

# LOCHEND PARK Management Plan 2020 - 2025



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# Overview Map of the Garden

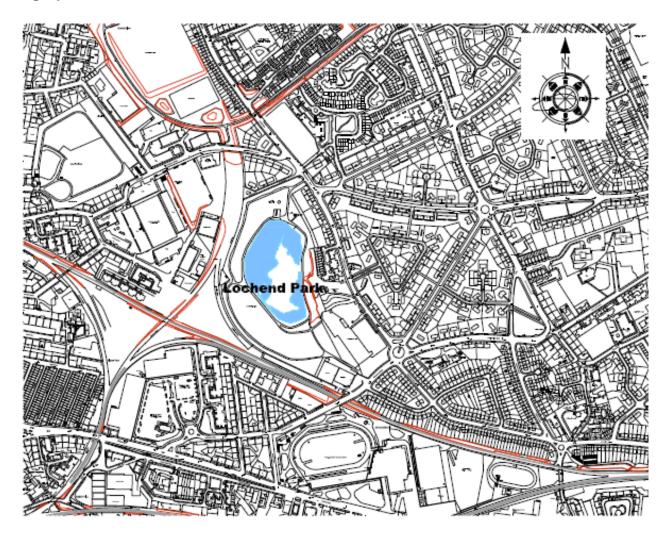


# Summary Information

Park Name:	Lochend Park
Address:	Lochend Park, Edinburgh
National Grid reference:	NT27628/74942
Size of Site:	1.15 acres / 0.60ha
Telephone Number: Email:	0131 529 3111 east.team@edinburgh.gov.uk
Ownership:	The City of Edinburgh Council – The Common Good Account
Area Designation	North East Locality
Classification:	Park
Park Written by:	North East Locality Environment Team east.team@edinburgh.gov.uk Tel: 0131 529 3111
Previous Plan:	2015- 2019
Partners:	Local Community Community Councils Friends of Lochend Park Local Schools

# Location Map of the Gardens

# **Overview Photograph**



# 1 Introduction

#### 1.0 Location

Lochend Park can proudly declare itself to being one of the most unique, natural and versatile in the neighbourhood. The multiple entrances are commonly used by local walkers, dog walkers, joggers and cyclists as an attractive and peaceful green space located between Leith, Restalrig, Marionville and Lochend. It is a valuable recreational park with play facilities for a range of ages from the formal play area to the informal teenage area with football goal and ball hoop.

It is a unique natural space for local residents and the wider community with a special accent on wildlife in an urban green space which has a wilder and a more natural setting than many urban parks. The centrepiece being the large spring fed loch and the supportive habitat this provides to waterfowl and other species. The recent addition of the wildlife viewing platform has made the park



a fantastic setting for outdoor learning and schools programmes giving them the opportunity to have direct exposure and experience of wildlife with the freedom to appreciate, explore and understand biodiversity and the wider habitat.

The park provides an essential green space in the heart of Lochend and is an important space for locals and visitors to the area. It provides an area for local people to observe wildlife and enjoy the outdoors.

The area of Lochend is a built-up residential area. Lochend Park is approximately 8.586 Ha in size. The population of the Craigentinny/Duddingston ward is 24,847 with 277 accessible Ha of significant open space The design of the park provides seating concentrated in the North of the park facing the open sided end of Lochend Pond where several water birds reside and with excellent views to Arthur's Seat.



The pond provides a natural habitat for a number of waterfowl. The site is managed primarily as a facility for recreational use, but

natural habitats and wildlife considerations are an important part of managing the site ensuring that we continue to preserve / create habitats for a range of species.

A brief assessment of the typical users of the Park includes a wide sector Edinburgh resident:

 Users for passive recreation – local residents, people working in the area and school children taking lunch, walking or playing, older people taking gentle exercise through the park.



- Users for informal recreation parents with young children use the park as it is a safe environment away from busy roads and like many areas of open space it is used for exercising dogs.
- People interested in ornithology and other wildlife
- The park provides an area for informal and formal play
- A safe place to ride a bike
- Football (both club level and informal), ball sports, walking and jogging

Lochend Park Management Plan 2020 -2025



Friends group litter pick

#### 1.1 Management Plan Framework

This Management Plan sets out the future management, maintenance and development of Lochend park and has been produced by the City of Edinburgh Council and representatives from Lochend Park friends Community Councils, to provide not only a long-term vision but also details on both developmental and operational duties required to achieve that vision.

The management plan covers the period 2020 to 2025 and has a detailed plan of works for that period. This plan's target audience is elected members, the local community and council officers and its style and content should ensure continuity of purpose and consistency in service delivery. It is intended to be a flexible, working document that will be reviewed and updated annually.

Like any management plan its purpose is to:

"Provide a framework within which all future management is carried out. The plan enables any person involved to understand how and why decisions are taken, and the reasoning behind the policies and proposals for action."

#### **1.2 Edinburgh Parks & Gardens Framework**

Edinburgh values its reputation as one of the most beautiful cities in Europe, renowned for its setting, history and built heritage. Parks and greenspaces are integral to this. They serve as a stage for our public lives and are settings where celebrations are held, where social exchanges take place, where friends mix, where cultures run into each other, where nature thrives, and where people revive themselves from the stresses of urban living.

The Parks and Greenspace Service is committed to providing quality parks for residents and visitors alike. There are five qualities that make a park great, and that drive the work of the Parks and Greenspace Service: they must be full of activity and invite affection. They must also be visible and accessible as well as being comfortable and safe. They also need to be places you can count on, no matter if you visit the park every day or once a year.

Since 2008, using the Green Flag judging criteria, all of Edinburgh's 144 parks are assessed on an annual basis and a Parks Quality Assessment Score is produced for each site. These scores are compared to the Edinburgh Minimum Standard which has been developed to benchmark our parks and record how they are improving.

This quality assessment criteria have allowed Edinburgh to achieve improved standards across the city which has enhanced the opportunities for success in the Beautiful Scotland Awards 2012, COSLA Awards for Excellence 2011, most recently in 2013 Edinburgh was successful in gaining the Britain in Bloom RHS gold award. As a consequence of this success Edinburgh entered the Entante Florale Europe competition in 2014, gaining a Gold Award at the first time of asking.

In Edinburgh the involvement of local residents through a network of Friends groups is well established. Depending on their capacity, sites host both major and local events and activities, offering a wide range of attractions to families and individuals from a diverse community.

The Parks and Greenspace Service ensures that Edinburgh's parks and greenspaces are clean, safe, colourful and diverse; they will be the setting for activities and celebrations; be well-known for their features, history and "happenings"; and be locally valued and used.

#### 1.3 Green Flag Award Scheme



The Green Flag Award Scheme is a national standard for quality in greenspace management in England and Wales. Edinburgh has been involved in the pilot scheme using the Green Flag criteria as a measure and methodology for benchmarking the quality of parks and green spaces in Scotland and has been involved in this project since 2007 in conjunction with Greenspace Scotland in partnership with The Civic Trust in England.

This criterion as stated previously is used in carrying out our annual Parks Quality Assessments and gives the Council Officers and Friends groups up to date information and a measure standard of the park at that time.

