

# Peel Park, Eliburn - Placemaking Report



February 2020





# Summary

## ***How people rate the park***

Generally, the park scores fairly highly, with a total community rating of 54 out of 75. Two categories scored top marks of 5/5: Network (connectedness) and Accessibility, and only two categories scored less than average: Community involvement and Economic benefits. All other categories scored above average. Below-average scores give an indication of which themes could be substantially improved.

## ***What people like about the park as it is***

The most popular attribute of the existing park is that it's a great place to walk dogs; closely followed by the fact that it's close to home and local amenities, the ease of access into and around the park and that it has a formal / historic area (especially the 'maze').

## ***What people don't like***

The most highlighted issue in the park is the vegetation maintenance, closely followed by issues involving the play area, a lack of bins, path maintenance and drainage, broken glass and a lack of lighting.

## ***Recommendations for action***

Taking into account how the park was scored, the suggestions for improvements, recommendations from the LNBGN report and officer feedback, priorities for improving the park should be:

- 1) Review bins
- 2) Review play area / basketball court / football pitch
- 3) Manage existing vegetation
- 4) Resurface paths
- 5) Add drainage
- 6) Plant more plants
- 7) Add signage
- 8) Review seating
- 9) Increase community involvement

## ***Potential Partners***

The most popular suggestions for local groups to aid in the park improvement process were Peel Primary school and the Co-op.



## Introduction and park information

West Lothian Council has allocated money to make improvements to Peel Park in 2020/21. All feedback collected in this report will inform the improvements and help to shape a longer-term vision for the park.

Peel Park is protected as open space in the West Lothian Local Plan (2009) due to its inclusion in the 2005 West Lothian Open Space Strategy, and subsequent refreshes of this strategy. The park is a medium-sized park of approximately 4.5ha, and is designated as a Neighbourhood Park.

The park gets its name from the fortified 'Peel' built on this site by Flemish nobleman de Leving in the 12<sup>th</sup> century. The Peel and the land around it were developed over time by successive owners. Formal gardens were developed in the mid-1600's by Sir Patrick Murray and contained a fine collection of plants from throughout the world, many of which had medicinal properties. This was one of the first 'physic' gardens in Scotland. Ponds, fountains and waterfalls throughout Balfour's estate were fed by the Folly Burn. A typical house plan from the early settlement and a scaled version of the Peel mound and moat were re-created in the park when Livingston New Town was built. The formal planting in the modern park was designed to reflect the historic gardens.

