

## **Cove Brook Greenway Group**

### **Child Safety Policy**

It is Cove Brook Greenway Group policy that children and young people (under 18) should only attend work parties and other events accompanied by an adult. This means that other adult volunteers for the group are not expected to take responsibility for children. However we seek to ensure the safety of all volunteers, and be aware that children may not be as careful as adults.

Sometimes children turn up at events unaccompanied, and as we work in public open space it is difficult to insist that they attend only with an adult. These guidelines should be followed at all work parties, meetings and other events.

- Never be alone with a child. Ensure that you are in public view.
- Avoid physical contact. Help a child who is hurt, but ensure that you are in public view.
- Do not take a child home from an event or work party: keep the child with the group, contact the parent/guardian if necessary, and /wait for the parent/guardian to collect them.
- Do not take children to the toilet or give them physical help.
- Call the police if you think a child is lost.
- Record any incidents involving children and report them to the work party leader (outdoor events) or any committee member (indoor events). Incidents should be raised at committee meetings under Health and Safety.
- Always obtain the permission of the parent/guardian if taking photos of groups that include children, and ensure that they know the photos may be used for publicity for the group. Photos should not be used if they include children for whom no permission has been given.

This policy will be raised at committee meetings under Health and Safety, and updated as necessary.