



NEWS

Your 2024 Newsletter from Westpark Levy Trust



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Contacts & Useful Numbers

Westpark Levy Trust

Website: www.friendsofwestpark.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/Westparklevytrust

Email: info@westparklevytrust.org.uk

Kingston Open Spaces

Telephone: 0330 123 1133 (Mon-Fri: 9.00am-1.00pm)

Email: mail@kingstonopenspaces.co.uk

Website: www.kingstonopenspaces.co.uk

Darlington Borough Council

Customer Service: 01325 405 111

Email: customerservices@darlington.gov.uk

Issues within the Park

Pippa Smaling, Park Ranger

pippa.smaling@darlington.gov.uk 01325 406 719

Darlington Neighbourhood Policing Team

PCSO 8726 Laura Ripley

Telephone 101 Extension 208726

Email: laura.ripley@durham.police.uk

FRIENDS OF WESTPARK MEETING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 29th February 2024

Thursday 6th June 2024

Thursday 5th September 2024

Thursday 7th November 2024

At West Park Academy 5.00pm - 6.30pm




westpark
Levy Trust

Welcome to our latest annual newsletter, with a glance back to see what we did in '23 and a quick look ahead for what's in store for '24.

We are fortunate at Westpark to live in such a place with fabulous green spaces on our doorstep with a great community spirit. Our original aims of Caring, Sharing and Daring are still alive and well in Westpark.

Our aim of Caring for the environment is maturing alongside the Park and the green corridor from the Village Centre to the new Phase of the Garden Village. The development approached its 20th Anniversary in 2025, and the Trustees are shifting our focus in 2024 to our second aim of Sharing our great green space more with each other.

The Park has a record on delivering community events over the years and these were disrupted by the Covid 19 lockdowns. We want to rebuild an events programme fit for our community's future and which meet the ideas sent in during our consultation in 2023.

Over the next two years, starting in spring, we have partnered with Stellar Creates to help us deliver these events. The team at Stellar Creates would love to hear your views on their initial ideas via the Community Consultation 2024. (see link on the back page)

There will be plenty of opportunities to get involved, through volunteering your time and expertise, attending our new programme of events and having your voice heard in one of the Friends of Westpark meetings

The Westpark Levy Trust's third ambition is to be Daring in all that we do, this can be seen through us trying out innovative solutions to challenges, effectively spending levy funding whilst continuing to apply for external support to deliver best practice solutions. Whilst our primary focus will be on the community, we continue to enhance and improve the park. If you have an idea or a project you would like to deliver or you would like to share, we can give you time to speak in a community meeting or you can email or message us on social media.

A great green space and a vibrant community doesn't happen by accident. We all play our part to create a great community feel, whether it's being good neighbours, getting involved where we can, or reporting when things go wrong to the right people - it all helps

Westpark Levy Trustees

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Eye in the Sky



It took a while but they're now here. Our two new CCTV camera are in operation. Don't forget to smile and wave at the nice people from Darlington Civic Enforcement monitoring everyone's safety in the park and play area when entering the Park from the main entrance near Lookers or from the black path near Nickstream Lane.

The CCTV cameras were suggested by local police and civic enforcement. Attendees at a Friend's meeting, 2 years ago, agreed that the Trust should support the installation of the two new cameras.

Levy payers have provided £36,000 towards the installation. Moving forward the operational and maintenance cost will be paid by the council.

Resident's view

"While the park and play area has always felt safe to me it's good to know that CCTV is there to keep an eye on any dodgy behaviour. Especially things like quad bikes. I understand that when residents report a problem to the council they will be able to contact police or their civic enforcement people to get here really quickly if there's anything untoward going on. That's got to be a good thing - and a deterrent I'd have thought. It's good to know that if you report a problem there could be video evidence of who it was."



And the winners are...

We've done it again. Well done us (everyone who has picked up the litter, helped to plant bulbs or helped tidy the park or just not made a mess in the first place!).

