

FRIENDS OF COTGRAVE COUNTRY PARK

England & Wales · Charity number 1199132

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2022-05-30

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

Contact

Address 24 Meadow Crescent
Cotgrave
Nottingham
NG12 3SP

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Website <https://www.cotgravecountrypark.co.uk/>

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECT OF THE CIO IS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE INHABITANTS OF NOTTINGHAM AND THE SURROUNDING AREAS TO PROVIDE OR ASSIST IN THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOR RECREATION AND OTHER LEISURE TIME OCCUPATION IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE WITH THE OBJECT OF IMPROVING THEIR CONDITIONS OF LIFE, IN PARTICULAR BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY BY THE PRESERVATION, PROMOTION, SUPPORT, ASSISTANCE AND IMPROVEMENT OF COTGRAVE COUNTRY PARK

Activities: Provides volunteers to carry out maintenance and development activities in Cotgrave Country Park. Organises educational/informational activities related to the environment, flora and fauna of the park. Wardens are recruited from the group membership and supported by the group. Raises funds to provide things that enhance the park, eg signage, plants, trees.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Environment/conservation/heritage, Economic/community Development/employment, Recreation
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Nottinghamshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£9,224	£15,119	-	-
2023-12-31	£9,273	£3,554	-	-
2022-12-31	£6,006	£2,177	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Paul Graham Phillips		2022-12-13
Philip Benton		2026-03-31
Rachel Mary Tindsley		2022-12-13
Rachel Ollerenshaw		2024-01-30
Sharon Elizabeth Broadbent		2022-12-13
Trevor Michael Chapman LLM		2022-12-13

Accounts

The Friends of Cotgrave Country Park

**Trustees' Annual Report for the period from
1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024**



Introduction by Alan Holmes, chair of Friends of Cotgrave Country Park

The Friends of Cotgrave Country Park is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). This is the second full year of its operation.

2024 has seen the group deliver several key long-term projects as well as continue to provide invaluable services to the park and the community that use it.

We have continued a close working relationship with Nottinghamshire County Council (NCC), that has allowed us to work collaboratively together to construct two "Community Green Shelters" which at the time of writing are soon to be opened to the public to provide a significant and valuable addition to the facilities offered in the park. This project is in addition to the close liaison with NCC for tasks and maintenance works and support with activities and nature walks.

A huge project that has been completed by the Friends Group this year has been the Information boards. Eight colourful and informative boards were installed around the park in July, after almost 10 months of preparation, design and eventual manufacture. The boards inform park users of the wide variety of flora and fauna found within the park, as well as useful maps and history. This was a collaboration between NCC and the Friends Group. We have had tremendous feedback from the public for the professional look of the boards and they certainly place the park on a footing with other similar green spaces now. My sincere thanks to all that contributed to this project.

We have maintained great communication with the public that use the park with weekly engaging Facebook posts, website updates, monthly blogs and colourful Park noticeboard content. The variety of media outlet ensures all can access interesting and engaging content. I regularly stop to talk with people I meet in the park who comment on what they have read on our "socials" and noticeboards.

We have again won bids for funding for projects in the park and I am immensely thankful for the involvement of many in ideas creation and costing, submitting bids and supporting the delivery phase. We have now been successful for a second year in succession (2023/2024 and 2024/2025) for the Coop Community good causes campaign. This has allowed us to re-invigorate and improve part of the old Nature Trail in 2024, and we are looking forward to the next phase of this long-term project.

A combination of weather and low number of bookings has led to a reduced programme of events and activities this year. Sadly, our Summer Children's Activity Day had to be called off due to bad weather - disappointing after a lot of hard work and preparation. We did have a fully attended Bat Walk and Fungi Foray with great feedback from those who joined in. These events bring into the park many people from the local community, both adults and young persons, to experience the beauty of nature, and to learn from "experts" about local habitat and its wildlife.

The work of the CIO depends on the tremendous efforts of people who generously give their time to ensure it can continue to operate so successfully. The role of volunteers is vital, and the group is always looking for others to get involved. Volunteers are not just needed to conduct tasks in the park on volunteer task days but also to help carry out the everyday running of the organisation.

Alan Holmes, Chair

I would like to pass on my sincere thanks and appreciation to the trustees and all involved with the Friends of Cotgrave Country Park.

Year after year, they work tirelessly to look after and make improvements to the park, that all visitors and users enjoy and benefit from.

This last year has been exceptionally busy and productive for the team and park, and it is fantastic to at last have the information boards in place that we have been looking forward to for a long time.

Cotgrave Country Park gets better and better as a result of all the voluntary work by the Friends Group, and long may it continue with more to come.

County Councillor Richard Butler

Member for Cotgrave Division & Chairman of Nottinghamshire County Council 2024-25

Objectives and Activities

The object of the charity is to provide or assist in the provision of facilities for recreation and other leisure time by the preservation, promotion, support, assistance and improvement of Cotgrave Country Park.

The Friends have delivered a range of educational nature-based walks and activities. The Wildflower and Butterflies Walk in June had 7 attendees, all of whom were enthusiastic and enjoyed the walk.

The Bat Detectors Walk had 17 attendees. It was very much appreciated by all.

25 took part in the Fungi Foray on October 13th.

Unfortunately, the Birdsong and Identification Walk had to be re-timed from July to September and was cancelled due to only 3 tickets sold.

For the past few years the Friends have organised a Family Fun Day, open to the local community for adults and children. This year, it was planned to hold a Children's Activities Event, scheduled for August 24th. It was fully organised but had to be cancelled due to heavy rain and windy conditions.

Leaders and helpers on these activities have given their time and expertise freely and generously. Our thanks to them all.

Contribution made by volunteers

During 2024 members of the Friends of Cotgrave Country Park and others associated with the Group attended 36 task days on the park. The work carried out throughout the year represented some 179 individual volunteer days.

The range of work undertaken included woodland wildflower planting and seed sowing, tree planting on the Bluebell Spinney path, repairing kingfisher nesting banks, repositioning route marker posts, building bridges across drainage ditches, installing information boards and development of the nature trail areas.

Maintenance tasks have included paths and drainage repairs, repairs and clearance to signage and other furniture, litter picking, and tree clearing.

This year local volunteers have been joined by groups from Games Workshop, Specsavers and Rodgers Leask Limited using their employer-supported volunteering allowances. Our thanks to all of them for their contribution to the maintenance and improvement of the park.



Games workshop volunteers

The unseen 'behind the scenes' contribution of volunteers is the work done by Trustees and others who have helped in the organisation of events, producing education and informational materials about the park, managing our website, and communicating with the Public. The input of ideas and comments at meetings are also valuable in ensuring that the group have been able to deliver so much this year. Over 720 hours of meetings, organisation and administration have been recorded.

Achievements and Performance

The work of the Friends is to keep the park in great condition for the public that use it for recreation and relaxation as well as the nature that inhabits it. The events described in the previous section have ensured that people from the area have been able to enjoy the park and find out more about the fauna and flora that can be found there.

Social media

We have continued to utilise Facebook and have seen increased activity on our account; last year we had 1500 likes and 1700 followers, and this year, we have 1600 likes, 1800 followers, and around 6600 visits, compared to 5500 last year. An example of a month's activity on Facebook can be seen at Appendix III.

We use Facebook to advertise task days, events, and project updates, demonstrating what an active group we are.

We also use a blog to advertise longer stories about what is happening in the park. 8 posts this year included "Aviva Community Fund Bulb Planting Part 1" and "Stunning New Information Boards Unveiled at Cotgrave Country Park" which received over 600 views.