The park gained its first Green Flag in 2009 and has successfully retain the flag since then. the mystery shop feedback form can be found at the back of the management plan.

#### 2 Vision and Aims

#### 2.0 Introduction

This section sets out a vision for Lochend Park and a series of new objectives that are developed into actions later in the plan which relate to the city-wide vision.

#### 2.1 Vision

The City of Edinburgh Council adopted its Edinburgh Public Parks and Gardens Strategy in March 2006. The strategy sets out a vision for its parks that states:

# "A quality parks system worthy of international comparison, accessible, diverse and environmentally rich; which fulfils the cultural, social and recreational needs of the people" (Edinburgh Public Parks and Gardens Strategy, 2006, p49).

The Parks and Greenspace and Neighbourhood Service ensures that Edinburgh's parks and greenspaces are clean, safe, colourful and diverse; they will be the setting for activities and celebrations; be well-known for their features, history and "happenings"; and be locally valued and used.

In developing this management plan for Lochend Park, our vision is:

# "To maintain Lochend park as a distinctive, attractive and well cared for space for the enjoyment of citizens and visitors alike and continue to protect its heritage for future generations."

#### 2.2 Aims

Beneath the vision lie a series of aims that have been linked to the Green Flag Award Scheme criteria.

- a) Conservation To increase the biodiversity value of the site
- b) Landscape To enhance the existing levels of landscape value and amenity value

#### c) Recreation

To provide a place to enjoy formal and informal recreation in an attractive safe and secure environment To enhance the health and wellbeing of local residents and visitors through active outdoor activity

#### d) Community Involvement

To engage with the local community and users' groups

To encourage their active participation in decision making and practical activities

To use the park as a recreational resource

#### e) Cultural

To investigate and action ways of protecting and conserving all features of cultural significance and heritage value

#### f) Sustainability

To ensure policies, management practices and operations accord with sustainable principles

#### g) Legal

To ensure the site management works comply with legal obligations

#### h) Maintenance

To ensure that the maintenance programme is in place to reinforce the aims of the park and meet the visitor expectations

#### i) Safety

To ensure the safety of user groups and staff working on site

#### j) Marketing

To actively promote the appropriate use of the park to all potential users

The aims are set out in the table below. Each of these aims is further developed into targets, measures and timescales. It forms the basis of the assessment and analysis of Lochend Park.

Criteria	Aim
A Welcoming Place	<ul> <li>b) To enhance the existing levels of landscape value and amenity value Lochend Park Management Plan 2020 -2025</li> <li>c) To provide a place to enjoy formal and informal recreation in an attractive safe and secure environment and enhancing the health and wellbeing of local residents and visitors through active outdoor activity</li> <li>i) To ensure the safety of user groups and staff working on site</li> </ul>
Healthy, Safe and Secure	c) To provide a place to enjoy formal and informal recreation in an attractive safe and secure environment and enhancing the health and wellbeing of residents and visitors through active outdoor activity
	<ul><li>g) To ensure the site management works comply with legal obligations</li><li>i) To ensure the safety of user groups and staff working on site</li></ul>
Clean and Well Maintained	h) To ensure that the maintenance programme is in place to reinforce the aims of the park and meet the visitor expectations
Sustainability	<ul> <li>f) To ensure policies, management practices and operations accord with sustainable principles</li> </ul>
Conservation and Heritage	<ul> <li>a) To increase the biodiversity value of the site</li> <li>e) To investigate and action ways of protecting and conserving all features of cultural significance and heritage value</li> </ul>
Community Involvement	d) To engage with the local community and users' groups encouraging active participation in decision making and practical activities within the site and to use the park as a recreational resource
Marketing	j) To actively promote the appropriate use of the park to all potential users

Management	<ul> <li>f) To ensure policies, management practices and operations accord with sustainable principles</li> </ul>
	h) To ensure that the maintenance programme is in place to reinforce the aims of the park and meet the visitor expectations
	d) To engage with the local community and users' groups encouraging active participation in decision making and practical activities within the site and to use the park as a recreational resource

### 3 Survey, Historic Features and Park Governance

#### 3.0 Introduction

This section looks at the historic features of the park and also examines the legal situation with respect to ownership and designations that apply to the park, as well as confirming the strategic significance in the Local Plan. It pulls together recent surveys that have been undertaken to update the baseline data about the park and finally considers the involvement of the community through the local volunteers and events.

#### 3.1 Historic Features of the Park

Lochend Park was once meadow land belonging to the Earl of Moray, who used the loch for irrigation. At one time it was a water supply for Leith. The area was eventually rented to the old Edinburgh Corporation in 1907 in two parts. The first being the high ground next to Lochend Road, the



second was the low-lying ground around the loch site.

There are two historical buildings at the Northern end of the park.



lochend pond 1881

One is the 'Doo cot'. A beehive kiln building with a steel front gate and open chimney top – it is currently being used as a home by pigeons. It is also thought to be used to burn infected clothes there during the plague of Leith in the mid 1600's. The other smaller heptagonal building is a



water pump station. The water pump house used to channel spring water from the loch.

#### 3.2 Strategic Significance of the Park

Several Edinburgh's corporate strategies and policies apply to the parks and greenspaces in the city, aiming to deliver safety and equality of provision, safeguard and enhance local environments and neighbourhoods, and ultimately improve the quality of life for Edinburgh's communities, enabling residents to participate fully in the City's park life.

These policies set the overall context within which parks are managed and developed, and although it is the green space policies, which have primary impact, the other more general policies also have a direct or indirect effect in varying degrees.

A list of these polices are given below. A brief précis of each is provided in the appendix, (Appendix 2). Copies of these are available on request. Many can also be accessed via the Council website (www.edinburgh.gov.uk).

#### **Corporate Strategies and Policies**

- Edinburgh Partnership Single Outcome Agreement 2012-17
- Edinburgh Partnership Community Plan 2013-16
- Capitalising on Access: An Access Strategy for Edinburgh
- Climate Change Framework 2007-17
- Sustainable Edinburgh 2020

#### Park and Environmental Policies

- Edinburgh Public Parks and Gardens Strategy 2006
- Edinburgh Open Space Strategy 2010
- Edinburgh Biodiversity Action Plan 2016 18

#### Local Drivers

• Locality improvement plan 2020 - 25

#### 3.3 Management Rules

Park Management Rules were revised in 2013. They aim to provide rules which encourage responsible use in line with the ethos of the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003. An appendix is attached which show the 'Management Rules for Public Parks and Greenspace' (Appendix 2).

#### 3.4 Park Classification

Lochend park is classified within the Edinburgh Public Parks and Gardens Strategy as a "community park".

"community parks are generally small parks subject to intensive horticultural input, with some provision for passive recreation (generally seats) and small play area but no provision for other forms of recreation. Generally used for quiet enjoyment and relaxation."

#### 3.5 Community Involvement

Community involvement at Lochend Park began in the late 1990's. Through the establishment of a friend's group (

#### 3.6 Surveys and Assessments Undertaken

#### Asset Management GIS Survey

The Council has recently introduced a new asset management system which has been undertaken following a full survey of each park in the City. This is now linked to GIS so that site location, condition and photographic information can be studied from the office base. This information will be used to assess replacement or repair of the infrastructure within the Park.