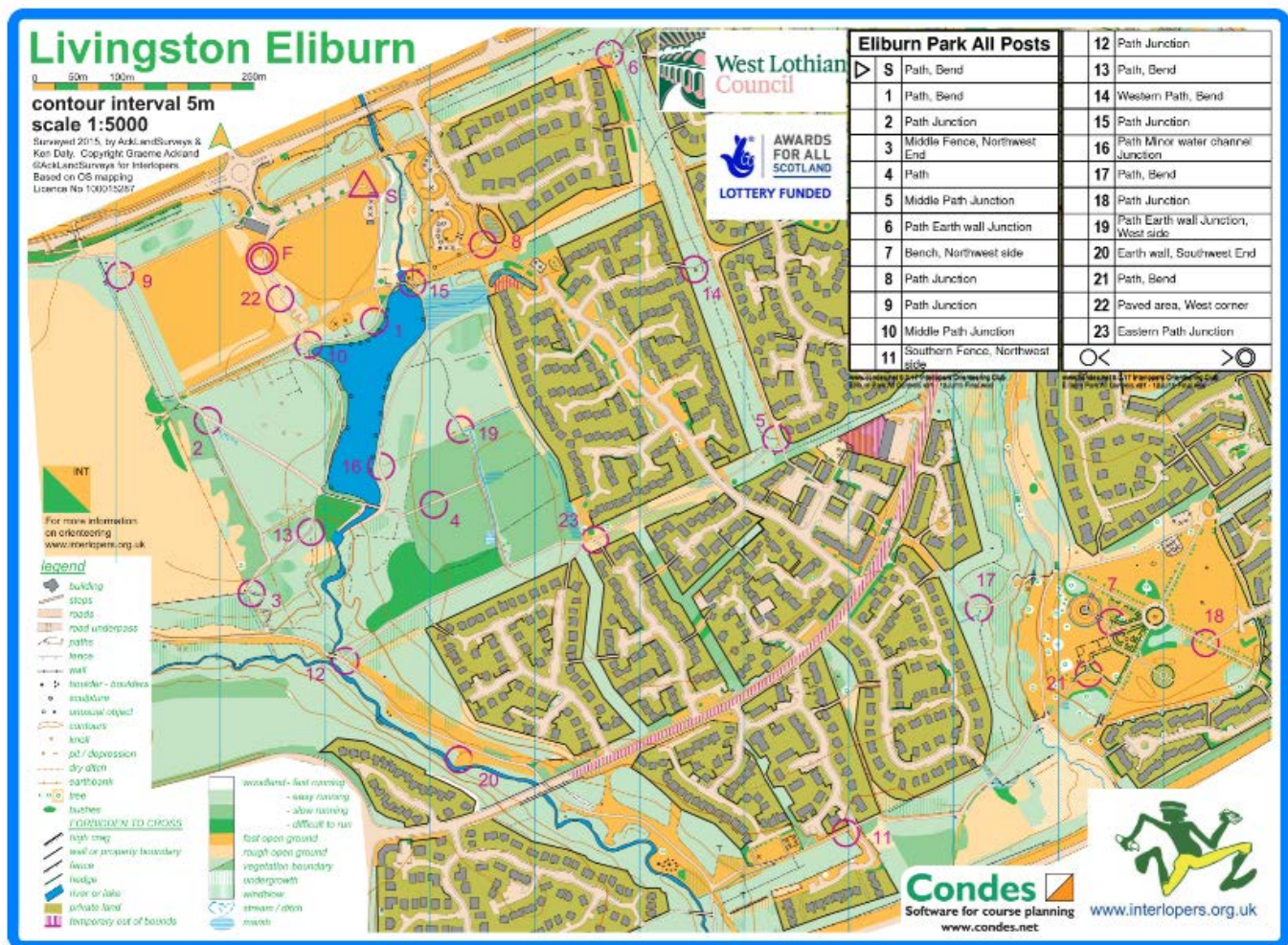


Section from map - Linlithgowshire, Sheet 10 Survey date: 1854-5 Publication date: 1856 National Map Library of Scotland

The park is roughly square-shaped and is divided into four 'quadrants' by large, formal paths and avenues of trees cutting diagonally through the park. The northern quadrant contains a play area, youth shelter, basketball court and a woodland copse; the western quadrant is a formal area containing woodland, 'historic' mound and building-remains, formal gardens and interpretation boards; the southern quadrant contains woodland, large areas of grass and some formal planting; and the eastern quadrant contains mostly short grass, with a kickpitch. In the centre is a circle of grass enclosed by hedges. All areas are very wet underfoot and there are many French-drains throughout the park to control flooding – especially in the south.

There are lit, tarmac paths along all edges of the park and in addition to the wide, unbound path avenues through the park there is a less formal network of unbound paths and desire-lines in the south and west of the park. Bespoke benches are located in the formal areas, with some less formal seating provided near the play area. There are also three orienteering posts in the park, which are part of the Eliburn orienteering course, designed and used by the Interlopers orienteering club (see map below).





The park is surrounded by houses to the north, east and south, and by woodland and the Folly Burn to the west. The Folly Burn flows north-south and is culverted underground from Peel Park until it re-appears again in Livingston Village Park to the south. The park is part of the wider Livingston blue-green network, being linked to other areas by the woodland and the burn corridor in the west, which is also a major North-South pedestrian/cycle route through Livingston. The path from the north-east corner of the park links directly with the major Alderstone Road path (leading to central Livingston) and directly with the Ladywell path/woodland network.

The park gently slopes to the south, giving views across to the Pentland Hills. It is generally well kept on a day-to-day basis, although it is looking tired overall and showing signs of neglect in some areas, especially the more formal sections which cannot be maintained to previous standards due to depleting council resources.

The park was included in the Livingston North Blue-Green Network (LNBGN) feasibility study in 2018. The resulting masterplan report can be viewed on the council's website:

<https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/article/34129/Livingston-North-Blue-Green-Network>



## Information gathering

Community feedback about the park was collected via an online survey. The survey period ran from 7<sup>th</sup> Dec 2019 to 26<sup>th</sup> January 2020. A the link to survey was shared by email with all known stakeholders including Eliburn Community Council, local Councillors, Peel Primary School, West Lothian Youth Action Project and council officers.



90 fliers advertising the online survey were put through people's doors around the park and 6 posters were displayed in and around the park. The survey was also advertised through the council's Media team. From this, a total of 30 local residents gave their feedback.