Biodiversity and Conservation

To start the year our first task was to carry out our bird box clearance, which showed some promising signs of use by both blue tits and great tits.

Also, we completed our Woodland Wildflower Project. £1903.75 was raised by crowdfunding through the Aviva community fund. This allowed 22 volunteers to work over 100 hours to plant 4,750 bulbs and plants, including Native bluebells, snowdrops, celandines, wood anemones, wild garlic, primrose, and dog violets.



Woodland wildflower planting

Other green gym task day activities have included planting hedgerows. Also, Nottinghamshire Bat Group replaced two damaged bat boxes.

Additionally, we hosted our Wildflower and butterfly walk. New plants recorded this year included: Common centaury, Yellow wort, Lesser hawkbit, Hedge bedstraw, Honeysuckle, Beaked Hawk's beard, and White campion. A Ringlet butterfly was sighted on the park for the first time.

Also, a site visit was set up for the Reptile and Amphibian Group to scope out the park for suitability. Overall, it was considered that there is a great deal of suitable habitat, especially for grass snakes, and also suitable areas to deploy mats for a transect survey. It is hoped that we will be able to start a run of surveys next year.

Notts Bat Group carried out a survey. In Bluebell Spinney, at the Mill Lane end of the park, there were 2 pipistrelles and 4 Brown Long Eared (3 together in 1 box). This is the first time this species has been seen in boxes on the park. All the bats were in the boxes on the far side of the footpath away from the housing development.

Finally, Cropwell Bishop Cubs started work on our Nature Trail by creating two bug hotels. In addition to this numerous task days installed children's rubbing posts alongside smaller bug hotels, ladybird towers, bee hotels, and butterfly houses to support nature along our nature trail. Money from the Co-op community fund helped buy these items, Planting of native species including Wild Garlic, Cowslip, and Common dog violet will commence along the trail in spring.



Nature Trail



The plan to refresh and develop the nature trail was drawn up by Rachel Ollerenshaw, our Environment & Conservation lead. She has managed the first phase and was recognised for this by winning the award for the Environmental Project of the Year at the Celebrating Rushcliffe Awards in November.

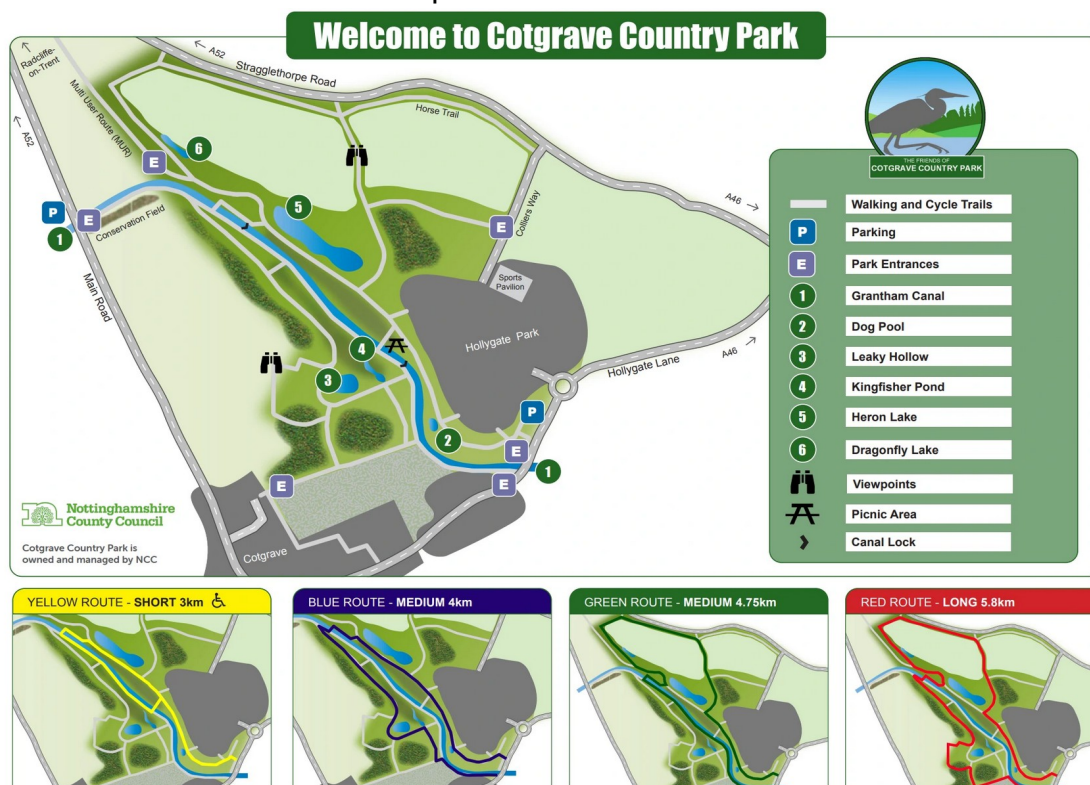


Celebrating Rushcliffe Awards

Park Information

There have been two significant pieces of work designed to improve the information available to the public about the park and enhance users' enjoyment.

A new contemporary styled map of the park and the four marked walking routes was designed by Sharon Conway (SC Creative Solution Ltd) in collaboration with FoCCP and NCC. This was posted on notice boards and the park website, as well as being publicised on our social media platform.



New park map

The other significant addition to the park were a series of eight information boards placed at points of interest. The project was developed by the Friends Group and supported by Nottinghamshire County Council. The boards feature differing themes of flora and fauna found in the park as well as some useful general information and maps. One board looks at the previous history of the park when it was a colliery, and another is a large panorama board on the viewpoint overlooking the surrounding area.

The design, production and installation of the boards relied on many hours of work by a group of the Friends and Lee Scudder of Nottinghamshire County Council. The boards were designed by members of the group with the help from a graphic designer and local business AR Signs manufactured them. Volunteers installed the boards over a number of task days.



Information board in situ

The Friends have had another very productive year supporting our management of the Country Park. In particular, the Friends put a huge amount of time and effort into the content, design and manufacture of the new interpretation panels which have been installed across the park, and which provide lots of information for visitors. With the new 'green roof shelters' also in place in 2024, development of the park for the local community and for wildlife progresses, and we look forward to continuing this work with the Friends in 2025.

Nick Crouch, Natural Environment Manager, Nottinghamshire County Council.



Wildflower meadow information board



Heron lake information board

Further Development

Plans are in place to continue the development of the nature trail by commencing planting native species wildflowers along the path and further extension will depend upon feedback and the success of fundraising bids such as the Co-Op Community Fund.

Engaging with the local community is an important aim of FoCCP. We have been involved with the Cotgrave Integrated Neighbourhood Local Design Team. Successful Integrated Neighbourhood Working happens when local councils, health and social care, community groups and voluntary sector organisations work together with communities to find ways to improve the health and wellbeing of local people. By registering on the Rushcliffe Community and Voluntary Service online Volunteer Centre we hope to attract more, much needed, volunteers, not only to carry out tasks on the park but to help with background work, such as organising and running events or general administrative work.

Financial Review

The audited statement of accounts can be found at Appendix I.

The savings of the group are held in a single charity bank account and use of these funds are determined by Trustees.

Fundraising

The charity's principal sources of funds have come from grants, supplemented by membership fees which provide an assured income totalling nearly £850 this year. The income from membership fees has enabled us to fund those items not covered by grant income and the essential administrative fees (eg insurance) necessary for the continued running of the group.

