

Catherine Matthew

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 06 April 2022 19:24
To: Donna Sutherland <donna.sutherland@aberdeenshire.gov.uk>
Subject: Asset transfer of Gordon park

To Donna Sutherland

I strongly object to the proposed asset transfer of Gordon park to the Ellon cycle club.

How can Aberdeenshire Council transfer land that they don't own, they maintain the area, to a club with a business plan.

The park was gifted to the people of Ellon in 1909 by Arthur Gordon for the benefit of all the people of Ellon and not a small group who are going into business and this goes against the charter of 1909.

There will be an increase flow of bikes, people and noise within the park impacting on the local residents on 3 sides of the park and according to the charter this should not happen.

There is nothing in the Ellon cycle club business plan to minimise the noise and light that will occur with this proposal to the local residents.

This issue should be put to all the people of Ellon at a public meeting, remember that not all residents of Ellon has social media. They moved to the area to have peace and quiet with the park open to wildlife and green space.

This is the only green space in the centre of Ellon and should be left as it is for the people of Ellon.

Yours

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 08 April 2022 08:34
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon wheels park group

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear Sir/Madam

I write to you to include my objection to the above mentioned proposed BMX/Skate park.

[REDACTED]

Ellon
Ab41 9AB

Sent from my iPad

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 10 April 2022 18:02
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Notice of Asset Transfer Request Proposed change of use at Gordon Park Ellon

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Good Evening,

As a resident living very close to Gordon Park in Ellon, I strongly oppose the change of use of this green area to a skate/cycle park.

Gordon Park is used by local residents as a green area throughout the year. We enjoy picnics, playing with our grandchildren, dog walking and many other outdoor activities when visiting the park.

The area being discussed is the very area which we enjoy, and to redevelop this green space into a concrete area is unacceptable. The thought of having to cross the bridge and traverse the skate/cycle paths to reach the top part of the park is causing me great anxiety.

We already have a problem with gangs of youths gathering outside the shops and Mieklemill Primary school in the evenings, causing noise and intimidating neighbours. Opening up this area would only invite more youths and cause more of this kind of unacceptable behaviour. We have many elderly, retired people in this area who enjoy the quiet use of the park.

Furthermore, parking for residents in the roads around the park would become unmanageable, since many people will be driving to drop of children, youths and bicycles etc. The parking situation is bad enough during school terms when, on several occasions, I have had to ask people not to park across my driveway. I can only see this becoming worse.

I therefore note my objection and request that the Notice of Asset Transfer be refused, and the proposed skate/cycle park be relocated to a more suitable area.

We are limited to the number of green spaces and parks within this area of Ellon, to lose a huge part of Gordon Park would, to my mind, be unacceptable.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]
Ellon
AB41 9BZ

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 10 April 2022 19:46
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Gordon Park asset transfer

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Please accept this as a vote against the asset transfer of Gordon Park.

This park was gifted to the people of Ellon for use as a public park for the enjoyment of all residents and should be managed by the Council to that end.

It is not for the Council to decide whether a limited group should have control of any part of the park and be able to restrict access as and when that group sees fit.

Best Regards

[REDACTED]

Ellon

Sent from my iPad

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 10 April 2022 20:54
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Asset transfer

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

To Formarin Area Office,

I would like to make it known that I, [REDACTED] of -

[REDACTED]
Ellon,
AB41 9EW

,strongly disagree with the proposed asset transfer of the area of Gordon Park, for the purpose of constructing a wheeled sports area.

Regards,
[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 11 April 2022 17:48
To: Donna Sutherland <donna.[REDACTED]@aberdeenshire.gov.uk>
Subject: Ellon Skate Park

Dear Donna

Regarding the asset transfer request. The idea of a skate Park in Ellon is very good - certainly the young folk need some more opportunities for physical activity. However, I don't think the lower part of Gordon Park is a sensible location. My reasons are as follows:

- 1) There has been considerable effort to increase the natural habitat and biodiversity of the park and the riverside area. This is starting to pay dividends. The skate park will certainly put an end to this improvement.
- 2) The skate park will clearly require vehicular access and parking. The access roads are narrow, through a housing estate with virtually no car parking.
- 3) If successful there will be the meeting of significant numbers of teenagers - this could be intimidating for those wanting to walk on the adjacent riverside path. Having experienced the problems with aggressive youths at the Gordon Park tennis courts for a number of years I can foresee this to be a significant issue.
- 4) There are no nearby facilities for the park users - toilets, cafe etc..

I would suggest that there are two possible locations - one adjacent to the Meadows and the second adjacent to the Academy. Close to the academy seems most logical - there is the community hub, facilities, a cafe and supervisory staff nearby.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 12 April 2022 11:15
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon Gordon Park Asset Transfer

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

I would like to have my objection to the proposed asset transfer of Ellons Gordon Park to the Ellons Wheel Park Group development noted.

I would like to see a bike park in Ellon but I strongly disagree with this location being used. Myself and others enjoy this public green space daily and the proposed development would take this space away from us. I do not understand why recent developments have seen to biodiversify the area and encourage wildlife and now their are proposed plans to cement over this very loved green area.

The space is currently available for everyone to use but transfer of the asset will restrict the use to selected groups only and without the correct upkeep and lighting and cctv presence I worry the area could become a disturbance to locals and would discourage even the use of the path around the park (not to mention the reduced view from a lovely green park to a cement jungle) or the top park. Not to mention that the use of the proposed park would also have a cost which I feel is a further strain on young families in todays economy where alot are already struggling. This park should be kept green and free for everyone to enjoy.

If there is any other information required to register my objection please let me know.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

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Catherine Matthew

From: Donna Sutherland
Sent: 12 April 2022 12:45
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: FW: Gordon Park

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 12 April 2022 12:38
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Gordon Park

To whom it may concern

It is with dismay that I find myself writing to you concerning the planned wheel park, to which the Gordon Park has been earmarked apparently!

It has been claimed that public opinion has been sought re this proposed development on public land. I would strongly dispute this, as a "survey" on Ellon Matters cannot be deemed as seeking the thoughts of the Ellon public, as many people especially round the area concerned (my mother-in-law included) either do not have the internet, or are not members of Ellon Matters!

So I would in the first instance, ask for proper public consultation, with any proposal being delivered to every door in Ellon, by leaflet drop, as this is the only way of EVERYONE, knowing what could become of this much loved landmark!

Secondly, after bio-diversity being so rigorously promoted, all but three/four years ago why turn full circle and have the one green public space which belongs to ALL the people of Ellon into a concrete jungle! This makes no sense what so ever!

Thirdly, why do the council seem so intent on off loading our park, for one pound a year?

I personally pay council tax of £342 a month, this alone should more than cover the cost of maintaining the bottom of the park per month, assuming this process is managed properly!

It is not the idea of a "wheel park" that I am against, it's simply that this is not the location for it to be built, apparently the argument being this is the only land available, well this land is to be enjoyed by every member of the Ellon public, which was the intention when it was donated by The Charter, IS NOT AVAILABLE, never mind for free!

This project really does need another location and I'm sure this land can be found, either by private enquiry or with council assistance. We have a massive brewery in Ellon, which has always managed to obtain the land and they need

with the help of the council and am sure, would prove to be an excellent PR exercise, for them to get involved.

Yours
 [REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 12 April 2022 13:04
To: Formartine Area Office
Cc: [REDACTED]@outlook.com
Subject: Proposed 'development' within Gordon Park Ellon

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

To whom it may concern

Please use this email as a record of my objection to the proposed cycling provisions within the Gordon Park , Ellon.

The park was gifted to the people of Ellon for all to use. The proposed action and the suggestion that the upper area of the park may also be changed mean that the majority of people will be excluded from using the park. Green areas removed and tarmac/concreted over. I'm sure those proposing the change will tell us that all will be welcome but the nature of the proposal tells me there will be a very small part of the community using the facility.

The park is used on a daily basis for the public to relax and enjoy an open green space within the middle of the town. This will be denied if the project goes ahead. Also denied will be events such as the annual bonfire and fireworks event, regular visits from the funfair within the entire park and the cricket pitch would be lost should the upper area be used.

Where are these community events going to take place should this proceed? These events are good, genuine community events.

At present there is a problem with anti social behaviour around the shelter in the park, much broken glass from alcohol bottles left strewn in the grass. The Police cannot/do not effectively deal with this. What is going to happen if the area is changed with huge potential of an increase in social disturbance issues. I fear the worst for the whole area on top of losing a well used and enjoyed community area.

I am not against provision of a cycling area in Ellon. It is the proposed location I have issue with. There is a new school complex at Cromleybank, the proposed facility would go hand in hand with the social provisions applied by the school and could indeed be used by the school adding another string added to their bow. Alternatively, there is a little used area at the bottom of the Meadows Sports Centre, an area seldom used and already dedicated to sport/exercise, with facilities already in place.

