

Enjoy watching other using the park (from our window)
Enjoying fresh air
Play games
Three generations of our family have used the park and its facilities – it is the only local park in the area
Jogging round the park
Putting
Looking at the flora and fauna
Bird watch
Picking berries and fruit
Wildlife support
I used to use the putting
Eat my lunch
Ride / cycle around
Just walking. An interesting detour to Old Aberdeen – a peaceful place. Good to see young people playing.

WHAT NEW FACILITIES IN THE GROUNDS WOULD YOU OR YOUR FAMILY USE?

	0	1	2	3	4	5	
Barbecue area	24	10	4	8	3	9	87
5-a-side football field	23	6	4	8	2	10	88
Skateboard park	25	2	6	5	5	8	69
BMX track	34	4	6	6	1	6	64
Tennis - with nets again	14	3	11	17	8	13	141
Return of the bowling green	19	5	10	16	8	13	138
Allotments	26	2	2	7	9	20	127
Community vegetable garden	23	2	3	12	8	22	154
Woodland	15	3	4	14	7	30	203
Lots of open grass and benches	7	2	4	12	13	36	226
Basketball	24	4	6	14	5	7	93
Putting green	24	12	8	12	9	15	139
A larger children's play area	13	4	6	10	7	28	186

Other comments:

Visiting coffee stall - weekends - every weekend! Poetry reading - weather permitting - a few times a year.

Most of these ideas are good, but could only work with the presence of either adult supervision, a park keeper or some kind of regular security patrol. You can't have such a large area of land in the middle of a city without one of these, otherwise gangs of unruly youths and vandals will take control. This is exactly what has happened since Christmas with the withdrawal of the park keeper in the pavilion.

Flat (levelled) area for practicing tai-chi.

A roller rink would be nice.

The open grassland/ then wooded/ treed area beyond my back garden was a strong influence in buying this property. It was an area of calm and apparent seclusion in the centre of the busy city. I still enjoy the birdsong every morning. I would like to see it remain as an oasis of calm. In the light of Aberdeen's Fit for the Future project I cannot understand the city council's actions at all - but then that is nothing new! < ...>

What about the pensioners exercise area (keep fit equipment) - (4) There is not a proper football area the current grass area is on to much of a hill --- (2)
How about using the area to develop a good community Nursery. With the land around, and the existing building it would be a great addition to the community, and help with local employment, and allow parents to work (5) The woodland is a great idea. The whole area could be made into a Biodiversity Garden. With paths for dog walkers and pram pushers. But it will need some maintenance. Not just left for vandals (5)
more play equipment.
I am in favour of making the park into as big a green space and play area as possible. I would walk there weekly. 5
I think it is essential to retain and enlarge the play area and at all costs retain the avenue of flowering cherry which is absolutely beautiful in early spring. I also think it important that the area is not lost to housing which will would in all probability end up a glorified student hall of residence. we need to retain the facility of the area is to attract new families to the area. if we lose the park the entire area will end up a student ghetto which would be a disaster for the area.
It would be good for the community and help to keep out the youths who are turning the park into a slum area, especially the pavilion. I expect this will be broken into and used as a drug meeting place. Also the bowling greens are being used as a football pitch as there is no park attendant looking after the park.
Allotments to locals - especially with so few gardens available in the area.
I think that the whole community could develop this park ! Its in a lovely area which I think we need some community spirit now a days people don't even speak to their neighbours with a community park that people can meet other people !
If the tennis courts were upgraded surely the local people would use them and if not the students probably would. (3) A basketball area similar to those in Bridge of Don would be great for kids. ((3) my child's friends)
Although I no longer live in the area at present I feel that the loss of the park would be detrimental to the area - yet another loss of green play/open area - sadly the area is frequented by druggies/ drunks which I feel put a lot of folk off also the access down the wee path on Sunnybank is not always a safe place to walk even in daytime. OACC published the history of the park in an early newsletter. I would hate it to be used as yet another unsuitable development.
Nature reserve
Wildlife garden
Wildlife area and pond
Promote Gibberie Wallie to tourists
Fruit trees
Hall for keep fit nights
I believe that the vegetables would be stolen (<i>ref allotments or veg garden</i>)
Duck pond in the bit that floods
Official graffiti wall
Bands in summer (outside pavilion)
Youth festival venue
More climbing frames and a tyre swing
Pulling a community together
Multifunction play area
Keep the (Gibberie Wallie) tourist attraction
Better and more paths
Permaculture garden
Orchard (apples, plums, peaches etc.)
Community orchard and putting green
Park area (flower beds etc.). Fenced in dog training area. City farm.

WHAT PAVILION FACILITIES WOULD YOU OR YOUR FAMILY USE?

