

The consultation process

The consultation process on the new park will work through three stages. Stage one will be the creative 'ideas stage' covering the summer months of July and August. This stage will canvas ideas from existing users, young people, youth groups and residents on how the park could be designed and what it could contain. When this ideas stage is complete, our design team will take these ideas and prepare a draft plan for circulation in the autumn.

Stage two will see the draft plan for the park published in a second edition of this newsletter and you will be able to see and comment on the proposals that are emerging for the site. You will be able to comment on these draft proposals before the Council decide on the final preferred design.

Stage three will see the final design presented to everyone in a third and final edition of the newsletter so that everyone knows what has been decided. This will allow the design team to prepare the technical content for a formal planning application to take the project to the implementation stage. The planning application process itself will allow for further comment on the proposals before a formal planning decision is made.

Newsletter No2 will be published when the draft proposal for the park design has been worked up. We will advise you of further opportunities to comment on the draft proposals in the next edition.

How to get involved

Because of Covid 19 restrictions we have limits on what we can do in holding community meetings and events so we have devised with a stakeholder reference group a number of ways through which you can feed your thoughts and comments back to the design team:

- For those with online access you can complete our project survey by clicking the web link below:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/3T7V5PV>

Alternatively you can send your comments by email to lochshore@north-ayrshire.gov.uk.

- If you want a paper copy of the survey posted out to you the best way to contact us is by email using the address above. For those who do not have email access you can request a paper copy of the survey by contacting North Ayrshire Council on 01294 310000.

- You can also simply mail your written comments to us at Lochshore Masterplan 2021, Economic Development and Regeneration Dept, North Ayrshire Council, Cunninghame House, Irvine KA12 8E.

- There are separate events being convened for school children, youth groups, local community organisations and clubs to contribute to the discussion. If you want to organise a discussion with the design team for a group that you represent please contact us at the email address above or via the telephone number provided.

- Your ideas and suggestions should reach us by 10th of September 2021.

Lochshore Park Masterplan 2021 - Newsletter 1 July 2021



North Ayrshire Council

Lochshore is moving to the next stage...

Welcome to the first of three editions of a newsletter that will be going to every home and business within the Garnock Valley to keep you informed of an exciting stage of the development of the Lochshore project, over the coming months. This is the site of the former Glengarnock Steelworks and Kilbirnie Loch which extends to some 250 hectares and is now owned by North Ayrshire Council. We are taking the Lochshore project to the next stage of development and we want to work with you to help us design a new park.



What's been happening?

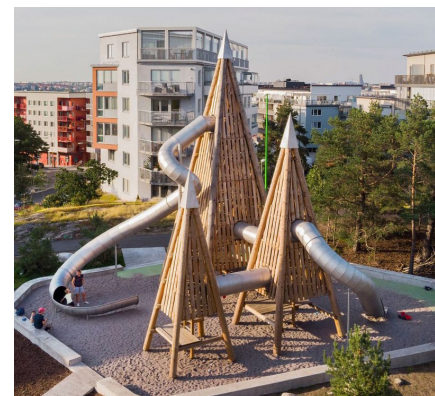
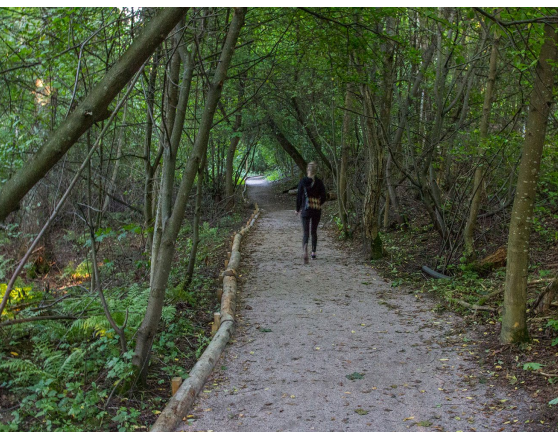
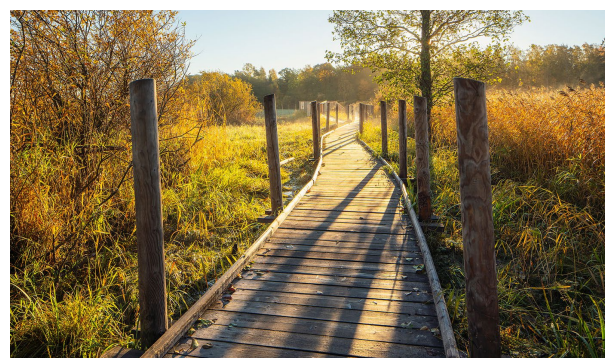
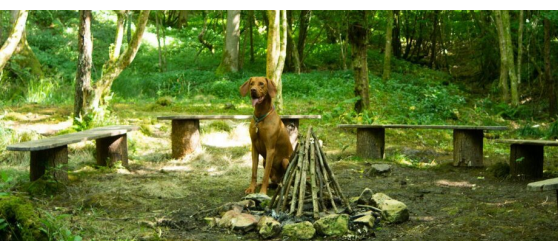
Some work has already been completed on important elements of the vision. Funding has been secured for a new hub building which will house a café, education and workshop space and sports changing facilities and construction begun in May of this year. A new active travel route connecting the site to Kilbirnie and the NCN7 will be constructed this year. Further active travel routes and a 5km leisure route incorporating play and interpretation have been designed. While these elements are being progressed, we want to design the remaining elements of the park to complete the picture.

What do we want to do now?

We want to design the park to contain new play and leisure facilities to complement the new visitor hub and café which will open in August 2022. We want to submit a planning application in the Autumn so that we are ready to build the new play and park facilities as soon as new funding becomes available (hopefully early next year).



We consulted with you in 2017 on what we should do at Lochshore to aid the regeneration of the surrounding communities of Kilbirnie, Beith and Dalry and to serve the entire Garnock Valley community. Back then it was owned by Scottish Enterprise who joined forces with the Council to come up with a vision to move the site forward. Following an extensive community engagement exercise a consensus was reached to build a new park at the site with a focus on play. This is the exciting vision that we are now taking forward into the design and development stage this summer.



We want to hear your ideas...

Over July and August are asking you to come up with ideas and suggestions on what you would like to see at Lochshore, what the park should contain and how it should be laid out.

The site already has a wealth of natural assets including Kilbirnie Loch and it is home to a rich matrix of flora and fauna, containing woodland, grassland, and marshland areas which together support a range of wildlife habitats. The rugby pitches and Loch are also actively used by local clubs, but we are keen to understand how you would use the park on a day-to-day basis.

- What facilities would you like to see there?
- What links and connections are important to you to make it accessible?
- What does Lochshore mean to you in terms of its history?
- Are there heritage stories that we should tell in the park?
- How would you want to use the spaces within the park to play and exercise?
- What similar places have you seen that we could learn from or replicate at Lochshore to make it a fabulous community destination?