In summary, the proposal of a cycling facility is a good idea but the location is wholly wrong for the majority of Ellon residents. I also have great doubt as to how much use it will get after the first 6 months. The applicants for change have cited that the feasibility study showed Gordon Park to be the favoured location over Cromleybank. Who responded to the feasibility study we do not know but can only assume that they are the very small number of people wanting the project to go ahead.

Should any clarification or further comment be required from me do not hesitate to contact me.

[REDACTED]
Ellon

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 12 April 2022 16:22
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon Wheel Park - application for asset transfer

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Good Afternoon

Firstly I believe that a Wheel Park for Ellon is a good idea and commend those taking the initiative in taking this forward, however I have major concern that we the general public will lose access to the Gordon Park should the asset transfer take place.

My objection is to the proposed location being the Gordon Park.

Surely the new facility would be better placed near the new Academy where there are already facilities such as toilets and parking that could be utilised should the park take off and attract bigger events.

The Gordon Park is for the use of all the public and is well used all year round. Moreover the Gordon Park has been protected by Fields in Trust since 2016.



One of the parks and green spaces protected by Fields in Trust in perpetuity. Because once they are gone, they are gone forever

Gordon Park

Park Road, Ellon, AB41 9AB

QUESTION 1

Should a park protected by Fields in Trust even be considered for development into a concrete and tarmac construction?

QUESTION 2

Who took part in the survey that came up with Gordon Park as the most suitable location for the cycle park and why is this location deemed to be preferable to Cromleybank or any other local park?

QUESTION 3

Is the area requested for asset transfer large enough to accommodate what Ellon Wheel Park wants? If not then they should reconsider this application. I am very concerned by item 7 on their feasibility study which states: "There is scope for future development of the site. Although not included in this feasibility report there may be an opportunity to increase the length of the cycle circuit to include the top section of Gordon Park which would increase the length of the track to approx 1.2Km and open up the track to larger events." If the above were to happen then the general public would be totally excluded from the Gordon Park.

The Gordon Park is currently a great green place for all members of the community to enjoy. Both levels of the park are in daily use by members of the public out for a stroll with friends, dogs and family members. The park is regularly used by schools and nurseries and the tarred paths are ideal for youngsters on their bikes. Please leave this beautiful green space in the centre of Ellon for everyone to enjoy in years to come.

As Fields in Trust say:

"Once it's gone it's gone forever."



Ellon

Sent from my iPhone

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 12 April 2022 17:51
To: Donna Sutherland <donna.[REDACTED]@aberdeenshire.gov.uk>
Subject: Asset transfer

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Sir / madam

I am contacting you today to strongly object both about the asset transfer and plans to destroy one of the very few public green spaces in Ellon. Another case of planning for, and increasing income for the few.

In principle, I totally agree with the proposed development of cycle track etc facilities BUT not in Gordon Park. Why not look at other more suitable areas such as Balmacassie or the new academy campus??

I read the cycle club states it has to be central why?? To increase their revenue nothing else! Surely anyone wanting to use the proposed facilities would be able to travel for a mile?

Also, think of the area around the area Ythanvale and Park Road mainly elderly residents.

Gordon Park is a community resource and by allowing asset transfer shows a distinct lack of support in the community by those who should be protecting it

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Ellon

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Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 12 April 2022 18:18
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Asset transfer

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

I object to the asset transfer of Gordon Park to Ellon wheels park group.
I strongly believe that Gordon Park should continue to be a free green open space for everyone to use.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 13 April 2022 23:37
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Objection to Asset Transfer of Gordon Park Ellon

Categories: Sent to Donna

To whom it may concern.

Please accept this email as my formal objection to the Asset Transfer of The Gordon Park, Ellon to the Ellon Wheel Park Group or any other group unless for it's preservation and development of a green space and thoroughfare for local residents and visitors.

The park was gifted by Mr Park in 1909 to the then Burgh of Ellon for the purposes of recreation and access to all to a central green space.

I would welcome the park to be further developed to encourage biodiversity and wildlife habitat as well as an open space for all to enjoy.

If enhancements were made to existing children's facilities I would be in favour of that.

My strong objection is to the loss of green space to a development that takes over the whole lower part of the park for the use of wheeled pursuits and in particular the cycle track(s).

I also would request that I be given access to the common land register held by the council as required by The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015.

I would be perfectly satisfied if you could send me directions to find the register on your website or external website as required by the same above law.

Thank you and look forward to your earliest response.

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 14 April 2022 14:41
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: ELLON WHEELS PARK GROUP

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Good afternoon,

I just received a print out about the plans for a wheeled sports area to be constructed at Gordon Park. Personally I think this is a great idea and the location is good too, even with the facility constructed there is still plenty of space left in the park for other people to carry out other activities. When I was a teen I longed for something like this as we had to skate/bmx either out on the street or at places where it wasn't really suitable like school playgrounds etc just to stay away from road traffic.

Personally I think the asset transfer is a great idea, not only for Ellon locals but also for surrounding villages who would be able to visit Ellon and use the facility. I highly doubt there would be a second thought if it were to be a football pitch or cricket grounds, I don't see how this is any different and I would love to see it go ahead!

Thanks for taking the time read my opinions

[REDACTED]
Friendly Ellon Local
[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 14 April 2022 17:13
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ref APP/2022/0186

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: Sent to Donna

Good Afternoon,

I believe this is where we can put our reviews on the plans for the skate park in Ellon.

I feel Ellon really needs this however the choice in location isn't great. There isn't enough green space in Ellon as it is, since they keep putting houses up left, right and centre. Although this might bring better lighting to the park, I don't think a walk round Gordon Park will be as enjoyable if it got busier. Surely there is an abandoned building/sites in Ellon that aren't being used for anything for example could the area across from the police station not be considered?

Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 14 April 2022 17:51
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Gordon Park - Ellon Wheels Park

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to strongly object to the proposed plan to lease land for a wheeled sports area, skate park and road bike circuit.

I enjoy walking through the lower park every day, sometimes 2-3 times a day with friends and dogs. I always meet and talk to several people on the way round. This is an important part of social contact and mental health wellbeing for the people I meet, some of whom have problems with isolation and depression. It is a park that is well used and I suggest a survey is taken over the course of a whole day, particularly at weekends to monitor the number of people passing through. Last summer I saw many groups having picnics and relaxing on the lower park, walking alongside the river and crossing the park. It is well used and appreciated.

As a member of Ellon Tennis Club I am also aware that the park attracts vandalism as the Tennis Club courts and buildings give testimony to. The introduction of a skate park will just attract further vandalism to the site. The young people who abuse the park will do so increasingly and leave rubbish and graffiti. It will not benefit the young people who currently live locally as they will not have the type of bikes or the inclination to take part in organised activities. They are not bad sorts but needs to use their energy constructively and I fear this skate park will not provide them with this, but be targeted for further vandalism.

On another, more important, issue the park is an important green area in an increasingly built environment and putting any kind of artificial surface down where grass, trees and flowers benefit wildlife runs completely counter to environmental policy at local and national level. I intend to take this matter to a higher authority if it proceeds, to protect the natural environment of the park.

Very little publicity has been given to this major change of use. Many older residents of Ellon do not have social media, others choose not to use it. The park was gifted to the people of Ellon which means the whole community should agree to remove the park from their use and enjoyment. The usual planning notices have not been displayed openly around the park itself. It is a travesty to proceed without further consultation in an open and inclusive manner giving due consideration to the environmental damage and the impact to the social and mental health of park users that would result from this project.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

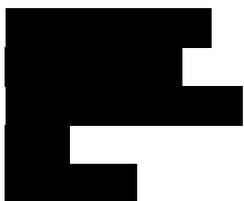
[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 14 April 2022 20:06
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Gordon park

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

we are not against the cycle track being constructed in Ellon but not in the Gordon park as it's the only green area left in the middle of Ellon and parking would be an issue for people coming in to Ellon to use the track



Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15 April 2022 11:45
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Asset transfer request for Gordon Park by Ellon Wheels Park Group

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear Manager

I writing to express my concern about the proposed asset transfer request for the lower part of Gordon Park to be leased by the Ellon Wheels Park Group for development of a wheel park. My understanding is that Gordon Park was gifted to the Ellon community by Arthur Gordon in 1909 and has been protected by Fields in Trust since 2016. I do not have any objection to a wheel park being developed in Ellon as I think this will be an asset for the community and the people who would use it. However, I do believe that Gordon Park is not the correct location for it. The Gordon Park is used by all members of the community, young and old and is a treasured green, peaceful space for everyone to use. It is a central location and is used for many community functions such as the gala and bonfire night. The local primary and nursery schools also use it for outdoor activities and many families exercise their dogs there. I believe that the proposed wheel park will have a detrimental effect on this beautiful park and impact on the health and mental well being on those who would no longer have the wonderful green space that is there now to use. I use the park on a daily basis and would very much miss having the use of the lower park as it is now. If we only had access to the top of the park, this access would be limited when other activities such as cricket and other sports activities are happening.

