



Parks and Open Spaces FAQs

1) What is the difference between a trained horticulturalist and a multi-tasking operative?

The difference is the level of skill required to undertake grounds maintenance. A trained horticulturalist will have working knowledge about plant health and the overall standard of horti-cultural features. Multi-tasking operatives are not required to have knowledge of plants as part of their role but will have the necessary skills to undertake general grounds maintenance.

2) How often would non-offensive graffiti be removed?

Graffiti deemed to be non-offensive would be removed as and when resources allow. Graffiti deemed to be offensive (words and pictures) would still be removed quickly. Non-offensive graffiti would not be subject to time limited removal but instead removed as and when resources allow.

3) Why would some hedge trimming still be done but others stopped?

Hedge trimming will still be undertaken to keep roads and footpaths clear and on the request of the police e.g. to maintain site lines.

4) What are Friends of Group task days?

Friends of Groups are usually made up from residents who have got together because they have a particular interest in a local green space. The aims of a Friends of Group are usually to support a green space through working in partnership with the Council to achieve some of the following:

- To ensure that a green space is better used by the local community
- To provide information to the local community about a green space
- To identify resources for specific improvements to a green space
- To organise fun days, events or activities for the local community
- To carry out practical tasks with us to improve/maintain a green space
- Volunteers undertake work in green-spaces that add further value to that being provided by the Council. They often do work on specific days called Task Days. Such works include planting, pruning and general cleaning within parks.

5) What is the proposed timetable for mowing the bowling greens?

Currently bowling greens are all mowed with dew and worm casts removed for play by 11am each working day. The proposed timetable would mean that greens would be cut throughout the day and so may not be available by 11am each day as they currently are. Specific timings will be timetabled, subject to the proposal being agreed and, as now, will be weather dependent.

6) Which bowling greens are you proposing to reduce?

The proposal covers 7 summer greens and 2 winter greens.

Reduction of Summer Greens (Used between April and September)

- Brinnington Park
- Cale Green Park
- Heaton Moor Park
- Heaton Norris Park
- Houldsworth Park
- St Thomas Park
- South Reddish Park

Reduction of Winter Greens (Used between October and March)

- Heaton Norris
- St Thomas Park

In addition the proposal includes the conversion of one bowling green at Houldsworth Park from summer to winter. (Currently there are two summer greens; one will become a winter green)

7) How much would litter picking be reduced by?

Most parks and open spaces will be litter picked no more than once a week.