Recommendations from the [LNBGN masterplan report](#) have also been collated, along with feedback from the Play team.



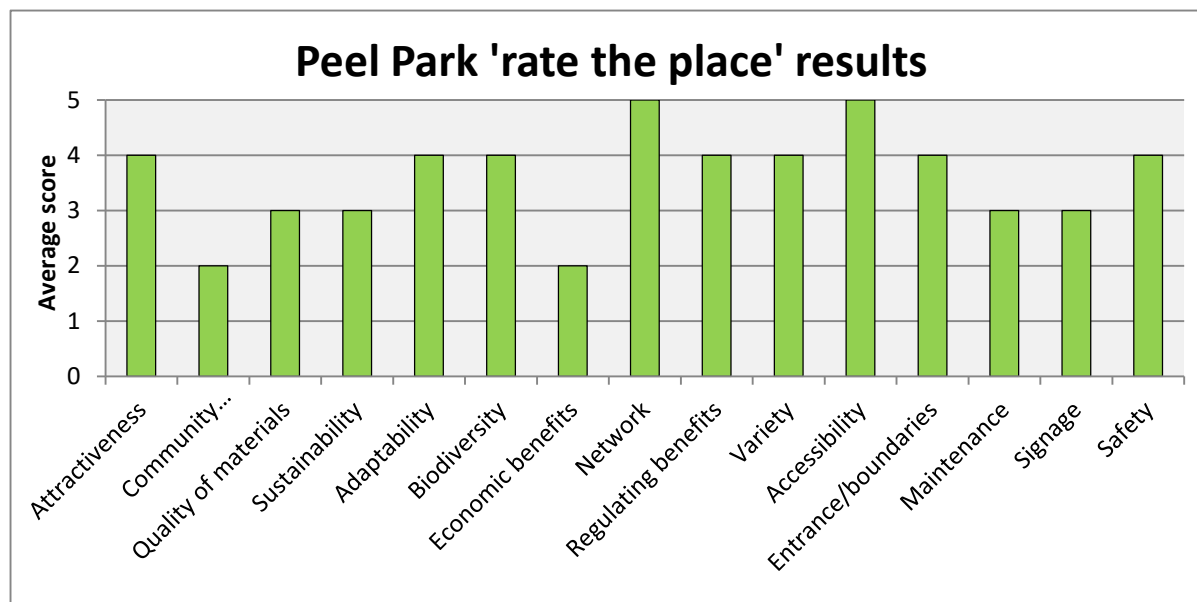
## Feedback

### Park name

Almost all participants call the park Peel Park. Other names given are: Eliburn Peel Park and Eliburn Park.

### Rate the Place

Participants were asked to rate the park as it currently is, using the council's Park Audit questionnaire. The results are shown in the chart below. 22 people participated in this section.



Generally, the park scores fairly highly. Out of a top score of 5 points for each category, two categories score an average of 5: Network (connectedness) and Accessibility.

Above-average scores are given for 13 out of the 15 categories. The only categories to be scored less than average are: Community involvement and Economic benefits.

The park's total community-rated score is 54 out of 75, which rates well above the council's 'fit for purpose' score (a total of 40). The park's score as assessed through the council's park audit process is 44. The discrepancy in overall scores may be due to the intrinsic value that local people give to the park.

The scores indicate that the themes of Community involvement and Economic benefits could be substantially improved.

*Please see Appendix 1 for a more detailed explanation of the characteristics that were scored.*



## What do people like best about the park?

When the feedback for this question is pasted into a 'word cloud generator', the resulting size of each word shows how often it is mentioned. The 'word cloud' for Peel Park is shown here, allowing us to see at a glance which elements of the park are currently most valued:



Quite clearly, the most popular park attribute is that it's a good place for walking dogs! This is closely followed by the fact that it's close to home and local amenities, the ease of access into and around the park and the formal / historic area (especially the 'maze'). Other popular attributes are the open space, the variety within the park, plants (particularly the trees) and wildlife, and the play / basketball area.





### What people don't like / issues people raised



Although people did mention the word 'path' a lot, the most highlighted theme within the park that people disliked was vegetation maintenance. This was closely followed by issues involving the play area (play equipment, loose fill play surfacing, basketball pitch) and a lack of bins. Path maintenance and drainage (both related) also figured highly followed by safety issues such as broken glass and a lack of lighting. Other issues mentioned were a lack of seating, safety and the mound/fort.





