

## **Notice of Meeting and Agenda Clyde Muirshiel Park Authority Consultative Forum**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Venue</b>
Friday, 22 June 2018	10:00	Corporate Meeting Room 2, Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

KENNETH GRAHAM  
Clerk

### **Membership**

Councillor Andy Steel (Renfrewshire Council); Councillors Innes Nelson and David Wilson (Inverclyde Council); Councillor Todd Ferguson (North Ayrshire Council); Ross Anderson (Scottish Rural Property and Business Association); Gordon Smith (Visit Scotland); Gerry McAuley and Tabby Lamont (RSPB Scotland); Gordon Brown (Bell Ingram Limited); Donald Cochrane (Scottish National Farmers Union); Sandra Garner (The Conservation Volunteers); Lord Glasgow (Kelburn Country Centre); Kerry MacKendrick (Lochwinnoch Community Council); Hilary Graham (Ramblers Association); (Sustrans); Barry Fleeting and Graeme Randall (Sport Scotland); Douglas Blair and Patricia Perman (Largs Community Council); Andrew McLeman (Gryffe Valley Rotary Club); Andrew McWilliam (Parkdean Holidays); Alison Clark (Inverkip/Wemyss Bay Community Council); Sybil Simpson and Nigel Willis (both Save Your Regional Park); Guilia Canata (Inverclyde Local Access Forum); Sir Ludovic Shaw Stewart (Ardgowan Estates); Roger Hissett (Scottish Wildlife Trust – Ayrshire Branch); Steve Banks (Angling Interests) and (Scottish Water); Rita Holmes (Fairlie Community Council) and Ian Dippie (Save the Gretas).

Councillor Innes Nelson (Chair): Councillor Andy Steel (Vice Chair)

## **Further Information**

This is a meeting which is open to members of the public.

A copy of the agenda and reports for this meeting will be available for inspection prior to the meeting at the Customer Service Centre, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley and online at <http://renfrewshire.cmis.uk.com/renfrewshire/CouncilandBoards.aspx>

For further information, please either email

[democratic-services@renfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:democratic-services@renfrewshire.gov.uk) or telephone 0141 618 7112.

## **Members of the Press and Public**

Members of the press and public wishing to attend the meeting should report to the customer service centre where they will be met and directed to the meeting.

## Items of business

### Apologies

Apologies from members.

### Declarations of Interest

Members are asked to declare an interest in any item(s) on the agenda and to provide a brief explanation of the nature of the interest.

- 1 Minutes** **5 - 12**  
Minute of meeting of the Consultative Forum held on 16 February 2018 and Note of Inquorate meeting held on 18 May 2018.
- 2 Matters Arising**  
Consider any matters arising.
- 3 Management Changes**  
Update.
- 4 Minute of Agreement**  
Update.
- 5 Representing Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park at Public Enquiries**  
Update.
- 6 Friends of Clyde Muirshiel** **13 - 18**  
Update.
- 7 Forestry Application in Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park and Wild Land Area - Halkshill and Blairpark**  
Update.
- 8 Any Other Competent Business**
- 9 Date of Next Meeting**  
Note that the next meeting of the Consultative Forum will be held at 10.00 am on 7 September 2018 within Inverclyde Council, Municipal Buildings, Clyde Square, Greenock.





## Minute of Meeting Clyde Muirshiel Park Authority Consultative Forum

Date	Time	Venue
Friday, 16 February 2018	10:00	Corporate Meeting Room 2, Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

### PRESENT

Councillor Andy Steel (Renfrewshire Council); Councillor Innes Nelson (Inverclyde Council); Councillor Todd Ferguson (North Ayrshire Council); Ross Anderson (Scottish Rural Property & Business Association); Donald Cochrane (Scottish National Farmers Union); Kerry MacKendrick (Lochwinnoch Community Council); Graeme Randall (Sport Scotland); Douglas Blair (Largs Community Council); Nigel Willis (Save Your Regional Park) and Ian Dippie (Save the Gretas).

### CHAIR

Councillor Innes Nelson, Chair, presided.

