

Friends of Broomfield Park – Representatives Forum

Date: October 2025

Meeting: Group Representatives Forum

Notes taken by: group reps, collated by Deborah Dalglish



Introduction

The Representatives Forum brings together leads from Friends of Broomfield Park (FoBP) sub-groups to:

- Share updates, ideas, and challenges from each group.
- Help shape priorities and feed into trustee decisions.
- Support good communication across all areas of FoBP activity.

The October 2025 meeting focused on the Annual Report, volunteer engagement, funding processes, and draft priorities for 2026. The discussion provided valuable feedback for FoBP trustees and working groups.

1. Annual Report [\(link\)](#)

General feedback:

The Annual Report was well received — considered the right length and visually engaging, with strong photography and presentation.

Suggestions and discussion points:

- Volunteer hours may have been underestimated; members discussed ways to record and capture them more accurately.
- Consider including data on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) contributions from partner organisations such as BNP Paribas, Oakland Care Homes, HSBC (2024), and possibly the Environment Agency (to be confirmed).
- Add explicit acknowledgements for:
 - Park staff
 - Enfield Council's Water Quality Team, for their ongoing support to the Lakes group
 - Thames21, Thames Water, Environment Agency, River Lea Guardians, and the Swan Sanctuary, for their advice, collaboration, and practical help on water quality and bird welfare
- **Action:** RM to update the annual report with suggested amendments.

2. Volunteer Survey

General feedback:

The survey results were positive. Members supported the idea of creating a “pool” of volunteers available for short-term or ad hoc projects.

Suggestions and discussion points:

- Expand volunteer capacity through a range of campaigns
- Managing volunteers at weekends was noted as a challenge
- The FoBP member database is key to effective communication and engagement, particularly for:
 - Targeted member communication and involvement
 - Ensuring all volunteers receive the newsletter
 - Broadening the volunteer base and encouraging new ideas and projects

Action: Reps to circulate results of survey to all volunteers

3. Funding FoBP projects

Groups were asked to discuss:

- The draft funding policy
- Timing of applications
- Size of allocations

General feedback:

Positive feedback was received, and no significant concerns were raised over the draft finance policy. The four charity-related elements are useful reminders of the main purpose of projects and activities. There was agreement that having a clear, transparent, and consistent funding process is essential.

Action: Further work is needed to bring this information to all volunteers, members and partner organisations once the policy is finalised.

4. Draft Priorities

The FoBP draft priorities were discussed:

- Broadening the volunteer force
- ‘Unlocking Broomfield’ project
- Increasing public engagement
- Strengthening partnerships
- Heritage
- Financial management

In summary, in 2026 we want to build on what we have achieved, involve more people in the life of the park, and keep making a positive difference for our community and for Broomfield Park's future.

The Meeting was supportive of the high level priorities, but would like consideration given and the next stage of planning to:

- Improving water quality
- Protecting wildlife
- Enhancing signage across the park
- Increasing public engagement and education
- Better management of green waste

Conclusion:

The Forum welcomed the opportunity to exchange ideas and reaffirmed the value of regular cross-group communication.

Key points will be referred to the FoBP trustees for consideration when finalising the Annual Report, volunteer strategy, and 2026 priorities.

Dates of future meetings (2026):

- 30 March
- 29 June