

# Lowestoft Town Council, your local council!

Your town council looks after things in Lowestoft. We deal with:

Allotments

Lowestoft Collection

Marina Theatre

Open Spaces

Parks including Belle Vue Park, The Ness, Fen Park, Great Eastern Linear Park, Gunton Community Park, Kensington Gardens & Normanston Park

Play Areas

Public Conveniences

Town Hall

Triangle Market

## Why have "Friends of" Groups?

Lowestoft Town Council is new; we want to improve the quality of life in Lowestoft by improving the assets that we hold for the town.

To do that we want to involve our community in what we do. We're not a rich council, we get our money from the people of Lowestoft and want to make sure how it's spent benefits the people of Lowestoft.

Involving the community in their local assets is the best way to ensure that those assets are enjoyed, managed well and benefit the widest spectrum of the community.

This isn't about getting free resource, although volunteers are always a help, but about making Lowestoft a better place to live and drawing on the skills and knowledge of the local people to achieve that aim.



# Friends Information

## So what is a "Friends of" group?

A "Friends of" group (in this context) is a group of people who voluntarily work to maintain, improve and (often) promote a park, green space or community building.

## Why set up a Friends of group?

Usually it's to make a positive contribution to a place in some way:

- To act as a pressure group to get things done on the site
- To do some practical work to improve a site with others e.g. weeding, pruning, litter picking etc
- To protect the heritage of a site
- To organise or fundraise for improvements to a site
- To engage other local people in the site e.g. inspire local school children about the site.



So what kinds of places need "Friends"?

Lowestoft Town Council looks after parks, play areas, green spaces, museums, the Town Hall and the Marina Theatre amongst other things.

The Marina Theatre already has a "Friends of" group as does Fen Park and some of the museums. We'd like to open this out to other parks, play areas and green spaces and boost the existing "Friends of" groups as well.

Other benefits to forming a "Friends of" group:

- Increasing community cohesion - making friends
- Having a say into how a site maybe run
- Keeping fit/getting fresh air
- Help relieve stress
- Increasing appreciation & respect for a site among the local community

Why not talk to our team and find out if there is a Friends group near you already. If not then pick up one of our Friends information packs which sets out the whole process and talk to our team who will be more than happy to help you.

## Contact Us

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