



## **FRIENDS OF RISING SUN COUNTRY PARK**

### **Chairperson's Report Executive Summary – 2022-2023**

It's been another busy, but positive year for the Friends Group and I feel we have made great strides towards achieving the aims of our group over the past twelve months, which are

- The promoting of conversation, protection and improvements to the park environment
- Working in partnership with relevant 'stakeholders' in the park for the benefit of the local community

A significant amount of volunteering has taken place – 1448 volunteering hours between May 22- April 23. The Friends group have contributed to several maintenance and conservation projects and worked in partnership with the park team, corporate volunteers and the wider park users.

Highlights include the creation of the 'Wigloo', the planting of the cherry trees and the installation of the flight diverters to the power lines adjacent to Swallow Pond. We have been successful with an application for funding for the allotment and have made significant progress in improving this area. Our litter-picking events are becoming well established and we have several regular attendees. We also held two successful guided bird walks this Spring, and received positive feedback from these, it would be good to develop this further. Christmas was again busy, but worth all the effort to see the enjoyment of the children attending the Grotto.

We have overcome some challenging times this year, but by coming together and supporting each other, I feel we have ended up stronger and more enlightened as a group.

To conclude, I wish to thank everyone; committee members, park staff, volunteers, local businesses and individuals who continue to support the Friends Group and I look forward to another productive year ahead.

Claire Partleton