It is still in its development stage but once this is fully operational this will provided information on the assets and provided information on dilapidation.

#### Tree Survey

The Council's Arboricultural section produced a Tree Survey with a comprehensive tree species list indicating the current condition of the tree stock. Recommendations from this survey will be used to shape the future development of the landscape features of the Garden and will be reflected in future in this management plan **(Appendix 6)**.

#### Parks and Greenspace User Survey CEC Visitor/User Survey

The Council's website gives users and visitors to the Garden an opportunity to register their comments on any park within the City. To encourage users to inform us what they think about the Garden generally.

#### Core Paths

The City of Edinburgh Council's Core Path Plan identifies a system of key routes for non-motorised access throughout the area of its authority. Core Paths are predominately designated on existing paths, cycle tracks, footways and any other routes that provide a network linking communities and places people want to go. These include local facilities, tourist attractions, parks and greenspace and places of work. Core paths should accommodate a variety of uses, walking, cycling, horse riding and disabled access where possible.

Core Paths in Parks will be managed by the Local Neighbourhood Teams (Road Services, Parks and Environmental Task Force) and in some cases the Countryside Ranger Service. The aspiration is to work towards a situation where each Core Path is:

- Safer
- Appropriately signposted and publicised
- Accessible
- Well maintained

The Core Path Plan supports Edinburgh's Outdoor Access Strategy and Local Transport Strategy and will appear in future Local Plans and on Ordnance Survey Maps to underline the strategic importance of this network of routes. The plan will be reviewed at an unspecified date in the future.

Edinburgh People Survey

Citizen survey

The Edinburgh People Survey (EPS) is the Council's biannual citizen survey which

- measures satisfaction with the Council and its services
- identifies areas for improvement
- gathers information about residents which is not available through other sources or at ward level.

Around 5,000 residents take part in the survey each year. The survey is done through

- face-to-face interviews
- in the street
- door to door.

To see what the people of Edinburgh think of our city, please download the 2018 EPS results below. These are available for the whole city as well as for each of the four regional localities. You can also view the raw data by locality or by electoral ward.

#### 4 Analysis

#### 4.0 Introduction

This Section follows the criteria headings within the 'Raising the Standard – The Green Flag Award Guidance Manual' (2004) and highlights how the parks aims and what has been undertaken to allow Lochend Park to fit into the Green Flag Award Standard.

#### 4.1 A Welcoming Place

b) To enhance the existing levels of landscape value and amenity value

c) To provide a place to enjoy formal and informal recreation in an attractive safe and secure environment and enhancing the health and wellbeing of local residents and visitors through active outdoor activity

i) To ensure the safety of user groups and staff working on site

There is good, safe and level access to Lochend Park. Within the Park, informal path winds Around the pond and along the top area and provides a relaxing walk, it provides safe access to the new housing scheme, with benches to rest and enjoy the surroundings. Although there is not signage directing people to the Park, within the park a number of interpretative signs provide a welcome and information for visitors.

The Park is freely accessible at all times and the attractive railings and entrances provide a number of routes into the park with views into the park and across to Arthur seat. The park attractive and simple design helps entice people to use it and it provides a quiet refuge from busy city life.

#### 4.2 Healthy, Safe & Secure

c) To provide a place to enjoy formal and informal recreation in an attractive safe and secure environment and enhancing the health and wellbeing of local residents and visitors through active outdoor activity

g) To ensure the site management works comply with legal obligations

#### i) To ensure the safety of user groups and staff working on site

The locality team have reorganised its grounds maintenance function so that there is better co ordination of activities and closer links can be made with the Community Parks Officer, Park Rangers and the Friends Group. This, along with local working, will help to give staff created ownership of the Park and assist the Friends Group in maintaining the Park to a high standard.

The Friends Group maintain a careful overview of the Park and highlight issues as soon as they arise. The topography of the park does limits the ability to install a wide range of facilities most to meet the needs are meet and for intense physical activity and sports is provided by the Lochend football team .

Views across and around the pond are maintained after consultation with locals highlighted this as an issue

The openness of the Garden promotes passive supervision by local residents.

The Park is visited from time to time by the Council's Environmental Wardens to monitor evidence of dog fouling and to promote responsible dog ownership. If necessary, the Environmental Wardens can enforce the Dog Fouling (Scotland) Act 2003.

The City of Edinburgh Council uses branding on vehicles and machinery and ensures that all staff wear clothing showing the council logo, to ensure they are readily identifiable to the public. Wherever possible and safe to do so, the public are encouraged to engage with the grounds maintenance staff to discuss issues with the Garden, its maintenance or management. Their friendly demeanour allows for a helpful first point of contact for park users.

#### 4.3 Clean & Well Maintained

h) To ensure that the maintenance programme is in place to reinforce the aims of the park and meet the visitor expectations

Generally the Park is maintained to a good standard but more can be done to raise the quality. Work to improve the path surface is a recent issue and other improvements to ground maintenance should be considered. Regular visits of the Park will be included in work programmes for the local Park Ranger and other site inspections carried out from time to time to monitor standards throughout the period of the Management Plan will check the progress of improvements.

Lochend Park has a maintenance programme, which establishes standards of cleanliness, infrastructure and ground maintenance. Information gathered from the public and Parks Quality Assessment surveys indicate that the standard of maintenance is considered to be of a good standard, the schedule of maintenance is highlighted within the maintenance plan (Appendix 3).

#### 4.4 Sustainability

f) To ensure policies, management practices and operations accord with sustainable principles

The use of pesticides within the park has been reduced to a minimum. Cultural removal of dominant species within the naturalised area is carried out by the Friends Group from time to time to maintain plant diversity.

Peat is not used in the Garden. Any green waste collected from the Garden is recycled by the Council. Where possible material is returned to the Garden as mulch. Any fallen large trees are sold, and smaller material is chipped into mulch.

The volumes of litter are comparatively small, on average 33% of litter from bins is recycled. Recycling bins have been investigated and due to cost and expected low usage have been ruled out.

The Garden contained a variety of tree stock and the Council has undertaken a tree hazard management assessment. Careful consideration will need to be given to how the tree stock is managed within the Garden as trees mature and how others are replaced if they are removed as a result of disease, decay or damage.

#### 4.5 Conservation & Heritage

a) To increase the biodiversity value of the site

e) To investigate and action ways of protecting and conserving all features of cultural significance and heritage value

The park contains two B listed buildings

The pumping station and the doocot

Both building must be sensitively maintained in accordance with the archaeological officer.

#### 4.6 Community Involvement

d) To engage with the local community and users' groups encouraging active participation in decision making and practical activities within the site and to use the park as a recreational resource

Community can get involved by being part of the Friends of Lochend park the group bis open to all.

The local primary school uses the park for formal and informal education. Some events are run by the Park Rangers service. These have proven to be very successful.

Around July the Park rangers run an events in several parks as part of love parks week. This is evolves other section of the council storytelling, badge making, pond dipping

The football team Lochend Academy use the all-weather surface at the south side of the park.

