Groups movement in every locality and area throughout the UK.



Better Friends – A Report on the State of the Movement of Greenspace Friends Groups throughout the UK

<https://natfedparks.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/NFPGS-PCUK-Second-Report-2023.pdf>

This pathbreaking and important report, produced by the PCUK team of the NFPGS (updated 2023), analyses in depth what Friends Groups do, how they do it, their memberships, character, needs, partnerships and successes. It is based on the statistics emanating from our Better Friends strength checker – a state-of-the-art audit tool freely available to all local greenspace community groups.

The only free tool of its type, designed specifically to help the thousands of volunteer Friends groups who champion and improve their local UK parks and green spaces. It is an enjoyable challenge and a neat way to test the current health of your group.

The '[Better Friends](#)' tool aims to help people understand and strengthen the effectiveness of their group, it will get them thinking about how they operate, how effective they are and highlight areas for improvement.

Those doing the survey will receive an emailed feedback report with an overall score for their group, plus a more detailed breakdown covering key topics such as:

- organisation
- structure
- strengths
- effectiveness
- ambition.

Here is an extract from a sample "[Better Friends](#)" strength-checker report:



We recommend you use the tool as a group, but completion by individuals can also be useful.

A guideline time for completion is **20-30 minutes**. We really hope you find this tool useful.

Our Partner Organisations

We recognise the importance of collaboration and the benefits that good partnerships can bring and as such we are always looking to expand our partnerships with like minded organisations.

We currently have partnerships with a joint memorandum of understanding with:

- Keep Britain Tidy - improving the environment on your doorstep



- Fields in Trust champions and supports our parks and green spaces by protecting them for people to enjoy in perpetuity. Because once lost, they are lost forever.



- The Conservation Volunteers - Connecting people and green spaces to deliver lasting outcomes for both.



- Groundwork takes practical action to create a fair and green future in which people, places, and nature thrive.



- The Gardens Trust is a charity dedicated to protecting and conserving historic parks, gardens and designed landscapes in the UK.



- Campaign to Protect Rural England believes in countryside and green spaces that are accessible to all, rich in nature and that enriches all of our lives.



The countryside charity

Let's Celebrate, Improve and Defend the UK's Green Spaces!

Our local green spaces are vital for everyone and every community – and for all age groups and interests! They are an essential and unique service promoting relaxation, recreation and play, wildlife and bio-diversity, attractive walking and cycling routes, green jobs and skills, heritage, flood control, health and social well-being, and community cohesion.

However, there is growing alarm from the public, from Friends of Parks groups, parks managers, experts and MPs, about the serious long-term damage being caused by devastating cuts to green space budgets for staff and maintenance, and the lack of funding and investment by local and national government. If not reversed, this neglect will cause them to go into serious decline and become problem spaces abandoned by park users and plagued by vandalism – or even being closed and sold off. We must not let this happen.

We call on all park lovers and the UK public in general to...

- **CELEBRATE** our public green spaces and community activities organised there
- **EMPOWER OUR COMMUNITIES** to take 'ownership' of our local spaces and get involved in all decision-making
- **SET UP FRIENDS GROUPS** for every urban park and green space
- **SPEAK OUT** to ensure that the needs of parks are heard loud and clear
- **OPPOSE** threats of inappropriate commercialisation, development and sell-offs of facilities and green space
- **HELP CREATE A MASSIVE CO-ORDINATED GRASSROOTS MOVEMENT** to promote, defend and improve our green spaces
- **DEMAND THE GOVERNMENT** bring in a Statutory Duty to monitor and manage these spaces to Green Flag Award standard; and ensure adequate public resources and protection for all green spaces

The NFPGS, as the voice of the Friends Groups movement, pledges to...

- **CONTINUE TO ENCOURAGE, PROMOTE AND SUPPORT** co-ordinated Friends Groups networks and conferences around the country
- **CALL** for whole greenspace sector and supporters everywhere to back the grassroots movement and this call to action

The Charter for Parks

- Celebrate the central role well-run parks play in our neighbourhoods for all sections of our communities
- Recognise the right of every citizen to have access within walking distance to a good quality public green space
- Endorse a legal duty for all public green space to be managed to a good standard
- Embed effective protection from inappropriate development or use, or loss of any part of our parks
- Ensure adequate long-term resources for ongoing maintenance, management and improvements
- Encourage and enable community involvement and empowerment of local people and park users

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF FRIENDS GROUPS FOR PARKS & GREEN SPACES?



FOR VOLUNTEERS	FOR GREEN SPACE	FOR MANAGERS	FOR COMMUNITIES
HEALTH Improve fitness and wellbeing	INVESTMENT Additional funding, volunteering, skills and lobbying	EYES & EARS People watching out and reporting back	STANDARDS Improvement, greater usage and optimism
EMPOWERMENT Experience ownership, take initiative and make a difference	PROTECTION Monitoring, championing and defence of site	RECOGNITION Appreciation of work done	CONNECTIONS Physical and social interaction
INFLUENCE Have a real say in decision-making and improvements	PROMOTION Publicity and encouragement to use	SUPPORT Help with maintenance, promotion and activities	COHESION Connect diverse interests, ages and backgrounds
MEANING Give purpose and pride	DECISION-MAKING Better and more popular decisions, engagement and continuity	IMPROVEMENT Aspirations and standards raised	PROTECTION Community champions and long term investment
ENJOYMENT Being involved is exciting and fun	USAGE More visitors, natural benefits and appreciation	PARTNERSHIP People to discuss, work and coordinate with	PRIDE Sense of achievement and ownership
FRESH AIR Great way to get outside and into green space	SAFETY Community surveillance helps deter crime	FEEDBACK Information and views	WELLBEING Enabling and promoting positive lifestyles
AWARENESS Get to know about nature, the community and the neighbourhood	IMPROVEMENT Better standards, and extra facilities and features	SATISFACTION Increased public usage and happiness	OPPORTUNITIES Encouraging volunteering and participation
CONNECTIONS Connect with others and explore common interests	ANIMATION More activities and initiatives, vibrancy and innovation	CHAMPIONS People speaking out for the needs of the space	AWARENESS Spreading information and communication
LEARNING Use, acquire and develop skills	COLLABORATION Development of relations and partnerships	EXPERTISE Extra knowledge and skills through volunteers	COMMUNITY SPIRIT Encouraging solidarity and co-operation
RECOGNITION Be part of activity which is valued and appreciated	MAINTENANCE Fast reporting, timely action and extra help	INVESTMENT Additional funding and new projects	INSPIRATION Example of what can be achieved by community action

Parks Community UK © 2021
 Design by Cohere,
 Icons by Andrew Nolte and Gen Khoon Lay for the Hours Project

Rethinking Parks

Parks Community UK operates within the movement of thousands of parks and green space Friends and community groups and we are managed by [The National Federation of Parks and Green Spaces](https://www.nfgs.org.uk/), the movement's umbrella organisation.

Our Trustees:

Our trustees are all elected by NFPGS members at the AGM or co-opted by the charity trustees as required. At present the National Federation of Parks and Green Spaces is entirely run on a voluntary basis.

Trustees must be over 16 years of age. There must be a minimum of 3 trustees and no more than 18. They can serve for a maximum period of 5 years in succession in the same specific post. Each Term of Office is 1 year.

Name of Trustee	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Charity Office Dates	Current Term of Office Date	No of Full Terms of Office served
David Morris	Chair	n/a	23/11/2019 – present	23/11/2019 – present	5
Nigel Thomas Sharp	Honorary Secretary	n/a	23/11/2019 – present	23/11/2019 – present	5
Shelly Quinton-Hulme	Treasurer	n/a	10/04/2021– present	01/07/2023 - present	2
Shelly Quinton-Hulme	Vice Chair	16/11/2024– present	10/04/2021– present	16/11/2024– present	1
Michelle E. Furtado	Trustee	n/a	23/11/2019 – present	23/11/2019 – present	5
Sarah Elizabeth Royal	Trustee	n/a	23/11/2019 – present	23/11/2019 – present	5
Paul Ely	Trustee	n/a	05/11/2022 - present	05/11/2022 - present	3
Nicola Dempsey	Trustee	16/11/24 – 05/04/25	16/11/2024 - present	16/11/2024 - present	0
Suzanne King	Trustee	n/a	23/04/2025 – 23/07/2025	n/a	0
Shelly Quinton-Hulme	Trustee	n/a	10/04/2021 – 01/07/2023	-	1
Martin Willis	Treasurer	n/a	23/11/2019 – 30/06/2023	-	4
Marion Williams	Vice Chair	n/a	10/04/2021 – 04/10/2023	-	2
Clifford Munn	Trustee	05/11/22 - 05/04/23	05/11/2022 - 04/10/2023	-	1

David Morris: Dave was one of the founders of the NFPGS in 2010. He is the chair of his local Friends Group in Tottenham (North London), helps coordinate the Haringey Friends of Parks Forum, and chairs the London Friends of Green Spaces Network which coordinates the movement of around 900 Friends Groups throughout London. He liaises on our behalf with other national greenspace organisations and has been a member (its only community representative) of the Government/Sector official liaison body, the Parks Action Group, coordinating its Empowering Communities Working Group and projects.



