

Westhoughton Allotment and Gardening Society

The idea is to bring together the local outdoor volunteer groups at work in Westhoughton to look after and take responsibility for the town centre planters and displays, which is currently subcontracted out thus saving the Town Council money. The group would have a similar arrangement to Daisy Hill in Bloom with some funding to cover costs.

In time the new organisation will take on other gardening projects such as allotments around Westhoughton tapping into the skills of the 'green-fingered' and those able and willing to give some time to the community, so benefiting the local environment, gardening and food cultivation, and wildlife and nature.

It would be affiliated to Westhoughton Community Network, which already connects and promotes these outdoor groups, all doing their bit to add colour and interest to the local street and amenity landscape.

Community Group Committee

Initial soundings have taken place with a tentative structure and interested parties ready to be involved:

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| Jack Speight (Friends of Daisy Hill Station) | Stephen Freeborn (Friends of Westhoughton Station) |
| Richard Brennan (Horticultural Advisor) | Naomi Bainbridge (Bolton Girls and Lads Club) |
| Derek Bullock (Bolton and District Civic Trust) | Veronica Swinburne (Daisy Hill in Bloom) |
| Angela Seddon (12 th St Bart's Brownies) | Anthea Ingle (Treasurer) |

Aims

- As well as taking care of the plants and planters on Market Street, the aim is to have colourful all-year-round displays.
- We will encourage year-on-year growth at designated sites and locations, and displays through planting to attract wildlife and nature and enhance the environment we live in.
- We will carry out tree planting where appropriate introducing diversity and visual appeal.
- To work across the community and generations - young people will have the chance to do some good and learn about horticulture and the importance of environmental management.
- To promote a cleaner, greener, cared-for local environment as a safer and nicer place to live.

Grants and Funding

It aims to reduce the money that Westhoughton Town Council pays out to private business. It will look for grant funding and sponsorship, to enable investment in the community, supporting local groups involved in leisure and outdoor activities bringing enjoyment and pleasure to all.

We hope that Westhoughton Town Council can see the benefit of this endeavour and help and support our efforts in involving the community in keeping Westhoughton green and colourful.

