

Yet again, Tarvin Community Woodland is flying the flag as one of the UK's very best green spaces

In 2017, a record number of parks and green spaces have collected a Green Flag Award

Tarvin Community Woodland in Tarvin near Chester has been recognised by the Green Flag Award Scheme as one of the very best in the world.



The green space is among a record-breaking 1,797 UK parks and green spaces that have received a prestigious Green Flag or Green Flag Community Award – the mark of a quality park or green space.

This international award, now into its third decade, is a sign to the public that the space boasts the highest possible environmental standards, is beautifully maintained and has excellent visitor facilities.

Tarvin Community Woodland is owned by the community and extends for about 1.5 km along the A51, Tarvin south-western bypass. It was unique as the first example of using Highways Agency land that had been created as a noise barrier for community benefit and has

recently been extended by a woodland strip that was created in conjunction with local planners and Taylor Wimpey when a new housing estate was built. It is funded by an annual grant from Tarvin Parish Council and its own fund-raising activities.

Stuart Exell, Chairman, said: "We are absolutely delighted to receive a Green Flag Award for the eighth year. As well as verifying that we are doing the correct things well we are grateful for the Green Flag guidance on what could be done to improve further Tarvin Woodland and for their suggested new initiatives for us to consider when planning for next year.

We know how much quality green spaces matter to residents and visitors, and this award celebrates the dedication that goes into maintaining Tarvin Community Woodland to such a high standard."

International Green Flag Award scheme manager Paul Todd said: "We are delighted to be celebrating another record-breaking year for the Green Flag Award scheme. Each flag is a celebration of the thousands of staff and volunteers who work tirelessly to maintain the high standards demanded by the Green Flag Award. The success of the scheme, especially in these challenging times, demonstrates just how much parks matter to people."

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Notes to Editors

The Green Flag Awards Scheme (<http://greenflagaward.org/>) is run by the environmental charity Keep Britain Tidy, under licence from the Department of Communities and Local Government, in partnership with Keep Scotland Beautiful, Keep Wales Tidy and Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful, the Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens and the National Housing Federation.

Keep Britain Tidy is a leading environmental charity. We campaign for quality parks and green spaces for everyone, inspire people to be litter-free, to waste less and to live more. We run programmes including Eco-Schools, the Green Flag Award for parks and green spaces and the Blue Flag / Seaside Awards for beaches. To find out more about Keep Britain Tidy, our programmes and campaigns visit www.keepbritaintidy.org.

Any green space that is accessible to the public is eligible to enter for a Green Flag Award. Awards are given on an annual basis and winners must apply each year to renew their Green Flag status. A Green Flag Community Award recognises quality sites managed by voluntary and community groups. Green Heritage Site accreditation is judged on the treatment of the site's historic features and the standard of conservation.

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Please contact the press office in advance to make arrangements