Michelle Furtado: Michelle Furtado is a climate and sustainability consultant, focusing on systems-thinking and systems-dynamics, future visioning, and regenerative practices. She works independently as FuturEcoLogic (www.futurecologic.co.uk), is a Director of the Association of Sustainability Practitioners (<https://sustainabilitypractitioners.org/>), and Director of Green Tides CIC (<https://greentides.org.uk/>). She now lives in the mountains of Portugal, remaining a committed to supporting UK organisations, whilst growing her networks locally.



Nearly 20 years ago, she started designing parks and playgrounds with communities and fell in love with the volunteers who helped to improve and maintain these spaces. Whilst working in green spaces policy at national level, she joined the National Federation of Parks and Green Spaces, helping to lobby for fair funding and protection for our precious green spaces. With Green Tides, in Adur and Worthing, she helps develop The Wildflower Trail (<https://www.thewildflowertrail.org/>) that showcases the wonderful efforts of volunteers in protecting and enhancing the environment for pollinators. Connect with her on LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/michelle-furtado/>

Sarah Royal: I have been part of NFPGS from the very beginning, as our first Chair. We worked in in close partnership with GreenSpace and then Keep Britain Tidy to help start up more Community Green Space Forums across the country and bring us all together in to the network. I have spoken to groups across the country and have met some many wonderful people I have been working in Birmingham with the Birmingham Open Spaces Forum since we started in 2004, moving from a forum of local parks Friends Groups to a CIO with around 140 community green space groups from across the city. My background shows my continued passion for our natural environment with a B.Sc. (Hons) from Leicester Polytechnic in Science and the Environment.



Nigel Sharp: From early days as an urban ranger, and later as a development officer, Nigel worked with Liverpool City Council for over thirty years, helping establish the Liverpool Parks Friends Forum, and later the regional North West Parks Friends Forum (which he still coordinates). Following work on the Love Parks project at Keep Britain Tidy, Nigel is now a group development worker at Sefton Council for Voluntary Services, in North Merseyside, supporting a wide range of voluntary, community and faith organisations, including park and beach friends groups. This role also helps inform his position as NFPGS secretary, responding to parks and green space community group enquiries with guidance, advice and support.



Shelly Quinton-Hulme MBE: She is the Chairperson for the Friends of Victoria Park, Stretford and also the Friends of Trafford's Parks and Green Spaces. She has a strong background in governance and is also Chair of Governors at her local infant school and runs Stretford Children's Theatre too. She works as a Programme Manager for Network Rail and loves her family life in Stretford and is a big part of the community there.



Paul Ely: Paul lives in London and the majority of his working life has been spent in local government working for London based local authorities, Haringey and Tower Hamlets, and he also worked in the charity sector for Bankside Open Spaces Trust and more recently as an independent consultant. Whilst in Haringey, he worked closely with the Friends of Lordship Rec to fundraise for and implement the £5.5m restoration of Lordship and subsequently teamed up again with Dave Morris on the NESTA funded project to share the good practice learned from Lordship about partnership working and community empowerment.



Nicola Dempsey: I am a newbie to the Trustees and am Secretary for the Sheffield Green Spaces Forum. I am an academic working at the University of Sheffield's School of Architecture and Landscape with a focus on landscape management. I am passionate about our urban green spaces of all shapes and sizes and the people who make decisions about them. I am also involved in other Sheffield-wide organisations, including Green Estate and the Sheffield Street Tree Partnership which work with Sheffield City Council and community representatives.



In the pursuance of our activities the trustees named above confirm that they have given due regard to the Charity Commissions public benefit guidance.
We are always looking for new Trustees to join us to help strengthen the Federation and the wider movement.

Our Year in Review – April 2024 to March 2025

By NFPGS Chair – Dave Morris

The Friends Groups movement in 2024 and 2025 continued to be a crucial presence and determined advocate for green spaces throughout the UK. However, the generally woeful level of funding and staffing for the maintenance and management of greenspace over the last decade continued and placed them even further under pressure as Councils reported serious budgetary crises, cutting 'non-statutory' services, and some even in a state of bankruptcy.

For the NFPGS, as the voice and coordination body of the movement, our key activities included:

- continuing our responsibility for the Parks Community UK platform for supporting those at the grassroots of the movement. This included promoting our 'Better Friends' self-audit tool (which over 600 groups had taken advantage of by the spring of 2025).
- providing ongoing support for local groups and their area Forums (our members).
- general communication and promotion, including occasional bulletins, updates and additional social media activity. We also continue to encourage peer-to-peer communication and solidarity among our members via our internal discussion list. Issues raised there included: banking charges, access to tennis facilities, Local Authority devolution, development threats, and Lottery funding opportunities.
- supporting the carrying out of surveys about Friends Groups activities and views, including for Fields In Trust
- holding a very well-attended AGM in November 2024 (20 Area Forums and 2 Regional Networks, representing nearly 3,000 Friends Groups), and regular trustee meetings.
- We've organised 3 major discussions for Forum reps on: Protecting and promoting biodiversity / Creating and sustaining strong Area Forums / What support is needed for Friends Groups and Forums to become more effective.
- We have also tried to improve our own internal coordination by creating an annual calendar of key meetings, and gradually synchronising the dates of our AGMs with our Annual Reports

NFPGS Working Groups

This year for the first time we agreed to develop various Working Groups:

- **RESEARCH** - Continuing our collaboration with University College London to support MA students research into UK Friends groups activities (this year the issue of FG/LA relations). We have discussed taking forward our previous research recommendations regarding inclusivity and diversity. Most significantly we have set up a Working Group of 8 highly respected academics in the field.
- **NFPGS FUNDING** - We set up a new Working Group which will continue to seek major core funding for the NFPGS, without which we have no alternative but to continue to try to fulfil our crucial role within the sector and for the wider UK public without any staffing or substantial resources. Our collaboration on a major funding bid with Plantlife was unsuccessful, but we are pleased to report there has been some recent progress on some smaller bids. We have also started to charge for work we do for other organisations which previously we did for free.
- **CAMPAIGNING / ADVOCACY** - Working Group not yet off the ground.

Collaboration with key partners

As always, we continued to support collaboration among greenspace national organisations, including sector alliances and joint calls for adequate resources for the sector. This included attending conferences and making presentations promoting Friends Groups and community empowerment, including attending, and presenting at Association for Public Service Excellence events for parks managers.

Most significantly, following discussions between ourselves and other key sector bodies, the Government agreed to (re-)launch the Parks Working Group to strengthen Government/Sector liaison. Again, we are the only community-level body within the PWG and our Chair has once again been chosen to coordinate the Community Empowerment theme work.

Impact

We believe that the Friends Groups movement in general has continued to remain a crucial force within the sector and in local communities throughout the UK and makes a real difference to many thousands of the UK's green spaces. However, the reach of the movement is still patchy: there remain so many spaces which don't yet benefit from having a Friends Group, and many towns and areas are without a coordinating Forum or network to champion all the public greenspace in their area.

As we experience yet another funding crisis for local government, we anticipate that more and more groups will be established to defend and protect their local green spaces and that local authorities will hope that these new groups can help to provide the crucial services, such as maintenance and activation, that they are withdrawing from as a result of a lack of funding.