Once more we've achieved the prestigious Green Flag Award for Westpark. With only about 2000 awards across the whole country and with South Park in Darlington as the only other local winner. Big thanks to Pippa Smaling and her team from Darlington Borough Council. This year we got our highest score yet with the judges

commenting "The management plan is well written and presented... (and) looks to cover subjects comprehensively... This is an excellent community country park and shows the way forward for integrated high quality urban living... There is very good community involvement."

Each year, to ensure that we keep Westpark up to scratch, the Levy Trust makes a contribution to DBC (who own and manage the park) for extra maintenance and to plant additional wild flowers and bulbs over and above what the council provide as part of their service funded by rate payers.

And the winners are...

Last year we ran a prize draw for everyone who completed our questionnaire about how you'd like to see Westpark develop.

The winners of our cash prizes were:-

- £100 J Meighan**
- £50 R Morris**
- £50 R Stocker**
- £50 J Mowat**
- £50 F Tournier**

Well done and thanks for your suggestions.

We've also included a summary of the main findings of the questionnaire on page 19 together with news of our plans to take some of them forward.



TABLE OF PARK AND WILDLIFE CORRIDOR INVESTMENTS BY WESTPARK LEVY TRUST

2023 was where we started to catch up with the post Covid enhancements and improvements. These included:-

Fencing, Paths, Play Area Planning - Delivery of Services.	£19,905.76
Fencing, Paths, Play Area Planning - Professional Services.	£1,286.40
Enhancements and Improvements, Litter Picking Equipment WPA, Wildflowers. We continued to invest in habitat diversity with an increased number of Wildflower areas.	£6,975.02
Enhancements and Improvements based on Management Plan.	£13,500.00

IMPROVING THE ENVIRONMENT

Planned projects to improve our environment

Last year we were really pleased to support West Park Academy's Eco-Team who led the whole school's effort to improve the environment and reduce litter across the school and the wider community. We attended a whole School litter pick and were able to fund more litter picking equipment to supplement that provided by the school and Darlington Borough Council. We look forward to working with the Eco-Team in 2024 as they aim to achieve the Green Flag Eco School award.



Site Survey

The trustees have commissioned a Topographical Survey across Westpark, to mark the changes across the site which will help us plan enhancements and improvements for future years, This will involve the use of a drone and station-based modelling and will inform improvements to our long-term management plan.



Wild Flowers

The council's wildflower allocation has been reduced for the 2024 season, The Trust appreciates how much the vast majority of people enjoy the colour the annual wildflowers bring and the continued management of the perennial wildflowers areas which a host of wildlife calls home. This means that to maintain what we enjoyed last year, the Levy will need to meet the reduction. We are happy to move, maintain or expand an area of wildflower planting. If you have any ideas or views please let us know by February's Friends of Westpark meeting.

Benches

The community survey users' feedback about the park and the Green Flag Judges commented that the park could benefit from additional seating. So the trust has set aside funds for an additional 3 seats in a similar style to those currently in the park alongside refurbishing the current wooden sections of the current seats.



Litter Bins

Litter is relatively low across the park, though the play area and main entrance bins can become full and overflow quite quickly, especially in good weather. We have been in discussions with the Council about the installation of larger capacity wheelie bin style bins which will be easier to collect by council staff, the Trust looks forward to bringing this increased capacity to the park in 2024 with sympathetic housing in keeping with the high quality and the arts and craft style of the community spaces. We have asked [Differentia.co.uk](https://www.differentia.co.uk) for some design proposals.

Signage

We have also asked [Differentia.co.uk](https://www.differentia.co.uk) to continue the design proposal of integrating Phase 1 and Phase 2 with appropriate signage to help knit together all parts of the Garden Village. This will consist of 7 way-finding posts setting the design as Phase 2 and the Haven linear park continue to develop.

TREES ON TEES

Trees on Tees is an exciting new programme stemming from the Tees Valley Mayor's ambitious plan to plant one million trees and increase woodland creation in Tees Valley. Trees on Tees is part of England's Community Forests, a national network which works with local communities and landowners to plant trees across England to improve the natural environment, protect communities from flooding and improve access to green spaces in urban areas. They can't meet the ambitions of Trees on Tees alone and are calling on people from right across the region – individuals, businesses, community organisations and landowners – to sign up and pledge their support and plant trees.