### IN ATTENDANCE

D Gatherer, Interim Regional Park Manager and H Douglas, Tag 'n' Track Officer (both Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park); and E Currie, Senior Committee Services Officer and K O'Neill, Assistant Democratic Services Officer (both Renfrewshire Council).

### APOLOGIES

Councillor David Wilson (Inverclyde Council); Patricia Perman (Largs Community Council); Sybil Simpson (Save Your Regional Park) and Roger Hissett (Scottish Wildlife Trust - Ayrshire Branch).

### DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest intimated prior to the commencement of the meeting.

1 **MINUTE**

There was submitted the Minute of the meeting of the Consultative Forum held on 1 December 2017.

**DECIDED:** That the Minute be approved.

2 **MATTERS ARISING**

2(a) **REPRESENTING CLYDE MUIRSHIEL REGIONAL PARK AT PUBLIC INQUIRIES**

Under reference to item 4 of the Minute of the meeting of this Consultative Forum held on 1 December 2017 it was noted that no responses had been received from planning officers in the three member councils; that the Head of Planning and Housing Services, Renfrewshire Council had not submitted a report on this matter to the Joint Committee which would meet following the Consultative Forum; and that the Chair had not had an opportunity to raise this matter with planning officers from Inverclyde Council.

It was proposed (i) that the Head of Planning and Housing Services, Renfrewshire Council be requested to submit a report on this matter to the next meeting of the Joint Committee to be held on 22 June 2018 and (ii) that the Chair raise this matter with planning officers from Inverclyde Council and report back to the next meeting of the Consultative Forum to be held on 22 June 2018. This was agreed.

**DECIDED:**

(a) That the Head of Planning and Housing Services, Renfrewshire Council be requested to submit a report on this matter to the next meeting of the Joint Committee to be held on 22 June 2018; and

(b) That the Chair raise this matter with planning officers from Inverclyde Council and report back to the next meeting of the Consultative Forum to be held on 22 June 2018.

2(b) **MINUTE OF AGREEMENT**

Under reference to item 5 of the Minute of the meeting of this Consultative Forum held on 1 December 2017 it was noted that the Head of Planning and Housing Services, Renfrewshire Council had not submitted a report on the current position of the review of the Minute of Agreement to this meeting of the Consultative Forum.

It was proposed (i) that as this matter had been ongoing for some time, the Head of Planning and Housing Services, Renfrewshire Council be requested to submit a report relative to the current position of the review of the Minute of Agreement to the next meeting of the Consultative Forum to be held on 22 June 2018 and (ii) that the submission by some members of the Consultative Forum, which had been forwarded to the Head of Planning and Housing Services, Renfrewshire Council, in November 2016 be issued to all members of the Consultative Forum so that they were aware of proposed amendments to the Minute of Agreement and could consider this matter further. This was agreed.

**DECIDED:**

(a) That as this matter had been ongoing for some time, the Head of Planning and Housing Services, Renfrewshire Council be requested to submit a report relative to the current position of the review of the Minute of Agreement to the next meeting of the Consultative Forum to be held on 22 June 2018; and

(b) That the submission by some members of the Consultative Forum, which had been forwarded to the Head of Planning and Housing Services, Renfrewshire Council, in November 2016 be issued to all members of the Consultative Forum so that they were aware of proposed amendments to the Minute of Agreement and could consider this matter further.

2(c) **PARK SIGNAGE**

Under reference to item 6 of the Minute of the meeting of this Consultative Forum held on 1 December 2017 Councillor Steel tabled information relative to 'The Friends of the Pentlands' which included the groups legal form; mission statement and purpose; membership and governance; ways of working and objectives.

It was proposed that Nigel Willis prepare a briefing note on the establishment of a 'Friends of Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park' group which would be issued to all members of the Consultative Forum and the Interim Regional Park Manager and that a special meeting of the Consultative Forum be held in April 2018 to consider this matter for submission to a future meeting of the Joint Committee for consideration. This was agreed.

It was further proposed that Ross Anderson invite the Chair of the Fife Coast and Countryside Trust to the special meeting of the Consultative Forum to give a presentation to members on the establishment of 'Friends of' groups. This was agreed.

