



# THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL PARKS & GREENSPACE



## Park Quality Assessment Result 2021

Assessment Date: 18 May 2021

**Hunter's Hall Park (Jack Kane Centre)**

**Classification:** City Park

**PQS: 68%**

**Grade C**

**Edinburgh Minimum Std Met Yes**

Criteria Score Key: 0 = N/A; 1 = Very Poor; 2-4 = Poor; 5-6 = Fair; 7 = Good; 8 = Very Good; 9 = Excellent; 10 = Exceptional

### 2021 Comments

#### A Welcoming Place

##### Welcoming

**7** **Strengths:** Walled entrance and roadway into the park inviting Avenue of trees and widely planted copse of chestnuts appealing Managed relaxed grass cutting well defined Noticeboard available and history of site / interpretation Inviting site features including open grassland, relaxed grass, specimen trees, woodland boundaries, burn corridor, sports facilities, species rich grass near burn corridor and small managed meadows.

**Weaknesses / Recommendations:** Lacking in CEC branded thresholds / contact details Woodland boundary paths has some potholes Noticeboard is damaged and would benefit from some maintenance / repair Some maintenance required on planted trees in area / replacement of damaged specimen / replanting leaning new trees Woodland margin walks let down by excessive littering and burnt out vehicle detritus / fly tipping

##### Good Safe Access

**6** **Strengths:** Good public transport and pedestrian links to main park entrance. Car parking available at JKC. Cycling links on road and dusted paths available to the site and beyond. Entrance and main park area to front of JKC reasonably tidy and litter free.

**Weaknesses / Recommendations:** Un-official entrance off Wisp road very off putting - vandalised signage, heavily littered, over vegetated, fly tipping. Noticeboard requires maintenance and updated information. Site let down by woodland margin routes - pot holes, litter, fly tipping.

##### Signage

**5** **Strengths:** Noticeboard and interpretation panel present.

**Weaknesses / Recommendations:** Noticeboard requires maintenance and updated information. Threshold management rules not very welcoming. Not much information or directional assistance with wider site walks (woodland margin walk) or links through the park to offsite locations. Consider some directional signage for active travel link routes.

##### Equal Access

**6** **Strengths:** Dropped kerbs and surfaced paths provide reasonable access.

**Weaknesses / Recommendations:** Woodland walks and secondary routes might benefit from maintenance and improvement.

#### Healthy, Safe & Secure

##### Appropriate Provision of Facilities

**7** **Strengths:** Open greenspace with features of interest, play park facilities, sports facilities, variety of routes & paths and site features.

**Weaknesses / Recommendations:** Lack of seating in main park area to front of JKC. No bins at SKELF pump track so heavily littered. Bins in poor condition. Require replacement. Provision is good but let down by some maintenance issues.

##### Safe Equipment & Facilities

**6** **Strengths:** Open greenspace with features of interest, play park facilities, sports facilities, variety of routes & paths and site features.

**Weaknesses / Recommendations:** Play equipment looks pretty worn out. No bins at SKELF pump track so heavily littered. Bins in poor condition. Require replacement. Woodland paths pot holes and encroaching vegetation. Provision is good but let down by some maintenance issues.

##### Personal Security in Park

**7** **Strengths:** Open and inviting site mostly to front of JKC. Well lit road / driveway to sports centre.

**Weaknesses / Recommendations:** Woodland walks and rear of JKC may lead to concern over personal safety in non overlooked and quiet area with little surfaced paths or routes out of the site. Directional signage for rear of JKC site near footbridges to link communities or active travel route beyond JKC might encourage visitors to explore further / beyond the site.

##### Dog Fouling

**7** **Strengths:** Not a lot of fouling seen. Dogs on site all under control and no nuisance behaviour. Bins available at entrances.

**Weaknesses / Recommendations:** Consider putting signage up for responsible walking of dogs and enforcement stickers / notices.

#### Clean & Well Maintained

##### Litter & Waste Management

**4** **Strengths:** Main grassed areas and play area of the park reasonably litter free.

**Weaknesses / Recommendations:** Heavily littered in woodland boundary paths & fly tipping and fires. Heavily littered at Wisp entrance. Lots of litter next to SKELF type pump track - no bin nearby. Lots of litter near to the football pitches.



# THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL PARKS & GREENSPACE



## Park Quality Assessment Result 2021

Assessment Date: 18 May 2021

**Hunter's Hall Park (Jack Kane Centre)**

**Classification:** City Park

**PQS: 68% Grade C Edinburgh Minimum Std Met Yes**

Criteria Score Key: 0 = N/A; 1 = Very Poor; 2-4 = Poor; 5-6 = Fair; 7 = Good; 8 = Very Good; 9 = Excellent; 10 = Exceptional

### 2021 Comments

#### Grounds Maintenance

8

**Strengths:** Clearly defined cutting arrangements. Amenity areas and relaxed grass areas well maintained. Sports pitches in good condition. Boundary margins near Niddrie Burn rich with native herbaceous plants. Prepared meadow areas establishing well.