I would ask that you re-consider the asset transfer of the Gordon Park to the Ellon Wheels Park Group and consider where else the wheel park could be located in Ellon to ensure that the welfare of the majority in Ellon is paramount. Thank you for your kind consideration.

Kind regards

[REDACTED] a daily user of Gordon Park.

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15 April 2022 13:40
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Asset transfer Gordon Park Ellon

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Good afternoon

I strongly object to this asset transfer. This is a park that interlinks many residential areas and is the only public open green space accessible to the residents around the park and the local residents of meiklemill, Modley area, Ythan terrace, Brodero and others. it's also the only open green space left in the centre of Ellon. The upper park has a care home, play area nursery and tennis court, the green space at the top has been used and respected by they community for the cricket club. 1 group/ business should not be allowed to monopolise this area. The plans are huge with no amenities, where will their spectators stand ? On the interlinking paths blocking access ? On the top monopolising the cricket grasses area ? no community engagement with those around the park who will be affected. This is for a wheel group who didn't feel the residents in the surrounding area next to the park deserved to be engaged with regarding this. This does not fill anyone with any confidence in their claims this is for the community. Scottish government policies stipulate residential areas should have public open green space and the Gordon Park should remain free at all times for anyone to use. I have read their business plan and feasibility study and this project will change the whole character and use of the area. This will destroy a community facility currently enjoyed by all. Kids fly kites there, the nursery and school children are in the bottom area most days, many walk and picnic there, the open space gives people with mental health issues a space to clear their thoughts and relax. It's a highly populated elderly community who moved near the park for a quieter life, it's the wrong location for extreme sports competitions. The lack of community engagement and consideration for residents nearest the park is extremely worrying. I also want to know how they have been permitted to apply for this given this area is protected by Fields in Trust.

I am against the asset transfer and will be requesting both the Fields inTrust and ECC are contacted. A meeting for the community, specifically residents seeing the park who will be significantly affected needs to be held and this needs to be done before any decisions are made. Also many of your signs around the park are wet and unreadable you need far more signs and they need replaced.

Owner occupier [REDACTED] ab41 9bb .

Sent from my iPhone

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15 April 2022 15:56
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon Wheels Park

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Hello,

I am getting in touch regarding the transfer request made by Ellon Wheels Park Group.

I am strongly against the Park being used as a wheel Park. I think it's a wonderful idea but in the wrong location.

As a resident of Park Crescent I have already been a victim of the youth crimes in the area, the Park already attracts large groups of youths who smash bottles, scream and shout into all hours, pee against our cars, kick our cars, and terrorise the surrounding houses. This has been to the point where our house and other surrounding houses have had to install CCTV. I know the noise made by kids late at night also negatively effects the residents of the care home.

This wheel Park will encourgae this behaviour, police and the shire Council are already doing a poor job to police this area, and this will not help.

There are other locations in Ellon better suited for this, such as the playing grounds next to Ellon Castle Park.

Gordon Park is one of the only areas suitable for fireworks, fairs and other events and it would he disappointing to not see these continue.

I am also very concerned about parking I'm the area. Very few houses in the park crescent area have drive ways meaning the residents park on the street. When events take place I'm the Park is it impossible to get parks next to our homes, which is fine a few days a year but it cannot accommodate large numbers of cars coming and going all the time. Especially for the elderly residents who need to park closer to their homes. It is also a very dangerous junction coming out of Park Crescent on the top of the road onto station Road due to it being a busy road and difficult to see round the corner and leaving from the bottom of the street is even worse, due to a tight road that leads you round to Aldi where there have been numerous close calls already, and traffic at the round about is already significant due to aldi being there. This area cannot accommodate any more infrastructure.

Thanks for your time
[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15 April 2022 21:37
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Gordon Park Asset Transfer

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear Sir/Madam

I wish to object strongly about the proposed Asset Transfer of Gordon Park to the Ellon Wheels Park Group on the grounds of

- 1) The Gordon Park was given to the residents of Ellon for perpetuity in 1909.
- 2) Aberdeenshire Council signed Gordon Park into the Fields in Trust in 2016 which makes it a protected park.
- 3) As a resident of Park Terrace which consists of mostly very elderly people which backs onto the Park were never consulted on this or any planning application at any time.

[REDACTED]
Ellon

[REDACTED]
Sent from my iPad

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16 April 2022 11:36
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Gordon Park - Request to Lease Land by Ellon Wheels Park Group

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

My name is [REDACTED]

I wish to make a representation regarding Ellon Wheels Park Group request to lease part of Gordon Park for a series of cycle tracks and a skate park.

As a resident of a house in close proximity to Gordon Park, I wish to object for the following reasons:

Traffic: The park aims to attract cyclists from across the region. They will not all cycle to the park, but many will drive. This is especially true for younger cyclists who will be brought to the park by their parents. The streets around the park, and around my house, are narrow and already congested due to on-street parking. The roads can not support any increase in traffic. This will bring hazards to the residents, children and old people that live in the area.

Parking: Similarly there is no provision in the plans for an increase in parking spaces. This will put great pressure on on-street parking which is already struggling with residents' cars.

Loss of Multi-Use Amenities: The park currently permits multiple uses. The new plans limits use to one community of people, i.e. cyclists. This is not fair and excludes the bulk of the population. I am a dog walker, and I regularly use this area of the park for dog walking, as do many of my friends. As an old age pensioner, this is the only exercises many of us can get. We will be excluded from about 50% of the park by the new plans.

Lack of Facilities: There are no toilets planned for the new recreational facilities. There are no public toilets in Gordon Park. This will lead to an increase in anti-social behaviour (i.e. public urination) throughout the Park and surrounding streets.

I do not understand why the new plans are so extensive that they take up 50% of Gordon Park. I would have no objection to a smaller development on the west side of the park only. The plans should include parking and public toilets on that side of the park.

Thank You

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16 April 2022 11:43
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon Wheel Park

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Hello,

I am writing to you to express my concerns surrounding the proposed wheel park and asset transfer.

I do not feel that the Gordon park is a suitable location for this development. I support the plans for a wheel park but not in the Gordon Park.

The area is used by lots of groups and has so much wildlife.

I do not feel there is sufficient parking and it would be better suited to the community campus area.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16 April 2022 14:50
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Asset transfer of Gordon Park

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

I wish to register my very strong objection to the proposed asset transfer of Gordon Park by Ellon Wheels Park Group. This is a much loved area of Ellon and used on a daily basis by many people from all walks of life. It provides a haven for wildlife, such as bats, hedgehogs, probably hundreds of birds and billions of insects. The wild flowers are just beginning to thrive after a lot of hard work by many groups of people.

Regards,

[REDACTED] Sent from my iPad

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16 April 2022 17:19
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Asset transfer for Ellon Wheels Park Group

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear Manager

I writing to express my concern about the proposed asset transfer request for the lower part of Gordon Park to be leased by the Ellon Wheels Park Group for development of a wheel park. My understanding is that Gordon Park was gifted to the Ellon community by Arthur Gordon in 1909 and has been protected by Fields in Trust since 2016. I do not have any objection to a wheel park being developed in Ellon as I think this will be an asset for the community and the people who would use it. However, I do believe that Gordon Park is not the correct location for it. The Gordon Park is used by all members of the community, young and old and is a treasured green, peaceful space for everyone to use. It is a central location and is used for many community functions such as the gala and bonfire night. The local primary and nursery schools also use it for outdoor activities and many families exercise their dogs there. I believe that the proposed wheel park will have a detrimental effect on this beautiful park and impact on the health and mental well being on those who would no longer have the wonderful green space that is there now to use. I use the park on a daily basis and would very much miss having the use of the lower park as it is now. If we only had access to the top of the park, this access would be limited when other activities such as cricket and other sports activities are happening.

I would ask that you re-consider the asset transfer of the Gordon Park to the Ellon Wheels Park Group and consider where else the wheel park could be located in Ellon to ensure that the welfare of the majority in Ellon is paramount. Thank you for your kind consideration.

Kind regards

[REDACTED] daily user of Gordon Park.

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 17 April 2022 14:44
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Objection to Asset Transfer - Gordon Park, Ellon

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

This e-mail is to register my objection to the asset transfer of the lower section of Gordon Park to Ellon Wheels Park Group.

Gordon Park is one of the few green spaces in Ellon and is used by many different sections of society to walk, meet, play and take the benefits of being in a natural space.

Turning the lower section into a cycle/skateboard park will destroy the natural ambience of the park and additionally will prevent many of the uses of the park, such as cricket, the annual bonfire and the carnival.

There are other locations in Ellon that could easily accommodate the wheels park and offer better facilities - beside the academy or in the castle park industrial area for example.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 18 April 2022 10:53
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon Wheels Park Group and relates to land at Lower Gordon Park, Ellon.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

I very much support the plans for the Ellon Wheel Park
The facility looks very well planned and will be a welcome addition to the town. Complemented
by our Ythan Cyle club and a team of keen volunteers. It will be a treat to have a new sports
facility in the town,

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 18 April 2022 14:25
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Objection to Proposed Plans - Ellon Wheels Park

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Good Afternoon,

I wish to submit my objection to the proposed plans by Ellon Wheels Park Group to change the Gordon Park into a skate park and bike track.