Bids for funding have been to:

Co-Op Local Community Fund. A total of £1703.45 was received from the 2023/4 funding round. This has met the cost of the phase 1 redevelopment of the Nature Trail.

Other monies received were from Nottinghamshire County Council to match the funds previously raised through the Local Community Fund to pay for the production and installation of the 8 information boards that can now be seen around the park. This was supplemented by a donation from Councillor Richard Butler, Rushcliffe Borough Council.

Friends of Cotgrave Country Park have, once again, been chosen to be part of the next round of the Co-op Local Community Fund. The funding round started on Sunday 20 October 2024 and will run for 12 months until 19 October 2025. During this time, Co-op Members will be able to choose their cause. The more members who choose FoCCP, the more money we'll receive.



Co-Op presentation

Structure, Governance and Management

The charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). It is governed by a constitution adopted on 27 May 2022.

3 Trustees are ex-officio office holders of the charity (Chair, Treasurer and Secretary). Others can be elected by the membership. There are currently 6 Trustees.

Nottinghamshire County Council, Rushcliffe Borough Council and Cotgrave Town Council may each appoint one charity trustee, although there are no council Trustees at present.

The charity trustees will make available to each new charity trustee, on or before his or her first appointment a copy of the constitution and any amendments made to it and a copy of the CIO's latest trustees' annual report and statement of accounts.

The charity's elected officials are Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Fundraising Lead, Activities and Events Lead.

In addition, Rachel Ollerenshaw is Environmental and Conservation Lead. This is a discretionary appointment made by the Trustees.

Nottinghamshire County Council own Cotgrave Country Park and allow the Friends to conduct agreed activities in the park under guidance and supervision. Regular meetings are held between the Friends group and the County Council Park management.

The Friends liaise and network with Rushcliffe Borough Council and Cotgrave Town Council, both of which have representatives attend the group's meetings. Both councils continue to be supportive of the group.

Public Benefit

The Trustees have a legal duty to have regard to the guidance published by the Charity Commission on public benefit when they exercise their powers or duties. This means that they must be aware of the guidance, take it into account when making a decision to which the guidance is relevant and if they have decided to depart from the guidance, they have good reasons for doing so.

The purpose of the charity is to provide an environment that is of benefit to the public and does not limit access to that environment in any way. The Trustees have been provided with copies of the Commission's guidance and all decisions are made with the purpose and guidance in mind.

The stated aims of the charity are specifically designed to bring benefit to the public by enhancing the experience of all who use the park.

As liaison officer between FoCCP and the Town Council I am happy to be associated with this voluntary group of like-minded people who care for the country park, improving the park environment, and arranging numerous events for the local community. Well maintained paths offer a gateway to the great outdoors, enabling all to experience the joy of walking."

Councillor Leo Healy. Cotgrave Town Council.



Coffee in the park

Reference and Administrative details

Friends of Cotgrave Country Park
Charity registration number 1199132
7 Vine Farm Close
Cotgrave
Nottingham

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Alan Holmes	Chair
Trevor Chapman	Secretary
Sharon Broadbent	Treasurer
Paul Phillips	Fund Raising
Rachel Tindsley	Events & Publicity
Rachel Ollerenshaw	Environment & Conservation

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)	Alan Holmes	Trevor Chapman
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Secretary
Date	28/1/25	

Appendix I

Accounts 1st January 2024 – 31st December 2024

Income	£	Expenditure	£
Balance brought forward	14092.18		
Membership	849.00	Naturescape(bulbs/plugs)	1924.40
Nature Trail (Co-Op)	1703.45	Nature Trail	1793.82
Notts County Council	5838.00	Bat Boxes	231.18
Rushcliffe B C (Signage)	500.00	Signage	10786.00
Rushcliffe Rotary Donation	250.00	Donation Notts Bat Group	30.00
Ticket Sales	84.00	Funday expenses	69.15
		Hall Hire	60.00
		Sundry expenses	67.08
		Insurance	157.56
		Balance at Bank	8197.44
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	23316.63		23316.63

Appendix II

A 2024 Diary

16/01/24	Quarterly meeting between FoCCP Chair and NCC
28/01/24	Bird box monitoring/cleaning.
30/01/24	AGM: Rachel Ollerenshaw elected as a Trustee.
06/02/24	Trustees agreed to buy replacement bat boxes for the woodland behind lock 7.
08/02/24	Task Day: woodland wildflower planting.
18/02/24	Task Day: woodland wildflower planting. Final version of new Park Map approved.
19/02/24	Meeting with RWE Solar Farm developers re projects that could be funded.
24/02/24	Cotgrave Integrated Neighbourhood Working Community Event.
27/02/24	Task Day: woodland wildflower planting.
05/03/24	Updated entry to Rushcliffe Big Green Book submitted.
10/03/24	Task Day: 18 trees (10 Lime, 8 Oak) planted on Mill Lane path.
19/03/24	Trustees met to discuss scope of Nature Trail Project
19/03/24	3 New Bat Boxes purchased.
20/03/24	Donation of £250 received from Rushcliffe Rotary Club.
21/03/24	Task Day: Planted Hawthorn screening hedge behind storage unit; Cleared and burnt sea buckthorn on toe; digging out to repair kingfisher banks.
26/03/24	Group Meeting
09/04/24	Task Day: Cutting back to widen track to viewpoint to allow vehicle access; cutting back picnic area; fixing post arrows. Local landscape gardener donated some sleepers and stakes. Trustees met to discuss a strategy for the group going forward.
14/04/24	Task Day: Litter picking.
15/04/24	Bat survey: 3 pipistrelles together in a box and 1 in another. 5 boxes with possible bats behind cobwebs.
22/04/24	Quarterly meeting between FoCCP Chair and NCC
25/04/24	Task Day: Cut back some of the overhanging trees along the path between the dog pond and the cabin, some stump treatments in and around the corral area and planted some marsh marigold plants in the

	wet grassland beyond leaky hollow. Progress digging out the kingfisher banks to enable beginning the re-build. 4 volunteers from Games Workshop took part.
05/05/24	Task Day: Route Marker Posts repositioned and some added.
07/05/24	Joined Community Care Transformation Programme - Nottingham & Nottinghamshire.
19/05/24	Task Day: An additional date at short notice.
21/05/24	Task Day: Path repairs, scrub control and work on Kingfisher nesting banks.
	Meeting to agree first improvements to the first section of the nature trail.
28/05/24	Group Meeting.
04/06/24	Announcement of smaller event replacing Fun Day.
	Approach made to Nottinghamshire Amphibian and Reptile Group to carry out a survey in the park.
	Task Day: Strimmed round the main group of picnic tables and cut a path between them, cleared a tree from the towpath and exposed the drain on Mill Lane so that it now runs free. Collected broken glass on the bridge and cleared the rubbish around a den area in the wood.
05/06/24	Sighting of Bee Orchids on the park.
08/06/24	Entry on Notts Help Yourself updated.
09/06/24	Task Day: Repaired 2 benches and reset 1. Cut back one of the wooded areas by Heron Lake. Strimmed around benches by dog pool.
13/06/24	Task Day: General duties, picnic bench repairs.
20/06/24	Task Day: Two bridges erected across ditches to provide access to a path at the top of the steps and to a bench overlooking Leaky Hollow. A group of volunteers from Games Workshop took part in the day.
23/06/24	Wildflower and Butterfly walk.
25/06/24	Task Day: General duties, scrub clearance etc.
02/07/24	Task Day: installed the 'trees and birds' lectern on High Trail and replaced the fisherman's gate (car park end of the Lake).
07/07/24	20 slabs and 20 edging stones donated by local landscape gardener.
08/07/24	Application submitted to Co-Op Community Fund 2024.
09/07/24	Task Day: Information Board erected on Heron Lake. Grass strimming.
14/07/24	Task Day: Information Board erected on viewpoint.
	Notts Bat Group replaced and relocated 2 repaired bat boxes and put back 1 fallen box, all in Bluebell Spinney.