**DECIDED:**

(a) That Nigel Willis prepare a briefing note on the establishment of a 'Friends of Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park' group which would be issued to all members of the Consultative Forum and the Interim Regional Park Manager;

(b) That a special meeting of the Consultative Forum be held in April 2018 to consider this matter for submission to a future meeting of the Joint Committee for consideration; and

(c) That Ross Anderson invite the Chair of the Friends of Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park to the special meeting of the Consultative Forum to give a presentation to members on the establishment of 'Friends of' groups.

2(d) **CYCLING CONSULTANCY**

Under reference to item 9 of the Minute of the meeting of this Consultative Forum held on 1 December 2017 it was noted that the Interim Regional Park Manager had not received any comments from Forestry Commission Scotland on the development of off-road cycling within the Regional Park.

It was proposed that the Interim Regional Park Manager contact Forestry Commission Scotland for their comments. This was agreed.

**DECIDED:** That the Interim Regional Park Manager contact Forestry Commission Scotland for their comments on the development of off-road cycling within the Regional Park.

3 **FORESTRY APPLICATION IN CLYDE MUIRSHIEL REGIONAL PARK AND WILD LAND AREA - HALKSHILL AND BLAIRPARK**

Under reference to item 3 of the Minute of the meeting of this Consultative Forum held on 1 December 2017 Douglas Blair, Largs Community Council, advised the Forum of the up-to-date position in relation to the forestry application for Halkshill and Blairpark.

He intimated that no further information or correspondence had been received from Forestry Commission Scotland in relation to this matter.

**DECIDED:** That the up-to-date position be noted.

4 **GLAMPING PODS APPLICATION**

Nigel Willis and Kerry McKendrick advised that a planning application had been submitted to Renfrewshire Council by Webwise Properties Limited in relation to the installation of three glamping pods with associated access, parking and drainage at West Auchenhean, Auchenhean Road, Lochwinnoch.

It was noted that if there were any issues in relation to the road structure these would be raised by the roads division, Renfrewshire Council.

**DECIDED:**

(a) That it be noted that a planning application had been submitted to Renfrewshire Council by Webwise Properties Limited in relation to the installation of three glamping pods with associated access, parking and drainage at West Auchenhean, Auchenhean Road, Lochwinnoch; and

(b) That it be noted that if there were any issues in relation to the road structure these would be raised by the roads division, Renfrewshire Council.

5 **TAG 'N' TRACK**

Hayley Douglas, the Tag 'n' Track Officer, Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park, gave a presentation updating members on all aspects of the Tag 'n' Track project.

**DECIDED:** That the presentation be noted.

6 **ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS**

There were no other competent items of business.

**DECIDED:** That it be noted that there were no other competent items of business.



7 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**DECIDED:** That it be noted that the next meeting of the Consultative Forum would be held at 10.00 am on 22 June 2018 in North Ayrshire Council, Cunningham House, Irvine.



## Note of Inquorate Meeting Clyde Muirshiel Park Authority Consultative Forum

Date	Time	Venue
Friday, 18 May 2018	10:00	Corporate Meeting Room 2, Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

### Present

Councillor Andy Steel (Renfrewshire Council); Ross Anderson (Scottish Rural Property & Business Association); Donald Cochrane (Scottish National Farmers Union); Kerry MacKendrick (Lochwinnoch Community Council); Graeme Randall (Sport Scotland); Andrew McLeman (Gryffe Valley Rotary Club); Sybil Simpson and Nigel Willis (both Save Your Regional Park); Roger Hissett (Scottish Wildlife Trust – Ayrshire Branch) and Ian Dippie (Save the Gretas).

### In Attendance

Elaine Currie, Senior Committee Services Officer (Renfrewshire Council).

### Also In Attendance

James Fraser, Chairman of The Friends of Loch Lomond and Trossachs.

### Apologies

Councillor Innes Nelson and Councillor David Wilson (both Inverclyde Council); Councillor Todd Ferguson (North Ayrshire Council); Patricia Perman (Largs Community Council) and Gordon Smith (Visit Scotland).

## 1 Quorum

Ten minutes after the appointed time for the meeting a quorum was not present and in terms of Standing Order 44 the meeting stood adjourned.

