

Original, now superseded - see website for latest version

Constitution for the Friends of Troopers Hill

Name of the group: Friends of Troopers Hill

Aims:

The group aims to ensure that Troopers Hill Local Nature Reserve is maintained as a nature reserve, of benefit to both wildlife and people.

To fulfill this aim the group will:

- Liaise with Bristol City Council to ensure a high level of care for Troopers Hill Local Nature Reserve and to have a say in how the site is managed.
- Provide a friendly and welcoming community focus for people interested in Troopers Hill.
- Contribute to making Troopers Hill a safe and inviting place to visit.
- Work to improve understanding and increase respect of Troopers Hill by the local community.
- Contribute to the management of Troopers Hill, including the protection of wildlife habitats, in accordance with the Management Plan for the site, a copy of which will be held by the group.
- Research and collect information relevant to Troopers Hill, for example on the wildlife and history of the site.
- Work with Bristol City Council and other bodies to ensure that the effects on Troopers Hill are considered in any plans or developments for surrounding areas.

Membership and equality:

Membership of the group is open to anybody with an interest in Troopers Hill or the surrounding area.

The group will try to make sure this is a reality by ensuring that it is as widely publicised as possible and that it is welcoming to everyone.

Organisation:

All meetings are open to all members of the group. Individual members will be elected to the following roles:

Chairperson, who will act as the main contact and spokesperson for the group and who will keep meetings fair, unbiased and on time.

Treasurer, who will be responsible for opening a bank account for the group, holding the cheque book, keeping receipts and a record of all income and expenditure of the group.

Secretary, who will be responsible for organising meetings and taking the minutes.

Membership secretary who will keep a record of all members' contact details.

Work Party Organiser, who will liaise with Bristol City Council to agree practical conservation work to be carried out by the group, and who will ensure that all necessary equipment is brought to each work session.

Research Co-ordinator, who will collate information on the history and wildlife of Troopers Hill and who will be responsible for making the information available to all members.

All practical work to be carried out by the group will be agreed and risk assessed by Bristol City Council to meet the conditions of the council's public liability insurance. Each work party will have a leader trained in the safe use of tools (the leader will not necessarily be the Work Party Organiser, as the group may have several people willing to be leaders).

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There will be an Annual General Meeting (AGM) in which the group's finances and activities will be reported on and officers elected. Changes can be made to the constitution at the AGM. Vacant officer roles can be filled at any time of year but they must be ratified and elections held at the next AGM. An individual member may hold up to two officer roles at the same time.

As far as possible decisions will be reached by consensus rather than by voting.