18/07/24	Task Day: installed welcome lectern near car park and wildflowers lectern overlooking Leaky Hollow. Carried out preparation work for Cub Scouts activity day. A group of volunteers from Rodgers Leask Limited (consulting engineers) took part in the day.
20/07/24	Initial walk around park and assessment by Nottinghamshire Amphibian & Reptile Group.
21/07/24	Cropwell Bishop Cubs built 2 bug hotels for the Nature Trail.
23/07/24	Quarterly meeting between FoCCP Chair and NCC
28/07/24	Task Day: The last Information Board installed at the Toe.
06/08/24	Task Day: Hard standing for Information Boards, cutting back scrub. Group meeting.
11/08/24	Task Day: Making track safe where BMX features had been dug.
15/08/24	Task Day: General maintenance.
20/08/24	Task Day: Preparation and grass cutting for event.
22/08/24	Task Day: Maintenance to bollards at Heron Lake.
24/08/24	Children's Activities event cancelled due to weather conditions.
27/08/24	Trustees meeting:
03/09/24	Task Day: Ramp and handrail constructed to bottom end of permissive path through wood from top of steps.
06/09/24	Bat Detectors Walk.
08/09/24	Task Day: Ramp extended and bridge at top of the path raised to reduce the slope. Vegetation on car park cut back to make parking bays visible.
19/09/24	Task Day: Posts for securing gate of shelters fixed; entrance path from Stragglethorpe Road cut back and cleared to allow access for horse riders; Vegetation on High Trail cut back.
22/09/24	Task Day: 2 steps up from Bluebell Spinney repaired; Betony seeds sowed all around Leaky Hollow area; large logs removed from den building area.
24/09/24	Group meeting:
01/10/24	Rachel Ollerenshaw nominated for Rushcliffe Volunteer of the Year and Young Volunteer of the Year.
03/10/24	Members of the group attended afternoon tea with the Chair of Nottinghamshire County Council, Councillor Richard Butler, at County Hall to acknowledge the work of voluntary groups in Cotgrave.
07/10/24	Friends of Cotgrave Country Park chosen to be one of the 2024-25 Co-Op Local Community Fund causes.

13/10/24	Fungi Foray event.
17/10/24	Rachel Ollerenshaw shortlisted in the Environmental Group/Project of the Year category in the Celebrating Rushcliffe Awards for her work developing the Nature Trail project. Task Day: Work commenced on Nature Trail, general maintenance, clearing a bike ramp.
27/10/24	Task Day: Work on Nature Trail.
10/11/24	Task Day: Trees removed to open out the woodland clearing for the bird feeding area of the Nature Trail. "NT" signpost erected near the start of the trail. A staked corridor to lead people into the woodland clearing from the pathway created. Notts Bat Group carried out a survey. At the Mill Lane end of the park there were 2 pipistrelles and 4 Brown Long Eared (3 together in 1 box). 2 pipistrelles were counted in a box near the lock.
19/11/24	Registered with Volunteer Centre Database.
20/11/24	Two Trustees attended a celebration event to celebrate the award from the 2023-24 Co-Op Local Community Fund.
21/11/24	Rachel O awarded environmental project of the year at Celebrating Rushcliffe award night.
21/11/24	Task Day: 5 Specsavers staff joined us for the day. Work started on rebuilding one of the kingfisher nesting banks. Also cutting back of the wooded areas between Leaky Hollow and the Mill Lane path.
24/11/24	Task Day: Short day cutting hazel to use to build fencing on the Nature Trail.
28/11/24	Attended Rushcliffe Volunteer Coordinators Network Meeting.
14/12/24	Citizen Science Workshop run by Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust attended.
19/12/24	Task Day: Final one of the year. Gathered hazel cuttings (see task day 24/11) and built fencing for nature trail.

Appendix III

January 2024 roundup!

- 🐦 We celebrated [#NationalBirdDay](#)
 - 🐦 We learnt about the [#BigGardenBirdWatch](#)
 - 🐾 We celebrated our dog pond being re-open!
 - 🚲👤 We took a look into our walking routes and bike trail
 - ❄️ You shared your photos of the park in winter
 - 🐦 Our first task day of the year - bird box clearing
 - 😊 Friends of Cotgrave Country Park is part of the Co-op Local Community Fund
- To find out more and to choose us as your cause, click here:
<https://membership.coop.co.uk/causes/83469>
- 🗣️ FOCCP discussed everything happening in the park during our annual AGM





FRIENDS OF COTGRAVE COUNTRY PARK

ACCOUNTS 1st JANUARY 2024 – 31st DECEMBER 2024

INCOME

EXPENDITURE

Balance brought forward 1/1/2024	£14092.18
Membership	£ 849.00
Nature Trail (Co-Op)	£ 1703.45
Notts County Council	£ 5838.00
Rushcliffe B.C (Signage)	£ 500.00
Rushcliffe Rotary Donation	£ 250.00
Ticket Sales	£ 84.00

Naturescape (bulbs/plugs)	£ 1924.40
Nature Trail	£ 1793.82
Signage	£10786.00
Bat Boxes	£ 231.18
Donation NoRm Bat (Walks)	£ 30.00
Funday Expences	£ 69.15
Hall Hire	£ 60.00
Sundry Expences	£ 67.08
Insurance	£ 157.56
Balance at bank	£ 8197.44

£23316.63

£23316.63

Accounts checked and Audited

Signed 

Karen Knight MAAT

Dated 

Accounts

The Friends of Cotgrave Country Park



Charity registration number: 1199132

Trustees' Annual Report for the period from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023

Introduction by Alan Holmes, chair of Friends of Cotgrave Country Park

The Friends of Cotgrave Country Park is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). This is the first full year of its operation.

As I look back on 2023, I regard it as a year of strength, stability and growth for the Friends Group. With our first year of effective management under existing Trustees we have delivered good governance and sound financial control, as well as supporting new initiatives to enhance the park and those that enjoy using it – both human and wildlife!

We have fostered a close working relationship with Nottinghamshire County Council (NCC) one of our key stakeholders, that has allowed us to work collaboratively together to place a storage container for joint use in the park, as well as advanced ongoing plans for “Community Green Shelters” and other infrastructure intended to be built in the next 12 months.

Our communication out-reach, to those who want to know what we are doing, has been hugely expanded with a plan of weekly engaging FaceBook posts, website updates, monthly blogs and not forgetting colourful Park noticeboard content all being delivered.

We have continued to win bids for funding for projects and activities in the park and I am immensely thankful for the involvement of many in ideas creation and costing, submitting bids and supporting the delivery phase. It has enabled the building of two kingfisher nesting banks, another successful Fun Day and will see the construction of a range of information boards in the coming year.

We have again run a programme of events and activities which takes significant coordination from within our group as well as the support of other charity groups and NCC. This brings into the park many people from the local community, both adults and young persons, to experience the beauty of nature, and to learn from “experts” about local habitat and its wildlife.