#### 4.7 Marketing

#### j) To actively promote the appropriate use of the park to all potential users

Information relating to Lochend Park is available via Community Council City of Edinburgh Council website and available via Smartphone app 'Edinburgh Outdoors'. The Council website also offers a good source of information about the park and its available infrastructure.

Edinburgh Outdoors: https://www.edinburghoutdoors.org.uk/featureDetails.php?id=79

Friends of Lochend park



#### 4.8 Management

f) To ensure policies, management practices and operations accord with sustainable principles

h) To ensure that the maintenance programme is in place to reinforce the aims of the park and meet the visitor expectations

d) To engage with the local community and users' groups encouraging active participation in decision making and practical activities within the site and to use the park as a recreational resource

The Council acknowledge the effort and support of the Friends of Lochend park and continues to work closely with them in partnership, to maintain and manage the park for the benefit of residents and visitors. This management plan aims to provide a clear framework for making informed and planned decisions about the future for the Park.

The adoption of the Green Flag Standard as a way of analysing the quality of parks and greenspace in Edinburgh and its self-assessment process has been useful in identifying strengths and weaknesses for sites and the impact of our current management processes. The process results in a detailed plan of improvements that are in the interests of the community and the Garden and worked towards by those involved in its management.

The Park is managed by Place, which is structured to deliver services for the needs and priorities of local communities in each of the twelve Neighbourhood Partnerships within the four locality areas. The Garden lies within the North East Locality Area.

Operational management of the Garden is undertaken by the Parks and Green spaces. The ground's maintenance is responsible for the day to day maintenance of the grass, flower beds and shrub areas. The servicing of the bins and litter collection throughout the park is undertaken by waste /street cleaning. Maintenance schedules indicating frequency and type of work carried out within the park can be found in the appendices of the management plan (Appendix 3).

The Council annually assess each park within Edinburgh which results in Parks Quality Assessments being produced. These assessments offer good information that is used to improve and develop the Garden, extractions these reports can be found in the appendices of the management plan (Appendix 4).

The Council recently undertook Landscape Quality Standards (LQS) assessments to measure the standard of all features either within a park or a greenspace. However, this assessment criteria is currently on hold as the Council seek to introduce new monitoring through our Confirm asset

management system. These assessments will be carried out monthly throughout the year and provide evidence on how well all stock features are maintained. Each feature is given a minimum standard indicator and each visit measure the assessment against this indicator.

This programme will ensure that standards are consistent, not only across the north east area but also across the city.

## 5 Development Action Plan

The objectives described in this section are developed from the results of the assessment and analysis section and are directly linked to the criteria aims described in the previous section.

Note: All costs are approximate. Key: LEM Local Environment Manager CPO **Community Parks Officer** PGM Parks & Greenspace Management PR Park Rangers FoHCG Friends of Hopetoun Crescent Garden Environmental Warden EW TFM Task Force Manager FM **Forestry Manager** 

# Aim 1: A Welcoming place

b) To enhance the existing levels of landscape value and amenity value

c)To provide a place to enjoy formal and informal recreation in an attractive safe and secure environment

i) To ensure the safety of user groups and staff working on site				
Objective Where and/or How Year Lead Cost				
To maintain good quality planting	Plant bulbs under trees	2021	st	

To explore areas for reduced grounds maintenance activity	Grass cutting to be relaxed cutting of edges of paths	onward	St and friends group	
		2017	St and friends group	
Clean wooden board walk	Power wash	Yearly	st	

Aim 2:	Healthy,	Safe, and	Secure.
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c)To provide a place to enjoy formal and informal recreation in an attractive safe and secure environment

g) To ensure the site management works comply with legal obligations

Where and/or How	Year	Lead	Cost
When necessary	2019 /21	st	
When required	Ongoing maintenance	st	
As necessary	Yearly or when required	St / park rangers	
Summer 2017	2017	st	Done
	When necessary When required As necessary	When necessary2019 /21When requiredOngoing maintenanceAs necessaryYearly or when required	When necessary2019 /21stWhen requiredOngoing maintenancestAs necessaryYearly or when rangers requiredSt / park rangers

Aim 3: Clean and Well Maintained						
h) To ensure that the maintenance programme	h) To ensure that the maintenance programme is in place to reinforce the aims of the park and meet the visitor expectations					
Objective	Objective Where and/or How Year Lead Cost					
Community clean ups     Summer     2 per year     Park						

		ran by Friends group	rangers and friends group
Dog fouling within park	Posters and signs to encourage best practice	2020/ 2025	Waste officer park rangers
Replace bins when required	2019 - 2020	Any	stand st

Aim 4: Sustainability				
Objective	and operations accord with sustainable principles Where and/or How	Year	Lead	Cost
Enhance bio diversity within the site	Relaxed grass cutting and planting	2020 onward	St and friends group	
Reduce chemical use	Channels and path edges	2020 onward	ST AND FRIEND S GROUP	
Increase colour within the area	Bulb planting under trees and in relaxed grass Introduction of woodland sp of plants	2020 to 2025	st	
Increase colour with through additional planting	This will be done using flower trees and coloured stems	2018	St and friends	

group
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Aim 5: Conservation and Heritage				
a) To increase the biodiversity value of the	site			
e) To investigate and action ways of protect	ting and conserving all features of cultural significance a	and heritage v	value	
e) To investigate and action ways of protection of protect	ting and conserving all features of cultural significance a Where and/or How	and heritage v Year	alue Lead	Cost
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		0		Cost
Objective	Where and/or How	Year	Lead	Cost

# Aim 6: Community Involvement

d) To engage with the local community and user's groups; to encourage their active participation in decision making and practical activities within the site and to use the park as a recreational resource

Objective	Where and/or How	Year	Lead	Cost
Maintain links with existing friends'	Whenever possible	2020	ST	
group		onward		
Agree to attend 2 meeting per year and	EACH YEAR	2020	ST	
attend AGM		ONWARD		

KEEP FRIENDS GROUP INFORMED OF ANY DEVELOPMENTS	WHEN OCCURRING	2020 ONWARD	ST / PARK RANGER	
			5	

Aim 7: Marketing				
) To actively promote the appropriate use of	f the park to all potential users	-		
Objective	Where and/or How	Year	Lead	Cost
UPDATE NOTICE BOARD	ONSIGHT	MONTHLY	ST /	
			PARK	
			RANGER	
			S	
USE OTHER SOCIAL MEDIA TO	WHEN REQUIRED	ANY TIME	PARK	
PROMOT EVENTS			RANGER	
			S/	
			SCOTT	
CONTACT LOCAL SHOOLS TO GET	Maintain close ties with local schools	ANY TIME	PARK	
THEM INVOLVED IN USING THE PARK	THERE IS NOW A GOOD ORKING		RANGER	
	<b>RELATIONSHIP WITH 2 LOCAL SCHOOLS</b>		S	

# Aim 8: Management

f) To ensure policies, management practices and operations accord with sustainable principles

h) To ensure that the maintenance programme is in place to reinforce the aims of the park and meet the visitor expectations

d) To engage with the local community and user's groups; to encourage their active participation in decision making and practical activities within the site and to use the park as a recreational resource

Objective	Where and/or How	Year	Lead	Cost
REGULAR CONTACT WITH FRIENDS	ONGOING	ANY TIME	ST	
AND RESIDENTS				
THIS MANAGEMENT PLAN TO BE	2020	2020	ST	
CIRCULATED TO FRIENDS GROUP FOR				
THERE INPUT				
CONTINUE TO WORK TO RETAIN	YEARLY	FROM	ST	
GREEN FLAG		2020		

#### 6 Finance

#### Revenue Funding

The provision of revenue funding for the Garden consists of work undertaken at present by the local Grounds Maintenance Task Force. The current maintenance schedule is based in part on the old Grounds Maintenance Contract that now serves as a guide to what should be undertaken.

