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# Media Release

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## **PRESTIGIOUS AWARD FOR FALSGRAVE PARK**

Celebrations are under way as one of the town's best-kept secrets has been rewarded; Cabe Space and the Civic Trust have awarded a prestigious Green Flag to Falsgrave Park.

The Green Flag award for Parks is similar to the Blue Flag awards for beaches, and is an indication of a high standard of a Park and an award will only be made when the total points awarded to a Park has reached a Benchmark in the awards system. The Green Flag Award scheme was launched in 1996 and now has over 240 applications for Green Flag Status each year.

Green Flag judges visited the Park recently and were given a tour highlighting the many great improvement works that have been undertaken in recent years. All the improvements to the Park are due in no small part to the successful formation of a Friends group and their strong partnership working with Scarborough Borough Council's Parks & Countryside Services.

The judging criteria look for a safe environment, good maintenance standards, and evidence of sustainability, conservation, heritage and marketing and management of the Park. The evidence of community involvement is a huge requirement and the example of the huge amounts of work and events undertaken by the Friends group in their park surpasses all expectations.

Improvements undertaken in Falsgrave Park over recent years have been:

- Formation of a Friends group
- Formation of a Graffiti/Kick Wall
- Play area improvements
- Improvements for Wildlife
- Interpretation Panels
- Improved Signage
- Formation of a Stone Circle
- Work with other community groups
- Planting of a wildflower meadow

Further improvements are still in the pipeline, such as refurbishment of a Well house, under the close supervision of Parks staff and members of the Friends group.

Green Flag status is included in local performance indicators for Local Authorities CPA Assessment set by the Audit Commission, and shows that the needs of Best Value are being met both for the Council and the Community.

Parks Manager Roger Burnett said “This award is the culmination of several years of hard work by the community and the Council working in partnership and is a great credit to all those involved.”