The group has continued to support the maintenance and development of the park, which is a core aim, with many task days and nature surveys.

We are all doing what we do, to look after and conserve the wild nature of the park for future generations and it has been heartening to hear of many sightings of wildlife over this last year. Long may this continue.

The work of the CIO depends on the tremendous efforts of people who generously give their time to ensure it can continue to operate so successfully. The role of volunteers is vital, and the group is always looking for others to get involved. Volunteers are not just needed to conduct tasks on the park on volunteer task days but also to help carry out the everyday running of the organisation. I would welcome anyone who feels they could help support our work. Perhaps you have a skill that you could put to use in support of the group.

In particular, I would like to record that Sharon Broadbent, who has been our Treasurer for the last 3 years, wishes to step down. Currently no one has come forward to take up the role. Sharon has overseen a transition of accounts as a result of the establishment of the CIO and maintained the organisation's account with efficiency and integrity. There is a future vacancy arising for the post of treasurer and I would be grateful to hear from anyone who would be interested in helping out in this area.

Alan Holmes, Chair

"This year has again seen a lot of good, positive and enthusiastic work carried out by the volunteers of the FOCCP. I am always impressed by their initiative, commitment and enthusiasm in their many roles, ranging from identifying and obtaining grant funding opportunities, organising community events including the very popular and successful Fun Day in the summer, and arranging and managing working groups to look after the country park."

Councillor Richard Butler

Objectives and Activities

The object of the charity is to provide or assist in the provision of facilities for recreation and other leisure time by the preservation, promotion, support, assistance and improvement of Cotgrave Country Park.

The Friends have delivered a range of educational nature-based walks and activities including a Family Fun Day open to the local community for adults and children.

This year saw 20 years since the Friends of Cotgrave Country Park was established. A celebratory picnic of this anniversary took place in August with portions of cake given out to park users who were entertained by the music of the Loxley Saxophone Ensemble.



Events

Fun Day apart, we have put on ten activities in the park. These have covered many aspects of nature: wildflowers, butterflies and moths, fungi, pond life and bats. All have been educational and informative, and enjoyed and appreciated by the attendees.

Leaders and helpers on these activities have given their time and expertise freely and generously. Our thanks to them all.

“Bat walk very informative and enjoyable.”

“It was great, so much to do and everyone was so friendly, interesting and informative.”

“Great events with engaging volunteers who are happy to discuss any aspect of the event.”

“Great events run by knowledgeable people. I did a wildflower walk this year and fungi walk last year.”

Comments from participants.

See Appendix I for a full list of events.

Tree Planting

In April we supported the 9th West Bridgford (Holy Spirit) Cub pack to plant 107 trees on the Toe area of the park. The Cubs chose tree planting as one of their community projects. The trees were supplied by the Woodland Trust and consisted of a wildlife-friendly mix of hawthorn, blackthorn, sessile oak, rowan and hazel. The mix will provide food and shelter for birds, invertebrates and mammals, as well as strengthening the boundary and providing colour and interest.

Tree Guards

On Sunday 5th November, volunteers from FoCCP and Plastic Free Cotgrave met to remove some of the many plastic tree guards that can be found in the Country Park. In a two hours session, 25 large bags of tree guards were removed from hawthorns and other small trees around the Hollygate Lane Car Park areas. Initially used to protect young saplings, most of the tree guards have now outlived their usefulness and are in danger of breaking down into unwanted microplastics in the environment.



“It was a very successful event at which a magnificent amount of work that was achieved. It was such a positive experience for all concerned and made a massive difference in removing a great deal of unwanted plastic that was already turning very brittle and starting to break down into the environment as microplastics.” Brenda Ainsley, Plastic Free Cotgrave

Fun Day

The Fun Day was once again a significant success. This was the third year that we have been able to put on this event. The children's activities were fun, enjoyable and educational. All coming to the event had the opportunity to wander nature related information stalls, with volunteers freely giving time and effort to help inform the public.

Thanks to all organisers and contributors working hard to put on this free event. We believe the event has been important in raising awareness amongst local communities of the great opportunities for education, relaxation and leisure that the park provides.

The day involved a tremendous amount of planning and help from many on the day. It was great to see so many willing to help with all aspects on the day and their help once again ensured its success.

Contribution made by volunteers

During 2023 members of the Friends of Cotgrave Country Park and others associated with the Group attended 37 task days on the park. The work carried out throughout the year represented some 211 work hours (1050 hours).

The range of work undertaken included work on the den-building and forest school areas, habitat management on the Toe area, bird-box maintenance, and scrub clearance on the paths and around Heron Lake. Working with a group from AEON two kingfisher nesting banks were constructed along the Rill stream and an event with Plastic Free Cotgrave succeeded in removing a large quantity of redundant plastic from the Country Park.

Other tasks included maintenance of the car park, path surface and drainage improvements and repairs to signage and other furniture.

The unseen 'behind the scenes' contribution of volunteers is the work done by Trustees and others who have helped in the organisation of events, producing education and informational materials about the park, managing our website, and communicating with the Public. The input of ideas and comments at meetings are also valuable in ensuring that the group have been able to deliver so much this year. Over 650 hours of meetings, organisation and administration have been recorded.

"May I take this opportunity to thank all those involved for all their help in managing and improving the Park and the experience of our visitors."

Lee Scudder, Land Management Officer, Nottinghamshire County Council.

Achievements and Performance

The work of the Friends is to keep the park in great condition for the public that use it for recreation and relaxation as well as the nature that inhabits it. There have been reports of Bittern on the park, Kingfishers have been sighted and Nottinghamshire Bat Group found evidence of pipistrelle bats in bat boxes previously erected by the group and FoCCP. Kestrel nesting boxes have also been erected.

The events described in the previous section have ensured that people from the area have been able to enjoy the park and find out more about the fauna and flora that can be found there.



Following on from last year's redesign of the Friends of Cotgrave Country Park website (www.cotgravecountrypark.co.uk) the park and the group have expanded its profile and reached more people through the efforts of Rachel Ollerenshaw managing a Facebook page with fresh and interesting content.

A storage unit, enabling the friends and Nottinghamshire County Council to store equipment used on the park and relieving the need for members of the group to use their own garages, was established on the park.

Further Development

Work is underway to design and construct a number of information boards to be placed at various points of interest around the park. This has resulted from the funds raised by Paul Phillips that have then been matched by NCC.

Another grant will be used to carry out a woodland bulb planting project.

"Nottinghamshire County Council, as owners and managers of Cotgrave Country Park, recognise and value the huge amount of time and effort that the Friends put into the park, including assisting with volunteer tasks, developing projects and funding bids, and running events such as their successful summer Fun Day - all of which helps to make the park a better place for the local community, and for wildlife that makes the park home".

Nick Crouch, Natural Environment Manager, Nottinghamshire County Council

Financial Review

The audited statement of accounts can be found at Appendix II.

The savings of the group are held in a single charity bank account and use of these funds are determined by Trustees.

Fundraising

The charity's principal sources of funds have come from grants, supplemented by membership fees which provide an assured income totalling over £800 this year.

Bids for funding have included:

- Rushcliffe Bio-Diversity Fund. Last year's successful bid for £750 funding was received allowing the construction of two kingfisher nesting banks.



- Nottinghamshire County Council Local Community Fund. A successful bid was made for £4592 towards producing 8 information boards around the park. This will cover half of the costs and the rest has been raised from NCC. This was supplemented by a £500 donation from Councillor Richard Butler, Rushcliffe Borough Council.
- The cost of running the annual Fun Day was met from a £1720 grant from the National Lottery Community Fund.
- A crowd funding exercise run through Aviva Community Fund has resulted in raising £1791.14 towards the planned woodland planting expected to be conducted this winter.