**Weaknesses / Recommendations:** Consider cutting back encroaching vegetation on woodland walk.

#### Tree Maintenance

8

**Strengths:** Nice mixture of policy planting, specimen feature copse of horse chestnut, avenue of cherry leading into JKC from main entrance. Woodland margin reasonable condition.

**Weaknesses / Recommendations:** Horse chestnut planting in front of JKC requires strapping to be removed - damaging tree stems. In front of JKC. Some broken trees and bark damaged trees to be removed / replaced. In front of JKC. Leaning and poorly establishing new trees to be replanted. Consider cutting back encroaching vegetation and crown lift woodland walk. Some mature trees with basal cavities.

#### Building & Infrastructure Maint.

7

**Strengths:** Paths all good condition. Entrance walls and infrastructure all in fair condition.

**Weaknesses / Recommendations:** Some graffiti on rear of JKC near SKELF. Woodland walk path could receive some improvement to potholes. Broken section of wall near Wisp visible from woodland walk.

#### Equipment Maintenance

6

**Strengths:** Bins and seats on site but some maintenance required.

**Weaknesses / Recommendations:** Noticeboard requires maintenance. Bins burnt out across site - require replacement or refurbishment. SKELF seating vandalised, maintenance required.

### Sustainability

#### Managing Impact on Environment

7

**Strengths:** All current Council policies regarding environmental sustainability are being adhered to in the park.

**Weaknesses / Recommendations:** None recorded.

#### Waste Minimisation

6

**Strengths:** Councils litter recycling policy is adhered to Where green waste is generated some is reused on site litter is sent for recycling

**Weaknesses / Recommendations:** None recorded.

#### Chemical Use

9

**Strengths:** decision taken not to use herbicides within the parks by central team

**Weaknesses / Recommendations:** None recorded.

#### Peat Use

10

**Strengths:** No peat based bedding on site

**Weaknesses / Recommendations:** None recorded.

#### Climate Change Adaptation

8

**Strengths:** the creation of an orchard to the front of the site under planted with wild flowers, mature trees and replanting of existing woodlands. Creation of grassland meadow along burn and unused pitch area

**Weaknesses / Recommendations:** None recorded.

### Conservation & Heritage

#### Natural features, flora & fauna

8

**Strengths:** Good range of natural features in good condition. Woodland margins valuable habitat. Clearly defined cutting arrangements. Amenity areas and relaxed grass areas well maintained. Boundary margins near Niddrie Burn rich with native herbaceous plants. Prepared meadow areas establishing well.

**Weaknesses / Recommendations:** Consider cutting back encroaching vegetation on woodland walk.

#### Conservation Landscape

8

**Strengths:** the holly walk has been retained and the paths within have been upgraded. Planting along the burn which has been returned to its original course. Creation of an orchard fits well with the on going health option of the park with the sports centre.

**Weaknesses / Recommendations:** None recorded.

#### Conservation Buildings

0

Not applicable



# THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL PARKS & GREENSPACE



## Park Quality Assessment Result 2021

Assessment Date: 18 May 2021

**Hunter's Hall Park (Jack Kane Centre)**

**Classification:** City Park

**PQS: 68%      Grade C      Edinburgh Minimum Std Met Yes**

Criteria Score Key: 0 = N/A; 1 = Very Poor; 2-4 = Poor; 5-6 = Fair; 7 = Good; 8 = Very Good; 9 = Excellent; 10 = Exceptional

### 2021 Comments

#### Community Involvement

**Community Involvement**

8

**Strengths:** this has increased due to the proposed works at the bridge or the cycle hub

**Weaknesses / Recommendations:** None recorded.

**Community Provision**

6

**Strengths:** local groups are active in the management of the park

**Weaknesses / Recommendations:** None recorded.

#### Marketing & Promotion

**Marketing & Promotion**

7

**Strengths:** green flag park friends group have web page that is updated

**Weaknesses / Recommendations:** None recorded.

**Information Provision**

5

**Strengths:** Noticeboard at main entrance with contact details included. Interpretation panel present.

**Weaknesses / Recommendations:** Noticeboard information quite generic and might have further community use if activities happening in the area. Consider inviting threshold signage with contact details.

**Educ. & Interpretative Provision**

4

**Strengths:** Limited information. Maybe community use of noticeboard might be beneficial.

**Weaknesses / Recommendations:** Interpretation panel at main entrance.

#### Management

**Management Plan Implementation**

0

Not currently assessed

**Overall Comments:** Inviting site from the main entrance with avenue of trees and widely planted copse of chestnuts. Site features attractive including open grassland, relaxed grass, specimen trees, woodland boundaries, burn corridor, sports facilities, species rich grass near burn corridor and small managed meadows all add interest to a large urban site. Quiet park for the size let down by littering, fires and fly tipping in woodland walks. Littering around the sports provision might benefit from additional bins or litter removal from clubs using the facilities. Some additional directional signage for offsite / active travel links would be good to see to encourage site to be used for through travel.

#### Main Recommendations

- 1 Improve woodland walk with litter and fire removal and vegetation management.
- 2 Noticeboard and information improvement.
- 3 Maintain newly planted trees.