This green space in the heart of Ellon should not be tarmac and a more suitable site should be found for what is a good idea.

Thanks,

A large, solid black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

TO WHO IT MAY CONCERN

I HAVE SEEN THE REQUEST MADE BY ELLON WHEELS PARK GROUP TO LEASE LAND AT LOWER GORDON PARK ELLON TO CONSTRUCT A WHEELED SPORTS AREA. I HAVE NO OBJECTION FOR A WHEELED SPORTS AREA IN ELLON BUT DEFINATELY NOT AT LOWER GORDON PARK ELLON. IN THE SUMMER MONTHS THIS AREA IS USED BY A LOT OF CHILDRENS GROUPS DOING SPORTS TRAINING OF ALL KINDS. BOTH BOYS & GIRL GROUPS USE THIS AREA MOST NIGHTS DURING THE WEEK AND AT WEEKENDS. IF YOU COVER THIS IN CONCRETE WHAT HAPPENS TO ALL THESE KEEN KIDS AND THEIR MUMS & DADS. WE NEED TO ENCOURAGE THESE GROUPS AND NOT TAKE THEIR TRAINING AREAS AWAY. PLEASE FIND ANOTHER AREA FOR YOUR WHEELED SPORTS AREA THAT DOES NOT ENCROACH ON OTHER PEOPLES ENJOYMENT. I WILL SUPPORT YOU IF YOU GET THE PROPER AREA

YOURS FAITHFULLY [REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 18 April 2022 14:56
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Gordon Park Asset Transfer - Representation

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

To whom it may concern,

This is an email to lodge an objection against Gordon Park Asset Transfer to Ellon Wheel Park Group.

Gordon Park is a currently a multi use green space. Green spaces are very important and should not be tarmacked and concreted over for a specific sport / association

Best Regards,

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 18 April 2022 20:26
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Gordon Park

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

I strongly disagree that the park should turn into a skate park & cycle road. The grassed area is important as a county park where people relax & walk their dogs, a beautiful spot hidden behind houses off the main road. I wouldn't object to a skate park located on the higher green. Somewhere where teenagers & younger can learn an active skill but doesn't take over the main green.



Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 19 April 2022 17:01
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon Wheels Park Group

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

As a longtime resident of Ellon who has used Gordon park along with other members of my family. I do not believe that this is a good use of this area. This is restricting the use to a minority where as at present the area can be used by all. Recently there has been representation regarding numbers of youths who have been causing a disturbance within this area and as the park is a main access across from south side of the river it could end up as a no go area for some residents in an evening.

Regards

[REDACTED]

Ellon

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 April 2022 11:33
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon Wheels Park

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

FAO Formartine Area Manager

Dear Area Manager,

As a long term resident of Ellon, I am very surprised (and dismayed) that there is even consideration of a plan for a large Wheels Park in Gordon Park, Ellon.

It is crucial for the character of the whole town to retain Gordon Park and other green areas we have. We are already seeing a steady erosion of the riverside with various developments - I truly think we need to retain this amenity which is used for leisure and provides some tranquility for the whole of the Ellon Community and wider Aberdeenshire.

It is a vital part of the character of the town and I would strongly urge you to reject these plans, which would ruin the ambience of this park and generally be to the detriment of the town.

If this wheels park is really deemed necessary, surely a site nearer the new community hub, by the new academy would be more appropriate and enable us to retain the character of our great town.

Best regards,

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 April 2022 12:07
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Proposed Asset Transfer Gordon Park

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

The above lease is to construct a BMX/ Skate park with adjoining cycle tracks .

I write to strongly object to the siting of this development in Gordon Park.

The development would fundamentally destroy the ambience and nature of the green park area which many people from the Bredero and Meiklemill estates use regularly as a quiet walk into town.

The park would attract congregations of (presumably younger) people and act as a focal point for potential noise and other anti-social disturbance to local households, both from vocal noise but also noise from the tracks, particularly the skate park. The development would in short create a very large risk of a potential statutory noise nuisance. The peace and quiet enjoyed in a summer's evening by local residents in their gardens would be an amenity lost for them and the development will undoubtedly attract noise complaints, quite rightly in my view. Such a loss of amenity , if proven, is also legally actionable.

In the above regard has any noise assessment been carried out and submitted to the Planning and Environmental Health Departments ? If not presumably this would form an integral and very important part of any evaluation of this proposal.

Another important factor concerns access to the various tracks and skate park. Has any thought been given to the extra vehicles (transferring cycles eg) which the area would attract , possibly necessitating extra parking facilities and adding to disturbance ?

In conclusion, I believe that this is an ill thought out proposal which should be refused. The development would remove a large green area used by all of the people of Ellon simply to accommodate the wishes of a small group of enthusiasts .

I have no objections to such a development being constructed in a suitable open area , away from residential areas , eg the open grasslands adjacent to Ellon Academy, but certainly not in Gordon Park.

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 April 2022 14:30
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Re: Asset Transfer Request, Gordon Park, Ellon

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Thank you for that information Donna

While I am happy to hear the response from the Ellon Wheels Park Group, this is not a matter on which I am open to persuasion. There is little enough public green space in Ellon without giving over what green space remains to be concreted over for a facility of this type.

There have been numerous proposals for skate parks over a course of many years, and none of them have come to fruition. That is in part because skate parks are generally sought by youngsters for a limited time in their lives, and there has been insufficient continuity to bring such a proposal to fruition. Even if one should, the next risk is likely that a lack of continuity might result in poor management, maintenance and, ultimately, dereliction.

While I do believe that a properly managed and funded project is both worthwhile and desirable, it is perhaps indicative that no commercial venture has thus far shown interest in such a project.

I would hope that a more suitable site, preferably brown field, might be identified.

Regards

[REDACTED]

From: Donna Sutherland <donna.sutherland@aberdeenshire.gov.uk> on behalf of Formartine Area Office <formartineareaoffice@aberdeenshire.gov.uk>

Sent: 20 April 2022 10:44

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Asset Transfer Request, Gordon Park, Ellon

Good Morning,

Thanks for your email.

Your representation will be shared with Ellon Wheels Park Group to allow them an opportunity to respond. Personal information will be redacted first. All representations and responses to these from the group will be published on the Council's website in due course.

Thanks,
Donna

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 April 2022 09:50
To: Formartine Area Office <formartineareaoffice@aberdeenshire.gov.uk>
Subject: Asset Transfer Request, Gordon Park, Ellon

Good morning

I write to OBJECT to the Asset Transfer request of the lower section of Gordon Park to the Ellon Wheels Park Group for the purposes of constructing a skate park.

That area of the park is currently well used for a variety of purposes by the general public and should be maintained for that use under the terms of the gift.

While I fully support the concept of a skate park, I would suggest that a less ambitious project on an alternative site would perhaps be more affordable, achievable and maintainable in the longer term. Perhaps the car park on Golf Road, which has been historically under-used would provide a viable alternative?

Regards

[REDACTED]

Ellon

[REDACTED]

This e-mail may contain privileged information intended solely for the use of the individual to whom it is addressed. If you have received this e-mail in error, please accept our apologies and notify the sender, deleting the e-mail afterwards. Any views or opinions presented are solely those of the e-mail's author and do not necessarily represent those of Aberdeenshire Council.

Dh'fhaodadh fiosrachadh sochaire, a tha a-mhàin airson an neach gu bheil am post-dealain air a chur, a bhith an seo. Ma tha thu air am post-dealain fhaighinn mar mhearachd, gabh ar leisgeul agus cuir fios chun an neach a chuir am post-dealain agus dubh às am post-dealain an dèidh sin. 'S e beachdan an neach a chuir am post-dealain a tha ann an gin sam bith a thèid a chur an cèill agus chan eil e a' ciallachadh gu bheil iad a' riochdachadh beachdan Chomhairle Shiorrachd Obar Dheathain.

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 April 2022 16:06
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Gordon Park Plans

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] hir
[REDACTED]

20-04-2022

Dear Sirs

I'm absolutely disgusted with your plans for installing a bike park into Gordon Park. It is one of the most beautiful areas of Ellon, currently undisturbed, and your plans would only create a mess and totally destroy it.

I'm insisting that this plan is binned immediately and another site is found, if this is necessary. Do not spoil Gordon Park with this monstrosity.

Taking over the communal area of the park is not a good use of the space. This location is used by all families for many a different venture and it will be spoilt with the bike/skateboard plans. I have serious safety concerns for the general public, over this area being used in this manner.