We are currently one of the causes chosen to receive support from the Co-Op Community Fund. The distribution between the chosen causes is decided by shoppers. The final amount raised will be known in October 2024, but will be at least £1,000. It is planned to use the funds for plants, materials and equipment for use by volunteers.

Structure, Governance and Management

The charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). It is governed by a constitution adopted on 27 May 2022.

3 Trustees are ex-officio office holders of the charity (Chair, Treasurer and Secretary). Others can be elected by the membership. There are currently 5 Trustees.

Nottinghamshire County Council, Rushcliffe Borough Council and Cotgrave Town Council may each appoint one charity trustee, although there are no council Trustees at present.

The charity trustees will make available to each new charity trustee, on or before his or her first appointment a copy of the constitution and any amendments made to it and a copy of the CIO's latest trustees' annual report and statement of accounts.

The charity's elected officials are Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Fundraising Lead, Activities and Events Lead.

In addition to the above the Trustees have appointed Rachel Ollerenshaw as Environmental and Conservation Lead. This is a personal appointment which brings Rachel's expertise and enthusiasm to the group.

Nottinghamshire County Council own Cotgrave Country Park and allow the Friends to conduct agreed activities in the park under guidance and supervision. Regular meetings are held between the Friends group and the County Council Park management.

The Friends liaise and network with Rushcliffe Borough Council and Cotgrave Town Council, both of which have representatives attend the group's meetings. Both councils continue to be supportive of the group.

Public Benefit

The Trustees have a legal duty to have regard to the guidance published by the Charity Commission on public benefit when they exercise their powers or duties. This means that they must be aware of the guidance, take it into account when making a decision to which the guidance is relevant and if they have decided to depart from the guidance, they have good reasons for doing so.

The purpose of the charity is to provide an environment that is of benefit to the public and does not limit access to that environment in any way. The Trustees have been provided with copies of the Commission's guidance and all decisions are made with the purpose and guidance in mind.

The stated aims of the charity are specifically designed to bring benefit to the public by enhancing the experience of all who use the park.

Reference and Administrative details

Friends of Cotgrave Country Park
Charity registration number 1199132
7 Vine Farm Close
Cotgrave
Nottingham

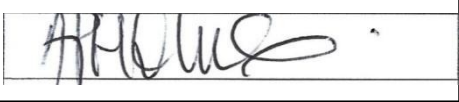
Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Alan Holmes	Chair
Trevor Chapman	Secretary
Sharon Broadbent	Treasurer
Paul Phillips	Fund Raising

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)	Alan Holmes	Trevor Chapman
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Secretary
Date	2 April 2024	

Appendix I

Month	Date	Park/ Social activities 2023
April		Tree Planting (with 9 th West Bridgford (Holy Spirit) Cubs
May	13.05.2023	Early Morning Birdsong walk
June	06.06.2023	Bird Identification walk
	11.06.2023	Wildflowers and Butterflies
July	16.07.2023	Wildflowers and Butterflies
	28.07.2023	Guided walk (with Keyworth U3A)
August	08.08.2023	Pond Dipping
	13.08.2023	Teddy Bear's Picnic/20th Anniversary
	20.08.2023	Family Fun Day
September	15.09.2023	Bat Detectors
October	22.10.2023	Fungi Fun
November	05.11.2023	Tree Guard & Litter Pick (with Plastic Free Cotgrave)

Appendix II

Accounts 1st January 2023 – 31st December 2023

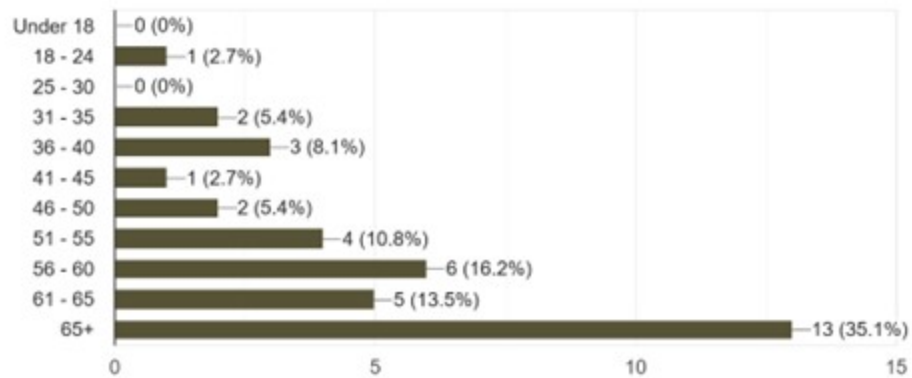
Income		Expenditure	
Balance brought forward 1/1/2023	£8372.49		
Membership	£ 813.00	Falcon Box	£ 360.00
Ticket Sales	£ 189.20	B&B kingfisher boxes	£ 768.00
Rushcliffe Borough Council (Kingfisher tunnels)	£ 750.00	NHBS kingfisher boxes	£ 271.83
Notts County Council (Signage)	£3444.00	Zurich insurance	£ 189.00
Crowd Funding (bulbs)	£1791.14	Funday	£ 1840.69
Misc, donations	£ 66.16	Misc expenses	£ 124.29
Lottery Grant	£1720.00	Balance at Bank	£14092.18
Rushcliffe Borough Council	£ 500.00		
	-----		-----
	£17645.99		£17645.99

Appendix III

Cotgrave Country Park community survey

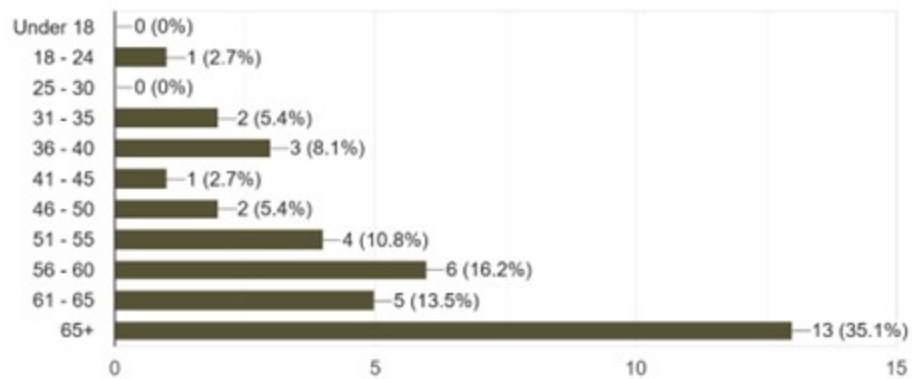
What age range group do you fit into from the following?

37 responses



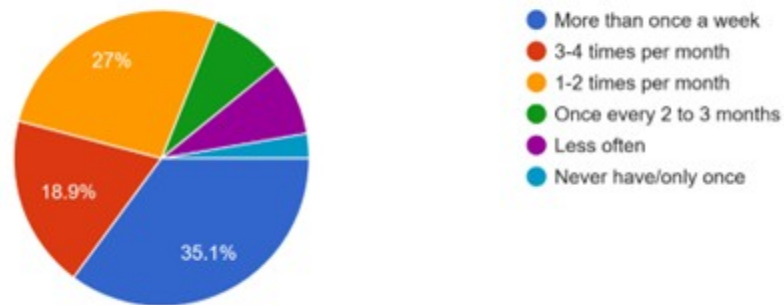
What age range group do you fit into from the following?