ONE MILLION TREES

Westpark Levy Trust has applied through the Trees on Tree funding to expand the community Orchard with a greater variety of fruit-bearing species. But visit their website to discover how you could also access a free tree to plant. Trees on Tees - Tees Valley (teesvalley-ca.gov.uk)



This year, we're excited to announce the planning of a new playpark at Cow Green.

Based on the 1763 sundial from Stag House Farm, the theme of the playpark is Time. As in the existing playpark, where the image of the Westpark Jabberwock was divided into three parts and placed around the site, so here the image of the sundial will be divided into three. Each part will be accompanied by one part of a riddle, and elsewhere in the playpark will be hidden the three answers. So there will be six pieces in total, again cast in a manner that enables rubbings

to be taken which can be reassembled into a larger image. While the text and artwork here is based around the sundial, the paths and spiral motifs on the planned mound etc. would maintain the Time theme by referring visually to the coils and springs of watchmaking.



Our existing playpark in the village centre where families and friends get together to play and chat.

Art & poetry unite in a new playpark

Westpark is an unusual development in that we have a very strong Arts Strategy which informs much of what we do. Bill Herbert, an internationally renowned poet based at Newcastle University, is a Trustee and leads on our strategy. The riddle below, will be built into the design of the new play park at Cow Green.

Can you solve this timely three-part riddle?

What happens every day
in exactly the same way
that you've never heard before
but soon will see no more?
Time's a riddle you'll allow,
my answer rhymes with 'how'...

What's knitted by all clocks
that unravelled all the locks
slipped out all the doors
but sleeps below all floors?
Time's a riddle past our ken:
my answer rhymes with 'pen'...

What you cannot know
will shortly be on show:
what is it that's so vast
but will not ever last?
Time's a riddle leaves us vexed,
my answer rhymes with 'text'...

Calling all volunteers! Volunteers are vital in being the glue that binds great communities.

In 2024, the Trust aims to increase the number and range of volunteering opportunities and we are excited to be partnering with Darlington Cares, who since 2012 have been helping businesses with their Corporate Social Responsibility, bringing them together to create a much more targeted approach across 3 core areas, Education, Environment and Social Justice within Darlington. Volunteers from these organisations and businesses will be able to support the development of the Westpark green spaces. If you work in a business in Darlington who are looking for

staff volunteering opportunities then why not mention Darlington Cares and bring your colleagues to Westpark.

Opportunities we hope to offer in collaboration with Darlington Cares in 2024 are Litter pick and Pie events, and businesses will be able to pledge staff time in the Great Park Auction.

Find out more about Darlington Cares at www.darlingtoncares.co.uk

We will also be offering volunteering opportunities to support our event programme, whilst continuing to offer our traditional big cleans with Darlington Borough Council, and our annual bulb and tree planting sessions.

Westpark 2023 in pictures with Peter Giroux



The Westpark 2025 Calendar COMPETITION

You could
WIN
UP TO
£125
...so get snapping!

Deadline for entries is midnight on 30th June 2024

Got a great photo or picture of the park or life in the Westpark community?
Then why not send it to us and we'll choose the best to form a 2025 Westpark Calendar.

Over the years we have seen some great photos shared with ourselves, on the Westpark Darlington Neighbourhood Group and particularly those taken by local photographer Peter Giroux www.facebook.com/petergirouximages (thanks again Peter for permission to use your photos in the newsletter).

We're keen to showcase how great Westpark is and also maintain a record of how our community and green space changes over the years. To start the process (DRUMROLL...) we would like to create an inaugural Photo calendar for 2025.