There is no specific maintenance budget allocation for Hopetoun Crescent Garden so it is difficult to determine the exact costs associated with maintaining it. As there are no up to date rates for grounds maintenance an approximate cost cannot be calculated.

In addition, the Local Environment Manager has a budget for parks development and small scale repairs and maintenance improvements. The annual budget for parks and open space development including repairs and maintenance, for North Edinburgh is approximately £60,000.

It is recognised that the Friends of Hopetoun Crescent Garden devote their own time and resources, through grants, gifts and help in kind, to improve the Garden.

#### Capital Funding

The capital budget is administrated by the Parks and Greenspace Service. The budget is generally allocated in advance and the role of the developing management plans is for better planning of financial resources required so that they can be included in future bids. Wherever possible capital bids should be match funded and the Friends of Hopetoun Crescent Garden can assist with this.

#### <u>Grants</u>

The Parks and Greenspace team have a small grants fund that Friends groups can apply for, this is for small items or to assist in developing their group or the sites they have adopted. In addition the Friends of Hopetoun Crescent Garden have utilised third party grants from organisations to invest in the Garden

#### 7 Monitoring and Reviewing

The Parks Quality assessment framework is used to provide annual assessment of each park and will provide a report for Hopetoun Crescent Garden that can be used to support the monitoring process. These assessments will have been carried out by staff and friends members and are in general carried out by individuals who have no direct association with the park.

In conjunction to this the Parks User Survey results and comments assist with the monitoring of the park and are taken into consideration by the advisory group when annual reviews of the management plan are undertaken. A review of this management plan shall take place in March 2017 in readiness for the next application process for the Green Flag awards.

The Parks Quality Assessment framework is used to provide annual assessment of each park and will provide a report for Hopetoun Crescent Gardens that can be used to support the monitoring process. These assessments will have been carried out by staff and friends members and are in general carried out by individuals who have no direct association with the park.

In September 2016 the outcome for this park was that it scored in the Excellent (65-74%) category for Gardens with a score of 74% (**Appendix 4**). This ranks as the 15<sup>th</sup> best park in the Park List in quality order based in Parks Quality Scores (PQS), scoring higher than 18 other Green Flag sites in Edinburgh. It was ranked as the 3<sup>rd</sup> best park in the North East Locality area.

The Locality area is monitored monthly throughout the year to ensure that the landscape features within our parks and greenspaces are being maintained in an appropriate manner. These results are used to define the ongoing maintenance issues and allow the management team to improve any feature that falls below standard. This allows good maintenance not only of the horticultural features but the Garden furniture as well.

#### 8 Appendices

#### **Appendix One – Policies**

#### https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/council-planning-framework/council-business-plan-2017-2022

The council's business plan is built around 52 commitments that the council administration has pledged to deliver over the next five years. The plan sets out what we aim to do and how we intend to do it. Thais plan will inform our decision – making on how we use our resources. The principles and actions set out here will drive the way we reshape and redesign the way we deliver services and the way we work with communities and partners

# The North East locality plan 2017 - 2022http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/localityimprovementplans

The NE locality plan sets out the priorities for improving the area over the next 5 years with actions that will be carried out in the short, medium and long term, making use of our commitments to target our shared resources in the most effective way to tackle inequality.

Edinburgh Partnership Community Plan 2018 - 2028

Our new Community Plan shows the commitment of the Edinburgh Partnership to work together to focus on reducing poverty and inequality within the city and improve the quality of life for all. The plan identifies those issues that require sustained joint working to make a difference <a href="https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/downloads/file/23664/community-plan-2018-28">https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/downloads/file/23664/community-plan-2018-28</a>

#### Sustainable Edinburgh 2020 Edinburgh

www.edinburgh.gov.uk > directory-record > sustainable-edinburgh-2020

**Sustainable Edinburgh 2020** is the Council's Framework for the **sustainable** development of the city until **2020**. Our vision is that **"Edinburgh** in **2020** will be a low carbon, resource efficient city, delivering a resilient local economy and vibrant flourishing communities in a rich natural setting".

#### **Resilient Edinburgh Climate Change Adaptation Frame work**

The Resilient Edinburgh Climate Adaption Frame sets out Edinburgh's strategic approach to increasing resilience to the impact of climate change. Climate change adaptation provides a unique opportunity for the Council and its citywide partners to work together to ensure that Edinburgh continues to be a climate – resilient city.

https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/directory-record/1146210/resilient-edinburgh-climate-change-adaptation-framework

#### Edinburgh Open Space Strategy 202021 https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/downloads/file/22616/open-space-2021

The 2010 **Open Space Strategy** set out three standards to make sure that all communities in and around **Edinburgh** have access to quality **open space** in the following ways: Large Greenspaces – greater than 2 hectares; Local Greenspaces – greater than 500 square metres; and • Equipped children's play areas.

Edinburgh Biodiversity Action Plan 2019 – 2021 edinburgh.gov.uk/biodiversity

The Edinburgh Biodiversity Action Plan is an initiative to conserve and enhance the Capital's natural heritage. The term "biodiversity " encapsulates all that we mean by the health of our natural environment and ultimately the quality of our lives. To this end, the Action Plan puts forward an ambitious programme of carefully targeted actions to enrich the living habitats of Edinburgh and address the welfare of key plant and animal species. There are Habitat Actions Plans for coastal & marine, rock faces, uplands, wetland and watercourses, farmland, semi-natural grassland, urban habitats and woodland. There are Species Action Plans for water vole, badger, otter, daubenton's bat & pisitrelle bats, seed eating birds, roseate tern & common tern, swift, great crested newt, small pearl-bordered fritillary, juniper, maiden pink, rock white beam, sticky catchfly, adders tongue and waxcap fungi.

#### Edinburgh Parks Events manifesto <u>https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/park-activities-events/edinburgh-parks-events-manifesto-</u>

#### 1?documentId=12056&categoryId=20179

The Manifesto is intended to allow a strategic and proactive approach to the planning and managing of events within Edinburgh's parks and green spaces. It aims to establish a set of guidelines tailored to each individual park, which provide a framework on which a balanced and sustainable events programme can be achieved, whilst ensuring that the quality of the land is maintained to the highest standard possible.