## The Friends of Clyde Muirshiel – FoCM - (DRAFT 1)

### *Legal Form*

The Friends of Clyde Muirshiel was established in 20?? and became a registered charity in *month 20??*. *[I don't see any necessity for The Friends of Clyde Muirshiel to become a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO), though later on that could change].*

### *Mission Statement and Purpose*

The Friends of Clyde Muirshiel seek to act as a catalyst to promote the conservation, protection and enhancement of the area within Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park (see attached map), with particular emphasis on recreational quality, public access, cultural heritage, landscape, biodiversity and protection of the area from inappropriate industrial or commercial development.

The purpose of the Friends of Clyde Muirshiel, as set out in the group's constitution, is:-

- To raise funds for specific projects.
- To protect and enhance the natural and cultural heritage and features of public amenity within the area.
- To encourage respect for the quality of life of those that live and work within this area.
- To undertake projects that enhance public access, biodiversity and the landscape / environment .
- To encourage high standards of design in all work undertaken within this area.
- To provide an annual programme of activities to foster the enjoyment and social and cultural history.
- To promote the forming of appropriate planning policies, compatible with these purposes, through the long term development plan process and their effective and consistent implementation.
- To stimulate public interest in these purposes by means of publications, meetings, exhibitions, appeals, website, social media and other forms of publicity.
- To co-operate with other bodies to promote the foregoing purposes.

### *Membership and Governance*

At the end of 20??, number ?? individuals and organisations were members of The Friends of Clyde Muirshiel. It is an all-volunteer organisation. Governance is provided by a committee of 12 Trustees.

There is a fee for membership of The Friends and the organisation maintains a Bank account to control membership fees and any other project money raised.

### *Way of working*

The Friends of Clyde Muirshiel seek to be a catalyst for action for environmental protection and enhancement of Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park and in particular the hills known as the Renfrew Heights.

Whilst wishing to avoid being overly political, The Friends reserve the right to lobby when it feels necessary, particularly when it feels necessary and particularly in regard to perceived threats.

The organisation co-operates with the Regional Park but recognises that The Friends interests may not always be the same as those of the Regional Park. However, The Friends seek to maintain mutually beneficial relations with the three Local Authority Access Officers (Renfrewshire, Inverclyde & North Ayrshire), CMRPA committee, Park officers and staff, landowners and land managers etc.

### *Objectives*

The Friends of Clyde Muirshiel has both short and long-term objectives

20?? short term objectives include:- ??

Longer term objectives include :- ??

## WEBSITE EXAMPLES

### The Friends of the Pentlands - Links

<https://pentlandfriends.org.uk/>

Objectives - <https://pentlandfriends.org.uk/objectives/>

About Us - <https://pentlandfriends.org.uk/about-us-2/>

Principles - <https://pentlandfriends.org.uk/principles-2/>

OSCR - <https://www.oscr.org.uk/about-charities/search-the-register/charity-details?number=SC035514#results>

### Friends of Loch Lomond & Trossachs - Links

<http://www.lochlomondtrossachs.org.uk/>

About us - <http://www.lochlomondtrossachs.org.uk/our-history>

Our aims - <http://www.lochlomondtrossachs.org.uk/index.php/our-aims>

Giving scheme - <http://www.lochlomondtrossachs.org.uk/our-projects/friends-of-our-park>

Young Friends - <http://www.lochlomondtrossachs.org.uk/our-projects/young-friends>

## NOTES

**James Fraser, Chairman of The Friends of Loch Lomond & Trossachs will attend a CMRP Consultative Forum meeting on a date to be arranged by Renfrewshire CC (Elaine) and will address the meeting regarding Friends of Park groups.**

In 2005, when some of us identified the need for an organisation, in addition to the Park Authority, to fight the industrialisation of CMRP, an approach was made to Charlie Woodward (Park manager) regarding the setting up of a Friends of Clyde Muirshiel group which would be able to support the Authority in so many ways other than the immediate requirement of fighting the proposal at that time for 125 wind turbines on the hillside stretching from Kilbirnie (N Ayrshire) to Lochwinnoch (Renfrewshire). Charlie Woodward clearly didn't have the vision to understand the advantage to CMRP of having a *Friends* group and made it abundantly clear that he didn't want a Friends group set up. This resulted in the ***Save Your Regional Park campaign*** (SYRP) being set up which continued to work actively to save the park from inappropriate industrial and commercial development until the end of the Corlic Hill 2's Public Local Inquiry in 2015 and carried on until 2016. The core members of the committee had devoted most of their time to the cause effectively working full time. In short, we were all getting older and were 'windfarmed out' having fought 15 winfarm proposals all wanting to take chunks out of the park plus the Crematorium approved by N. Ayrshire in the park with no objection from CMRP.

