

Proms in the Park Proposal for New Mills Town Council

Submitted by: New Mills Festival (NMF)

1. Introduction

This proposal is submitted for consideration by New Mills Town Council Members regarding the return of the '**Proms in the Park**' event to **High Lea Park** on **Sunday 21st September 2025**, during the afternoon and early evening.

New Mills Festival previously hosted this well-attended community event at High Lea Park in 2023. The event was not held there in 2024 due to technical and logistical challenges, but following recent improvements, we are keen to return and build on its success. The event will feature live orchestral music, community participation, and a celebratory atmosphere, aligning with the Council's goals of promoting arts, community engagement, and use of public spaces.

2. Objectives

The key objectives of this event are to:

- Deliver a high-quality, accessible musical event for the local community.
- Encourage inclusive participation and civic pride.
- Make effective use of High Lea Park as a valuable public asset.
- Promote community cohesion and cultural celebration.
- Showcase New Mills' capacity to host well-organised, family-friendly events.

3. Proposed Event Details

- **Title:** Proms in the Park
- **Location:** High Lea Park and High Lea Hall (external power source only)
- **Date & Time:** Sunday 21st September 2025, event from 4.00pm-6.00pm
- **Main Features:** Live orchestral performances, refreshments, community atmosphere
- **Admission:** Ticketed event, low cost and free to under 12's
- **Refreshments:** Served from a gazebo TBC near High Lea Hall
- **Power Requirements:** Use of power sources from the HLH via extension cables

4. Community Engagement & Benefits

- Fosters community spirit and local pride through a shared cultural experience
- Supports local performers and event volunteers
- Reinforces the identity of New Mills as a creative and community-driven town
- Encourages footfall in the area, supporting the local economy
- Offers a welcoming, inclusive environment for families and visitors

5. Logistics & Requirements

- Power Supply: Sockets from High Lea Hall; tested and safe extensions provided
- Refreshments Area: Gazebo setup to avoid congestion at building entrance
- Venue Use: If possible, we would request use of the hall for access to facilities; however, we are open to paying a reasonable fee if required
- Health & Safety: Event plan with risk assessment provided, to follow
- Volunteers & Staffing: NMF volunteers will oversee event management

6. Resources

- We request consideration for free use of the hall or a reduced rate, as was offered in 2023. We are seeking permission to use the park space and power supply from High Lea Hall.
- There are no requests for financial support from the 25-26 Town Council budget for the event.
- Support from Council officers for logistics or oversight would be appreciated where feasible.

7. Council Consideration & Next Steps

New Mills Festival respectfully requests that New Mills Town Council:

1. Approves the use of High Lea Park and High Lea Hall power supply for the event
2. Considers granting access to the High Lea Hall, free of charge or a reduced fee