

Pocket Park Conservation/Management Plan for Pulborough

Objective: To enhance and maintain the ecological, recreational and social value of the Pocket Park in Pulborough while addressing issues related to anti-social behaviour, debris, brambles, weeds, and recreational drug use.

1. Stakeholder Engagement and Collaboration:

- Establish a community advisory group comprising local residents, representatives from nearby schools, community organisations and local police enforcement.

2. Anti-Social Behavior Prevention:

- Implement regular community events and educational programs within the park to foster a sense of ownership and connection among local residents.

3. Vegetation Management:

- Conduct an initial survey of the park's vegetation and identify native species worth preserving.
- Remove invasive plant species, debris, brambles and weeds.
- Protect current trees within the park.

4. Recreational Drug Use Prevention:

- Increase natural surveillance by trimming back vegetation near paths and creating open sightlines across the park.
- Collaborate with local police enforcement to increase patrols during peak times of anti-social behaviour.
- Educate the community about the negative impacts of drug use on the park's ecosystem and reputation.

5. Park Design and Infrastructure:

- Design pathways.
- Create designated play zones for children to attract families and schools to discourage inappropriate activities.

6. Community Education and Outreach:

- Organise workshops, nature walks, and seminars to educate the community about the park's ecological value and the importance of respecting its environment.
- Develop signage that highlights the park's conservation goals, rules and the potential consequences of anti-social behaviour.

7. Maintenance and Monitoring:

- Establish a regular maintenance schedule for mowing, pruning, and garbage removal.
- Conduct bi-weekly inspections to identify and address any emerging issues promptly.

8. Reporting Mechanism:

- Implement a system for the community to report any incidents of anti-social behaviour, vandalism or drug use in the park.

9. Long-Term Sustainability:

- Seek grants, sponsorships and partnerships to secure funding for ongoing maintenance and improvement projects.
- Develop a long-term management plan that outlines conservation, maintenance and engagement strategies for the next several years.

10. Monitoring and Adaptation:

- Regularly review the effectiveness of the plan and make necessary adjustments based on community feedback, incident reports and changes in local dynamics.

By implementing this comprehensive conservation and management plan, the Pulborough Pocket Park can become a safe, inviting and ecologically valuable space for the community while effectively addressing issues related to anti-social behavior, debris, brambles, weeds and recreational drug use.