#### Edinburgh council -business plan

https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/council-planning-framework/council-business-plan-2017-2022 Corporate Strategies & Policies Edinburgh Partnership Single Outcome Agreement 2012-17

The Single Outcome Agreement contains an integrated area profile of Edinburgh, providing context for the current issues facing the city, which include demographic changes and the impact of global economic downturn. It sets out the Edinburgh Partnership's local outcomes aligned to each of the 15 National Outcomes agreed in the concordat.

#### Appendix Two – Caring for Parks Guidelines

#### Management Rules for Public Parks and Greenspace (introduced 2013)

Undesirable behaviour in parks is managed through education, persuasion and regulation.

**Education,** at the proactive, preventative end of the spectrum is provided for parks by a number of agencies. Education Officers in Local Community Planning provide a comprehensive environmental information and education service to the Edinburgh community. The team works with schools, colleges and universities, voluntary organisations, special needs groups and the business community to provide programmes, including litter and waste.

The Countryside ranger service runs environmental education programmes for schools and a range of park issues such as litter, dog fouling, camping, fires and cycling, are often discussed. Countryside Rangers are also charged with the promotion of 'responsible behaviour' as defined in the Scottish Outdoor Access Code, the guidance on the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003. Talks to community groups, games and activities at events and special events such as 'Super Dog' and 'Dr Bike' are geared to communicating responsible behaviour in parks and greenspace.

The Park Ranger's role in providing an education service is developing through their work with local schools and providing walks for community groups. Park rangers can be effective in dealing with undesirable behaviours by targeting education on local issues at local people. This involves raising awareness of an issue through the neighbourhood media, contact with the community, signage and providing events and activities designed to draw in the target groups, persuade them to stop and prevent the undesirable behaviours.

#### Persuasion

Parks Rangers, Countryside Ranger and Volunteer Rangers are the principle people dealing with undesirable behaviour in parks. They have no powers to apprehend, fine or prosecute offenders and are often working on their own. They must therefore rely on gentle, friendly persuasion. This, for most behaviour, can be very effective but requires a good deal of skill. Training for rangers on how to deal effectively and safely with the public is therefore on-going. It is intended that this training will be extended to gardeners.

Signs, such as the 'Management Rules for Public Parks and Greenspace' are designed to persuade people by explaining the effect of certain behaviours. These signs are permanent in all parks. Temporary signage can deal with local issues and again they are prepared in an informative and persuasive style as is shown on the next page.

#### Regulation

When gentle persuasion fails, Council officers and rangers can resort to regulation, using Management Rules, Environmental Wardens and the Police.

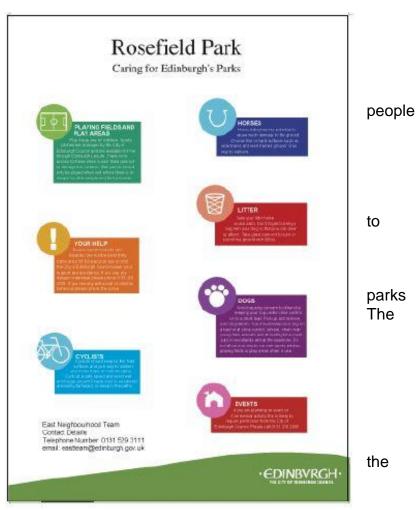
Management Rules, made under section 112 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, allow Council officers and rangers to expel and exclude from parks for minor offences. If the offending person does not leave they are committing a criminal offence. The threat of the offence is often enough to persuade people to stop. If they persist then it is a matter for the police.

Management Rules will bring the rules in-line with the Scottish Outdoor Access Code. The rules will also address current issues in parks and attempt provide a clearer interpretation to the public of the behaviours which are not allowed.

For people who will not be persuaded and for more serious behaviours in then Park officers and ranger and the public are encouraged to call the police. police will respond in a time that resources and priorities allow.

When campaigns are being run in parks to address certain issues then Environmental Wardens are often asked to assist. Wardens can help stop and persuade people and for issues of dog fouling and litter can issue fixed penalties.

The key tools for dealing with undesirable behaviour in parks are education, promotion of responsible behaviour, persuasion and as a last resort, regulation.



#### Appendix 3 – Maintenance Plan

	Item	Spec Ref	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
	Check and rectify firmness of staked trees, including adjusting ties	385			x							x		
	Watering of newly planted trees, first year	386					x	x	xx	xx	x			
3	Weeding	387				x	x	xx	xx	xx	xx	x		
4	Pruning and removal of epicormic growth	388			x									
5	Litter collection (also supplemented by Friends Group)	384	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
6	Removal of fly tipped material	383		x		x		x		x		x		x
7	Grass cutting – amenity areas	394			x	x	x	xx	xxx	xxx	xx	xx		
3	Grass cutting – wildflower areas	394										x		
)	Hand weeding to wildflower areas	395				x		x	x	x	x	x		
10	Uplift and remove any fallen branches	399		x								x		
1	Collection of leaves	000		x						x	x	x		

tippe

d material shall mean bulk items such as oil drums, domestic appliances, domestic and garden refuse and building materials or anything which is considered detrimental to the appearance of the site.

#### 384 Rubbish Clearance

Collect and remove to tip all extraneous rubbish, litter etc/ on site which is considered to be detrimental to the appearance of the site.

# Firming upAll plants shall be maintained in vertical wind firm conditions. Any plants loosened by wind or frost shall be firmed up.

#### 386 Watering

Undertake watering to trees as programmed in the Maintenance programme. Watering shall mean watering until the full depth of soil around the plant has just reached saturation. The minimum quantity applied shall be 80 litres per tree.

#### 387 Weed Control

The entire soil surface of cultivated planting areas and tree pits shall be maintained free of grass and weeds as bare soil

388 Pruning/Trimming Dead, dying or diseased wood on all plants shall be pruned back to a suitable outward-growing lateral shoot or bud.

#### 389 Stakes and Ties

Inspect, make good and re-firm all stakes and ties as necessary. Adjust and fix ties as necessary to make secure, allow for stem growth and prevent chaffing, re-position tie or replace to prevent chaffing.

#### 390 Replacements and establishments

The contractor shall be responsible for the replacement of all plants that die due to natural causes. Replacement plants shall be of the same species and specification as original plants. Replacement planting shall take place early in the following planting season.

#### 391 Vandalism Any death or damage to plant material caused by vandalism shall be reinstated

#### 394 Grass Cutting

Maintenance cuts to the grassed areas are to be carried out using appropriate equipment for the site conditions. Grass shall be cut to a height of 40mm and the arisings shall be removed off-site. Frequency of the cutting shall be as specified in the programme. Maintenance cuts to the wildflower area shall be undertaken as required to the number of occasions specified and all arisings are to be removed from site.

395 Hand weeding in Wildflower Area

Hand pulling of undesirable weed species will be undertaken throughout the season.

