



NOTTINGHAM CROQUET CLUB

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation - registered charity number 1205537



Environmental and Sustainability policy

Last review / update: Feb 2024, Rob Edlin-White

Background

Nottingham Croquet Club is situated in Highfields Park in Nottingham where it has been since the park was first laid out in the 1920s. The land was given to the people of Nottingham by Sir Jesse Boot of Boots the Chemist, and is now managed by Nottingham City Council on behalf of the Highfields Leisure Park Trust.

The croquet club occupies land between the boating lake and University Boulevard. It is bounded by Tottle Brook on one side and the rhododendron border on the other, and it includes two grade II listed pavilions.

Being in such a special setting, in terms of heritage, environment and leisure, the club is very conscious of its environmental and sustainability credentials. We have there strived over a number of years to reduce our impact, including a major investment in 2012 to sink a borehole so that the lawns could be irrigated in a more sustainable way. Extraction is well below the level permitted by our licence. The acquisition of the former bowls club, which has previously always been watered with mains water, gives us the opportunity to extend our irrigation system and use untreated water in future.

Changes to park management practices have resulted in increasing wildlife habitat areas, including the area around the Tottle brook and the woodland to the north of lawns 1 to 5. Wildlife commonly seen around the croquet club include rabbits, foxes, squirrels, green woodpecker, parakeets, sparrowhawks, magpies, heron, egrets, grebes and waterfowl, song thrushes, many species of small birds, and bats and dragonflies.

Environmental and Sustainability Policy

Nottingham Croquet Club will continue to strive to reduce its impact on the environment by using water from its own borehole and irrigating only when necessary. The proposed re-laying of the east lawns will use grass species and soil profiles to provide lower needs for both irrigation and fertiliser. An electric mower has reduced petrol usage, and clippings are composted adjacent to the lawns.

Members and visitors are encouraged, wherever possible, to arrive at the club by public transport (there is a bus and tram stop nearby), by bicycle (there is a cycle track adjacent and bike racks have been installed at the club), or on foot.

Rubbish is sorted and recycled wherever possible. Some suitable food waste is taken home for feeding to member's own hens. Litter is taken back to the pavilion or taken home.

Low energy lighting and automatic light sensors have been installed in the pavilion ensuring responsible use of energy, and the club is exploring installation of solar panels. The club and pavilions are used mainly in summer so there is little energy used in heating.

Club users will respect the natural flora and fauna around the croquet lawns.

We will work in partnership with The Friends of Highfields Park, the Park Ranger and the park's Head Gardener in matters relating to the maintenance and enhancement of the heritage and natural habitats surrounding our club.