We're looking for photos which best illustrate each of our themes and categories below:

- Each of the Four Seasons: Spring, Summer, Autumn, Winter
- A Photo representing: Caring, Sharing, Daring
- A Photo Highlighting: Nature, People
- Best Photo taken by someone under 18 years old
- Best pet or wildlife photo taken in the park
- Best Photo Overall Westpark Garden Village (Cover)

Email Address for entries:
photos@westparklevytrust.org.uk

COMPETITION TERMS
The intellectual copyright remains with the photographer and shall be credited. The Photographer grants Westpark Levy Trust a perpetual, irrevocable, royalty free, license to enable Westpark Levy Trust to make or authorise to be made any photograph or digital or moving image of the project, and to include or authorise the inclusion of any such photograph or digital or moving image in any publication, exhibition, film, video, television broadcast or other electronic transmission for any purposes reasonably determined by Westpark Levy Trust.



Prizes

£100 Voucher
from the winner's chosen Westpark Levy paying business (not transferable) for the Best Photo Overall - Westpark Garden Village.

12 x £25 Vouchers
from each winner's chosen Westpark Levy paying business (not transferable) for each of the Categories listed.

Do you know someone who can be Trusteed?



Westpark Levy Trust is a charity run by volunteers including local residents and

Levy payers. We meet 4 times a year to oversee the accounts and to decide how best to spend the Levy to maintain and improve the park and benefit our community. We are currently looking to recruit **6 new Trustees** who love our park and community and want to see Westpark to develop and to support a range of community activities.

No experience necessary and full training will be offered. This is a great opportunity to develop your meeting and communication skills, learn about project management and help make Westpark an even better place to be. There's even decent coffee, croissants and pastries!

We are particularly looking for local parents and people who want to share and develop their skills to help ensure that the choices made are diverse and right for the whole community.



Interested?

Interested? Then please visit our website www.friendsofwestpark.com/wplt for more information or visit the Charity Commission website www.gov.uk/guidance/charity-trustee-whats-involved

to find out more about the role of a Trustee. Alternatively contact Neil, Martyn or Paul for a coffee and a chat at the Cactus Café about what's involved. Who knows there might even be a pastry or two in it for you...

Update on what we've been collecting, doing and spending

Each year the Trustees oversee the collection of the Levy payments and then following the Friends of Westpark meetings decide how best to use the money which has been raised. You can find our full accounts either on our website here:

www.friendsofwestpark.com/wplt or by visiting the Charity Commissioners' website (who we have to report to each year) here www.register-of-charities.charitycommission.gov.uk/charity-search/-/charity-details/5137464

We've shown some of the spend in different areas of the newsletter and below we outline some of the other costs and investments we've managed.

CCTV Cameras.....£36,000.00

In late 2021 we were approached by the Police and Civic enforcement team to increase CCTV coverage to maintain the low crime and antisocial behaviour in and around the park. 2023 saw the installation and switching on of the two new cameras connected to the Councils monitoring centre.

Professional Services for Enhancements and Improvements.....£1,072.50

Winter Event Power infrastructure.....£3,148.00

To enable an annual Christmas tree with lights and a powerpoint for other events along the green corridor.

Professional Services 2022-Jan 31st Annual Accounts and Report.....£540.00

We're always wanting to know what you would like us to focus on, and last year over 100 residents and friends completed our survey. You can find the full results at friendsofwestpark.com/community-consultation.



The Top 5 things you commented on :

- Wild flower bulb planting
- More seating areas
- Seasonal events
- Family fun days
- A community facility

You'll see that the Trust is responding to all of these this year so please keep telling us what you'd like to see to ensure that Westpark remains a great place to live and work.

You can join in the conversation by following us on social media via Facebook and X @westparklevytrust



LOOK HOW FAR WE'VE COME

CARING • SHARING • DARING

Bussey & Armstrong were established in 1902 with the aspiration to 'provide decent homes for the people of Darlington.' How far we've come. The transformation of the Westpark site has become a key chapter in the town's story, one that mirrors the town's own spirit of renewal and ingenuity.

Westpark, once a derelict chemical works, now stands as a vibrant community. It's here that Bussey & Armstrong's vision came to life, transforming a challenging landscape into a flourishing neighbourhood of 700 homes, a bustling Village Centre, and educational facilities. And at the heart of it all is the park itself. Winding paths, wild flowers, wooded areas and open spaces. Our gift to the town.