	0	1	2	3	4	5	
Cafe	5	2	7	14	17	29	203
Toilets	5	8	10	9	19	34	225
Changing facilities	25	3	4	8	6	9	80
Games room - snooker, pool, darts, table tennis	14	3	7	9	6	14	114
Club room - bridge, whist, mums and toddlers, gardening	16	1	7	8	11	16	119
Other comments:							
The idea of a cafe or tea room is excellent - in fact this would be a good business opportunity. It would solve many of the problems that have been caused by the withdrawal of the park keeper. However, the council must decided to use or demolish this building, local residents are fed up of hearing gangs of vandals attempting to break into it. The condition of the building and surrounding area is an utter disgrace.							
Large hall for dances (country dancing). Hall could also be used for tai-chi.							
Community meetings - e.g. community council, keeping residents informed of what is going on, used by community police and wardens, etc. I'm sure many more ideas would result from a 'brainstorming' session. As ever, everything is done at the last minute and therefore hurriedly. One always thinks of things after the event. Why not for once take time?							
I would enjoy a community art space where local artists could exhibit work. Perhaps this could be incorporated into the cafe. Also, a club room could provide a space for workshops to be organized and a place for community groups to meet. A board where community groups could advertise events or information might also be a good idea.							
Nursery (5) Adult learning							
I would love a cafe in the pavilion. 5							
if the play park is made attractive enough this will bring lots of children and parents who may then make use of some of the other facilities available and establish patterns of use. the pavilion would cost a lot to refurbish, maintain and staff. very large numbers of people would have to make use of this facility on a regular basis to make it work. The area is very popular with dog walkers and a designated dog walk path with bins or dog toilets pits would be well used.							
A type of room that older people can go to relax and have a cup of coffee with their friends which they will meet !							
Meeting room							
Information / history room							
Just the way it was – me, my children and my grandchildren all use the area							
Football rental							
I am new to the area. I did not know about all these facilities							
Art gallery							
Gift shop tea room							
Resident artist in summer							
Venue for Word (festival)							
'Letts' club, Cycling tuition, Creative writing							
Art projects							
Youth club							
Community charity shop							

Presently, the park is only accessible from Sunnybank Road and from Sunnyside Road. Would you be more likely to use the park if there was better access routes? e.g. from the north? Please give details:

The Park definitely needs access from the north/east. A proper entrance through the university grounds (past the snow kirk) would be great. Also there is a (dirty) path between the park and the university that could easily be upgraded to allow access through towards Bedford Road.
Access is not very good at present so this would be a positive move.
Absolutely not, unless the security problem is solved.
No, the access is not a problem.
Better access might result in greater use by undesirable elements. Leave it be.
If more access was given then it would just become a shortcut and encourage more vandalism and nuisance and more escape routes from the police. The lane at the rear of the park could do with a proper surface and the bushes trimmed The current trees/bushes overgrow onto the pavement and could do with trimming the same applies to the trees that line the road to the pavilion
Could possibly widen the access, but the old Tennis courts provide ample parking.
yes.
Access is fine as it is, but I realise that if more families were to be attracted to the park, parking would be an issue.
Yes and perhaps from University area.
If there was tarmac on the lane and the bushes cut back more frequently I would use it more often but I don't think access is possible from elsewhere without ruining some of the surrounding area.
How many families in the area are aware of the park's existence –e.g. do Primrose hill Rockinghorse/Sunnybank nurseries ever use the park?
My fantasy would be that the path and gate from Sunnyside Terrace could be restored and renovated and the wooded area at the north of the park opened up and maintained. I would love to see the park restored to the state it would be been in originally when the council could afford a more enlightened and far-sighted approach to providing for the people. I think it is vital the whole park be kept as a green space to allow biodiversity and provide a place for recreation and relaxation for local residents without the need to put down more tarmac. I believe the green areas, vegetation and hedges etc need to be maintained and appreciated as they are a park. If funding/motivation were available, it would be great to have the wild area below the medical centre tidied up to what it was a few years ago before the path though the raspberries became completely overgrown and the area between the raspberries and the halls used as a dump. This piece of land is wonderful biodiversity, great dog-walking and used to provide beautiful views of t park before it deteriorated. A one day work party would be enough to tidy it up. It has wonderful potential for gardening / environmental projects if the interest was there.
Doesn't effect me but think it would be beneficial to have more entrances
Yes I wish I could cut through to the park from College Bounds without having to make such a circle
No, this would open access for other purposes
No!. Path form Hermitage Avenue to Sunnyside Road badly needs clearing and tidying up.
There used to be an entrance on Sunnyside Terrace.
Often enjoy walks (circular) but would like to see the footpath leading from Sunnyside Avenue – Hermitage Avenue cleared up
No. I don't want any more traffic in the area of cars etc.
Access for college bounds
Our green areas and leisure facilities are precious to the community and should not be lost
If there was better parking facilities in the park (especially if charges are to be made locally)
Access from Crombie Hall
We need a new proper access road into the park with car parking so that people can use the facilities on offer – get better signs