The NFPGS ensures that there is a strategic voice and overview at national level and is crucial to the practice, coordination, effectiveness and success of this movement. However, the NFPGS needs proper resourcing to offer the Friends movement the support it requires and deserves (eg staffing for our admin, coordination and social media - which we continue to seek and which most of the other national greenspace organisations have) and with which our impact would be far greater. We are pleased to report that some small steps towards this have emerged during 2025.

Financial Review:

Reserves policy: We will not hold in excess of six months average expenditure as reserves and will ensure that any accumulation over this will be spent on furthering the aims and objectives of the organisation.

Amount of reserves currently held: £0

We do not incur financial liabilities and so should not find itself in deficit.

No employees have total benefits over £60k for this charity

Fundraising – This charity raises funds from the public but does not work with professional fundraisers or commercial participators.

Trading – This charity does not have any trading subsidiaries.

No trustees are paid for carrying out trustee duties.

We have a suite of adopted policies which can be seen at [NFPGS Policies \(natfedparks.org.uk\)](http://natfedparks.org.uk)



Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date 06/04/2024	To	Period end date 05/04/2025
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Balance Brought forward	9,022	-	-	9,022	5,154
Survey Support	1,000	-	-	1,000	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	10,022	-	-	10,022	5,154
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	10,022	-	-	10,022	5,154
A3 Payments					
Bank Service Charges	71	-	-	71	286
Internet Hosting	150	-	-	150	-
Better Friends service	2,184	-	-	2,184	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	2,405	-	-	2,405	286
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	2,405	-	-	2,405	286
Net of receipts/(payments)	7,617	-	-	7,617	4,868
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	7,617	-	-	7,617	4,868

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds		7,617	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	7,617	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities		-	-	-
		-	-	-

Signed by one trustee on behalf of all the trustees

Signature

S. Quinton-Hulme

Print Name

Shelly Quinton-Hulme

Date of approval

21/09/2025

THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF PARKS AND GREEN SPACES

England & Wales - Charity number 1185924

Accounts

*National Federation of
Parks and Green Spaces*

Supporting Grass Roots

Annual Report 2023/2024

Reporting period:

06/04/2023 – 05/04/2024

National Federation of Parks and Green Spaces (NFPGS)

charity registration number: 1185924

Registered address: 7 Carrick Gardens, London, N17 7AX

Email: info@natfedparks.org.uk

Websites: <https://www.natfedparks.org.uk>/<https://www.parkscommunity.org.uk>

Who are we and what do we do?

The National Federation of Parks and Green Spaces [NFPGS] is a CIO* and is governed by our constitution which can be found on our website (<https://natfedparks.org.uk/resources/>). The NFPGS was originally constituted in 2010 but converted to a CIO on the 23rd November 2019 which was registered with the Charity Commission on the 22/10/2019.

OUR MISSION

(What we do)

The NFPGS promotes the voluntary sector concerned with the protection and improvement of the UK's parks and open green spaces of all kinds as public facilities and resources for the benefit of the public. It does this by providing advocacy, advice and information to its members and the wider public in support of its' charitable objects. It acts as an umbrella for Friends Groups Forums and other stakeholders of public open spaces nationally.

OUR GOALS / PURPOSE

(What we must achieve)

- Influencing strategic decision making and policy, and lobbying for statutory recognition and adequate funding for public green space
- Addressing the deficiencies of green space in the environment
- Advancing the education of the public in the enjoyment, understanding, appreciation, and conservation of open spaces.
- Promoting the development and empowerment of Friends / Community Groups for parks and open spaces, and their forums and networks, their communication and cooperation, and their full involvement in the management of their parks and open spaces
- Raising the profile of members and the Friends Groups movement as a whole.

OUR VISION

(What we want to be)

The Federation to become the 'go to' organisation and resource for all information for and about the Friends Groups' movement, and by coordinating and strengthening that movement thereby have a real and positive influence over the future of the UK's green spaces.

OUR BEHAVIOURS

(How we will work)

- Inclusive
- Transparent
- Respectful
- Encouraging
- Sharing
- Focused
- Outspoken
- Collaborative

*A Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) is a corporate form of business designed for (and only available to) charitable organisations in England and Wales, similar to (but with important differences from) a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation. [1] CIO status is conferred by the Charity Commission for England and Wales on application by a charity, whether new or existing.

Charitable Objects *[as registered with the Charity Commission]*

To promote the voluntary sector concerned with the protection and improvement of the UK's parks and open green spaces of all kinds as public facilities and resources for the benefit of the public by:

- a) influencing strategic decision-making and policy, and lobbying for statutory recognition and adequate funding for public green space;
- b) addressing the deficiencies of green space in the environment;
- c) advancing the education of the public in the enjoyment, understanding, appreciation and conservation of open spaces;
- d) promoting the development and empowerment of friends/community groups for parks and open spaces, and their forums and networks, their communication and cooperation, and their full involvement in the management of their parks and open spaces;
- e) raising the profile of members and the friends groups movement as a whole. "voluntary sector" is defined as "charities and voluntary organisations".

Charities are organisations, which are established for exclusively charitable purposes in accordance with the law of England and Wales. Voluntary organisations are independent organisations which are established for purposes that add value to the community as a whole, or a significant section of the community, and which are not permitted by their constitution to make a profit for private distribution. Voluntary organisations do not include local government or other statutory organisations.

What the charity does:

- General Charitable Purposes
- Environment / conservation / heritage
- Economic / Community Development / employment
- Recreation

Who the charity helps:

- Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies
- The General Public / humankind

How the charity helps:

- Provides Advocacy / advice / information
- Sponsors Or Undertakes Research
- Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body

Where the charity operates:

- Throughout England and Wales
- Northern Ireland
- Scotland

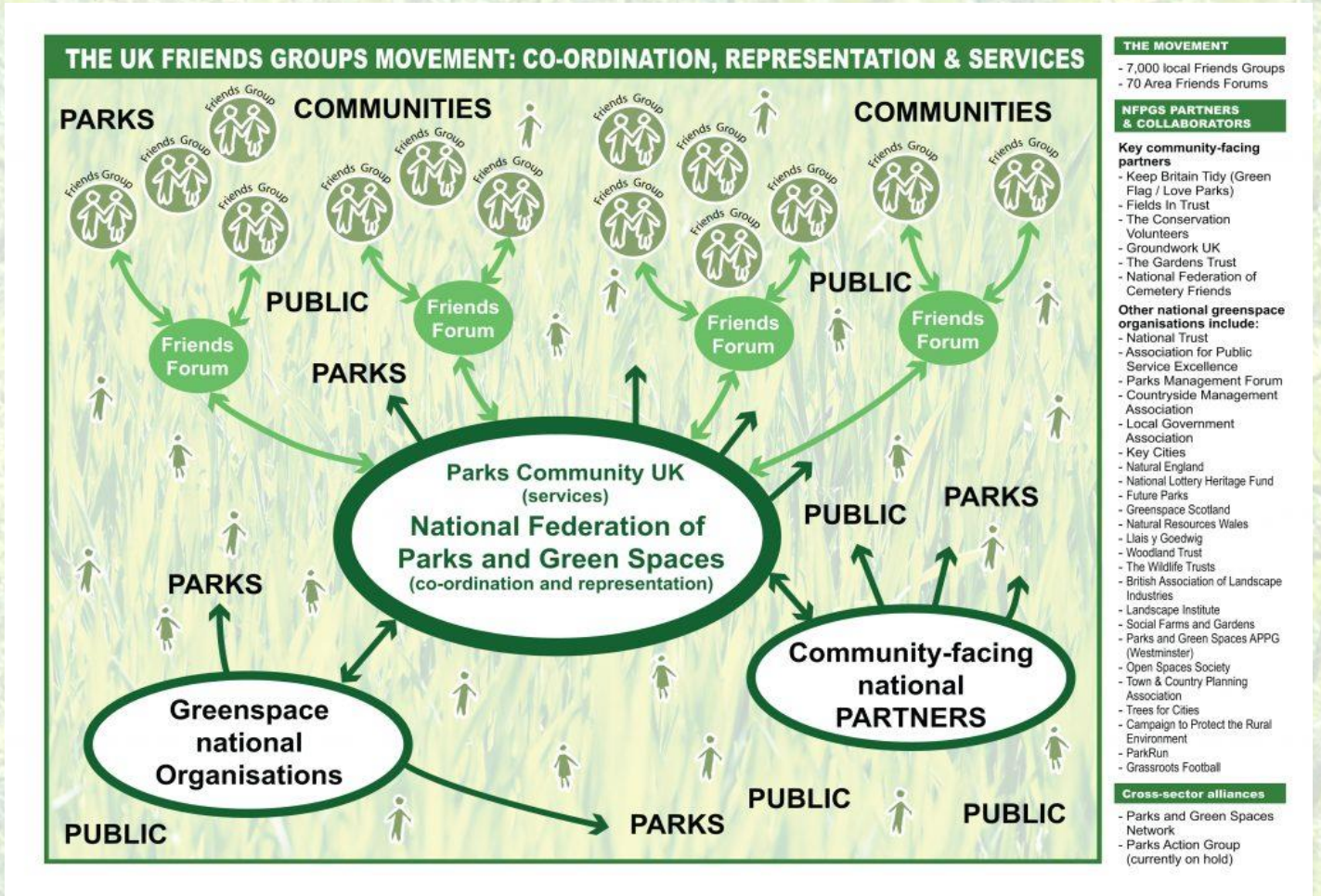
Activities - how the charity spends its money:

The Federation works with the dynamic and inspirational grassroots movement of over 7,000 local Friends of Parks groups, supporting volunteers who act on behalf of the communities who use and care about our vital public green spaces of all kinds. We exist to represent their activities, issues and concerns and strengthen their

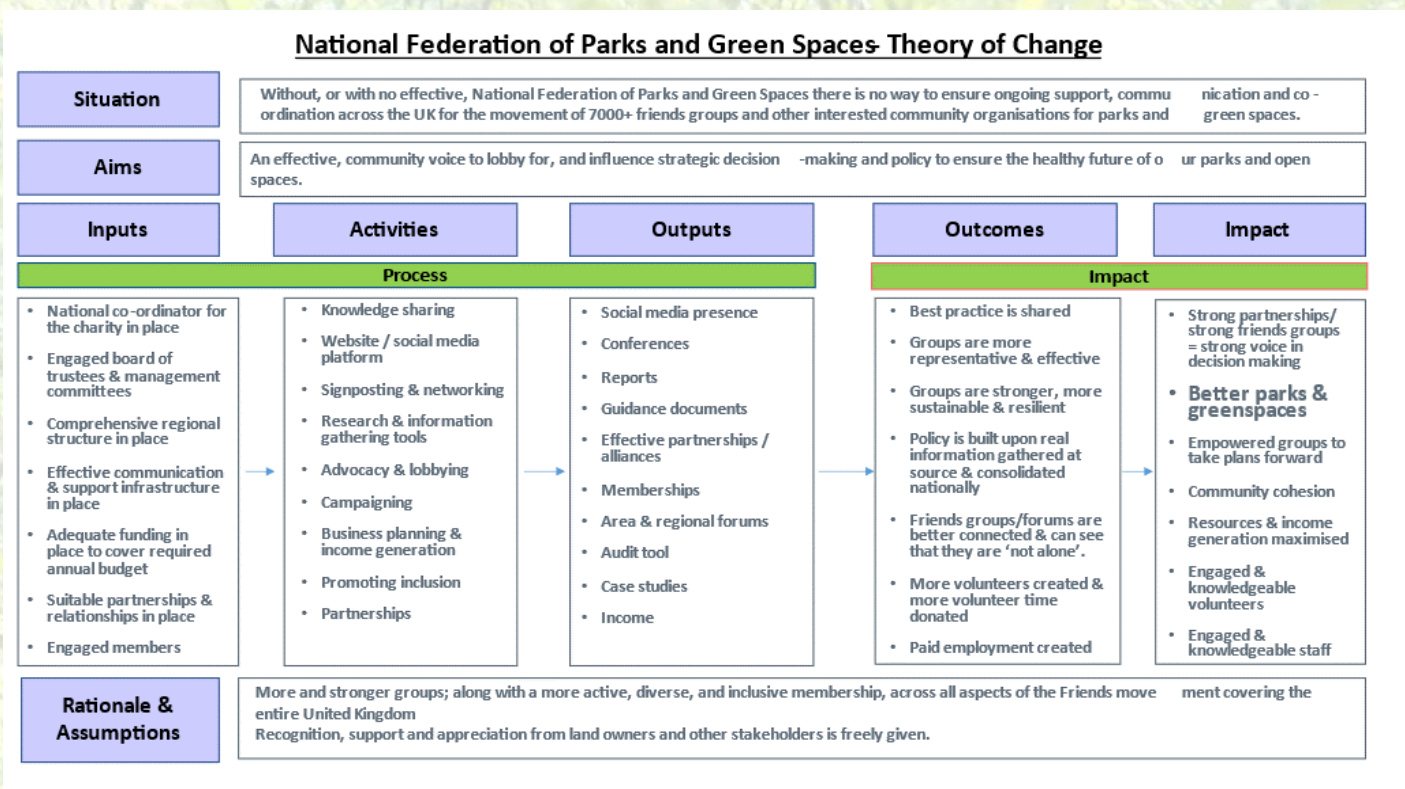


passionate and knowledgeable voices. To that end we communicate with local groups and Forums, manage websites and social media, produce newsletters and reports, organise meetings, liaise with Government, collaborate with other national bodies, contact the media, apply for funding, and manage our organisation.

To further explain what we do the following infographic(from 2019) shows how we fit together in the green spaces big picture.



Our theory of change also explains what we do, why, and the changes we hope to effect



We aim to share learning, develop good practice, and strengthen grassroots organisation, coordination and co-operation throughout the UK. Most importantly, we raise the issues impacting on our open spaces, including seeking the effective protection and improvement of all the UK's 27,000 public parks and green spaces. We successfully campaigned for a national inquiry into how to end the current underfunding crisis, and played a significant role in it.

We want to see an active Friends Group for every public green space, and an active and independent Forum run by such groups in every area throughout the UK.

The Federation is a democratic, accountable, 'bottom up', grassroots organisation of the movement's area forums and networks (currently numbering over 70 such Forums actively networking and coordinating over 3,000 of the local groups). We are uniquely placed to be able to support and build up this grassroots movement.

We provide support for friends groups working together to make a difference to their local area, city, region and nationally. Such groups and their coordination forums are dependent on unpaid and over-stretched volunteer commitment at every level, including our own Federation officers and representatives (who are also active in their local Friends Groups and Area Forums).

We are developing a partnership approach to working with other 'community-facing' national greenspace organisations, most notably with Keep Britain Tidy (through their Love Parks campaign team) with whom we have an agreed Memorandum of Understanding. We have supported the creation and development of The Parks Alliance as a campaigning body.

We call on all those who value the UK's green spaces to work together to speak out and defend them, to call for the effective action urgently needed at Government level – make parks a statutory service backed by adequate public funding and effective protection. We call on everyone to support and help build the Friends Groups movement in every locality and area throughout the UK.



Better Friends – A Report on the State of the Movement of Greenspace Friends Groups throughout the UK

<https://natfedparks.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/NFPGS-PCUK-Second-Report-2023.pdf>

This pathbreaking and important report, produced by the PCUK team of the NFPGS (updated 2023), analyses in depth what Friends Groups do, how they do it, their memberships, character, needs, partnerships and successes. It is based on the statistics emanating from our Better Friends strength checker – a state-of-the-art audit tool freely available to all local greenspace community groups.

The only free tool of its type, designed specifically to help the thousands of volunteer Friends groups who champion and improve their local UK parks and green spaces. It is an enjoyable challenge and a neat way to test the current health of your group.

The '[Better Friends](#)' tool aims to help people understand and strengthen the effectiveness of their group, it will get them thinking about how they operate, how effective they are and highlight areas for improvement.

Those doing the survey will receive an emailed feedback report with an overall score for their group, plus a more detailed breakdown covering key topics such as:

- organisation
- structure
- strengths
- effectiveness
- ambition.

*Here is an extract from a sample “**Better Friends**” strength-checker report:*

Your group's
overall strength
score:

43%

Your group's score breakdown:

See further analysis and tips overleaf

Your Group's Set-up:
Organisation and Structure

47%

Your Group's Meetings
& Activities

52%

Your Group's Strengths:
Numbers, Skills,
Inclusiveness & Partnerships

45%

Your Group's
Effectiveness & Ambition

77%

We recommend you use the tool as a group, but completion by individuals can also be useful.

