**Lordship Rec Decision-making and Volunteering**

**A summary of the general processes for authorisation and coordination**

Our particular approach to decision-making for Lordship Rec since around 2003 has aimed, pretty successfully so far, to enable the following:  
- tapping into and being driven by the views and needs of park users and the wider community, and encouraging community involvement and empowerment  
- having high aspirations whilst recognising financial and capacity limitations  
- stakeholders supporting eachother and working together in an atmosphere of mutual respect and appreciation, combining skills, resources, initiative and vision  
- efficient management and use of resources, and faster and better decisions as needed.

Here's how this operates:

1. Haringey Council Parks Service has overall control, responsibility and veto over decision-making for the Rec

2. The objectives and processes are summed up in the Lordship Rec Management Plan, subject to any agreed updates and ongoing decisions/issues.

3. Lordship Rec Users Forum is the co-management body for the Rec (as enshrined in the Management Plan), meeting monthly and overseeing, approving and coordinating community/Council collaboration and efforts, especially regarding maintenance, management and improvements (through a rolling spreadsheet of tasks and issues). In particular, any improvements have to be collectively discussed and agreed at the LRUF meetings. Meetings are open to reps from User Groups and the Council (projects and operations teams), and other key stakeholders as may wish to attend from time to time.

4. The Parks Service and the Rec's dedicated User Groups - eg the Friends of Lordship Rec, Lordship Sports and Activities Consortium, Rockstone, the Hub, Bike Club, Wheelytots etc - can and should raise any relevant issues affecting the Rec through the LRUF. Each such group (there are around 20 recognised User Groups) organises and is responsible for their own activities. Rockstone, the Hub and parks staff run each of the Rec's buildings and the area within their curtilages. The Broadwater Farm sports club and the Friends of Harmony Gardens manage their areas by agreement with Fusion for the BWF Community Centre. Each User Group has its own membership and social media etc.

5. The Friends of Lordship Rec in particular exist to promote, help maintain, manage and improve the Rec, including taking lead responsibility for specific areas and features including the woodland, orchard, spinney and lake. They meet monthly, and coordinate a number of 'sub-groups', volunteering, publicity, fundraising and projects. They also support existing and potentially new specialist User Groups where possible.

6. The Lordship Hub is managed by a co-operative of local people. It exists to provide a venue to serve the needs of park users, park User Groups and the local community in general.

7. The Friends and their sub-groups organise a range of outdoor volunteering activities, particlarly related to the woodland, orchard, spinney, river and lake, and general litter-picking (see its volunteering map of the Rec) - and in a normal year includes public events. They have conformed to covid-safe guidelines as these guidelines have been updated throughout the last year.   
  
*Lordship Rec Users Forum - 3.2021*