Regards
[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 April 2022 17:01
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon Wheels Park Group

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Although I am all in favour of the Wheels Park, it will be a huge asset to the village, I OBJECT to its location for the following reasons:-

1 Arthur Gordon gifted the park to the village as he understood the need for open spaces for people. Indeed, he gifted the park before the trustees could sell it off to the highest bidder. It may be under used but that doesn't detract from the fact that it is there if people do want to use it for recreation,

2 Where are people going to park their cars? I would like to think that people will cycle there but the reality is that people will drive to the location with their bikes fixed on the back of their cars. The surrounding streets might end up a nightmare for the residents.

3 Are you aware that a sewer pipe runs north / south through the proposed area and it is not buried very deep? Also there is a gas pipe which runs east / west as well. I don't know if the gas pipe is still "live" but the sewer pipe is still in use.

By all means build the wheel park but please find a more suitable location.

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 April 2022 17:50
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Skate park

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

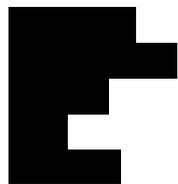
I want to respond to the skate park
I'm not against it but it's disgusting it's in this lovely park it's absolutely ridiculous to ruin a green space for a concrete jungle Put it opposite the police station the council owns the land it's already a mess the police can make sure it does not become a broken vandalism mess Why are the council so hellbent in destroying everything beautiful in nature???

We just had the worst storm in 100 years wildlife needs green space not kids screaming concrete destruction

[REDACTED] iphone

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 April 2022 21:38
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Community Asset Transfer : Ellon Wheels Park Group



To whom it may concern,

I am writing with my OBJECTION to the Asset Transfer of the land at lower Gordon Park Ellon.

This open, public green space is currently well used by residents of Ellon and the wider local community for leisure and recreation. The upper part of the park is shared between children's' playpark, cricket pitch, Gordon Park Preschool and the tennis court leaving the lower section free year round for public use. The Gordon Park, in the centre of Ellon connects the estates and several people use this area to walk between them safely including the residents of Modley House allowing safe pleasurable access to Aldi and the amenities in Ellon Town Centre. The area at lower Gordon Park sees a massive amount of responsible dog owners exercising their dogs safely every day.

I am not elderly, currently a resident of Ellon or a dog owner although I have always lived locally and still regularly use this area of the park with my son who has additional needs as he enjoys the freedom this space can offer him, despite his mobility and neurological difficulties. This CAT would create huge loss to everyone of Ellon and local surrounding area, for the benefit of a relatively small group of individuals. Transferring of this land to Ellon Wheels Park Group is entirely the wrong decision and shouldn't even be considered.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

GORDON PARK

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
21/04/2022

I am writing to object to the possibility of the large part of Gordon Park becoming a skate park and a very large cycling circuit . I have no objection to these facilities at all but the park is a very valued place for all.

It is more than just a green park. I have mobility issues and struggle often with downward spiral mentally and the park is very needed for me. I have, over the years, made some wonderful friends in the park and I can always stop (in my mobility scooter) and have very lovely times. There are always new people to talk to and it is the best park for socialling. The park is a huge part of my life and many others. It is a very special place.

So many, many people are horrified at the thought of so much concrete and the loss of so much green space. Please think again. It is very upsetting to find out about this so late. It is only now that people realized what can happen to the thought of so much concrete and loss for a space which I think belongs to the park. That is a place for everyone. It is a hub of community and the loss of that is painful for so many people beside me. Once it's done, there is no way back. It cannot be reversed.

I have no objections to this facility as a place for people but in a different location.

It is very upsetting to find out about this so, so late and no releasing of information for the general public. The more people find out, the bigger outrage. I have great fear that if it goes ahead that it will be adding on i.e. fencing, widening of pathways, the only time it will be free to access is if it's booked online, huge amounts of money for floodlights, no toilets for coach loads of people and I wonder if the top piece of park will end up under concrete too etc.

If the council let this part of land and have no part in it, then I suspect that this large part of our park will end up a business. That would be shameful.

Please, please think again!

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 21 April 2022 11:38
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Asset transfer of Gordon Park

Good morning

I do not agree that the park should be used for a cycle track. The Gordon Park is a very much loved and used green area in the centre of our town. We as a family have and still use the park most days. Kids learned to ride bikes on the grass, go sledging in the winter, roll eggs at easter now the grandchildren all do the same We take our dog there and let her chase her ball on the bottom grass as it is away from all the kids at the play park.

I am not against a cycle track for kids but not in our green area we have already lost so much of our beautiful town to development and storm damage

Regards

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 21 April 2022 21:16
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Gordon Parks destruction.

Hi.

I would like to note my concerns regarding the bike park.

This is a public park and I feel it should not be given over to a single entity.

I have no objection to the rough cross country bit (not sure the correct name) or the skate bowl, not 100% sold on the smaller of the cycle tracks BUT the large OVAL on taking up the approx 1/2 of the lower park is utterly ridiculous, This large oval will only benefit a very small number of cyclists on 5k plus bikes and will soon become a very unwelcoming place to be for normal riders or anyone else nearby.

I really feel the cycle track should be homed in a more suitable location, Meadows SPORTS centre would by my best guess, council already has the ground and could use one of the generally underused football fields, I say underused as I pass daily and generally, they are empty, there is parking available and most likely first aiders at the centre in case of accidents.

Whilst I agree there needs to be something at Gordon Park for the younger generation I strongly do not think this project is it.

Cricketers and footballers use the park, and after a few hours the park returns to the town folks to enjoy, the same cannot be said of this monstrosity.

Regards.

[REDACTED]

Sent from [Outlook](#)

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 22 April 2022 09:24
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Lease of Gordon Park to Ellon Wheels Group

I am writing to lodge objection to the proposed lease. The area of the park was a gift to all people in Ellon and is extensively used by all age groups. It is also the place where community events such as firework displays, The Ellon Gala and the Carnival will set up which further diversifies the use during the year to the benefit of all who wish to attend.

There is little in the way of parking facilities to accomodate this, mainly areas used by two Primary Schools.

BMX and Skate Parks belong in the 1980's.

I can't see how this benefits local trade.

It removes one of very few football pitches in Ellon. Football is a much more popular sport than cycling.

What happens if it fails? I assume the company liquidates and the tax payer picks up the mess.

This proposal belongs somewhere else, not Gordon Park.

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 22 April 2022 11:04
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Lower Gordon Park

I live close to lower Gordon Park and object to the requested change of use to a Wheel Park that would only appeal to a small group of people ie the cycle club. Currently the lower Gordon Park offers green space for the use of everyone in Ellon, no matter their interest. Many events are held in the lower Gordon Park throughout the year which is utilised by all ages for various groups and lots of community get together especially in the spring and summer months.

The BMX/Skate park is primarily a good idea but should not be sited in a place that is currently in daily use by the majority of people in Ellon from youth groups to the elderly who live close by.

Further the site has no facilities ie public toilets nearby. It would make more sense to site it in a place which is not currently used by so many other groups.



Sent from my Galaxy

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 22 April 2022 12:48
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Asset Transfer Request for the Lower Area of Gordon Park

Dear Sir / Madam,

I would like to lodge my objection to the Asset Transfer Request for the Lower Area of Gordon Park. I, like many other people, use this area of the park for recreational use including walking, dog walking and playing games with my grandchild. It is a peaceful and calming environment where all of these activities can be enjoyed to their fullest potential. Changing the use of this area to the new proposed use would restrict the age range able to enjoy this area, as well as making it a potentially noisy and ugly environment. One of the arguments put forward for the change of use is the potential to bring more people to Ellon for recreation. However, considering there are no official parking areas associated with the Gordon Park, then these people will undoubtedly park on the surrounding roads which are completely unsuitable for that type of parking. Lastly, whenever I have seen any areas designed for skateboarding tracks or cycling tracks inevitably they end up being graffitied and being an eyesore.

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 22 April 2022 12:55
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Gordon Park, Ellon - Asset transfer objection
Attachments: Gordon Park shelter.jpg

Attention of planning department

I wish to formally lodge my objection to the Ellon Wheels Park Group application for an Asset transfer of the Lower Gordon park in Ellon for the commercial development of an area of protected green space parkland.

The Gordon park was gifted to the people of Ellon over a century ago and is indeed a vital part of the heart of the town and should be enjoyed by the entire community and not just a select few wishing to develop a commercial cycling and skateboarding enterprise.

The last attempt to provide a skate/BMX area in Ellon resulted in the destruction of Willie's shelter (which had been enjoyed by multiple generations over several decades) by vandalism.

If you consider the grassland required for cricket in the summer months & the dedicated children's play area, the lower half of the park is effectively the only free area available for dog exercise and outdoor sports activity for roughly half the year.

Track cycling at speed would create a safety hazard for the existing people using the park for dog & general exercise, sports activities and recreation.

The burden placed on the police to patrol and protect the proposed facilities would need to be considered as vandalism is already a factor within the park (see attached example).

There are other areas available within the town for development such as old trim track & car park on Golf Road which would not infringe on the last remaining centrally located open greenspace in Ellon.