The story of Westpark breathes through the poetry etched in street names, each a hint of the town's heritage and aspirations. It's visible in the public art that takes pride of place in the park, symbolising Darlington's commitment to culture and ideas. And it's felt in the craftsmanship embedded in every home.



NOW FOR THE NEXT 20 YEARS... THE FUTURE OF WESTPARK

A warm welcome to all new residents at Sweetbriar Park, Howards Green, Summerson Place, and Juniper Avenue.

You should have received welcome details regarding the community levy from your developer. However, if you have any questions or need further information, please feel free to visit us at the Bussey & Armstrong Juniper Avenue Sales Centre, located at 4 Black Poplar Avenue. Here, you can learn more about the open space and our plans for this phase. Additionally, a street map for your area, detailing the themes of our Art Strategy, is available on our website.



Visit www.busseyarmstrong.co.uk/westpark/artstrategy for more information.

You're part of something pretty amazing

Today Westpark stands as a harmonious blend of history, culture, and living spaces where life is not just lived but cherished. Bussey & Armstrong have taken 20 years to achieve this and hope you like the results of our efforts to make Darlington a better place to live, work and enjoy. Now for the next 20 years...

This year, we're excited to announce the planning of a new play park at Cow Green in collaboration with Darlington Borough Council. Designed with the same adventurous ethos as the playpark near the village centre, this new space promises more than just your standard playground features – so no springy chickens here! We're aiming to create an environment ripe for adventure and exploration. Furthermore, we have plans for artworks along the water main corridor and drainage basins as these areas are landscaped over the next few years. One notable inclusion is a replica

stone facemask of Januarius, known as 'The First Darlington Roman.' This piece is inspired by a portrait found on a Roman-era urn unearthed in the region.

We are also pleased to share that planning permission has been granted for a new Doctors' Surgery, and proposals are currently being developed for a new school along Mortimer Wheeler Drive, near Newton Lane. These developments are a part of our ongoing commitment to enhancing the Westpark Garden Village for all its residents.



Bussey & Armstrong
Homes in Darlington since 1902

Whatever Next?

As 2023 came to a close two new additions arrived to Westpark. The first Westpark Christmas Tree was erected following levy funds spent on a power supply and tree anchor pit. Bussey and Armstrong progressed their plans for a new digital clock destined to grace the Village Centre.



including making bird boxes and bee hotels; spring planting and gardening classes together with art and crafting session.

Music Back on the Hill, a musical celebration to re-establish our tradition of hosting a music event in the park.

Autumn 24: Terrifying Tales of Westpark Spooky family fun at October half term with story-telling, pumpkin carving, mask-making and working with a writer in Halloween residence to create our own creepy Westpark stories, myths and legends. Be afraid. Be very afraid...

Christmas 24: Winter Lights Now that we've got power and a place for our Christmas Tree, we're planning a mini-festival for all residents and friends with a lantern parade and music to start the festivities.

stellar creates



An update on proposed & planned events.

Following our survey earlier in the year and from conversations at our Friends of Westpark meetings (see back page for dates and details) it is clear that people would like the Trust to arrange more events. So we've been talking to DBC and a range of events producers.

We're currently working on a series of seasonal events over the next 18 months leading up to our 20th Celebration of Westpark in the summer of 2025 alongside the 200th Anniversary of the Stockton and Darlington Railway.

Managed by Stellar Creates, an experienced community events company, these will include: **Sowing the Seeds of Spring**, an Easter event to include a range of family friendly activities

ARE YOU A WEST PARKY POOPER?

When we bought our house at Westpark I asked if it was obligatory to own a dog to be able to live here. This was because everyone I met seemed to have a least one dog. We'd always been cat people, but sure enough, just before the pandemic struck, we succumbed to the temptation to empty our bank account by purchasing a puppy (during Covid it would have cost us twice the amount).



Clearly, it was the worst decision we ever made. It was also, by far, the best. Depending on whether you're taking a puppy to pee in the middle of the night, or being licked to death by a big-eyed bundle of fun and fur, or quietly chilling in the presence of a contented pooch.