## Suggestions for improvements

The most popular suggestion for low-cost things that could be done straight away is to provide more bins. This is followed by general maintenance and, more specifically, vegetation maintenance, additional planting, addressing play area issues, resurfacing paths, litter-picks, additional seating and signage. Other suggestions included lighting and removing the youth shelter.

Suggestions for long-term improvements that would have the biggest impact were: improvements to the play area, followed by more plants/flowers, general maintenance, lighting, community involvement, drainage, a better pitch/ basketball court (provision of a Multi-Use Games Area), additional seating, bins, more signage (especially on the local history) and improved access to the burn. Other suggestions included: path upgrades, upgrading the mound, a dog enclosure, vegetable growing and removing the youth shelter.

*All suggestions can be viewed in Appendix 2 at the end of this report.*



## Feedback from the Play team

The play area is due for a review in 2023. Current ideas for refurbishment include refurbishing or replacing the slide unit, seesaw, multi-unit and goals. The Play team are aware of historic anti-social behaviour associated with youth shelter.

## LNBN masterplan report proposals

Funding was secured from the Central Scotland Green Network Development Fund in 2017/18 to research, consult and produce a masterplan for the [Livingston North Blue-Green Network](#) (LNBN), with the aim of making better connections for active travel and to improve water and greenspace habitat-corridors throughout North-West Livingston. The final masterplan report is now being used in the long-term, as an overall guide improvements over the whole area. Peel Park is considered as part of the LNBN. The report suggests the following improvements for Peel Park:

Refresh park by repainting benches and topping up paths
Replace dead, poorly growing and missing avenue trees with fruit trees to create a linear orchard
Provide boundary screen planting to hide untidy boundaries to surrounding gardens
Provide signage /entry features
Vegetation clearance along paths
Create wildflower meadows to add interest and reduce mowing, create maze like paths through part of meadow to add interest to park
New map board
Opportunity for art at key path entry points

Recommendations in green could be addressed through the 2020/21 Capital Open Space budget, although given the budget available, some improvements may need to be more modest. The recommendation in amber may be addressed in the medium-term through the LNBN Urban Woodland Management Plan, which is to be drawn up and submitted for grant funding. The recommendation in red is a longer-term objective which may require more consultation and external funding. National Lottery Heritage Funding may be applicable.

*Also see plan on next page.*





## LNBGN Long-term Recommendations for Peel Park



## Recommendations

Taking into account how the park was scored, the suggestions for improvements, recommendations from the LNBGN report and officer feedback, priorities for improving the park should be:

- 1) Review bins
- 2) Review play area / basketball court / football pitch
- 3) Manage existing vegetation
- 4) Resurface paths
- 5) Add drainage
- 6) Plant more plants
- 7) Add signage
- 8) Review seating
- 9) Increase community involvement

There are 3 bins already within the park. A bin review is recommended - consisting of noting the locations of the existing bins and moving them, upgrading them or adding to them if required.

All suggestions relating to the quality of the play area, basketball court, football pitch and youth shelter will be passed to the Play team for consideration.

In terms of vegetation maintenance, the fallen tree at the centre of the park should be removed, all dead trees removed and replaced, bushes that encroach on paths cut back and woodland areas thinned.

More planting is a popular suggestion. Filling gaps in hedges is reasonable. Given that vegetation maintenance is also an issue, any extra planting to be maintained by the council needs to be low maintenance. This could be in the form of bulbs and / or wildflowers, and individual trees. New trees could include fruit trees where appropriate. Boundary screen planting, as suggested in the LNBGN report, would need to be assessed and the proposed wildflower planting would need to be much more modest.

All the unbound (non-tar) paths within the park should be scraped and resurfaced. Access improvements should also include the replacement of the wooden sleepers on the mound. A review of the performance of all existing drainage in the park should accompany path refurbishment. Areas of ponding and water erosion should be addressed.

To improve community involvement, local people could organise planting projects, historic interpretation, litter picks, etc or small, neighbourhood events in the park. The best way for this to happen is for local residents to set up a park group, which we are happy to help support.

Due to reduced council budgets and staffing over time, it has not been possible to maintain the formal area of the park to the standards expected for such an area, which has led to it looking rather run down. If the main structure of this area can be addressed with the Capital funding in 2020/21 (e.g. paths and seating) the plants within it could be tended to more intensely by a park group or a specific community garden group. Due to the historic formal planting and features, it may be possible to attract National Lottery Heritage Funding in addition to the park budget.