#### 399 Fallen Branches

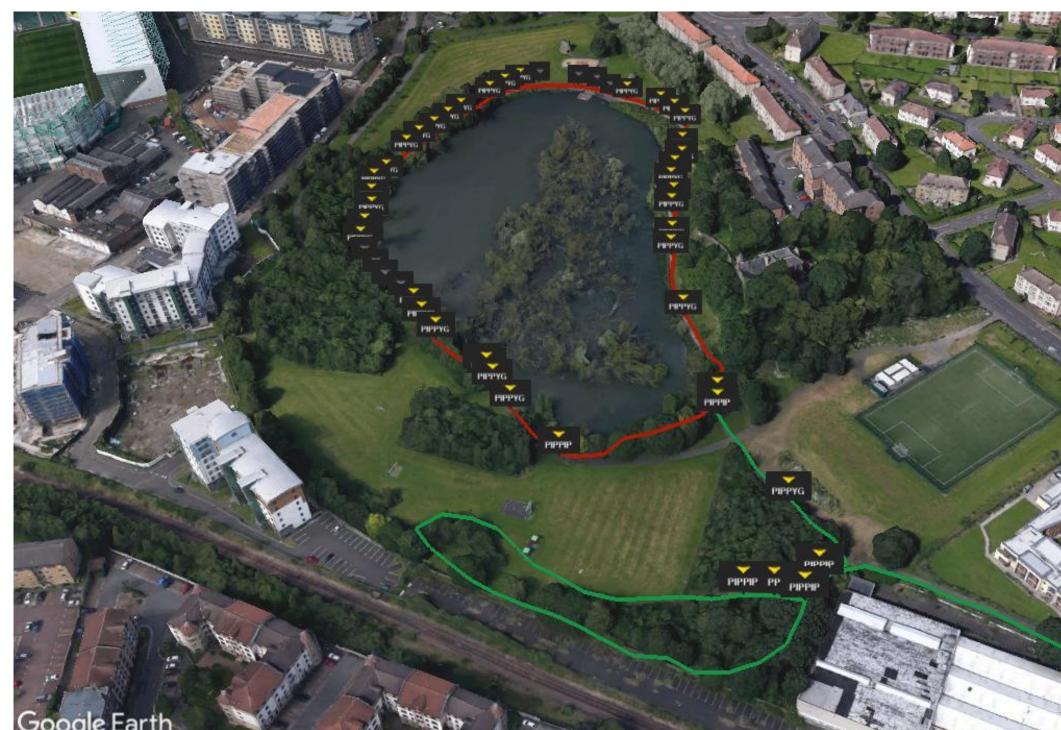
All fallen branches of any size should be uplifted and removed from the site at the earliest opportunity.

#### 000 Collection of Leaves

Leaves to be raked and removed once sufficient leaf fall has taken place. Follow up visits will be undertaken and all leaves to be taken to be composted.

### Appendix 4 bat survey

Circuit No	C Pip recording		-	Circuit start	Circuit duration	Known max duration	Circuit differenc	C Pip Adj recording	S Pip Adj recordin	Comments
1	5	13	18	20:20:58	00:14:14	00:20:05	1.41	7	18	
2	15	65	80	20:35:12	00:20:05	00:20:05	1	15	65	
unset wa	s at 20:02, first k	at activity was	a C Pip at 20:14,	12 minutes a	fter sunset.					
Valk out s	tarted at	20:55:17	and recorded 1	S Pip.						
70	Loche	nd Park - Bat	recordings p	er circuit (	of the Loch		Loche		ecordings per ci by circuit dura	ircuit of the Loch
50			/			70		auusteu		tion
40		_/				50				
30						40				
20	_/					30				
0	_					20				
0	1		2		3	0				
		C Pip	recordings	S Pip recording	5		1	C Din Adi reco	ordings 2 S Pip A	di recordings



#### Appendix 5 – Park Quality Assessment Results

Conservation & Heritage		Peat Use 10	Pesticides 7	Waste Minimisation	Environmental Sustainability 8	Sustainability	Equipment Maintenance 7	<b>Building &amp; Infrastructure Maint</b> 7	Tree Maintenance $\delta$	Grounds Maintenance 7	Litter & Waste Management	Clean & Well Maintained	Dog Fouling	Personal Security in Park	Safe Equipment & Facilities $\vartheta$	Appropriate Provision of Faciliti ${\mathscr S}$	Healthy, Safe & Secure	Equal Access	Signage 7	Good Safe Access	Welcoming 7	A Welcoming Place 20	Criteria Score Key $0 = N/A_i$ , $1 = Very P$	73% - Grade B	PQS: 74% Grade B	Lochend Park	Park Quality Assessm	Green THE C
1	0	0 10 No peat based bedding on site	Pesticide Harbicide is used on site i.e. along edges, in channels to control weed growth and/or in bed preparation but is monitored.	5 Council's litter recycling policy is adhered to. Where green waste is generated, some is re-used on site but most is removed for recycling elsewhere.	8 more grass has become living landscape . wild flower meadows provided colour during the summer		7 Mainly good condition.	7	All trees were looking well cared for and there was a good variety of species.	7 Meadow in preparation, beds okay and grass cut.	7 Evidence of recent community clean up and most of the bins had been serviced after a very good weekend of warm weather.		There was evidence of responsible dog owners on the visit.	7 The park was busy , mainly quite open and lit.	8 Equipment and facilities are generally well maintained.	8 There are formal sections of play-leisure equipment and lots of opportunities for informal play and picmcking.		8 On the vhole, the park is accessible, offering wide well surfaced path network, lots of seating opportunities. The entrances are generally accessible for all.	8 Excellent range of interpretation, management rules, notice boards and directional signs	7 There is ample public transport links, on street car parking, cycle links throughout and beyond park. Good walking opportunities in the park.	7 There are lots of entrances and these offer mainly nice views into park with lovely landscaped sections on one of the main entrances.	2018 2019 Strengths	Very Poor; 2-4 = Poor; 5-6 = Fair; 7 = Good; 8 = Very		Β	Classification:	Assessment Result 2019 A	CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL PARKS & GREENSPACE
						bins	Some bins are in poor condition, bits of graffith on	Some railings were in need of a paint and refresh. The water level was low, weather has been dry so there was no flooding issue at this time of visit.	One old post requiring to be removed at north section.	Some strimming required around pond fence lines and obstacles.	One bin had large accumulations of litter and had not been serviced.		Unfortunately there was lots of dog fouling along the east/path side of pond.	Some sections on east side may be a little dark and hidden in the quieter months	Top up bark in play area	Keep the maintenance up on the site facilities.		One or two steep sections of paths may benefit from hand rails.	A meadow signs is outdated, the perspex could be renewed in the notice boards.	One or two bits of litter let the meadow entrance down.	The meadow entrance was in progress and would have benefitted from dead vegetation being strimmed.	Weaknesses / Recommendations	Very Good, 9 = Excellent, 10 = Exceptional		Edin Std Met: Yes	tion: Community Park	Assessment Date: 13 May 2019 LeadAssessor: Craig Dunlop	VCIL •EDINBVRGH•

GH.



#### THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL . PARKS & GREENSPACE THE CITY OF EDIMBURGH COUNCIL

Park Qual	ity Assess	nent	Result 2019	Assessment Date: 13 May 2019 LeadAssessor: Craig Dunlop							
Lochend Parl	k		Classifi	cation: Community Park							
PQS: 74%	Grade - Grade B - Yes	B		Edin Std Met: Yes							
Criteria Score Key (	0 = N/A; I = Very	Poor; 2	4 = Poor; 5-6 = Fair; 7 = Good; 8 = Ve	ry Good; 9 = Excellent; 10 = Exceptional							
Conservation Fau	na & Flora	8 8	Water features, woodland, meadows and naturalised sections of park were well designed. There were bird boxes and lots of natural habitat	A bit of meadow interpretation looked out of location?							
Conservation Lan	dscape	5 7	the pond is a major feature for both wild life and clean water supply for Leith								
Conservation Buil	dings	8 8	The dovecot was really good and had a bit of history attached, most of the walls etc were all in reasonable condition	Keep up the maintenance							
Community Involve	ment										
Community Involv	rement	7 8	friends group are active and have several working day in the park local school uses park and does litter picks and other events	8							
Community Provi	sion	6 6	there is an active friends group and local school that use the park	]							
Marketing & Promo	otion										
Marketing & Pro	notion	8	The site is advertised on the Council website and Edinburgh Outdoors. Notice boards in park is used to publicise the site friends group has active site								
Information Provi	sion	8	Lots of information on the boards and educational information throughout the site	Some of the signage needs a little bit of TLC							
Educ. & Interpret	ative Provision	8 9	For a community park the level of information is very educational and comprehensive.	There will be contact numbers needing to be updated.							
Management											
Management Plan	Implementation	0 0									
<b>OverallComments</b>	Lovely park with a v fouling need to be ve		feel, the site is probably quite challenging at times due nanaged.	to the busy nearby housing areas. Litter & dog							
Recommendations	The site demands close patrols from environmental wardens.										
	Remove any easy gra	iffiti									
	Keep entrances clear of litter.										

## Friends group

#### FOLP AGM 7:30pm 21/11/2019 Persevere

**Present:** Archie Campbell, Fiona Brown, Pam Baker, Graham Checkley, Ailsa Laing, Brendan Pollitt. (8:10pm Caroline Kaye, Jimmy Urquart from Lochend Football Academy popped in) **Apologies:** Richard Wilkins

Fi reported a flyposted sign she'd removed from the tardis. She will contact the company to let them know they can collect the sign from Persevere.

Chairs Report - Ailsa Laing

Bat Walk, Litter pick, Floating islands in place on Loch

#### Hermitage Park Primary

- P1/2 kids seen in hiviz in the park recently! New contact at school is Nicola Binnie. Is it just infants, or whole school?

- What resources are available to teachers? Bit of chat about this. Graham noted Holyrood Pk Ed Centre has educational resource packs written by the Rangers for teachers to use in their absence. Graham wondered if we had similar? Perhaps get a copy for Lochend? Discussion of park podcast from 5-6 yrs back...is it available? Can we link to fb page? Is it time to suggest school make a new one? - Graham suggested making Google map with points/walk on it using QR code displayed in Park, Archie to provide historical information to Graham who will work on this.

#### Litter

Not too bad? Arch/Fi noted fire extinguishers still in the Loch at the castle path side. Graham has seen teens litter picking recently. Bren replied to contact (Caroline) from Lochend Football Academy suggesting working together/litter picking, giving his mobile number. Other groups are also litter picking. Ailsa noted that the long grass at the top of the park had been cut leaving lots of litter. It was all cleared up by the weekend.Graham noticed a group of teenage children litter picking a few weeks ago. Community Service squad have not been as regularly active. Fewer but larger litter bins provided now. Spring litter pick to go ahead again

#### Bat Walk/ bat roosts and building development -

Bat walks were a super success, repeat next year spring and/or Autumn. The two Grahams!!

The most recent planning application for the adjacent ex Tai chi centre and derelict building was refused. It contained a bat inspection report which concluded no roosting bats in the buildings. A tree survey report including adjacent trees within the park was also part of the application with plans to fell several trees.

The 2019 bat surveys by Graham Checkley illustrated the importance of the loch as a locally important dark space for bat feeding. They also showed the use of the large trees by the ex Tai Chi centre by feeding bats. The well directed floodlighting at the Lochend Football Academy does not appear to be causing any problems.

**Management Plan** - Is currently being reviewed by Parks Officer Scott Thompson. We will be sent the draft to add our input. Graham has already provided his bat surveys to Scott for inclusion.

**Mammals** - chat about use of a trail camera (Gr has one) or sticky patches which collect fur samples. Graeme Wilson can do small mammals talk. Fi has seen foxes and badgers on the adjacent cycle path, she will check for tracks/ srcatching marks and spraints in the park.

Lochend Football Academy - Caroline (parent and treasurer) and Jimmy (not sure of role, but he's been there from the start 15 years ago, he changed the original spec from 11-a-side turf pitch to its present smaller size and astro turf finish for all weather play) Plans to resurface 8 year old Council funded Astro turf pitch soon at a cost of ~£75k. Looking to seek lottery matched funding grant. CEC Sean Webster -Lifelong Learning and Development Officer has been helping them with their proposal/ funding streams. Also hoping to fence off a wee area by Portacabin to provide extra areas for training, expanding sessions to twice a week, 1 and 1.5 hours per child. Longer-term dream to add two more wee enclosures nearer road attached to main area. FOLP would like grass cuttng regime relaxed to encourage invertebrates.

Light in the park adjacent to the pitch not in use but has been tested working. They would like to use this and wire it into the portakabin. We agreed that this light wouldn't impact on dark areas of the park used by wildlife. They currently just use the light nearest the road, some chat about whether others would be useful, or would disturb wildlife, Ailsa explained that it's a conscious decision to keep the park unlit at night to preserve wildlife habitat.

Jimmy noted a vast reduction in rats since CEC mowed the strip of land between the pitch and road, finding rat harbourage/ burrows in the banking beside the new bin

Caroline suggests joint litterpick as can use their toilets etc, refreshments after.

Use of their toilets could be v useful! LFA looking to get a defibrillator installed through Scottish Ambulance Service, Ricky is their contact. It would be part of an Edinburgh wide network, located outside so can be accessed via a code. Needs power to regulate temperature as outdoor unit which can be provided by the football club. Nearest one is at the Hub, Restalrig Road South. Jimmy suggested St Ninian's might get involved, he has a contact there. Caroline has been speaking to Lauren, the Active School coordindator for the Holyrood Cluster, as they are looking to to offer free sessions/ trials to local school children. Also looking to start up a walking football session for older people in April, linking into CECs Ageing Well programme Caroline mentioned the '10 Villages Community Grant 2019', possibly old neighbourhood partnership grant funding?

Possible joint Litterpick in April? Possible use of toilets with school visits??? lochendfa@outlook.com is Caroline's contact.

Treasurer/Finance - Fiona Brown

Fiona circulated a copy of the account transactions for this year

Not spent much, new Tardis keys and ladder.

Graham wonders about us buying a couple of Schwegler bat boxes (~£35 each) he will circulate a link.

Office Bearers - Aisla Chair, Richard vice Chair, Fi Treasurer. Pam/ Bren - Secretary

Next Meet tba Jan/Feb

Lochend Park Management Plan 2020 - 2025