If the Golf Road site is impracticable due to drainage challenges then perhaps an area near to either the Meadows Sports Centre or the Ellon Academy & Community Campus would be far more logical as these sites are already used for sports activities operating under supervision.

The Gordon Park is used for public events such as the Annual Gala, Fireworks display and visiting attractions such as travelling Fairs etc and losing the bottom half of the park would significantly impair or make such events impracticable or unsafe.

The heritage of Ellon is an extremely important consideration & whilst cycling, mountain biking and skateboarding are all important leisure activities worthy of support by the community, the Gordon Park is clearly not a suitable location for these facilities.

If the land is to be used for paid tuition and coaching then gifting the land with a nominal rent arrangement is not good value for the people of Ellon in exchange for the greenspace lost.

If the development is unsuccessful & the facilities then fall into disrepair who will pay for the reinstatement of the area to parkland? I have recently noticed that the BBQ areas at the foot of the park have now been removed & wonder what the cost of their creation and subsequent removal with no regular use by the public during their life span actually was?

In summary I know in my both my head & heart this proposed development is not an appropriate use of protected green space in Ellon and an alternative location should be found.

Regards
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Ellon

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 22 April 2022 15:05
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Gordon Park Development

Gordon Park has always been for the benefit of all ages and where we can gather for bonfire nights and summer fetes. Whilst I think it would benefit from having better lighting I doubt a skate/bmx bike circuit will enhance the centre of Ellon or improve the quality of life for the people who will be unlucky enough to have to put up with the noise and disruption of such a development so close to their homes. I cannot believe there is no alternative to this site.

I know people live in hope that providing such amenities will ensure our youth will happily cycle and skate board for hours on end having such a terrific time they will no longer want to gather to drink and smoke and basically cause a nuisance. It is a small minority that are guilty of this and they will not stop because of a skate park. It will still have to be checked for broken glass every morning before younger children can be allowed to play there. Eventually parents will not want their children using it

It is just what happens everywhere. Teenagers want a meeting place to have a can and a smoke. I know I did! We will lose the use of a huge piece of our park for nothing

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 22 April 2022 15:58
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Friends of Gordon Park, Ellon/ Ellon Wheels Park Group.

To whom it may concern.

I strongly object to one of our authentic green spaces being used as a wheeled sports area.

The lower Gordon Park area is hugely popular with dog walkers such as myself and it is a safe area for owners to play with their dogs, AWAY from children's playparks which are already scattered about Ellon.

If the lower Gordon Park is utilised entirely (as per your plan) as a wheels park, it means dog walkers such as myself will have no option but to use the upper Gordon Park which is home to our Ellon Cricket Club and I can only imagine the impact that would have on their games/competitions in the summertime.

In wintertime, the area would become a gathering ground for young people who'd be unable to use the icy structures and therefore perhaps attract a different crowd ie vandalism, not to mention injuries with potentially no adults/guardians nearby.

I am also concerned about our elderly people of Meiklemill /Bredero/Craighall housing areas. These structures are quite high and there's a public pathway surrounding the lower park. Elderly people could become frightened by the 'tricks' and intimidated by the noise. Some elderly people dont have access to a car due to underlying medical conditions/finances/personal choice/enjoy their daily walk to the shops in Ellon. The perceived intimidation could severely affect thier mental health.

The lower Gordon Park is a wide open space and is one of a kind in Ellon. It was gifted to the people of Ellon, for all the people of Ellon to enjoy, not just a niche group of people.

Bear also in mind, some of the 'anti-social' (drinking in public places) young people come in from other towns (Peterhead, Oldmeldrum, not just Ellon) The Gordon Park is so central, it would just be another meeting place for anti-social behaviour.

It would make far better sense to accommodate this facility (from your plans) at the Meadows Sports Complex. Meadow Sports facility is used by public and young people alike.

There are adults in the sports centre who could be of assistance to our young people using the wheeled sports area. The Meadows Sports Centre area would be better supervised for any anti-social behaviour and support could be summoned from there when any injuries occur.

Regards

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 22 April 2022 18:23
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Wheel Park Objection

Hello

I am writing to place a formal objection to the building of the wheel park which is proposed at the lower end of the Gordon park.

This has not been properly discussed with the residents of Ellon, especially those living in the direct vicinity like me.

I have grown up in Ellon and used this park most of my life and I am disgusted as to how this has been handled by the Council.

As you are aware this park was gifted to the people of Ellon and I believe the council have no right to gift it to a private firm at the cost of £1 per year.. The percentage of people in Ellon who would use this space for such "sports" I'd extremely low compared to the percentage who use it now for it's intended use!

And don't even get me started on traffic and parking and toilet facilities!

I along with many others will be fighting this all the way!

Regards

[REDACTED]
Long time Ellon resident

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 23 April 2022 00:01
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Objection to asset transfer of Lower Gordon Park

Good evening

I have had a look at the proposal for the asset transfer of lower Gordon Park to Ellon Wheels Park Group and I have some concerns. I like the idea of a skate/bike park for the community however I feel that Lower Gordon Park is not the best place for it. Close to the new school or on the Schoolhill site where the old school car park is would be better suited to their needs as the area has more favourable road access. Provision of toilet facilities needs to be taken into consideration.

The access to the Gordon Park area from Meiklemill is narrow and best suited to pedestrians. I have had numerous close shaves with young and not so young cyclists riding over the bridge from Meiklemill to the Modley side, it doesn't occur to them to dismount & walk the bike on the narrow approach paths and bridge. The increase in bike traffic would be a real hazard for pedestrians, dog walkers, elderly folk and toddlers finding their feet when out of their pram. Using the railway walkway and riverside paths can be fraught as a lot of cyclists do not use bells and feel they have the right of way. I walk through the Gordon Park area every day & I do not want to feel I have to constantly be on the alert when out enjoying the fresh air & green space.

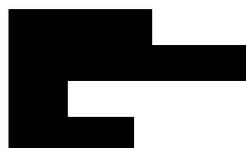
The residents around Gordon Park are mainly older, elderly or vulnerable. The influx of cyclists with the possibility of associated noise, bad language, litter, road congestion and bikes on the pavement would impinge on their quality of life that could lead to anxiety, fear and depression. There is a real possibility of late night noise disturbing the residents when they want to settle down and the negative impact on their wellbeing could be made worse by the introduction of floodlighting.

I am also concerned that this skate/cycle park will encourage gatherings of teenagers late at night with the potential of drinking/drug use which may lead to anti-social behaviour. Previous incidents have involved setting fire to the shelters, vandalising the toilets and the skate pipe at the playground.

The taxpayer has contributed to the planting of trees on the periphery of the park to encourage biodiversity & help increase the wildlife, which is great. However, I feel that where money is involved then wildlife & trees are soon tossed aside and any concerns by the public are ignored and overruled. When Gordon Park was used for the Ellon Gala it was an ideal location, the lower park was the venue for the motorbike display team and the top park had all the stalls, beer tent and burger vans etc.. At other times local football & rugby teams made use of the lower park & cricketers used the top park. In the winter, families with children come out to use the slopes between the upper and lower parks for sledging.

Transferring lower Gordon Park to build a concrete skate/bike park on green space gifted to the people of Ellon by Arthur Gordon would be a poor decision & I would be very disappointed in Aberdeenshire Council if that was granted.

Yours sincerely



Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 23 April 2022 14:45
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Gordon park

I feel I must highlight my dismay at the proposals regarding the destruction of our only park to create a cycle track. The Gordon park is a much used and loved area for young and old although I have no objection to the creation of a cycle track area we definitely should not be sacrificing our only park to accommodate it.

By doing this we would loose the capacity for our children to be able to run free in a wide expanse of grass not everyone has the luxury of a garden area. I also have concerns about how much usage a cycle track would actually get considering you have to pay to access it.

Also what will happen to our Bon fire and gala events both very popular and loved by the Ellon town folk.”

Please listen to the folk of Ellon and reject this plan.

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 23 April 2022 19:44
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Gordon Park proposed skate park

Dear all,

I am writing on behalf of our [REDACTED] who is objecting to the proposed plans to build a skate park at Gordon Park.

We are also objecting to this due to the fact this is the only green space left in Ellon for dog walkers, children's play groups and family picnics.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 24 April 2022 11:51
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Proposed plans by Ellon Wheels Park Group

Dear Sir,

My name is [REDACTED], Ellon.

I do not object to this facility being built, i just feel that this would be suited elsewhere.

I think that this a beautiful green space where families and pensioners enjoy walking.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

Dear Sir/Madam,

I object to the asset transfer of the land at the Lower Gordon Park.

This land was gifted by Arthur Gordon to the people of Ellon. Note “the people of Ellon” not for the use by the few. I cannot image that in 1909 Arthur Gordon ever intended for this land to be partly concreted over and only to be used by a few.

I have no objections to a biking facility such as this but this is NOT the location for it.

Look at another facility in Gordon Park, the tennis courts, hardly ever used. No doubt if there were no tennis courts a few people would be claiming that Ellon needed tennis courts!

