



## Green Flag Community Award 2022

**Name of Site: Gatley Carrs**

**Name of Community Group: Gatley Carrs Conservation Group**

### Field Assessment Comments

Criteria	Strengths	Recommendations
<b>A Welcoming Place</b>		
Welcoming	The Car park is the first point of Welcome, uneven but functional assured by the Gatley Carrs Conservation Group GCCG, that Stockport City Council, who is responsible for the site, have been approached to carry out remedial works. Although this is in effect a Natural setting, the degree of maintenance allows the entrance to be open, inviting but not clinical.	Ask that GCCG keep SCC informed of the Car Park Situation.
Good and safe access	Access is perfect for this naturalised area. Around the pond, chicken wire, is in place to prevent the duckboards from becoming a skating rink, the steps approaching the side of the Motorway, had been swept, removing all the leaf debris, which would definitely accumulate during the year.	No further comment is necessary.
Signage	There is up-to-date information emblazoned on Sign Boards, throughout the site. These describe the Fauna and flora within the surrounding area and also have pockets for leaflets which can be taken by visitors. The signage to the Site, along the major routes is very useful.	With so many signs, maintenance is a problem, whereby, some are needing a wee bit of elbow grease and soapy water, to make them gleam once again. I am sure as the Volunteers return after the C 19 hiatus; they will look brand spanking new.

Equal access for all	Wherever possible access has been created for all, however the Topography of the site, could prevent certain members of the Community from accessing certain areas.	Nothing more to add.
<b>Healthy, Safe &amp; Secure</b>		
Appropriate level of facilities and activities	Bird watching hides, wildlife meadow, Dog Walking desire lines, orchard, pond dipping platforms, open picnic area, area for GC events, Dog Memorial where the name of the deceased pooch is engraved on a small plaque and attached to a Memorial Post.	Nothing more to add
Safe equipment and facilities	All Equipment and facilities appeared to be safe and fit for purpose.	Nothing more to add.
Personal security	During day light hours, this site should not pose any threat to one's personal security. Lighting would detract from this site's natural feel. Paths are circuitous lending itself to one feeling alone but not lonely.	Nothing more to add.
Control of Dogs/Dog fouling	The Judge did see a couple occasions during the visit, whereby dogs were off the leash. The problem was discussed. Faeces was in evidence.	It seems that the GCCG consider the Dog situation as a problem and the Judge hopes that this can be resolved, with SCC, to the satisfaction of all users.
<b>Well maintained and Clean</b>		
Litter and waste management	No litter was seen. Apparently SCC remove collated litter and dispose in accordance with their waste management edict	Nothing more need to be added
Overall standard of maintenance	The Judge found the overall maintenance was outstanding.	Nothing more to add.
Graffiti and vandalism	No vandalism or graffiti was seen.	Nothing more to add.

## Environmental Management

Sustainable materials use	Besides the sustainable use of the Willow for bird hides, SCC who carry out Maintenance on the site, have an Environmental policy which “provides a framework for action and for the setting of Environmental objectives and targets” so sustainable materials will be used.	Nothing more to add.
Waste recycling and minimisation	There was no evidence that any green waste was removed from the site. All other waste if taken by SCC would be recycled in accordance with their Recycling policy	Nothing more to add.
Chemical Use	Maintenance is carried out by SCC and as far as GCCG is aware Chemicals are not used on site.	Nothing more to add.
Peat use	Plants are sourced by SCC and as far as GCCG are aware SCC is compliant with the Conservation of Pentlands.	Nothing more to add.

## Biodiversity Landscape & Heritage

Conservation of landscape & historic features	Every effort has been made to ensure that the landscape/treescape is conserved as natural as possible and as the name implies that means the Willow, Alder and Birch mix is in evidence.	Suggest that the Willow is coppiced and osiers used.
Conservation of biodiversity	This site has good Biodiversity. The new flower meadow will increase the species list.	Nothing more to add

## Community Involvement

Promotion of green space / project	Through the Website which appears to be up to date, every opportunity is used to promote Gatley Carr, whereby local businesses and friends have been attracted E.g. Webguild Media Ltd, who donated the website for free, Mums in the know and Day Care for Dogs.	Nothing more to add
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Links to the wider community	GCCG have links with the Local Council and Councillors. A specific project is that GCCG is trying to ensure that Gatley Carr is in safe hands after the present GC officers have passed on the baton of responsibility. The Judge finds that a very unselfish act	The Judge hopes that GC, through Council assistance, is able to secure the permanent future of the Carr.
Involvement in decision making	The Judge is assured that all members of GCCG have voting rites and these are honoured in the decision making process. The minutes confirm the above.	Nothing more to add.
Involvement in operations	From the Judges discussions with the GCCG , confirmed by the Minutes of the most recent Annual General Meeting held at the Elm Road United Reformed Church, Gatley on 16th March 2022, there is a great deal of involvement from the group in operations.	Nothing more to add.
Appropriate provision for the community	All members of the Community are provided for and are actively, encouraged through Social Media and the Web Site to participate and have their collective say in GC.	Nothing more to add.

### Management / achievements

Innovation and creativity	There is a torrent of good ideas which are flowing into this site, the result, with its good leadership, has made this location a Natural Treasure.	Nothing more to add.
Resources secured / used	An example of the Resources secured which had been recorded in latest AGM minutes “donations received in May from Round Table £500, Elm Road Church £250, Police Crime Community Fund £592 and donations from Delgado and Tinkler of £100.	Nothing more to add.

## Additional Comments

The Judge hopes that SCC continues to give the level of support, to the recommendations, which is deservant, of those who are the custodians of GC.