



'Considerate Friends' Report with Recommendations for Eastville Park

Considerate Friends are a group of unpaid family carers and disabled people who visit local services to suggest recommendations and improvements for disabled people, carers and people aged 50 and over. The project works across the Greater Fishponds area and visits started in January 2018.

The project is under the umbrella of Bristol Ageing Better and run in partnership between The Care Forum and Carers Support Centre. Carers Support Centre supports carers to volunteer for the project and organises the visits.

On 1st August 2018, a small group of volunteers visited Eastville Park and made the following observations.



Did you find the park easy to access? Score 3/5

The car park is very handy, but not well signposted and a couple of Considerate Friends found it difficult to find.

It was good to have a car park with so many spaces.

There is a bus stop just outside.

Would you go back again? Score 5/5

The park is spacious and pleasant to stroll around. When you know how to get to the carpark, it is easy to access.

What was the best thing about the park?



- It is very spacious and clean. There isn't much rubbish.
- It is a green, open space.
- There is good access for people using wheelchairs.
- There are good facilities including tennis, two playgrounds and a small shelter area.

What would you like to see improved about the park?

- The toilet facilities are closed. This is a big issue for older people who often need to use toilets more frequently. The local pub only allows customers to use their toilets. A lot of people would be willing to pay a small fee (30p?) to use the toilets if that helped to keep them open.
- The shelter area is run down with rubbish collecting in it, and it would be good to see this repainted, better used and potentially locked at night, with a bin next to it to avoid people leaving litter there.
- It would be helpful to have another carpark at the bottom of the park, near the play area.
- Could there be some equipment for older people and disabled people to use as an outdoor gym?
- A day-time café facility would be very welcome for older people.
- Considerate Friends agreed that it would be frightening to walk through the park after dark. Could some lighting and cameras be fitted?

In summary

Considerate Friends were impressed by the park and the range of facilities for people living in Greater Fishponds, but also felt that there could be improvements to make it feel safer after dark, to accessibility, and more facilities to help keep older people active and fit.