Incorporating edible plants (e.g. fruits / herbs) into the general planting in the park would help to boost the park score for economic benefits.

Entrance signage should be added and existing historical interpretation should be reviewed, and enhanced if required.

There is existing seating at the play area and bespoke seating in the central area of the park. All the bespoke benches should be refurbished. The locations of all benches in the park should be reviewed and



relocated if necessary. Additional seating may be required. If so, it should match or tie in with the bespoke seating.

Several people suggested better lighting in the park. It is council policy to only provide street lighting on asphalt paths, therefore the provision of street lighting through the park would also require upgrading the paths to asphalt. Other lighting could be looked into, however as there are lit paths all around the park, this is not a priority for council spending.



## Next Steps

For this particular park, due to the formal landscaping and historical links, the next steps depend on which approach is taken:

- 1) As many recommendations as possible are addressed within the council budget throughout 2020/21 and other recommendations noted for future reference, if/when funding becomes available.
- 2) The council works in partnership with a community group to make a [National Lottery Heritage Fund](#) application next year, rolling forward the 20/21 council funding as match funding. This could double the funds available.

The 25 people who opted to join the park email list will be contacted to ask if they would like to set up a dedicated park group and will be kept involved with park improvements. Anyone else who would like to join the list can request to do so by emailing [becky.plunkett@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:becky.plunkett@westlothian.gov.uk)

## Potential Partners

The most popular suggestion for local groups to aid in the park improvement process were Peel Primary school and the Co-op. There were also suggestions for various organisations in Jackson Place, as well as Elburn Community Council, the West Lothian Litter-Pickers (see their Facebook page for info) and corporate volunteering groups.

*A full list can be viewed in Appendix 2 at the end of this report.*

## Appendix 1 – Rate the Place characteristics explained

No.	Measure	Some things to consider 'yes' answers = higher score, unless stated
1	Attractiveness	Is the park generally attractive? Does it have a consistent or unique character?
2	Community	Does the community help to make decisions about the park? Are there frequent community events? Is there evidence of community involvement?
3	Quality	Are features and facilities robust and long-lasting?
4	Sustainability	Is weedkiller used in maintenance? (lower score) Is every bit of grass cut short? (lower) Recycling bins on site? Are there signs that materials / resources are reused on site? (e.g. grass clippings on shrub-beds)
5	Adaptability	Could spaces within the park be changed easily to suit different uses over time?
6	Biodiversity	Are there different shapes, sizes and types of plants within the park? Do you regularly see different insects / birds / other animals in the park?
7	Economic benefits	Does anyone charge for activities or events here? Does anyone sell things here? Do people collect wood or berries? Do people fish? Do people grow food here?
8	Network	Is the park connected to other green areas nearby, or rivers/burns? Is it connected to walking/cycle paths?
9	Regulating benefits	Are there trees / shrubs / plants at different heights? (to filter air/water, soak up rainfall and store carbon) Are there areas that visibly hold water when it rains? Are there flowers to support bees and other pollinators?
10	Variety	Is there a good variety of things to do in the park? e.g. sport/ walk/ sit/ learn/ play/ watch wildlife / picnic/ cycle/ eat/ run / climb / socialise / walk dog / good views
11	Accessibility	Is the park easy to walk to and get around? Is most of the park accessible to buggies / wheelchairs?
12	Entrances / boundaries	Do you know you're in a park? Are entrances and boundaries well defined? Are they attractive?
13	Maintenance	Is the park well-maintained? Is there much litter, vandalism or areas of neglect? (lower)
14	Signage	Is it clear who looks after the park and how to contact them? Is there any information on wildlife/ history, etc?
15	Safety	Do children and older people regularly use the park? Can you see across the park? Are there areas that feel unsafe? (lower)



## Appendix 2 – All survey answers

### 1) *What do you like best about this park?*

#### Dog-related

- We mostly use the park for dog walking, it has plenty of open areas for ball throwing, good path networks
- As I own 2 dogs it's good for walking them whether its through it in the summer or round it
- Lots of dog walkers which is good socially for me and the dog
- good for walking my dog,
- community dog walking
- I like meeting other dog walkers.
- Nice for walking the dog, generally quiet.
- Great for dogs
- It is great as I have two dogs and I can walk them in the park
- It's broken up into sections with hedges which is great for dogs.

