

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

We need your continued support for 2019!

In 2019 our aims are to;

- Continue to campaign against any proposed development on the Bath Grounds
- Continue to improve and maintain the new Castle View Wildlife Walk
- Continue to work with the Town Council to improve planting and maintenance standards.
- Continue to address ASB, dog responsibility and litter.

Currently we are;

- Asking the TC to reposition bins away from the benches around the flower bed at the south street entrance.
- Asking the TC to make alternative arrangements to driving on the bath grounds to empty the bin along the footpath to prevent damage to the heritage footpath.
- Asking the TC to re-camber the new heritage path from the Prior Park entrance to the bowls club corner to remove the potholes.
- Asking the TC to improve litter clearing particularly around the cricket club building.

To achieve all our aims for this coming year we need your continued support. Your annual membership ran for the 2018 calendar year so, if you haven't renewed it yet, now is the time to renew for 2019.

If you haven't already renewed then please pay your £5 renewal subscription by;
Bank transfer to Acc no. 30039268 sort code 77-15-13 (please provide your name so we know who sent the money), or Send a cheque payable to "Friends of Ashby Bath Grounds" to Clare Birch, Treasurer, 19 Wrekin Close, Ashby LE65 1EX

Alternatively, you can also pay in cash and drop your monies off to the address above. Please ensure you

write your name and address on the envelope and what the payment is for.

Achievements for 2018 included;

- Official opening of the Castle View Wildlife Walk.
- Over 7500 petition signatures against the proposed development on the Bath Grounds
- Objections against the proposed development for dwellings on Bullen's field leading to the withdrawal on the building application
- Building stronger relationships with the Town Council, Local Police, Bath Ground neighbours and users of the Hastings Cricket Club and Ashby Bowls Club.
- Continuing with quarterly maintenance meetings with The Town Council, which have been pivotal in making improvements and raising standards.
- The planting of snowdrops and primroses along the wildlife walk
- Wildlife Walk- volunteers have had two sessions during the winter doing prep work along the verge, more work is planned to improve the verge and hedge to have an even better display this spring and summer.
- Cleaning of wildlife boxes along the wildlife walk
- Maintenance activities to bath ground edges around the south street entrance.
- Maintenance of the south street flower bed
- Thanks to everyone who came down to our 'Hello Heritage' event on Sunday 16th September at The Ashby Hastings Cricket Club - The idea was to raise awareness of the heritage of our beautiful bath grounds over the last 200 years and how important it is to the town.
- Organised Litter pick in the spring 2018



- Gary Irons Painting & Decorating services has kindly painted the benches and bins located around the south street entrance flowerbed
- Following the approval of the Ashby Neighbourhood Plan. The plan will now become part of the official Local Plan. It designates the Bath Grounds and Ashby's other parks as "Local Green Spaces", which protects these areas as if they were Green Belt. Specifically, the plan states that, "new development [on these sites] is ruled out other than in very special circumstances" and "the construction of new buildings on Local Green Spaces is inappropriate". The Neighbourhood Plan also describes the Bath Grounds as "Playing Fields" which should assist in renewal of the lease when the time comes.

SAVE OUR BATH GROUNDS CAMPAIGN



The 'Save our Bath Grounds' petition, is now over 7500 signatures (including on-line signatures). Thank you to all the volunteers who have helped to gather all these signatures over the summer, including many

Ashby retailers who have kindly had petition forms in their shops.

We still await the submission of the planning application by the developer which they originally said would be submitted at the end of July 2018. The pressure put on the developer by the Friends of Ashby Bath Grounds petition and Ashby Town Councils motion at the beginning of September 2018,

'to enter into a dialogue with Oakland's Hotels to acquire the freehold of the Bath grounds in its entirety, and to make it clear to the land owner that the TC will not surrender the lease to the bath grounds either fully or partially now or in the future, and also on expiry of the current lease the TC will pursue a renewal of the lease for a similar length of time as the current lease provides.'

The petition has been instrumental in the delayed submission and support from the Town Council. We will of course keep all members up to date on any future developments.

TEAM WORK AND VOLUNTEERING

If you would like to get involved in volunteer work on the Bath Ground's, we do organise volunteer maintenance sessions to support the Town Council in ensuring that the Bath Grounds look their best all year round.

Please drop us an email with your contact details or telephone Vince our secretary.



IVANHOE SPA MOSAIC

Following the significant vandalism to the Ivanhoe Spa Mosaic which was repaired last year. We have been discussing with the Town Council a slightly different location for this mosaic to be installed back onto the Bath Grounds. We have now reached an agreement on location. The Friends are now looking into improved wooden framework to remount the mosaic and once this has been fabricated we are hoping the mosaic will be back on the Bath Grounds this Spring.



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Contact details:

J. Birch: Chair - Tel: 07958 232281
V. Mott: Secretary - Tel: 07800 76574

Email: bathgroundsfriends@gmail.com
Webpage: www.bathgroundsfriends.com