When the circus comes to town as it has done in previous years where will it be located? It had better not be on the top part of Gordon Park where there is a cricket pitch or any of the other sports fields in Ellon, ruining pitches.

I assume that the proposers have said there is a demand for a wheeled sports facility such as this. If that is the case where on the plans is the car parking for this facility. Don't try and tell me that everyone is going to arrive on their bikes because they won't.

I can only see this facility as a huge disturbance in terms of parking for the people living nearby which includes a sheltered housing complex.

If this piece of land is asset transferred who is guaranteeing the up keep of this facility? After an initial surge of interest, it will more than likely die down and probably only be used by a few people. It is easy to build a facility, it is another thing to look after it! I predict loads of weeds growing all over it. To prevent this happening, persons applying for this asset transfer should be named and made to commit to keep this facility in a tidy, well-kept manner and if not, action taken against the named individuals.

What is the point of placing Gordon Park in Fields of Trust and then be taken out of this protection. This is as bad as Trump being given permission to destroy a designated Site of Scientific Special Interest for a golf course.

Sorry, but this biking facility should be located elsewhere.



Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 24 April 2022 16:34
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Proposed plans by Ellon wheels park group in Gordon Park

I have been a resident of Ellon for more than 40 years and have enjoyed the benefit of the local multi use Gordon park.
I think it would be a serious mistake to dedicate half the park to cyclists. I am sure the many young mums will object to cyclists whizzing by their kids and prams. One accident will bring the lawyers in.
The park is used a lot by dog walkers ..dogs and cyclists don't mix well ..both will end up getting hurt.

I think you should find a safer location for this cycle track.

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 24 April 2022 20:10
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Gordon Park

As a resident of Ellon and a daily user of all areas of Gordon Park I would like to object to an asset transfer of any part of the park. I see this park used by all age groups daily and wish that it continue to be so.



[Sent from Sky Yahoo Mail for iPad](#)

24th April 2022

Dear Area Manager,

I have heard that a community asset transfer is being sought to install a skate/cycle park in the lower area of Gordon Park. I object to this proposal as I feel this is the wrong location for the proposed plans.

The support for this facility has been sought without stating a location, and a lot of the support is from individuals from across the UK, many of whom will never have been to or will ever visit Ellon. The support is for the concept of a skate and cycle facility in Ellon, however much of the objection is to the location of the facility being in the Gordon Park. The residents adjacent to the park were not canvassed for their thoughts, and many of the groups that use the park for leisure and recreation have not been informed of the plans.

If many of the non-local supporters of the scheme were to use the facilities, they will be travelling by car and there is no provision in the local area for parking, toilets or changing for these events. To disrupt the local community with additional traffic and congestion goes against any policies now being promoted by government to preserve the tranquillity of residential areas for mental health and wellbeing of those living in quiet communities. This proposal will, and already does, cause stress and inconvenience to the mainly elderly local residents, some with disabilities. It will limit the benefit of the Gordon Park for exercise, socialising and relaxation. I work full time commuting to Aberdeen, and value my quiet street and garden to relax and unwind and use Gordon Park regularly for walking and as a pleasant space to cross to get to the shop across the river. If this development went ahead, I will be less likely to access the park and am anxious about the disruption to the local streets. I have already experienced the cycle group obstruct the footpaths for pedestrians in the park on a Saturday, and parking in the small carpark by the Nursey. With current use of the park, parking can cause congestion in Park Terrace, we have had issues of access for council waste disposal vehicles and delivery vehicles. The streets are narrow with limited access, so increased congestion could lead to safety issues if emergency vehicles need access.

There are activities that take place regularly in Gordon Park, the Funfair is just leaving, the Gala will be on in a few weeks and of course the fireworks. These do cause disruption to the area, but combined, you are looking at fewer than 72 hours across the whole of the year. These events appeal to a wide range of the local community, whereas the cycle and skate park will only appeal to a small segment. A community transfer will allow a small group of people the right to organise large events and activities 365 days of the year, with no warning or notification to the residents. The prospect of the charges proposed for the use of the area will make it inaccessible to most of the adjacent residents. I object to a local organisation being able to profit from a public community space.

I have concerns about monitoring of the activities in the park after a community asset transfer. There are comprehensive plans proposed, but once the transfer is made, who ensures they are implemented as proposed? I know that the community asset transfer of the Castle Gardens and Deer Park were meant to be for the benefit of all the community, and under the condition of providing parking and allotments for the community. This has failed to be implemented. The gardens are only accessible at a charge and the allotments were scrapped, so how can we be sure that the plans put forward for Gordon Park will be adhered to? If the scheme fails, will the group have funding available to put the park back to its current state, or will it just be left to fall into decline? There is to be ambitious grading and reshaping of the ground. This will take time, involve heavy machinery, and cause disruption to residents and park users. How is this facility to be maintained, and by whom? Who can residents' approach if this project causes a nuisance?

I have not been a resident of Ellon for long, but I have found the community in my street to be very welcoming and supportive to me during the 4 years, and they have wonderful stories of Gordon Park in their lifetimes in this street. It really would be a shame to spoil this wonderful community asset for the benefit of a few.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 25 April 2022 10:11
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Gordon Park Asset Transfer Request

Categories: Green Category

Dear Sir/Madam, I wish to comment on the suggestion of an asset transfer of the lower part of the Gordon Park in Ellon to the Ellon Wheels Park Group. Whilst I do agree that there is a need for more facilities for the young people in Ellon, I do not agree with this area of a communal park being transferred for the sole use of this group. This area is used by the community for a wide variety of purposes throughout the year e.g. The visiting funfair, Ellon Gala Day celebrations, the Ellon Fireworks Night celebrations to name a few. These are activities enjoyed by the whole wider community, along with just the general day to day use of this green area. I do not think it is fair to allow this area to be limited to use by just a smaller group of the community. I do think this facility (a cycle/skate park) would be a good idea but not when it is removing the use of this area from a wider group of the Ellon community. A more suitable area for this wheels park could be found elsewhere - one suggestion was the use of the Council yard in Golf Road when it is taken out of use, but more investigation could be made for other suitable sites elsewhere in Ellon - just not in the Gordon Park please - it is too big a loss of this communal green area which is for the use of the whole of Ellon, not just a limited group.

My name and address is as follows:

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 25 April 2022 14:59
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon Skate Park

Categories: Green Category

Hi,
I would like to advise that myself, husband and parents object to the proposed skate park. There will be a lot of noise, trouble, litter, cars and even more increased intimidation enabling more (largely young) to hang around in groups. This should feel like a relaxed safe space for all ages no taken over by 1 group and taken away from all others!

Please direct this appropriately.

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 25 April 2022 15:02
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Gordon park, ellon

Categories: Green Category

Hi i am a resident of ellon, the mother [REDACTED] and a dog owner i am a frequent visitor of Gordon park whether it be taking my [REDACTED] to the park or walking my dog around the park. Gordon park is a well used area for many different reasons over the years i have just recently been to the funfair at gordon park we really enjoyed it, we also enjoy the annual bonfire night. I have also witnessed Ellon Primary use the park during school hours.

When i take [REDACTED] to the park on the lighter nights i feel intimidated by the teenagers that hang about there at night with there language and there use of drugs i have lost count as to how many times i have taken my child away from the park due to this reason. I feel that gordon park should be left as it currently is to give the younger children a chance to get free play without having to worry about main roads, i am not against the skate/bike area i just feel it would be better in a different location. I got told that there was a survey that got put round ellon about this but i am sad to say that i didnt receive any information regarding this and neither did parents who are also residents of ellon and feel that a different location would be better for this area also.

Hope people opinions matter in this as the teenagers of this generation have no respect for anyone, i would also like to add Ellon used to have a skateboard area and it got vandalised and burnt down by teenagers another reason why i feel it would be better in a different location.

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 25 April 2022 15:42
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: proposed plan for gordon park

Categories: Green Category

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Dear Sir

I strongly object to the proposed plan to allow Ellon Wheels Park Group to be sited in Gordon Park.

As I understand this area was left for the use of ALL Ellon residents and while this would be a great attraction for younger people I am sure Ellon has more suitable sites.

This is last convenient green area for old and young alike to meet and relax away from traffic pollution, and surely the parking in nearby housing estates would be inconvenient and dangerous. Where would local gala day and bonfire night be held or do we lose those as well?

Trust that you will do the right thing for all residents

Regards

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 25 April 2022 19:06
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Gordon park, Ellon

Categories: Green Category

I wish to express my concerns and objection regards the plans for a cycling park within Gordon Park Ellon.

Gordon park was given as a green space for the people of Ellon to enjoy.

These plans would take away a large part of our park.

The plans for the cycle park are far to close to residential homes commonly occupied by older people causing noise and nuisance which can be very unsettling.

Gordon Park is already known as an area where younger people gather in the evenings causing trouble and nuisance, this would only encourage more people into the park of an evening as a place to hang out.

We already have trouble from young people all over Ellon, the park sadly be a target for vandalism, graffiti ect further spoiling our green space.