#### Closeness to houses / amenities

- Backing on to our back garden it creates a feeling of being in the country rather than in the town.
- Living on the edge of the park I love that all the houses surrounding it feel like a community. Walking the dog in peel park you rarely walk around without meeting someone for a chat or waving to each other.
- It's local to my house
- It's close to my house
- Convenient for local houses and nursery.
- Great space on our doorstep for regular walks with kids and dog
- Location, next to school and nursery as well as neighbourhood

#### Open space

- The space
- Open spaces,
- Very open and does make you feel you are not in the town
- Space
- It is in an open space.

#### Plants and wildlife

- the plants and trees in areas are nice
- The wildlife
- There are woods nearby which help to add to the views of the park.
- old trees

#### Play equipment

- The playpark within it
- Play-area and basketball courts provide some activity for youth.
- Good play-area for young kids
- My son loves the basketball nets.

#### Paths / access

- Access is good.
- It is very close to my home so makes it easy for me as a pensioner to all my dog regularly. It isn't too big and I can walk around it in relative ease.
- From the park itself I can walk to other areas such as Elburn Park and along the burns on a bus when the weather is good.
- Live the variety of paths and its accessibility to areas out with its boundaries.
- Good and clear paths.
- I use it as a short-cut to work. It is a generally pleasant walk, marred sometimes by dogs off leads.
- The location is good with paths leading to various areas.

#### Formal area / history

- the old Peel
- Good to keep the ancient ruins.
- The maze at peel Park is good
- The mound and maze are popular with my kids.
- It reflects some of Livingston's history which, being a former New Town, is valuable. It is semi-formal therefore being more like a "real" park which Livingston lacks.
- I really enjoy the gardens and general layout of the park. It's a very attractive space.
- The maze is lovely and makes for a lovely and quiet place to sit.

#### Variety

- The park contains a mix of plant beds, trees and Historical areas. Plus playpark and well defined paths.
- It suits all ages. Something for everyone.
- Great diversity of environment, ruins, (fort as my kids call it) hill viewing area, deciduous woods, grassy areas. Flower-beds.

#### Exercise (not dog-related)

- Good for a short cycle for the kids.
- also good on lighter evenings to walk or run round

#### Other

- Place is clean and tidy
- Secluded areas for privacy
- Good walking network, close to and connected to reservoir. Multiple areas to play with dog or sit and relax. [Wrong park?]
- The paths that surround peel park are in a poor state.

## 2) *Is there anything you don't like?*

### Vegetation maintenance

- Needs regular maintenance of bins, signage, benches etc.
- The plant beds are in serious need of attention. Some areas are overgrown and plants have been smothered.
- facilities/content in park is fine but more intensive maintenance would be better.
- Last year areas of grass being cut diminished.
- Last year the grass barely got cut so most of the park was unusable, the hedges are not maintained enough.
- Flower beds need further maintenance
- Leaves on the paths ,
- I hate all the fallen leaves that have not been cleared up, therefore they turn into a slippery sludge.
- The area is very overgrown and not well maintained. It's pretty shocking how out of control the area has gotten, particularly on the outskirts toward and around the burn. Hedges (maze) although lovely have become unruly.
- There used to be a lovely bridge/ wooden path over the other side of the burn which made for a great walk or bike ride, but this is ruined and the burn cannot even be approached for all the weeds and tall grass.
- I think the hedge on the east side of the park could do with some upgrading. There are several gaps where the hedge no longer grows.
- Bushes and trees are not well maintained especially around paths
- I feel it has been neglected over the last few years
- The land directly behind our house is never maintained. Its overrun with weeds and brambles. I have been in touch with the council and they did come and spray weedkiller but that was on my request. Too many trees directly behind my house that have never been maintained either unless I have raised this

### Play area

- The quality of what's on offer isn't great. Baby swing and a slide for older and younger ones isn't too much to do especially when you are taking a range of ages of children. Dogs frequently run into the park as the border is very low.
- The play area is only suitable for younger children.
- Play area not much choices for the children,
- Basketball pitch needs improving
- My 2 year old doesn't have much to play with
- Outdated play equipment
- the play park space could be utilised a little better.
- There is no fence around the swing park so dogs regularly go in there.
- Basketball park is in kept
- Wood chip should be replaced as often find broken glass in it
- The bark clippings .Anything could be buried underneath these clippings . Not safe for a children's play park.

### Youth shelter

- The graffiti. The metal shelter covered in graffiti that is an eyesore and serves no purpose.
- teenagers frequently taking over the multi-person swing and in the metal hut near the park,
- Old hut in park needs pulled down as youths hang about there drinking
- The old covered seating hut.
- There is a blue structure next to the swing park that constantly used by vandals, kids drinking, swearing etc. Been set alight many times therefore I feel it should be taken away as its not used for the correct purposes.