A guideline time for completion is **20-30 minutes**. We really hope you find this tool useful.

Our Partner Organisations

We recognise the importance of collaboration and the benefits that good partnerships can bring and as such we are always looking to expand our partnerships with like minded organisations.

We currently have partnerships with a joint memorandum of understanding with:

- Keep Britain Tidy - improving the environment on your doorstep



- Fields in Trust champions and supports our parks and green spaces by protecting them for people to enjoy in perpetuity. Because once lost, they are lost forever.



- The Conservation Volunteers - Connecting people and green spaces to deliver lasting outcomes for both.



- Groundwork takes practical action to create a fair and green future in which people, places, and nature thrive.



- The Gardens Trust is a charity dedicated to protecting and conserving historic parks, gardens and designed landscapes in the UK.



- Campaign to Protect Rural England believes in countryside and green spaces that are accessible to all, rich in nature and that enriches all of our lives.



The countryside charity

Let's Celebrate, Improve and Defend the UK's Green Spaces!

Our local green spaces are vital for everyone and every community – and for all age groups and interests! They are an essential and unique service promoting relaxation, recreation and play, wildlife and bio-diversity, attractive walking and cycling routes, green jobs and skills, heritage, flood control, health and social well-being, and community cohesion.

However, there is growing alarm from the public, from Friends of Parks groups, parks managers, experts and MPs, about the serious long-term damage being caused by devastating cuts to green space budgets for staff and maintenance, and the lack of funding and investment by local and national government. If not reversed, this neglect will cause them to go into serious decline and become problem spaces abandoned by park users and plagued by vandalism – or even being closed and sold off. We must not let this happen.

We call on all park lovers and the UK public in general to...

- **CELEBRATE** our public green spaces and community activities organised there
- **EMPOWER OUR COMMUNITIES** to take 'ownership' of our local spaces and get involved in all decision-making
- **SET UP FRIENDS GROUPS** for every urban park and green space
- **SPEAK OUT** to ensure that the needs of parks are heard loud and clear
- **OPPOSE** threats of inappropriate commercialisation, development and sell-offs of facilities and green space
- **HELP CREATE A MASSIVE CO-ORDINATED GRASSROOTS MOVEMENT** to promote, defend and improve our green spaces
- **DEMAND THE GOVERNMENT** bring in a Statutory Duty to monitor and manage these spaces to Green Flag Award standard; and ensure adequate public resources and protection for all green spaces

The NFPGS, as the voice of the Friends Groups movement, pledges to...

- **CONTINUE TO ENCOURAGE, PROMOTE AND SUPPORT** co-ordinated Friends Groups networks and conferences around the country
- **CALL** for whole greenspace sector and supporters everywhere to back the grassroots movement and this call to action

The Charter for Parks

- Celebrate the central role well-run parks play in our neighbourhoods for all sections of our communities
- Recognise the right of every citizen to have access within walking distance to a good quality public green space
- Endorse a legal duty for all public green space to be managed to a good standard
- Embed effective protection from inappropriate development or use, or loss of any part of our parks
- Ensure adequate long-term resources for ongoing maintenance, management and improvements
- Encourage and enable community involvement and empowerment of local people and park users

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF FRIENDS GROUPS FOR PARKS & GREEN SPACES?



FOR VOLUNTEERS	FOR GREEN SPACE	FOR MANAGERS	FOR COMMUNITIES
HEALTH Improve fitness and wellbeing	INVESTMENT Additional funding, volunteering, skills and lobbying	EYES & EARS People watching out and reporting back	STANDARDS Improvement, greater usage and optimism
EMPOWERMENT Experience ownership, take initiative and make a difference	PROTECTION Monitoring, championing and defence of site	RECOGNITION Appreciation of work done	CONNECTIONS Physical and social interaction
INFLUENCE Have a real say in decision-making and improvements	PROMOTION Publicity and encouragement to use	SUPPORT Help with maintenance, promotion and activities	COHESION Connect diverse interests, ages and backgrounds
MEANING Give purpose and pride	DECISION-MAKING Better and more popular decisions, engagement and continuity	IMPROVEMENT Aspirations and standards raised	PROTECTION Community champions and long term investment
ENJOYMENT Being involved is exciting and fun	USAGE More visitors, natural benefits and appreciation	PARTNERSHIP People to discuss, work and coordinate with	PRIDE Sense of achievement and ownership
FRESH AIR Great way to get outside and into green space	SAFETY Community surveillance helps deter crime	FEEDBACK Information and views	WELLBEING Enabling and promoting positive lifestyles
AWARENESS Get to know about nature, the community and the neighbourhood	IMPROVEMENT Better standards, and extra facilities and features	SATISFACTION Increased public usage and happiness	OPPORTUNITIES Encouraging volunteering and participation
CONNECTIONS Connect with others and explore common interests	ANIMATION More activities and initiatives, vibrancy and innovation	CHAMPIONS People speaking out for the needs of the space	AWARENESS Spreading information and communication
LEARNING Use, acquire and develop skills	COLLABORATION Development of relations and partnerships	EXPERTISE Extra knowledge and skills through volunteers	COMMUNITY SPIRIT Encouraging solidarity and co-operation
RECOGNITION Be part of activity which is valued and appreciated	MAINTENANCE Fast reporting, timely action and extra help	INVESTMENT Additional funding and new projects	INSPIRATION Example of what can be achieved by community action

Parks Community UK © 2021
 Design by Cohere,
 icons by Andrew Nolte and Gen Khoun Lay for the Hours Project

Rethinking Parks

Parks Community UK operates within the movement of thousands of parks and green space Friends and community groups and we are managed by [The National Federation of Parks and Green Spaces](#), the movement's umbrella organisation.

Our Trustees:

Our trustees are all elected by NFPGS members. At present the National Federation of Parks and Green Spaces is entirely run on a voluntary basis.

Name of Trustee	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Terms of Office
David Morris	Chair	n/a	23/11/2019 – present
Michelle E. Furtado	Vice Chair	n/a	23/11/2019 – present
Sarah Elizabeth Royal	CEO	n/a	23/11/2019 – present
Nigel Thomas Sharp	Secretary	n/a	23/11/2019 – present
Martin Willis	Treasurer	n/a	23/11/2019 – 30/06/2023
Marion Williams	Vice Chair	n/a	10/04/2021 – 04/10/2023
Clifford Munn	Trustee	05/11/22 - 05/04/23	05/11/2022 - 04/10/2023
Shelly J Quinton-Hulme	Trustee	n/a	10/04/2021 - present
Paul Ely	Trustee	05/11/22 – 05/04/23	05/11/2022 - present

David Morris: Dave was one of the founders of the NFPGS in 2010. He is the chair of his local Friends Group in Tottenham (North London), helps coordinate the Haringey Friends of Parks Forum, and chairs the London Friends of Green Spaces Network which coordinates the movement of around 900 Friends Groups throughout London. He liaises on our behalf with other national greenspace organisations and has been a member (its only community representative) of the Government/Sector official liaison body, the Parks Action Group, coordinating its Empowering Communities Working Group and projects.



Michelle Furtado: Michelle Furtado is a climate and sustainability consultant, focusing on systems-thinking and systems-dynamics, future visioning, and regenerative practices. She works independently as FuturEcoLogic (www.futurecologic.co.uk), is a Director of the Association of Sustainability Practitioners (<https://sustainabilitypractitioners.org/>), and Director of Green Tides CIC (<https://greentides.org.uk/>). She now lives in the mountains of Portugal, remaining a committed to supporting UK organisations, whilst growing her networks locally.



Nearly 20 years ago, she started designing parks and playgrounds with communities and fell in love with the volunteers who helped to improve and maintain these spaces. Whilst working in green spaces policy at national level, she joined the National Federation of Parks and Green Spaces, helping to lobby for fair funding and protection for our precious green spaces. With Green Tides, in Adur and Worthing, she helps develop The Wildflower Trail (<https://www.thewildflowertrail.org/>) that showcases the wonderful efforts of volunteers in protecting and enhancing the environment for pollinators. Connect with her on LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/michelle-furtado/>

Sarah Royal: I have been part of NFPGS from the very beginning, as our first Chair. We worked in in close partnership with GreenSpace and then Keep Britain Tidy to help start up more Community Green Space Forums across the country and bring us all together in to the network. I have spoken to groups across the country and have met some many wonderful people I have been working in Birmingham with the Birmingham Open Spaces Forum since we started in 2004, moving from a forum of local parks Friends Groups to a CIO with around 140 community green space groups from across the city. My background shows my continued passion for our natural environment with a B.Sc. (Hons) from Leicester Polytechnic in Science and the Environment.