Yes, because the park needs to be safe. You can also add safety cameras
Please keep park as a green space - this is the whole area, not just a part of it.
Please keep all of Sunnybank Park – it is a beautiful green area – please return it to the environment from Asset Management
Yes, better paths are vital
I come in from the Hermitage Avenue side – the (recent) flood has prevented that – blocked drainage into Powis Burn.
The access is OK for me but it may be beneficial for others to improve the access from other sides of the park
Rename it Sunnybank Park and put up better signs
The Sunnyside road access needs to be wider

Issues that interest you:

I am interested in involving a teenage RSPB group to support, encourage wildlife: - e.g. bird feeders, nest boxes, fruit tree planting, wildflower meadow. Am in touch with < ... > - Ranger – very keen.
I am concerned about the vandalism – which St Mach Academy pupils are contributing to. I wonder if we could foster contracts with the school – to encourage interaction between the community and pupils? I have spoken to <teacher> who is in charge of the eco-group – she would be keen to see the young people developing a positive interest in the area. I am bringing in the RSPB teenage group on the 19 th Sept to do an informal survey of the wildlife with NESBREC (North East Biological Recording). Green Space would be supportive for any construction work – fence building, tree planting, resurfacing (board walk on lane?) etc.
There's not enough sports facilities as it is in Aberdeen especially tennis courts – so update them ASAP!
The thick trees and brush around the children's play area is a concern.
Children's play areas are limited. We need to retain for children accessing safe and stimulating environments.
I think it has to be appreciated that many people from around an extended wider area also use the park, on a very regular basis, at all times of the year. We stay opposite the park and over many years of living in the area,.... we have seen it in constant use. Children use it daily, winter and summer, for playing in their own time but also whilst travelling to and from school. Sunnybank School uses the park fairly often to give children extra space and scope to run and play games. St Machar children use it daily in their lunch breaks and after school. The bowling greens have <u>always</u> been busy over the summer months. It was a particular sadness to see this facility closed down this year, especially as we are approaching the stage we would have been able to join in and play regularly. The tennis courts and the putting greens have had equally busy times over the years. These need to be reinstated to encourage healthy outdoor pursuits for the many young people, locals and visitors. The closure of these facilities have deprived those who cannot drive to other areas, a local facility. We understand that on reading the 'Aberdeen Parks and Green Space Strategy' booklet issued by Aberdeen City Council that "the small local parks are the lungs of a community and should be retained at all cost" ! Our park is a focal point, a community meeting place and has been used over many generations of family. Please consider this for generations to come and arrive at a sensible future for all of us old and young alike, locals and incoming people to benefit from.
Better road crossing points for pedestrians, water fountains in the play area.
Should Sunnybank Park close, definitely not. How much has the council recently spent on getting the children's area replaced? Typical council, replace the equipment then close the

park.

I have stayed in Sunnyside Road for < ..> years and my children practically lived in the park. Now with no children at home, I have many friends come and visit with grand children and we always have a walk up to the park for them to play in. The new equipment is super and with loots of grass for the older ones to play in.

I was disappointed to hear and see that the bowling green was closed, something that again has been used for many years by different clubs – then all of a sudden close it along with other bowling greens in the city.

What is the park going to be used for, lie empty for months / years?

Are houses going to be built there, which of course will add traffic to the street which is presently a 'race track'. We are about to get 'par and display' meters installed so, where will the extra traffic go?

Before going ahead with any closure of the park – THINK.

The area around the park and bowling greens are important to me because of the large amount of wildlife especially birds that live there. I think the land would be best used as a wildlife garden. Large numbers of birds already use the area, the hawthorn hedge on the lane from Sunnybank Rd is alive with sparrows, chaffinch, dunnock and is regularly patrolled by sparrowhawks. The fruit trees (rowan and plum) are great for winter visitors such as waxwing, field fare and redwing while the willow trees screening the houses are ideal for smaller birds such as wrens, blue tits, great tits, coal tits, long tailed tits, chiff-chaff, greenfinch and just sometimes bullfinch.

At a time when every piece of spare land is being built on, climate change is on the news every night and biodiversity is the word of the moment its important to encourage wildlife wherever possible.

A wildlife garden would be a great place for people to relax and de-stress, for children to learn about birds and animals and for the community in general to appreciate the beauty of nature.

<> The green was closed due to inaccurate information gathered by the council. The reason given was that it was not used enough. Considering that the following clubs used ST Machar: Wednesday Ladies, Tuesday Ladies, Health Club, Churches league, St Marys Church, and sometimes Silver City. At various times there were competitions. If all these clubs used the rinks one per week then that would be $7 \times 48 = 265$ players and some of them used two greens. Unfortunately all paying persons were not given receipts, these were in the main given to players paying in cash and not to players using passes or access to leisure. This gave a false reading. If the figure had been taken properly the result would have shown different figures. St Machar seemed to be used more than some other greens, at the meeting the question was asked was St Machar closed for development and we were told it was not. < ... >

Holding puppy training classes in the dog training area

I find this area friendly and suitable for my needs with access to bus services, good local shops, an interesting mix of people from students to my age group of late seventies. One snag is noisy traffic avoiding traffic lights at top of George St.

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