Our core committee members were all people determined that the precious Renfrew Heights must be conserved and not turned into an industrial site. Our team consisted of enthusiasts with experience in school / youth training & needs, law, planning, general management, and representatives from many of the Community Councils around the perimeter of the park. A Friends group is about **far more** than the aims of SYRP and it is a great pity that it was not set up in 2005. SYRP is still a skeleton organisation with a committee as there is a bank account in credit. If FoCM is established and achieves charitable status, we would be prepared to propose to the committee that the remaining funds be reserved for a contribution to FoCM defending any attempted inappropriate industrial or commercial development in the park. SYRP would also contact its membership supporters and encourage them to become members of FoCM.

**Founding The Friends of Clyde Muirshiel (FoCM)** - – To start with, a group of 3 or 4 enthusiasts to be brought together to establish the organisation and they must work closely with the Park

administration to set short-time targets for membership and projects etc plus the recruitment of other suitable people.

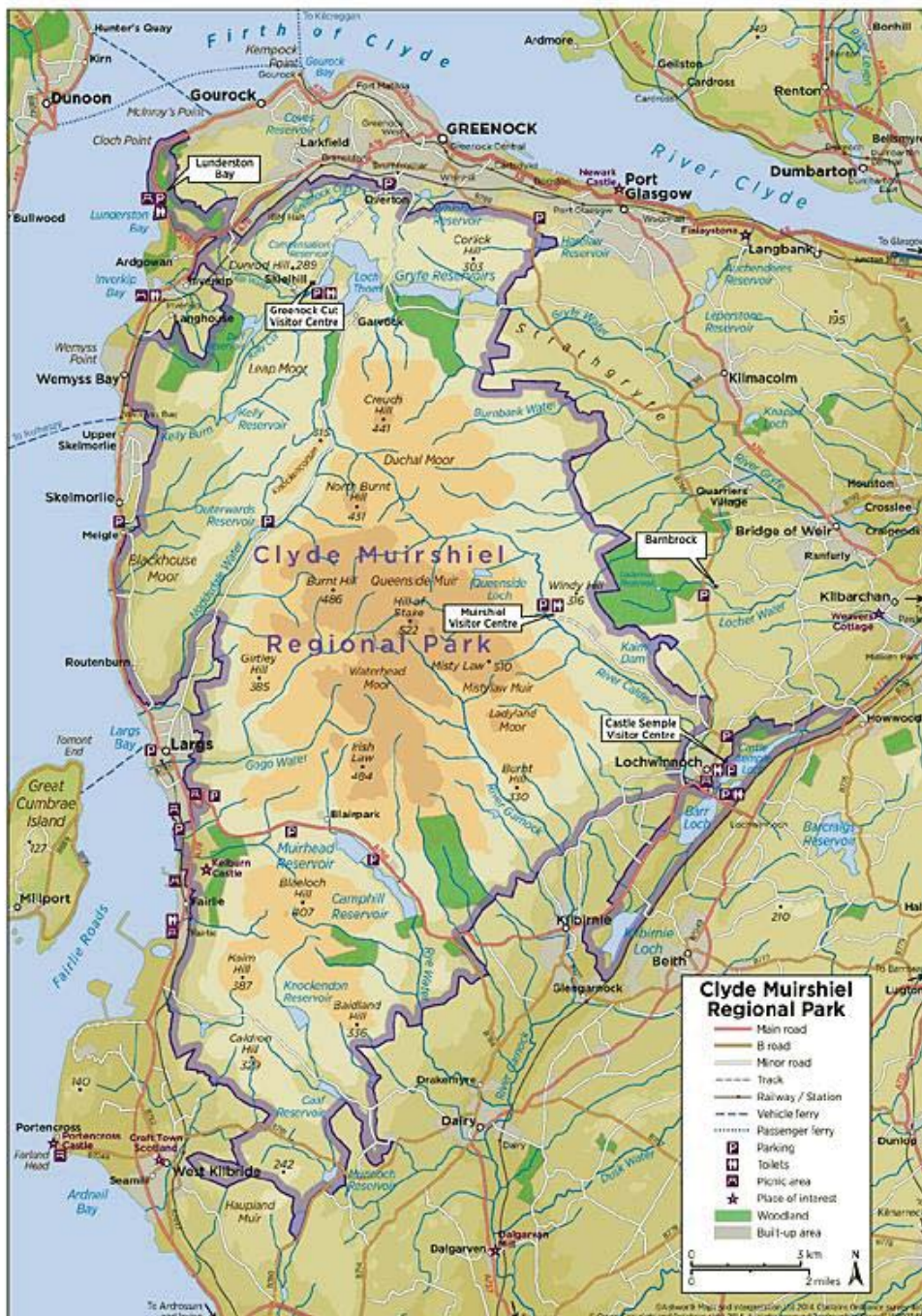
### Office Bearers required:-

Chairman – An enthusiast with suitable experience and determination

Secretary – if possible someone with legal experience to assist with application to the Charity Commission (OSCR)

Treasurer – If possible a CA or book keeping / accounting experience, preferably with knowledge of OSCR requirements.

Membership administrator – must be reasonably computer literate and online access.





## **The Friends of The Pentlands**

### *Legal Form*

The Friends of the Pentlands was established in 2003 and became a registered Scottish Charity in May 2004. In December 2012, the legal form of The Friends of the Pentlands was changed to become a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO).

### *Mission Statement and Purpose*

The mission statement of The Friends of The Pentlands is:

The Friends of the Pentlands seek to act as a catalyst to promote the conservation, protection and enhancement of the Pentland Hills, with particular emphasis on recreational quality, public access, cultural heritage, landscape and biodiversity.

The purpose of Friends of The Pentlands, as set out in the group's constitution, is:

- To protect and enhance the natural and cultural heritage and features of public amenity within this area.