There's an old saying we soon found to be true: 'if your dog is fat, you aren't getting enough exercise'. So we now find that with all the brilliant walks around Westpark, we are averaging about 12,000 steps per day with our perfectly slim hound. And bending over to pick up doggy droppings also keeps us both supple... and humble.

Talking about scooping up the poop, though. Some of you West Parky Poopers don't pick up the unmentionables after your pup's performed. It's not only offensive, it's also an offence. And there are a bunch of us eagle-eyed busy-bodied pooper-snoopers on the lookout for, and ready to report, any despicable dog owner who thinks the rest of us aren't bothered or interested in your dog's business.

So next time you're tempted not to pick up make sure you're nowhere near my mobile phone or the neighbours' CCTV.

Ivor Mutt
Westpark Resident

Did you know Darlington has a Dog Warden service?

It's run as part of the council's civic enforcement team and they can advise on all issues concerning dogs. These include reporting lost, found or stray dogs; reporting nuisance, barking dogs and persistent anti-social fouling.

You can visit their Facebook site at Darlington Dog Warden or call them on 01325 4406999 or email: CustomerServices@darlington.gov.uk.

BENEFITING THE COMMUNITY

Levy Explanation

As home or business owners in Westpark we are responsible for paying an estate levy, established from the outset of the development, to enhance and maintain the quality of the environment and it provides other benefits and activities for the local community of Westpark. This money is managed by a group of volunteer Trustees, including local residents and levy payers.

Kingston Open Spaces are the appointed agent to collect the Levy on behalf of the Westpark Levy Trust, and the developers for both phases 1 and 2. Please visit our website www.kingstonopenspaces.co.uk for more information about Open Spaces and the services we provide.

Phase 1

The annual contribution for the West Park Levy for the period 1st February 2023 to 31st January 2024 is now due. The amount for this year is based on last year's amount plus the annual increase to cover inflation linked to the Retail Price Index (RPI). The exact amount was not available at the time of printing but will be in the Levy payment request which each home owner receives. The Phase 1 agreement

offers a 50% reduction if the payment is made by Direct Debit.

If you do not already have a direct debit in place you can download this from Kingston Open Spaces online portal. The mandate should be completed and returned to us as soon as possible via post or by email to mail@kingstonopenspaces.co.uk.

Phase 2

If you bought your home from Gentoo, Thirteen, Cussins or Bussey & Armstrong Homes, the open space is managed by the Westpark Levy Trust with levy collection arrangements by Kingston Property similar to the Phase 1 levy.

For those properties with the Westpark Levy Trust arrangements, the annual contribution for the Westpark Levy for the period 1st February 2023 to 31st January 2024 is now due.

At the time of printing the final figures were not available but householders will receive these direct from Kingston Open Spaces.

If you bought your home from Esh, Barratt or David Wilson Homes, the open space at the Stag House Farm phase is managed by www.trustgreen.com/ and isn't part of the Westpark Levy Trust arrangements, but you are welcome to attend the Friends of Westpark Community Meetings and volunteer across the village.

As Phase 2 grows so will the creation of new public green spaces and the creation of the new linear park, which we are calling the Haven until a formal name is chosen. In the meantime the Levy for Phase 2 will be ringfenced for use on Phase 2 for projects and enhancements on the phase in discussion with residents.

Update on Community Facility

Westpark Community Hub is the working title for our desired community facility. Most people in the community are keen to see the creation of a community hub which could be used to build a sense of community and which could be used for:

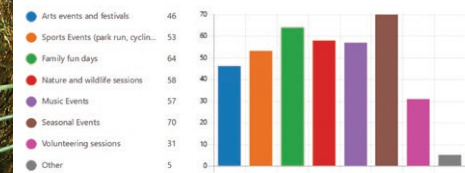
- Social events
- Organised groups
- Space for young people
- Arts and creativity
- Physical health activities

As part of last year's survey (which you can find at friendsofwestpark.com/community-consultation), a good percentage of the respondents expressed an interest in getting involved either as organisers or participants. Now that planning permission is underway for a new Special Educational Needs and Disabilities school, and a new GP practice for Moorlands Surgery, the trust can continue to begin work on the next stages for a Community Hub on Mortimer Wheeler Drive. We've committed some Levy funds to generate some design ideas from an architect and we've got a number of Trustees keen to work with others to develop plans further, start raising funds and help to project manage the hub into being.