### Lack of bins

- Some of the dog waste bins are to regularly emptied and sometime seem to disappear completely.
- Full of litter yet one of only bins has been removed lately meaning litter is dumped where it used to be worsening the problem. The abandoned trolleys in the folly burn
- More bins are needed.
- A bin has recently disappeared at the intersection of 3 paths and dog poo bags have just been left on the wall
- Lack of poo bins
- There is also a missing bin at the north west corner. Dog walkers are piling poo bags on the stone wall where it used to be.
- There are next to no bins, even dog waste bins throughout the entirety of the park.

### Path maintenance

- Can be muddy, there is a path through the center but it is not well maintained.
- I don't like the fact that there is very little proper tarmac paths as when its wet the existing paths are not useable
- Paths.
- The path also floods in heavy rain making it impassable.
- Paths muddy
- I don't like that the pathways are not maintained or cleared. The gravel paths have almost no gravel left meaning they get very slippery in the wet and when the weather is icy they are completely iced over making it impossible to walk along them for fear of falling and injury.

### Drainage

- the drainage needs to be sorted out at the Basketball Court and alongside the Peel Path to the East of the play park
- Football pitch muddy,
- The football area gets waterlogged and muddy.
- Area next to play park often water logged, some action has been taken but not enough. Great space for kids playing in summer and winter if it was dry enough.
- Also, improved field drainage at the east end of the park between the 'goal posts' would be beneficial.

### Lighting

- Poorly lit for early morning walks, could use some form of light INSIDE the park boundaries.
- lighting
- over the autumn/ winter months you can't go into the park because it is too dark
- Lack of light
- Lights
- it can feel quite unsafe at parts as it's also poorly lit in places

### Litter/broken glass

- Often broken glass.
- Seen broken glass occasionally on the path and always at the raised mound (not sure of the name).
- I don't like the broken glass bottles left by teenagers at the weekend
- Vandalism, glass debris,
- A lot of rubbish/glass around

### Lack of seating

- Lack of seating.
- There is not a great deal of nice seated areas in the park. There is a wooden bench which has been torched and left to rot for a number of years, near the burn.



#### Safety

- it's quite lonely at times when walking through because of the trees hiding the houses.
- Doesn't feel safe in the evenings,

#### Mound

- The stairs to the Peel need to be replaced
- fort area needs refurbished as would be great for kids

#### Other

Nothing; It would be nice to see more flowers in dedicated spaces also. This might help the bees; The area is great, with lots of spaces that could be utilised; we stay right next to the park and see and hear a lot of things; The notice boards need replacing; Lots of wasted space like grass areas that are never walked on; I'm unsure of the name of this park - why have another park called Peel Park which is the kids playground one situated at top of Oldwood Place?; Only 1 toilet.

### **3) List three low-cost things that you would do to improve this park, that could be done straight away**

#### More bins

- It needs more bins for rubbish (a dog poo bin has been removed before the bridge on the way to peel primary)
- More bins, both recycling and dog waste
- Poo bins
- Replace missing waste bins
- Clean up litter/extra bins
- Put some more bins
- Poo bins
- Couple more bins
- Dog bags with sign
- More bins
- Bin replacement
- More bins
- Increase in bins/rubbish collection
- Glass recycling bins nearby

#### General maintenance

- Clear the asphalt paths of mud and soggy leaves to improve safety
- Clean up the leaves
- Clean up the dead leaves
- maintenance
- maintenance of hard surface areas
- Maintain open areas
- maintenance
- maintenance
- Take the rotten bench away

#### Vegetation maintenance

- Better grass maintenance
- Hedge repair
- Shrub plant bed maintenance
- replacement of dead or unhealthy trees in avenues
- Grass must be cut further than just the main fields/ hedges trimmed and maintained
- Maintain trees and bushes around paths
- Use weedkiller more

#### Litter-picks

- Pick litter
- Litter picking
- Regular litter pick
- Litter clear up, particularly down by the burn (the bridge grates and filled and a few trolleys there)
- Tidy area surrounding the park

#### Remove youth shelter

- Remove the shelter
- Pull down tin shelter

#### Planting

- More plants
- Flower beds to brighten the park
- Flower planting
- More plants etc to investigate
- Flower bulbs
- Additional plants / trees
- More flowers

