

Woodland Creation

We also asked for feedback on the type of woodland that people wanted to see at the north of the site which Green Action Trust will consider in their proposals. We were delighted that several people expressed an interest in being involved in the planting and managing of that woodland and we look forward to working with those individuals. Species of trees that you would particularly like to see planted in the new woodland included fruit trees, cherry blossoms, oak, bushes like bramble, raspberry, gooseberry, blackcurrant etc., beech, birch, apple, scots pine, joseph rock trees, rowan, hazel, chestnut, aspen crab apple, bird cherry, and fir. As a result of the demand for an orchard and community garden we have identified a potential location for this at the south of the site.

Accessibility

Some questions were raised about accessibility within the park. The park will be designed to the standards of universal access. This means it will be designed for all abilities - there will be full provision for wheelchairs and buggies and special provision for those with sight impairments etc.

Next Steps

Now that we have a final design we will begin the process of delivery in a phased way and in line with drawing down funding support from a range of project partners. We will finalise the detailed plans over the next few months so that we are in position to get planning permission delivered quickly when we are ready to build out phases of the park plan.

What is happening now

We have funding in place for a number of phase 1 projects which will be delivered over the next year:



April
• Active Travel Route Completion



May
• Park Activity Programme Launches



August
• 5km Leisure Route Completion



August
• Garnock Visitor & Community Hub Completion



December
• Woodland Planting Completion

What will happen next

For the rest of the project we will now work to develop a phasing and funding strategy allowing us to deliver aspects of the design in a coherent order over the coming five or so years as funding opportunities arise.

View final designs for the 5km leisure route

The final designs for the 5km leisure route can be found at the following link - <https://tinyurl.com/leisureroute>

A message from Trish Wallace, chair of the Stakeholder Reference Group

'As the chair of the stakeholder reference group, who have guided the consultation process, it has been great to see so many people get involved and share their ideas over the last six months. Given the enormous potential of the project to benefit local communities, it was really important to the group that we ensured the whole community got to have a say and we are pleased that there was representation from community members of all backgrounds. We were delighted that there was such a positive response to the draft plan developed from ideas submitted in the first stage and we are excited that the project will now progress to the next stage of development.'

A thank you to the Stakeholder Reference Group:

The process of consultation on this project was managed and directed by a stakeholder reference group made up of community representatives. The Council would like to thank the community representatives for devoting their time and energy to the project and ensuring that the consultation process reached as many people as possible.

How to keep in touch

Although the formal community consultation process is now closed, there are several ways in which you can keep in touch with the project:

By emailing us at lochshore@north-ayrshire.gov.uk.
By writing to us to us at Lochshore Park, Regeneration, North Ayrshire Council, Cunninghame House, Irvine KA12 8E.



Lochshore Park Design - Newsletter 3 April 2022



Here it is.....

Welcome to the third and final edition of our newsletter on the Lochshore Park development and thank you to everyone who responded to and participated in the community consultation process which has been running since June last year. We have now reached the end of this consultation process and are delighted to share the final agreed design in this edition of the newsletter. From here on we will be delivering some phase 1 projects and looking to source funding which will allow us to move to the next phase of delivery.

The consultation process

In the first 'ideas' phase of the consultation, which appeared in the first edition of the newsletter, we invited you to submit your ideas and suggestions for the new park at Lochshore. We got an excellent response with over 150 written responses to our online survey. In this phase we also had over 50 submissions from local school children and spoke to hundreds of people who attended our drop-in exhibitions in Beith, Dalry and Kilbirnie in August, our youth day at Lochshore in June and our open day exhibition at Lochshore in September. Many people also participated in online meetings and discussions with the design team over the summer and in the codesign workshop at the Garnock campus in October.

In the second edition of the newsletter issued in November, we presented a draft plan for Lochshore Park based on what you told us. This draft plan developed your ideas and suggestions and revealed a vision of what we could build at Lochshore. We got another fabulous response to the draft plan with the majority of responses delighted with the plans we've made.

We are now reporting back to you for a final time and are excited to share the final design and our plans for moving forward to the delivery stage. It's also a chance for us to thank you all as well for helping us to design the park that you want.



North Ayrshire Council
Comhairle Siorrachd Àir a Tuath

What you told us...

82% of those who responded liked and supported the draft proposals for Lochshore Park. The key things people liked were the extensive plans for wildlife, the links to history & heritage which have been integrated into the design and that there is lots for both teenagers and children and indeed a variety for all ages. Specifically, you liked the exciting and original play concepts, the provision for cycling, the spaces for dog exercise, the 5km leisure route and the fact that the park was accessible for all abilities.

Key areas where people felt the design could be improved were the inclusion of outdoor exercise equipment for adults, provision of bike and electric scooter rental, electric vehicle charging points, changing facilities for swimmers and provision for outdoor games such as French boules and outdoor chess! There was universal support for eventually achieving a circular walking route around the Loch.

There were mixed views on the inclusion of camping, caravanning & motorhome facilities and some comments raised questions about whether the housing proposals were needed. (The housing site is outside the park and part of the Local Development Plan for Kilbirnie).

We have looked carefully at the list of suggested improvements and have adjusted the masterplan to address these. We have extended the parking to include electric charging points, identified an area for park games and made provision for a trim trail/outdoor gym to be integrated with the walking/running routes. Many of the suggestions (e.g. in relation to equipment hire and the management of activities) will be addressed in the future management of the park which the Council will be planning for as the project develops. The new hub building, which will open in August will provide changing facilities for all park activities.



Lochshore Park Design

Key

- 1. 'Ironworks' Destination Adventure Play Area
- 2. 'Lookout' Destination Adventure Play Area
- 3. Junior Play Area at the Hub
- 4. Community Garden / Orchard and Games Area
- 5. Hub Building -
(Cafe, Toilets, Changing Facilities & Events Space)
- 6. Bouldering Area
- 7. New Cycle Route Through Park
- 8. Rolling Mill Wheel Park
- 9. Wetlands Zone
- 10. Boardwalk Restoration
- 11. Fishing Pegs
- 12. Woodland Water Play
- 13. Native Woodland Planting
- 14. 5km Running Route
- 15. Crannog
- 16. Wild Camping Zone
- 17. Arrival Area - Focal Point and Toilets
- 18. New Car Park
- 19. Dog Exercise Area - North
- 20. Dog Exercise Area - South
- 21. Fair Green Events Space
- 22. Car Park Extension

- EXISTING WOODLAND
- PROPOSED NATIVE WOODLAND
- PROPOSED PLAY AREAS
- VEHICULAR SITE ENTRANCES
- MAINTENANCE / EMERGENCY ACCESS
- PEDESTRIAN / CYCLE ENTRANCES
- PROPOSED ROAD ACCESS
- EXISTING SUSTRANS CYCLE ROUTE
- PROPOSED PRIMARY FOOTPATH ROUTES
- PROPOSED SECONDARY FOOTPATH ROUTES
- POTENTIAL RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT SITE