Nigel Sharp: From early days as an urban ranger, and later as a development officer, Nigel worked with Liverpool City Council for over thirty years, helping establish the Liverpool Parks Friends Forum, and later the regional North West Parks Friends Forum (which he still coordinates). Following work on the Love Parks project at Keep Britain Tidy, Nigel is now a group development worker at Sefton Council for Voluntary Services, in North Merseyside, supporting a wide range of voluntary, community and faith organisations, including park and beach friends groups. This role also helps inform his position as NFPGS secretary, responding to parks and green space community group enquiries with guidance, advice and support.



Shelly Quinton-Hulme MBE: Shelly joined as a trustee at the AGM in 2021. She is the Chairperson for the Friends of Victoria Park, Stretford and also the Friends of Trafford's Parks and Green Spaces. She has a strong background in governance and is also Chair of Governors at her local infant school and runs Stretford Children's Theatre too. She works as a Project Manager for Network Rail and loves her family life in Stretford and is a big part of the community there.



Paul Ely: Paul lives in London and joined us at the AGM meeting.

The majority of his working life has been spent in local government working for London based local authorities, Haringey and Tower Hamlets, and he also worked in the charity sector for Bankside Open Spaces Trust and more recently as an independent consultant.



Whilst in Haringey, he worked closely with the Friends of Lordship Rec to fundraise for and implement the £5.5m restoration of Lordship and subsequently teamed up again with Dave Morris on the NESTA funded project to share the good practice learned from Lordship about partnership working and community empowerment. As a trustee for NFPGS, he has taken a lead in developing a partnership with University College London's Community Research Initiative (CRIS) which has enabled us to investigate how we could better involve people from an ethnic minority background in Friends groups and this year to identify factors that can lead to better working relationships with local authority partners.

In the pursuance of our activities the trustees named above confirm that they have given due regard to the Charity Commissions public benefit guidance.

We are always looking for new Trustees to join us to help strengthen the Federation and the wider movement.

Our Year in Review – April 2023 to March 2024

By NFPGS Chair – Dave Morris

The Friends Groups movement in 2023 and 2024 continued to be a crucial presence and determined advocate for green spaces throughout the UK.

However the generally woeful level of funding and staffing for the maintenance and management of greenspace over the last decade continued to be placed even further under pressure as Councils reported serious budgetary crises, cutting ‘non-statutory’ services, and some even being forced to declare bankruptcy. This included Birmingham where the local Birmingham Open Spaces Forum has been forced to grapple with the dire situation.

For the NFPGS, as the voice and coordination body of the movement, our key activities included:

- assuming responsibility for the Parks Community UK platform for supporting those at the grassroots of the movement. This included promoting our ‘Better Friends’ self-audit tool (which over 500 groups had taken advantage of by the autumn of 2024).
- providing ongoing support for local groups and their area Forums (our members), for example supporting Glasgow Council to re-establish the Glasgow Friends Forum.
- general communication and promotion, including occasional bulletins, updates and additional social media activity.
- producing our second major ‘state of the movement’ report: October 2023 - <https://natfedparks.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/NFPGS-PCUK-Second-Report-2023.pdf> - re-affirming that there are around 7,000 local groups with 60,000 core activists and a total membership of around 840,000, altogether contributing around 7m hours of volunteering each year.
- continuing our collaboration with University College London to support MA students research into UK Friends groups activities.
- supporting the carrying out of surveys about Friends Groups activities and views, including on the themes of Heritage and Volunteering (for The Gardens Trust), Nature-based Inclusion activities (for a universities-based project), and Protection and Volunteering (for Fields in Trust).
- holding a very well attended AGM in January 2024, and regular trustee meetings. We’ve organised 3 major discussions for Forum reps on:
 - Relationships with Local Authorities.

- Biodiversity Strategies.
- Attracting and Retaining Volunteers.

- continuing to support collaboration among greenspace national organisations, including sector alliances and joint calls for adequate resources for the sector. This included

promoting the 'Nature for Everyone' alliance, and a 'Restore Nature Now' march.

- invited in October 2023 to provide evidence to the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Select Committee of Westminster MPs detailing the chronic underfunding of the greenspace sector, the history of the Parks Action Group and the need for its re-launch as the sector/Government liaison body. *[Autumn 2024 Update – MHCLG is now planning to do this, and we have had a fruitful discussion with the relevant officials.]*

- attending conferences and making presentations promoting Friends Groups and community empowerment, including for the World Urban Parks annual congress in 2023.

- seeking major core funding for the NFPGS. This has so far proved unsuccessful, despite extensive effort by Trustees. We therefore have no alternative but to continue to try to fulfil our crucial role within the sector and for the wider UK public without any staffing or substantial resources.

Impact

We believe that the Friends Groups movement in general has continued to remain a crucial force within the sector and in local communities throughout the UK and makes a real difference to many thousands of the UK's green spaces. However, the reach of the movement is still patchy: there remain so many spaces which don't yet benefit from having a Friends Group, and many towns and areas are without a coordinating Forum or network to champion all the public greenspace in their area.

As we experience yet another funding crisis for local government, we anticipate that more and more groups will be established to defend and protect their local green spaces and that local authorities will hope that these new groups can help to provide the crucial services, such as maintenance and activation, that they are withdrawing from as a result of a lack of funding.

The NFPGS ensures that there is a strategic voice and overview at national level and is crucial to the practice, coordination, effectiveness and success of this movement. However, the NFPGS needs proper resourcing to offer the Friends movement the support it requires and deserves (eg staffing for our admin, coordination and social media - which we continue to seek and which most of the other national greenspace organisations have) and with which our impact would be far greater.

Financial Review:

Reserves policy: We will not hold in excess of six months average expenditure as reserves and will ensure that any accumulation over this will be spent on furthering the aims and objectives of the organisation.

Amount of reserves currently held: £0

We do not incur financial liabilities and so should not find itself in deficit.

No employees have total benefits over £60k for this charity

Fundraising – This charity raises funds from the public but does not work with professional fundraisers or commercial participators.


Trading – This charity does not have any trading subsidiaries.

Trustee payments - One trustee was briefly hired freelance for his specialist skill as a consultant and therefore received payment for providing services to the charity. He did not take part in the relevant decision-making.

No trustees are paid for carrying out trustee duties.

We have a suite of adopted policies which can be seen at [NFPGS Policies \(natfedparks.org.uk\)](http://natfedparks.org.uk)

Signed Accounts 2023/2024

 CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES	Charity Name National Federation of Parks and Green Spaces		No (if any) 1185924	CC16a
	Receipts and payments accounts			
	For the period from	Period start date 06/04/2023	To	Period end date 05/04/2024

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Balance brought forward	5,154	-	-	5,154	-
Donations	3,868	-	-	3,868	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Sub total (Gross income for AFI)</i>	3,022	-	-	3,022	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Sub total</i>	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	3,022	-	-	3,022	-
A3 Payments					
Stationary	64	-	-	64	-
Website hosting	150	-	-	150	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Bank charges	72	-	-	72	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Sub total</i>	286	-	-	286	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Sub total</i>	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	286	-	-	286	-
<i>Net of receipts/payments</i>	8,736	-	-	8,736	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	8,736	-	-	8,736	-

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank balance	8,736	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	8,736	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	Details			
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name		Date of approval
	<i>S. Quinton-Hulme</i>	Shelly Quinton-Hulme		13/07/2024

THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF PARKS AND GREEN SPACES

England & Wales - Charity number 1185924

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From **06/04/2022** Period start date To **05/04/2023** Period end date

Charity name: National Federation of Parks and Green Spaces (NFPGS)

