



## PARK MAKER VOLUNTEER BRIEFING

Thank you for helping to create our park!

The Thrapston Nene Valley Park is a community project on a grand scale. We're really excited about the challenge and that you want to help us create it.

Together we'll build a space of peace and tranquillity, where friends and families can meet, nature can thrive, and adventure can begin. We've a 30-acre area alongside the River Nene and the lakes off Meadow Lane to transform – so let's get started!

To coordinate many volunteers is a huge challenge but with everyone's cooperation we can all have an amazing experience. Please read through these briefing notes carefully taking particular note of the safety information.

### Basic Information

#### What you will need

- Comfortable clothing for direct gardening type work – bring a long sleeve option as there are lots of nettles
- boots/wellies (no trainers)
- Gardening gloves
- showerproof top/coat
- Hat hard - **essential** if you're cutting trees at height with loppers. Sun hat is optional

#### Gardening tools (anything you can bring - but no electric power tools)

- Bow Saw
- Scythe (handheld (small) or gardening (long))
- Gardening secateurs or pruning shears
- Loppers
- Wheelbarrow (optional)
- Rake

#### Provisions

- Water bottle – there will be a refilling station
- Packed lunch (if you're staying all day)
- Sunscreen (if it's sunny!)

### Where you should go

We'll meet in the main car park on Meadow Lane (by the Sea Cadets) at 10am - please arrive promptly.

You'll be met by the Park Team – David, Craig and Dan. They will give you:

- a safety briefing
- an overview of the task ahead and how we'll work
- issue you with a hi-vis vest

We'll then make our way to the Opportunity Area we'll be working on.



### **Breaks, lunch, toilets**

- If you need the toilet, the nearest will be the public toilets by the Co-Op – or possibly your home!
- If you feel that you need a short break, just find a place to sit and chill out, although please let one of the Park Team know if need you disappear i.e. to the toilet

**We're enormously grateful for any time you can spare but please aim to give a minimum of 90 minutes and do let the Park Team know when you're leaving.**

### **If there is a problem**

#### **First Aid**

- First Aid will be available from the Park Team – Craig is a trained First Aider.
- Where an injured person is unable to walk, we will call for an ambulance.

### **Problem Solving Procedure**

We want everyone to enjoy their Park Making experience with the Thrapston Nene Valley Park project, so please be aware of the following.

#### **The Park Team will:**

- Provide appropriate roles and tasks for Park Maker volunteers to undertake
- Support Park Makers in these roles and be available to deal with any problems
- Provide a safe environment in which volunteers can work
- Tackle any problems or complaints arising professionally and effectively

#### **Volunteers are expected to:**

- Attend pre-arranged time slots on-time
- Attend for the duration of the timeslot and pre-arranged time you can volunteer
- Be appropriately dressed following any guidelines offered in briefing materials
- Be open and polite to members of the public and other volunteers
- Respect the Park area and the area you're working in
- Attend a briefing meeting at the start of the Park Making session including health and safety
- Abide by any health and safety or emergencies instructions given by the Park Team
- Report any problems, incidents or complaints to a member of the Park Team
- Give ample notice of cancellation where practicable
- **Enjoy yourself!**

The Thrapston Nene Valley Park Project operates a zero-tolerance policy regarding the use of recreational drugs, acts of violence and drunk and disorderly behaviour at its Park Making events.

All problems, complaints and incidents should be reported to one of the Park Team.

**Contact:** [thrapstonnvparkproject@gmail.com](mailto:thrapstonnvparkproject@gmail.com)