



NEWSLETTER

August 2025

Message from our Chair

The beginning of the school holidays has seen a massive upturn in the use of the park and especially our fabulous playground. It was great to have a number of new volunteers attending our monthly litter pick following our plea for help on Facebook they were staggered by the amount of litter that they collected in a short period of time. Hopefully they will return this month and we will have some new helpers. All equipment provided and no training necessary! Come join us please. We have a new group of gardeners volunteering to take care of the beds and planters but again more help would be appreciated.

Free play days continue to be offered to children during the summer break and it is lovely to see them enjoying the park.

We are still waiting for a firm date when Alder Hey will return the park in its entirety to the Council and Community. I recently attended a council planning committee to request that the pond in the park swale be reduced in size to reduce the risk it poses. My proposals were rejected but Alder Hey are now promising to provide some fencing to create a safer environment.

We, the Friends Group, continue to press the council to deliver some of the improvements it has promised, give us back our accessible seesaw, our swings, our musical instruments, restore barriers, resurface the area round the monument, carry on with the funding bid for the sensory garden and tackle antisocial behaviour by removing the benches in the woodland walk area.

We have also raised two other significant issues with the council; the continued abuse of the car park by construction workers from the hospital and the housing development site and others who are not even using the park and the need to reconfigure the car park to be more family friendly with reduction in disabled spaces.

There is also a problem being created with dogs being allowed to run off lead in areas where this is not permitted eg the playground and football pitch areas. A number of park users have raised both of these issues as matters of concern.

Some good news is that the football pitches will be marked and in use from next month, presumably the Council will then enforce the leashing of all dogs in the park. A number of girls teams will be playing regularly throughout the season. Plans are in place to also provide suitable storage facilities.

Tony, Chair

Anti-Social Behaviour

This continues to be an issue despite increased Police presence, please report all incidents. If you need a link, there is a direct link on our website

Children's Activities in the Park

We are running free weekly sessions during the school Summer holidays for children aged 3 to 11. Just turn up at our container on the East Prescott Road side of the park (near to Alder Hey front entrance) between 11am and 2pm on Mondays. Remaining dates are 11th, 18th and 25th August.



During previous school holidays the turn out has been disappointing. We used a booking system. All places were booked, then some people didn't attend and let us know. This summer we've decided to scrap the booking system you can just turn up! We can only cater for around



20 children so first come, first served. Parents need to stay

with their children. The activities are outdoors so please dress for the weather. We are happy to cater for more children if we have more volunteers. If you can help us out, please get in touch. Volunteers are the key to success. We need more!

Litter Pick



A heartfelt thank you to the few usual volunteers who worked hard picking up an enormous amount of litter and to the new volunteers. We hold our litter picks on the last Saturday of the month. 2025. The remaining dates for litter picks are 30th August, 27th September and 25th October. We will confirm each month on our social media. It would be fantastic to see people using the bins provided, meaning there is less litter that needs picking up.

Magic Bench /Climate Bench

We continue to work with the infamous John Patterson and Warner Brothers to add to our Climate Bench - watch this space!

Sensory Garden

We are still waiting to hear the outcome of a bid for additional funding to establish a sensory garden where the old playground was sited. This will be a real asset for the community.

The Swale and Pond

We await news on the promised fencing from Alder Hey.



New Volunteers Needed



Now our park is nearly completed we would like to run a lot of more varied activities but for that we need more volunteers. We need your help, please get in touch if you can spare some time. There are so many roles we need help with.

Perhaps you have 'green fingers' like our new volunteers, Mike and Maureen, and could help with the flower beds.

Perhaps you like to run or coordinate an activity. We would love to have a monthly junior park run; for this, the Council ask for a minimum of 14 volunteers.

Finally

As always, we would like to take this opportunity to thank all our volunteers, partners and other local 'Friends of' park groups for all their hard work, knowledge and support of our group. We would also like to wish everyone a Happy Summer.

The Friends of Springfield Park Committee

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