Charity registration number: 1185924

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The objects of the NFPGS are To promote the voluntary sector concerned with the protection and improvement of the UK's parks and open green spaces of all kinds as public facilities and resources for the benefit of the public by: a) Influencing strategic decision-making and policy, and lobbying for statutory recognition and adequate funding for public green space; b) Addressing the deficiencies of green space in the environment; c) Advancing the education of the public in the enjoyment, understanding, appreciation and conservation of open spaces; d) Promoting the development and empowerment of Friends/Community Groups for parks and open spaces, and their Forums and Networks, their communication and cooperation, and their full involvement in the management of their parks and open spaces; e) Raising the profile of members and the Friends Groups movement as a whole.
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	NFPGS provides advocacy, advice, support and information to its members, Friends Groups and the wider public in support of its' charitable objects. NFPGS acts as an umbrella and support for Friends Groups Forums and other stakeholders of public open spaces nationally. NFPGS links up with other greenspace national organisations to promote the needs of greenspace and their users.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	In the pursuance of these activities the Charity Trustees have given due regard to the Charity Commissions public benefit guidance.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	N/A
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	N/A
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	NFPGS is entirely volunteer run
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	NFPGS continues to raise its network profile and strengthen the grass roots parks movement. NFPGS has been supporting national networks and alliances to this effect.. NFPGS has assumed responsibility for continuation of The Parks Community UK Project developed through Friends of Lordship Rec, including the one-stop shop website https://parkscommunity.org.uk . Alongside project work, NFPGS has continued to provide communication and promotion including regular Mail Chimp bulletins, updates and additional social media activity, linking with sector partners including Fields in Trust, Keep Britain Tidy etc. Twitter (@NatFedParks) has almost 1900 followers. NFPGS has made presentations to a number of organisations and governmental bodies.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	NFPGS continues to operate according to its agreed forward planning document
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Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	N/A
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	N/A
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	Accounts as submitted
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	There are unlikely to be reserves, as donations are usually given to fund certain projects. However if reserves are accumulated, these will be spent on furthering the aims and objectives of the organisation. Reserves will not be allowed to accumulate in excess of six months average expenditure
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	N/A
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	NFPGS does not incur financial liabilities and so should not find itself in deficit
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	N/A

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	Donations and grants
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	N/A
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	N/A
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	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	Election by Federation members

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	NFPGS has a suite of adopted policies: https://natfedparks.org.uk/nfpgs/policies
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	The Federation works with the dynamic and inspirational grassroots movement of over 7,000 local Friends of Parks community groups, supporting volunteers who act on behalf of the communities who use and care about our vital public green spaces of all kinds. We exist to represent their activities, issues and concerns and strengthen their passionate and knowledgeable voices.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep Britain Tidy [Joint Memorandum of Understanding with NFPGS] • Fields In Trust [Joint Memorandum of Understanding with NFPGS] • The Conservation Volunteers [Joint Memorandum of Understanding with NFPGS] • Groundwork [Joint Memorandum of Understanding with NFPGS] • The Gardens Trust [Joint Memorandum of Understanding with NFPGS]
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	National Federation of Parks and Green Spaces
Other name the charity uses	NFPGS
Registered charity number	1185924
Charity's principal address	7 CARRICK GARDENS LONDON N17 7AX

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	Dave Morris	Chair		
2	Michelle Furtado			
3	Nigel Sharp	Secretary		
4	Sarah Royal			
5	Martin Willis	Treasurer		
6	Marion Williams	Vice-Chair		
7	Shelly Quinton-Hulme			
8	Clifford Munn		From 05/11/2022	
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		
N/A		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
N/A		

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

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

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
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N/A		

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

N/A

Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

N/A

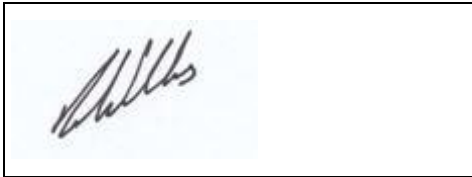
Other optional information

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Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Martin Willis	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Treasurer	
Date	26/05/2023	



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name National Federation of Parks and Green Spaces	No (if any)
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Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date 4/6/2022	To	Period end date 4/5/2023
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Balance brought forward	6,475	600	-	7,075	-
Donations	34	-	-	34	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	6,510	600	-	7,110	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	6,510	600	-	7,110	-
A3 Payments					
Website management fees	-	600	-	600	-
Website hosting	300	-	-	300	-
Better Friends tool	984	-	-	984	-
Bank charges	72	-	-	72	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	1,356	600	-	1,956	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	1,356	600	-	1,956	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	5,154	-	-	5,154	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	5,154	-	-	5,154	-

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank balance	5,154	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	5,154	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK


Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Martin Willis	5/26/2023

THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF PARKS AND GREEN SPACES

England & Wales - Charity number 1185924

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 06/04/2021 Period start date To 05/04/2022 Period end date

Charity name: National Federation of Parks and Green Spaces (NFPGS)

Charity registration number: 1185924

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The objects of the NFPGS are To promote the voluntary sector concerned with the protection and improvement of the UK's parks and open green spaces of all kinds as public facilities and resources for the benefit of the public by: a) Influencing strategic decision-making and policy, and lobbying for statutory recognition and adequate funding for public green space; b) Addressing the deficiencies of green space in the environment; c) Advancing the education of the public in the enjoyment, understanding, appreciation and conservation of open spaces; d) Promoting the development and empowerment of Friends/Community Groups for parks and open spaces, and their Forums and Networks, their communication and cooperation, and their full involvement in the management of their parks and open spaces; e) Raising the profile of members and the Friends Groups movement as a whole.
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>NFPGS provides advocacy, advice, support and information to its members, Friends Groups and the wider public in support of its' charitable objects.</p> <p>NFPGS acts as an umbrella and support for Friends Groups Forums and other stakeholders of public open spaces nationally.</p>

		NFPGS links up with other greenspace national organisations to promote the needs of greenspace and their users.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	In the pursuance of these activities the Charity Trustees have given due regard to the Charity Commissions public benefit guidance.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	N/A
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	N/A
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	NFPGS is entirely volunteer run

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>NFPGS continues to raise its network profile and strengthen the grass roots parks movement. NFPGS has been supporting national networks and alliances to this effect..</p> <p>NFPGS has assumed responsibility for continuation of The Parks Community UK Project developed through Friends of Lordship Rec, including the one-stop shop website https://parkscommunity.org.uk.</p> <p>Alongside project work, NFPGS has continued to provide communication and promotion including regular Mail Chimp bulletins, updates and additional social media activity, linking with sector partners including Fields in</p>

		<p>Trust, Keep Britain Tidy etc. Twitter (@NatFedParks) has almost 1900 followers.</p> <p>NFPGS has made presentations to a number of organisations and governmental bodies.</p> <p>NFPGS has researched and analysed the current activity of Friends Groups nationally:</p> <p>https://natfedparks.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/NFPGS-PCUK-Report.pdf</p>
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	NFPGS continues to operate according to its agreed forward planning document :
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	N/A
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	N/A

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	Accounts as submitted
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	There are unlikely to be reserves, as donations are usually given to fund certain projects. However if reserves are accumulated, these will be spent on furthering the aims and objectives of the organisation. Reserves will not be allowed to accumulate in excess of six months average expenditure
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	N/A
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	NFPGS does not incur financial liabilities and so should not find itself in deficit
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	N/A

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	Donations and grants
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	N/A
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	N/A
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	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	Election by Federation members

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	NFPGS has a suite of adopted policies: https://natfedparks.org.uk/nfpgs-policies/
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	The Federation works with the dynamic and inspirational grassroots movement of over 7,000 local Friends of Parks community groups, supporting volunteers who act on behalf of the communities who use and care about our vital public green spaces of all kinds. We exist to represent their activities, issues and concerns and strengthen their passionate and knowledgeable voices.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep Britain Tidy [Joint Memorandum of Understanding with NFPGS] • Fields In Trust [Joint Memorandum of Understanding with NFPGS] • The Conservation Volunteers [Joint Memorandum of Understanding with NFPGS] • Groundwork [Joint Memorandum of Understanding with NFPGS] • The Gardens Trust [Joint Memorandum of Understanding with NFPGS]

Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	National Federation of Parks and Green Spaces
Other name the charity uses	NFPGS
Registered charity number	1185924
Charity's principal address	7 CARRICK GARDENS LONDON N17 7AX

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

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

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
N/A		

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

N/A

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

Signature(s)

	
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Full name(s)