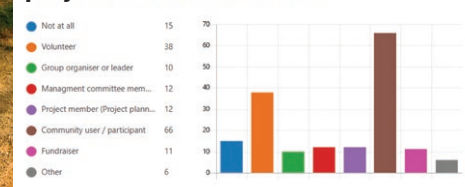
If you've got the skills, enthusiasm or the desire to help then please contact us at the Trust to find out how you could get involved. **If you're interested in helping develop this facility contact us on info@westparklevytrust.org.uk**

You told us what was important...

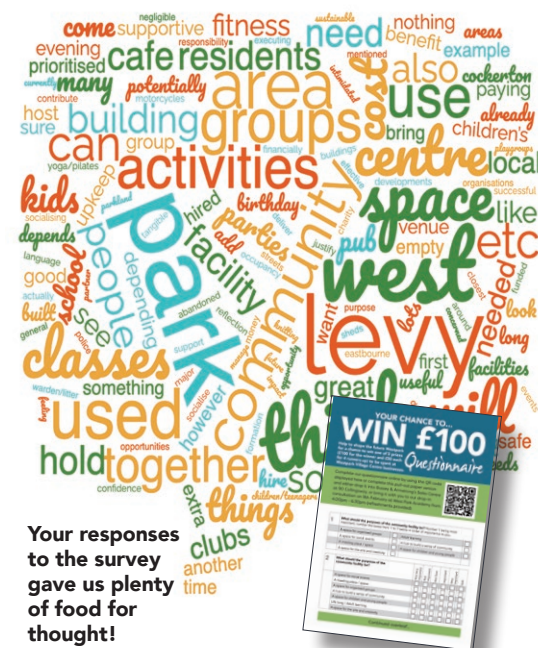
What events or regular activities would you like to see developed and supported ?



How would you like or see yourself being involved in this project



KINGSTON
OPEN SPACES



Your responses to the survey gave us plenty of food for thought!

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION 2024

The Trust wants to hear again from the community about the direction of the Trust. We have to hear about what's great about Westpark, what needs to be improved and enhanced and the direction the community wants to travel along. This year's focus is on community events. We are planning a programme of seasonal events that will celebrate and illuminate the people and beautiful environment of Westpark. More details on page 16. You can take part in this year's survey by visiting our website [friendsofwestpark.com/community-consultation](https://www.friendsofwestpark.com/community-consultation). Or Scan the QR code



We've commissioned a series of events to be delivered by local events company Stellar Creates incorporating ideas from local residents. Our aim will be to establish new traditions for the park, bringing the community together and delivering activity for a range of ages. We will ensure there are ways for people to feed back during events to help us evaluate and gather ideas for future events. We will look to engage with other local partners, community groups and organisations as part of the event programme.

Current plans include:

SPRING 24:

Sowing the Seeds of Spring

An event in the Easter holidays which will have nature and sustainability at its heart.

SUMMER 24:

Music on the Hill – the relaunch

A musical celebration to re-establish Music on the Hill.

AUTUMN 24:

Terrifying Tales of Westpark

An Autumn family event in the October half term which will be filled with spooky Halloween celebrations and Autumnal crafts and activities.

WINTER 24:

Winter Light

A magical lantern parade of local people/groups which will process through Westpark village, spreading Christmas joy to the residents. It will end at the village Christmas tree where everyone can join in with songs around the tree, led by a local choir/music group, ending with the Christmas lights being turned on.



Let's make it a date!

It was good to see everyone able to make our Friends of Westpark meetings in 2023. Everyone is welcome to come and help to shape how things develop with our open spaces and how we spend the Levy funds. Make a note of this year's meeting dates:

**Thursday
29th Feb 2024**

**Thursday
6th Jun 2024**

**Thursday
5th Sep 2024**

**Thursday
7th Nov 2024**

**All meetings at
West Park Academy
5.00pm – 6.30pm**