- To encourage respect for the quality of life of those who live and work within this area.
- To carry out environmental projects that enhance public access and biodiversity.
- To encourage high standards of design in all work undertaken within this area.
- To provide an annual programme of activities to foster the enjoyment of healthy exercise, an appreciation of the environment and social and cultural history.
- To promote the forming of appropriate planning policies, compatible with these purposes, through the considered long term development plan process and their effective and consistent implementation.
- To stimulate public interest in these purposes by means of publications, meetings, exhibitions, appeals and other forms of publicity.
- To co-operate with other bodies to promote the foregoing purposes.

### *Membership and Governance*

At the end of 2016, 387 individuals and organisations were members of The Friends of the Pentlands. It is an all-volunteer body. Governance is provided by a Board, which has 12 Trustees.

There is a fee for membership of The Friends group and the group seeks to maintain reserve funds between £7,500 and £15,000.

### *Way of Working*

The Friends of the Pentlands seeks to be a catalyst for action for environmental protection and enhancement of the Pentland Hills. The area of interest includes, but extends beyond, the Pentland Hills Regional Park.

Whilst wishing to avoid being overtly political, The Friends of the Pentlands reserves the right to lobby when it feels necessary, particularly in regard to perceived threats.

The group co-operates with the Regional Park but recognises that the Friends interests may not always be the same as those of the Regional Park. However, the Friends seek to maintain mutually beneficial relationships with Local Authority Access Officers, landowners and land managers etc.

### *Objectives*

The Friends of the Pentlands has both short and long-term objectives.

2016 short term objectives include: a programme of countryside furniture and path inspections; carrying out improvements to path networks and develop new paths; litter picking; maintaining the existing Wild Life Garden and explore opportunities for new wild life gardens; maintain five arboreta; promote the Friends group and provide educational walks and talks; develop disabled access.

Longer term objectives include establishing a path ranger survey service out with Regional Park boundaries and extending the Regional Park to cover the full area of interest of The Friends of the Pentlands.