37 responses



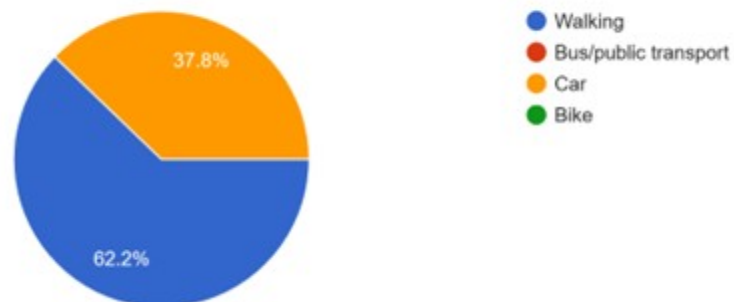
In the last 12 months, how often on average have you visited The Cotgrave Country Park?

37 responses



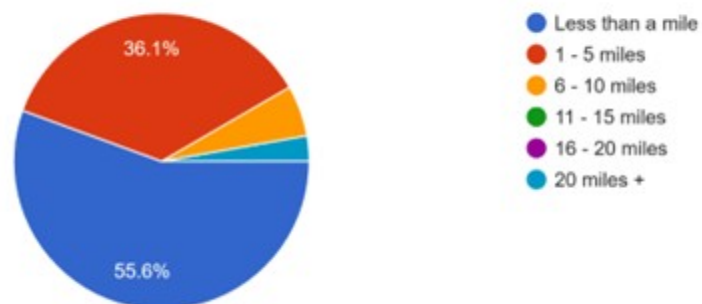
If you do visit, how do you most often travel to the Cotgrave Country Park?

37 responses



If you do travel to visit the Cotgrave Country Park, how far do you travel to arrive?

36 responses



FRIENDS OF COTRGRAVE COUNTRY PARK
ACCOUNTS 1ST JANUARY 2023 – 31ST DECEMBER 2023

INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
Balance brought forward 1/1/2023	£ 8372.49		
Membership	£ 813.00	Falcon Box	£ 360.00
Ticket Sales	£ 189.20	B & B kingfisher boxes	£ 768.00
RBC (Kingfisher tunnels)	£ 750.00	NHBS kingfisher boxes	£ 271.83
N.C.C (Signage)	£ 3444.00	Zurich Insurance	£ 189.00
Crowd Funding (bulbs)	£ 1791.14	Funday	£ 1840.69
Misc., Donations	£ 66.16	Misc. Expenses	£ 124.29
Lottery Grant	£ 1720.00	Balance at Bank	£14092.18
RBC	£ 500.00		
	£17645.99		£17645.99

Accounts checked and Audited.....

Signed 

Karen Knight MAAT

Dated 16 Jan 2024

Accounts

The Friends of Cotgrave Country Park



Charity registration number: 1199132

Trustees' Annual Report for the period from 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022

Introduction

The past year has been a significant one for the group. In May 2022 a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) was established and registered with the Charity Commission as a charity.

Over the last two years it had become clear that this major change in the way the organisation was constituted was necessary. The group had made successful bids for funding which brought its income to the threshold of £5000 whereby registration with the Charity Commission was a legal requirement.

The excellent work of Paul Phillips, taking the lead on fundraising for the group, identified possible future funding opportunities that would continue to require registration.

It was also apparent that officials needed protection from personal liability if people were to be encouraged to become active within the group.

This report describes the activities of the group throughout the whole year, including the months prior to the establishment of the CIO.

Objectives and Activities

The object of the charity is to provide or assist in the provision of facilities for recreation and other leisure time by the preservation, promotion, support, assistance and improvement of Cotgrave Country Park.

The Friends have delivered a range of educational nature based walks and activities including a Family Fun Day open to the local community for adults and children.

Events

Fun Day apart, we have put on eleven activities in the park. These have covered many aspects of nature: wildflowers, butterflies and moths, fungi, bats, bugs and tree identification. All have been educational and informative, and enjoyed and appreciated by the attendees.

Many thanks to all the leaders and helpers on these activities, giving their time and expertise freely and generously. A successful season!

See Appendix I for a full list of events.

Fun Day

The Fun Day was a significant success, following last year's first event. Numbers were good, and a warm day was enjoyed by all. Children's activities were fun, enjoyable and educational. All coming to the event had the opportunity to wander nature related information stalls, with volunteers freely giving time and effort to help inform the public.

Thanks to sponsors and to all organisers and contributors working hard to put on this free event. We believe the event is important in raising awareness amongst local communities of the great opportunities for education, relaxation and leisure that the park provides.

Contribution made by volunteers

During the year members and others associated with the group attended 28 volunteer task days on the park. The work carried out on these days were the equivalent of 158 man-days (790 hours) work.

The range of work carried out included path repairs and drainage works, extending the new path at the kingfisher pond, clearing /maintaining the Rill path, cutting back trees and shrubs around a number of the plantations, work on the Multi User Route, hedge-laying along the canal tow path, and work on the forest school area.

The Fun Day involved a tremendous amount of planning and help from many on the day. It was great to see so many willing to help with all aspects on the day and their help ensured its success.

The contribution of a number of individuals has been invaluable in this busy year. All who have contributed to the running of the group and the transition to a CIO have done so in their own time and our thanks goes to all of them.

Achievements and Performance

The work of the Friends is to keep the park in great condition for the public that use it for recreation and relaxation as well as the nature that inhabits it.

The events described in the previous section have ensured that people from the area have been able to enjoy the park and find out more about the fauna and flora that can be found there.

Awareness of the Park and information about it has been greatly enhanced by a redesign of the Friends of Cotgrave Country Park website (www.cotgravecountrypark.co.uk). Tom Thurston has done a fantastic job on this and, in the process, has also reduced the administrative cost significantly.

Those people enjoying a walk in the park can make use of new sign posts marking 4 trails of varying length and hopefully next year the trails will be enhanced by information boards.

A survey completed by a small number of users of the park was carried out during the year. The results are shown at Appendix III. The answers showed that 50% of the users used the park most days and 78% at least once a week. 78% of the users travelled less than 2 miles to the park and all who took part travelled within 5 miles. The most common word used to describe what users liked about the park was "natural".

Financial Review

The audited statement of accounts can be found at Appendix II.

The savings of the group are held in a single charity bank account and use of these funds are determined by Trustees.

Fundraising

The charity's principal sources of funds have come from grants, supplemented by membership fees, and donations from individuals and local businesses.

During this year we were one of the causes chosen to receive support from the Co-Op Community Fund. The distribution between the chosen causes was decided by shoppers. The funds we received enabled purchasing and hiring of equipment and facilities that enabled us to run such a successful Fun Day for users of the park. Unfortunately, we have not been chosen for the coming years causes.

We received donations from Nottinghamshire County Council which included money for bat boxes and towards the expenses of the fun day. Cotgrave Town Council also gave us a donation towards funday expenses.

Other bids for funding have included:

- Rushcliffe Bio-Diversity Fund. We have been informed that our bid has been successful for £750 towards the cost of a kingfisher pond project. The rest of the cost will need to be found from other sources.
- Highways England Biodiversity Fund for funding schemes near the A46/A52. Our bid to fund a conservation field project has been accepted in principle and this year will see feasibility studies take place.
- Nottinghamshire County Council Local Community Fund. The bid here is to fund production of information boards around the park. This bid has now been deferred to the 2023-4 financial year.