#### Play area

- Normal swings
- More play equipment
- Update basketball court.
- Replace basketball court and add another or tennis court
- Remove woodchip
- Remove bark chippings

#### Paths

- Regravel the inner pathways to improve safety
- Improve paths with recycled material
- Some of the paths need resurfaced and wooden borders have rotted away
- Paths
- Maintain paths and park facilities

#### Seating

- More seating
- increase seating area
- Put some benches in
- Some seats metal because it kids would just vandalise them if they were wooden

#### Signage

- Notice boards re history & wildlife
- Signage
- More signage re park history

#### Lighting

- Solar lights around park,
- Enhance lighting

#### Other

Better borders for the park, Community veg patch, Build BMX or kiddies cycling track, Children areas, Clean graffiti, Adult exercise stations, Brighten up park, Refurbish fort, More done about dog dirt, Regular patrols to ensure teenagers not causing trouble, Dog run agility course

#### **4) What three changes would you make in the long term that would have the biggest impact?**

##### Play area

- Generally improve the quality of the park, swings, climbing frames etc
- Older children play area
- Improve kids play area
- More equipment for toddlers
- Extend the play park
- Extend play park
- Change play equipment - see Falkirk Callander park for ideas
- better play area for kids
- Update the kids play park as it is well used
- Shelter over play equipment
- New ground cover in play park
- Put a fence around the swing park

##### More plants/flowers

- The addition of more colourful flowering plants such as rhododendrons (I know some people do not like non-natives but they are traditional and good value)
- More/varied plants
- flowers and plants
- Additional flowers & bulbs
- Wild flower meadow
- More colourful shrubs
- Reintroduce herb garden
- More variety of trees i.e. hazel, willow, fruit
- Plant flowers
- More flowers planted

##### General maintenance

- Keeping it clean
- Clearing the paths of dead leaves
- Regular rubbish collections
- Better maintenance on a regular basis
- Cut back bushes
- Regular grass cutting
- The whole area is overgrown and needs serious maintenance.

##### Lighting

- Lighting within park
- Lights in the middle of the park for safety
- Lights
- Solar lighting
- Lights

##### Community involvement

- More community involvement
- More community involvement
- Events for community
- Have a yearly event, crafts, food etc...
- Community activities

##### Drainage

- Drying of large grass area
- Improved drainage to minimise standing water that ices over
- Sort the drainage problem
- Improved drainage

##### Pitches / courts

- Enclosed football area/basketball like at Dedridge
- enclosed 5 a side pitch
- Better basketball and football area.
- 5 a side pitches

##### Seating

- More benches?
- Would be nice to have more seating/tables for picnics.
- Put in some more benches

##### Bins

- Poo bins
- Bins
- Composting bin

##### History / signage

- More focus on history of park and local area
- Larger heritage interpretation information
- Better signage

##### Access to burn

- Reinststate the riverside 'boardwalk'
- The burn bridge/trail redone.
- A pond down by the burn

##### Paths

- Upgrade hard surfaces to more hard wearing.
- Paths

##### Mound/Peel

- Resurface the steps and top of the seating area on top of mound.
- Peel stairs

##### Dog enclosure

- enclosed dog area
- Dedicated dog garden area

##### Community growing

- Community veg growing
- Vegetable patch

##### Youth shelter

- Remove the blue rainshelter
- Get rid of the shelter next to the kids play park as only teenage kids drink and smoke in it

##### Other

- Dedicate some of the park to something teenagers would like
- Tree house suggested by my son
- Areas of adventure,
- Police presence to prevent vandalism
- Dedicated areas to encourage wildlife
- Clean up surrounding areas
- I like the park just as it is and, provided it is maintained as at present, I wouldn't want to see any particular changes.



**5) Which local groups could help to put your ideas above into action? (Please name them e.g. 'Hillside Primary Parent Council')**

Peel Primary related...

- Peel primary
- Peel Primary school and nursery
- Peelers after school club

Co-op

- Co-op on eliburn road
- co-OP

Others

- Eliburn Community Council
- Jackson place nursery
- Adult learning school in Jackson place
- Local convenience store in Jackson place
- Back 2 black hairdresser
- West Lothian women
- Zaika
- candy
- West Lothian litter pickers
- I work for Lloyds bank and we do run a venture called 'Day to make a difference' where staff can be used to help with any charities, schools gardens etc basically anything that people would like to be involved in to help the community
- I don't know of any, however with all the building work going on in Livingston just now it should be up to these companies to contribute as they keep building houses but don't really seem to care about the impact on the wider community.