Dave Morris	Martin Willis
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Position (eg
Secretary, Chair, etc)

Chair	
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Date

09/08/2022

04/08/2022



Charity Name NATIONAL FEDERATION OF PARKS AND GREEN SPACES	No (if any) 1185924
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Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 04/06/2021	To	Period end date 04/05/2022
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £
A1 Receipts				
ParksCommunity website donation	-	600	-	600
MPF donation	49	-	-	49
SG & OSF honorarium	150	-	-	150
JustGiving donation	10	-	-	10
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	209	600	-	809
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).				
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	209	600	-	809
A3 Payments				
DM fees	2,154	-	-	2,154
Bank charges	72	-	-	72
Website fees	660	-	-	660
	-	-	-	-

	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Sub total	2,886	-	-	2,886
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)				
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-
Total payments	2,886	-	-	2,886
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 2,677	600	-	- 2,077
A5 Transfers between funds	1,235	- 1,235	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	7,917	1,235	-	9,152
Cash funds this year end	6,475	600	-	7,075

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds		6,475	600
		-	-
		-	-
	Total cash funds	6,475	600
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds

	Details	to nearest £	to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-


	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-
			-
			-
			-
			-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-

B5 Liabilities

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name
	Martin Willis

CC16a



Last year
to the nearest £

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**Endowment
funds
to nearest £**

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OK

**Endowment
funds**

to nearest £

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-
-
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-
-

**Current value
(optional)**

-
-
-
-
-

**Current value
(optional)**

-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-

**When due
(optional)**

Date of
approval

08/04/2022

THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF PARKS AND GREEN SPACES

England & Wales - Charity number 1185924

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 22/10/2019 Period start date To 05/04/2021
Period end date

Charity name: National Federation of Parks and Green Spaces
(NFPGS)

Charity registration number: 1185924

Objectives and Activities

Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	The objects of the NFPGS are To promote the voluntary sector concerned with the protection and improvement of the UK's parks and open green spaces of all kinds as public facilities and resources for the benefit of the public by: a) Influencing strategic decision-making and policy, and lobbying for statutory recognition and adequate funding for public green space; b) Addressing the deficiencies of green space in the environment; c) Advancing the education of the public in the enjoyment, understanding, appreciation and conservation of open spaces; d) Promoting the development and empowerment of Friends/Community Groups for parks and open spaces, and their Forums and Networks, their communication and cooperation, and their full involvement in the management of their parks and open spaces; e) Raising the profile of members and the Friends Groups movement as a whole.
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.	NFPGS provides advocacy, advice, and information to its members and the wider public in support of its' charitable objects. NFPGS acts as an umbrella for Friends Groups Forums and other stakeholders of public open spaces nationally.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	In the pursuance of these activities the Charity Trustees have given due regard to the Charity Commissions public benefit guidance.

Achievements and Performance

<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>NFPGS led a series of successful regional conferences around England ('Parks and People: Stronger Together') to improve national coordination and build the network. These events were led by NFPGS, backed by Locality and Groundwork, and supported by funding from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG). A report was prepared and circulated in June, highlighting the commitment and contribution of parks and green space community groups, the importance of community empowerment and value of peer to peer support and local, area and national networking. The conferences and report stressed the need for adequate funding and protection of the nation's parks and green spaces. And the need for adequate support infrastructure through the NFPGS (currently unfunded). Although the conference development grew from the Parks Action Group1 (PAG) this body has subsequently been inactive owing to competing Govt demands (Election/ Brexit/ Covid19). Additional information was prepared by NFPGS through a national survey - details at: https://natfedparks.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/NFPGS-MHCLG-Survey-ReportSummary-23.4.2020-converted.pdf</p> <p>Collectively these initiatives effectively doubled the NFPGS contacts database, raising the network profile and strengthening the grass roots parks movement. NFPGS has been supporting The Parks Alliance https://www.theparksalliance.org to prepare 'Make Parks Count' a report to support the PAG and make a business case to HM Gov. for increased funding. The report is available at: https://www.theparksalliance.org/making-parks-count-the-case-for-parks/</p> <p>The Parks Community Project developed through Friends of Lordship Rec. is a 2yr programme including the one-stop shop website https://parkscommunity.org.uk.</p> <p>Alongside the project work, NFPGS has continued to provide communication and promotion including regular MailChimp bulletins, updates and additional social media activity, linking with sector partners including Parks Community UK, Fields in Trust, etc. Twitter (@NatFedParks) has almost 1900 followers.</p>
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Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	There are unlikely to be reserves, as donations are usually given to fund certain projects. However if reserves are accumulated, these will be spent on furthering the aims and objectives of the organisation. Reserves will not be allowed to accumulate in excess of six months average expenditure
Amount of reserves held	
Reasons for holding zero reserves	
Details of fund materially in deficit	NFPGS does not incur financial liabilities and so should not find itself in deficit
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	n/a

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:	
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	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	Election by Federation members

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	National Federation of Parks and Green Spaces
Other name the charity uses	NFPGS
Registered charity number	1185924
Charity's principal address	7 CARRICK GARDENS LONDON N17 7AX

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	Roland C. Bruce		Resigned 12/09/2020	
2	Michelle E. Furtado			
3	David Morris	Chair		
4	Sarah Elizabeth Royal			
5	Nigel Thomas Sharp	Secretary		
6	Martin Willis	Vice-Chair		

Corporate trustees - names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		
n/a		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
n/a		

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

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

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
n/a		

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

n/a

Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

n/a

Other optional information



n/a

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

	
---	---

Full name(s)

Dave Morris	Martin Willis
-------------	---------------

Position (eg
Secretary, Chair, etc)

Chair	
-------	--

Date

17/11/2021



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name National Federation of Parks & Green Spaces	No (if any) 1185924
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Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 4/3/2019	To	Period end date 4/5/2020
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £
A1 Receipts				
Cah balance brought forward	6,778		-	6,778
Keep Britain Tidy donation	-	1,016	-	1,016
Keep Britain Tidy donation	-	1,164	-	1,164
Locality project funding	-	40,000	-	40,000
Sponsorship and donations	1,618	-	-	1,618
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	8,396	42,180	-	50,576
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).				
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	8,396	42,180	-	50,576
A3 Payments				
Meeting & travel expenses	-	501	-	501
Website & bank charges	-	72	-	72
Locality project expenses	-	37,295	-	37,295
Printing	155	-	-	155
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Sub total	155	37,868	-	38,023
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)				
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-
Total payments	155	37,868	-	38,023
Net of receipts/(payments)	8,241	4,312	-	12,553
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	8,241	4,312	-	12,553

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	KBT Funds	-	1,606
	Locality Project	-	2,706
	General funds	8,241	-
	Total cash funds	8,241	4,312
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)
			-
			-
			-
			-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)
			-
			-
			-
			-

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature

Print Name



Martin Willis

CC16a



Last year

to the nearest £

-
-
-
-
-
-
-
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-

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Endowment funds

to nearest £

-
-
-
-

OK

Endowment funds

to nearest £

-
-
-
-
-
-

Current value (optional)

-
-
-
-
-

Current value (optional)

-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-

When due (optional)

Date of
approval

5/16/2020



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of

Charity Name

National Federation of Parks and Green Spaces

On accounts for the year ended

4th April 2020

Charity no (if any)

1185924

Set out on pages

One page, receipts and payments account CC16a NFPGS 2019 to 2021.xls

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 04/04/2020.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

Independent examiner's statement

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

Caroline A. Jepson

Date:

26.01.21

Name:

Caroline Anne Jepson

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

--

Address:

120 Higham Road
Tottenham
London N17 6NR

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.



**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

**Independent examiner's
report on the accounts**

Report to the trustees/ members of

Charity Name
National Federation of Parks and Green Spaces

On accounts for the year ended

04th April 2021

Charity no (if any)

1185924

Set out on pages

One page, receipts and payments account CC16a NFPGS 2019 to 2021.xls
(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **04/04/2021 / 04 / 2021**.

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

Independent examiner's statement

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- 1* accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- 2* the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

Caroline A. Jepson

Date: 19/12/21

Name:

Caroline A Jepson

Relevant professional qualification(s) or

body (if any):

--

Address:

120 Higham Road
London
N17 6NR

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, occupying the central and right portions of the page. It is intended for the user to provide details as requested in the text to its left.