Structure, Governance and Management

The charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). It is governed by a constitution adopted on 27 May 2022. Previously a community group operated according to a separate constitution. Under the provisions of the latter the community group was dissolved with effect from 31 December 2022.

3 Trustees are ex-officio office holders of the charity (Chair, Treasurer and Secretary). Others can be elected by the membership. There are currently 5 Trustees.

Nottinghamshire County Council, Rushcliffe Borough Council and Cotgrave Town Council may each appoint one charity trustee, although there are no council Trustees at present.

The charity trustees will make available to each new charity trustee, on or before his or her first appointment a copy of the constitution and any amendments made to it and a copy of the CIO's latest trustees' annual report and statement of accounts.

The charity's elected officials are Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Fundraising Lead, Activities and Events Lead.

Nottinghamshire County Council own Cotgrave Country Park and allow the Friends to carry out agreed activities in the park under guidance and supervision. Regular meetings are held between the Friends group and the County Council park management. A document explaining how the relationship is managed will be agreed in the coming year.

The Friends liaise and network with Rushcliffe Borough Council and Cotgrave Town Council, both of which have representatives attend the group's meetings. Both councils have been supportive.

Public Benefit

The Trustees have a legal duty to have regard to the guidance published by the Charity Commission on public benefit when they exercise their powers or duties. This means that they must be aware of the guidance, take it into account when making a decision to which the guidance is relevant and if they have decided to depart from the guidance, they have good reasons for doing so.

The purpose of the charity is to provide an environment that is of benefit to the public and does not limit access to that environment in any way. The Trustees have been provided with copies of the Commission's guidance and all decisions are made with the purpose and guidance in mind.

The stated aims of the charity are specifically designed to bring benefit to the public by enhancing the experience of all who use the park.

Reference and Administrative details

Friends of Cotgrave Country Park
Charity registration number 1199132
7 Vine Farm Close
Cotgrave
Nottingham

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Alan Holmes	Chair
Trevor Chapman	Secretary
Sharon Broadbent	Treasurer
Paul Phillips	Fund Raising
Rachel Tindsley	Events & Publicity

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)

Alan Holmes

Trevor Chapman

Position (eg Secretary,
Chair, etc)

Chair

Secretary

Date

18 April 2023

Appendix I

Month	Date	Park/ Social events
April	30.04.2022	Community Garden Stand
May	01.05.2022	Birdsong walk
	17.05.2022	Daytime Butterflies and moths walk
	20.05.2022	Bat and Moth walk
	28.05.2022	Childrens Activity
June	12.06.2022	Wildflower Walk
		Family(under 10's) activity/Minibeasts
	28.06.2022	Daytime Butterflies and moths walk
July	24.07.2022	Wildflower walk
August	21.08.2022	Family Fun Day
	09.09.2022	Bat walk
	23.10.2022	Fungi walk
Dec	07.12.2022	Tree Identification Walk

Appendix II

FRIENDS OF COTGRAVE COUNTRY PARK

ACCOUNTS 1ST JANUARY 2022 – 31ST DECEMBER 2022

INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
Balance brought forward 1/1/2022	£ 4543.78		
Miscellaneous	£ 65.48	Miscellaneous	£ 606.02
Membership	£ 667.00	insurance	£ 168.00
Donations	£2783.26	Website	£ 180.00
Ticket Sales	£ 158.09	Funday	£1223.31
Funday	£2332.21	Balance @ Bank	£8372.49
	-----		-----
	£ 10549.82		£10549.82

Accounts checked and Audited _

Karen Knight MAAT

Appendix III

Cotgrave Country Park user survey

1. How often do you use the park?				
Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	• Most days		50.00%	9
2	• At least twice a week		16.67%	3
3	• Once a week		11.11%	2
4	• 2-3 times a month		5.56%	1
5	• Less often		16.67%	3
			answered	18
			skipped	0

2. How long do you typically spend in the park?				
Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	• Less than an hour		33.33%	6
2	• 1-2 hours		66.67%	12
3	• More than 2 hours		0.00%	0
			answered	18
			skipped	0

3. What do you use the park for (tick all that apply)?				
Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total

3. What do you use the park for (tick all that apply)?

1	• Walking		77.78%	14
2	• Dog Walking		44.44%	8
3	• Cycling		44.44%	8
4	• Jogging		11.11%	2
5	• Fishing		0.00%	0
6	Other (please specify):		27.78%	5
			answered	18
			skipped	0

Other (please specify): (5)

1		Just enjoying nature
2		Events and play park
3		Dog pool
4		Spotting flora and fauna
5		To take children out

4. How far did you travel to visit the park?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	• Less than 2 miles		77.78%	14
2	• Less than 5 miles		22.22%	4
3	• Over 5 miles		0.00%	0
			answered	18
			skipped	0

5. What do you like about the park?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Open-Ended Question		100.00%	18
1		Just on the doorstep and beautiful		
2		Dog swimming pool, nice walks, natural, lots of water		
3		Diverse and quiet, nearby		
4		Variety of walking trails		
5		It's solitude		
6		Flora and fauna, plus good surface on the paths for walking		
7		Trees, lake, canal, view over Tollerton and Nottingham.		
8		Clean, nice routes		
9		Dog pool		
10		Lovely natural landscape		
11		Natural space full of wildlife		
12		It's naturalness		
13		Natural surroundings without play areas etc.		
14		Peaceful, nature, wildlife, good paths		
15		It's rugged natural landscape		
16		Natural surroundings		
17		Open space, close		
18		Open spaces, clean, friendly people, peaceful.		
			answered	18
			skipped	0

6. What would you like to see improved in the park?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Open-Ended Question		100.00%	18
1		Extra bridge to hollygate		
2		Needs toilets		
3		Nothing really		
4		Dogs on lead sections of the park,, climbing/play apparatus for children (made from trees from the park in keeping with the area)		
5		Tea, kofi, refreshments		
6		Activities for children around the walks		
7		More car parking, perhaps on weekends?		
8		Feature areas similar to theirs in Rushcliffe Country Park in Ruddington		
9		Nothing		
10		More bins to encourage disposal of rubbish		
11		Signage and information		
12		TOILETS		
13		Parking for those who visit from other areas or can't be bothered to walk to the park. Too many people using surrounding roads (Mill Lane area in particular)		
14		Clearer footpaths from foliage, toilets and an open flat grass area would attract more people, woodland is very dense restricting growth		
15		Parking and some on lead zones in congested areas		
16		Toilets, refreshments		
17		A childrens play area, preferably made from wood. A larger car park.		
18		More for young children to explore. E.g. willow or natural play things incorporated into different walkways like at Rushcliffe and westbridgford parks.		
			answered	18
			skipped	0

7. On a scale of 1-10, how likely are you to recommend Cotgrave Country Park to friends, colleagues, and family, where definitely is 10 and 1 is not at all likely?

Answer Choices	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Response Total
	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	5.56% 1	11.11% 2	83.33% 15	18
										answered	18
										skipped	0

FRIENDS OF COTG RAVE COUNTRY PARK

ACCOUNTS 1ST JANUARY 2022 – 31ST DECEMBER 2022

INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
Balance brought forward 1/1/2022	£ 4543.78		
Miscellaneous	£ 65.48	Miscellaneous	£ 606.02
Membership	£ 667.00	insurance	£ 168.00
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Funday	£2332.21	Balance @ Bank	£8372.49
	£ 10549.82		£10549.82

Accounts checked and Audited _Karen Knight

Signed 

Karen Knight MAAT