There are no public facilities or enough parking in the area forcing people who may come to the cycle park to park in surrounding streets causing problems for residence.

Gordon Park is the wrong place for this development.

The park is protected by the Field Trust.

These plans would spoil a vital free green space within Ellon used by many for recreation and for the betterment of their mental health.

Another area within Ellon should be sought for this facility if it is to go ahead.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

[Sent from Sky Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 26 April 2022 09:32
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Gordon park -cycle track

Categories: Green Category

Great idea BUT wrong place!!

I am very concerned for the elderly residents who live near the park for many reasons -some are frightened!! Also the river walk and park are one of Ellon's greatest assets to be enjoyed by all - walkers, dog walkers,young and old, visitors and the like.

Please do not take away this community space!

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 26 April 2022 10:06
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Asset transfer of Gordon park grounds to Ellon wheels park group

Categories: Green Category

Hello

I am writing regarding the recent asset transfer request. I am not against a skate park at all but do not believe Gordon park to be suitable grounds for it. This area was gifted to the people of Ellon and has been used for many years as an area where people come together. Football games, funfairs, bonfire nights, dog training and much more. I have lived in Ellon all my life and this central green area has been used by many. It is a beautiful space that all of Ellon should be able to enjoy not just those with bikes and skates. Many a picnic has been had in the area while small children run around. A game of rounders in the summer with groups of friends getting together. I do not agree with the land being transferred and feel that it would be detrimental for the community of Ellon.

Please let them know that I am not against the skate park but feel very strongly that this is not the place to put it. Do not take green space away from the centre of our beautiful town.

Kindest regards

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

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Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 April 2022 11:41
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Gordon Park

Categories: Green Category

Good Morning,

I am writing to you regarding the proposition of building a skate park in Gordon park in Ellon. As much as creating a space for teenagers to meet is a need, this project is not a good idea.

I am myself the mother of a teenager. The reality is my daughter refuses to go to Gordon Park without an adult due to teenagers (the school bullies) creating chaos at the park. She doesn't feel safe. Anti social behaviour at the park is well known and documented. Creating such a space will only make thing worth. Anyone living by the park who experience first hand those will tell you that. Recently 3 times teenagers have tried to break into one of the shed on Modley Place, climb on the monkey bars in Ellon Primary.

Gordon Park is a lovely green space in Ellon. Destroying half of it for concrete structure is destroying the heart of the village.

People are using this space as a dog park. It is safe, nice. Several dogs can run at the same time and play together. Dogs can be off lead which teaches dog trust into human and behaviour within a pack and around people. A skate park will mean all dogs will have to be kept on leads. Many breeds are reactive to bikes, car (anything with wheels to be honest) which mean that using Gordon Park won't be possible for many dog owners for the safety of their pets and the public.

A skate park will be used for less than 100 days a years between rain, ice, school days, winter.... In many places, those structures are damages and too costly to fix and fall into ruins.

Also, Gordon park is part of the local eco-system. The ground allows heavy rain to be absorb to avoid flooding. What are the provisions regarding drainage? Will rain just stay until it dries up. Stagnant water is full of parasites. Not ideal for a family place.

Birds (crows, blackbirds, pigeons, robin...) uses those grounds to search for worms to feed their young. People forget too often that birds were on earth long before humans and it is our duty to protect them from extinction by preserving their inhabitat.

Parking around Gordon Park is chaotic at best already around school hours or each time there is an event. People have no consideration regarding double yellow line, driveways. Victoria Hall Parking is small and full very easily. What will be in place to make sure parking restrictions are respected? Will the council employed Parking wardens when cars are parking on the double yellow lines on Station Road without consequences?

Who will be in charge of cleaning up? You know we cannot count on people to pick up after themselves and currently, a man is walking the park every morning to pick up trash lest on the ground. He is not a council employee but a man who like keeping our park clean. Will the council have employees to make sure it is safe to use every day?

Living next to Gordon park, I firmly believe building any structure on a green space will destroy our village. Any consultations have been online which means elderly people living around the park have had no possibility to express their opposition.

The reality is that many project of this type were built and within few years, due to the cost of repairs, they were left unused and in ruin. Gordon park will be gone by then. It will be just one more concrete structure needed to be destroyed but no funds will be allocated to it so it will stay there. It will just be a disgraced grey concrete structure in what used to be a beautiful park.

Kind Regards,

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 April 2022 13:04
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Representation - Gordon Park Asset Transfer Request

Categories: Green Category

Dear Sir / Madam

I am writing to make raise my concerns and objection, to the proposed construction of a wheeled sports area as detailed in Asset Transfer Request by Ellon Wheels Park Group.

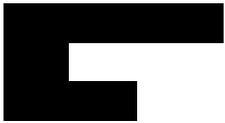
I will firstly start by saying, that i absolutely support the idea of building this type of facility in Ellon and think that it would be a great asset to have for locals, in particular younger people, who have an interest in wheeled sports. The proposed area of Gordon Park, however, does raise many issues for me, which leads me to object to the plans to build the facility in the proposed location.

1. The park is a public facility that everyone can use. The proposed construction area is frequently used by dog walkers, children playing sports, people doing fitness training, local school and nursery children and others, including the Ellon Wheels Park Group for training sessions. If the proposed area is changed to the planned wheeled sports area, this hugely reduces the number of people who can use this public space. Only those with an interest in wheeled sports would be able to make use of the facilities, which in the grand scheme of things is only a small minority of the amount of people (i.e everybody) who can currently make use of this public space, which seems rather unfair. Perhaps if the construction plans were changed to only use 1/3 of the currently proposed area, this would be a fairer option. In addition, local events such as Highland Games, Galas, Bonfire / Firework nights, Funfairs ect would no longer be able to continue in the way that they previously have done.
- 2.
3. The Gordon Park area has extremely limited parking availability in its surrounding areas, which are mostly residential streets. If this proposed area is built, there is the potential that people from further afield will come to use the facilities by car, causing additional parking problems for local residents. Additionally, construction of this proposed area would cause further parking and traffic issues for local residents for the duration of construction.
- 4.
5. The Gordon Park and surrounding residential areas, over the past couple of years particularly, have had increasing number issues with teenage antisocial behaviour. It is well known meeting point for local teenagers to meet on evenings and weekends, who drink alcohol and more often than not end up causing disturbances in the local area. These instances of antisocial behaviour are regularly reported to the police and are well documented on local social media pages. Common occurrences include loud and disorderly drunken behaviour; smashed glass bottles over children's play areas, paths and grass, causing risk of injury to park users; intimidation of other park users and local residents; verbal and physical abuse of other park users and local residents; vandalism of park facilities and local residents homes & cars. There is serious concern from locals that the construction of the proposed facility will attract even more of this type of behaviour to the area, causing local residents even more issues. This is not to say that the members of club who are proposing the new area would be the ones to cause this behaviour while using it, but the facility

would undoubtedly attract others to do so. It is also worth noting that there is a care home for elderly people right next to the park who would be greatly affected by further increase to antisocial behaviour.

In summary, the addition of the proposed wheeled sports area would be a great asset to the local community and surrounding areas, but the location proposed is not appropriate. A smaller scale area which would take away less of the space away from the public may be an alternative, but would still come with concerns and would obviously not fall in line with the ambitions of the Ellon Park Wheels Group. Ultimately, i feel i better suited location should be found.

Yours Sincerely



Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 April 2022 13:55
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Community Asset Transfer, Gordon Park, Ellon

Categories: Green Category

Address: [REDACTED]

Hi, I would like to indicate my support for the community asset transfer to Ellon Wheels group.

This will help to encourage active travel and provide a community facility.

I appreciate that there are concerns raised around car parking in local residential streets, however most people using the park either use non car based travel or can park in Victoria Hall car park, and as we require to move to less car use, this facility is directly helping to achieve that.

There are concerns around behaviour generally in Gordon Park, however this is not limited to Gordon Park, and the community should not be held hostage to developing facilities that allow people to enjoy play (most elderly people I know who are likely living on their own enjoy seeing people playing), and encourage active travel due to a handful of people misbehaving.

Most behavioural issues are sought to be improved from community engagement, e.g. police organising pop up activities, to do this we need to engage with people and have the facilities to do so.

The group involved have committed to long term active use and support of this facility, and their are other groups who can benefit such as live life aberdeenshire.

Other concerns have been raised around losing green space and biodiversity, the group have committed to retaining bio diverse areas on the outskirts of this area, and expanding these, and responsible water management. As the chair of the local environmental community group (Sustainable Ellon) I support this development on the basis of supporting an increase in and people's confidence in active travel (at present facilities for this are lacking, historically being limited to Victoria Hall car park, or Ellon Primary school playpark, or people cycling round the tracks of Gordon Park which is not suitable due to narrow lanes and shared use).

Thank you for your time.

Kind regards,
[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 April 2022 14:05
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Asset Transfer - Land at Lower Gordon Park, Ellon

Categories: Green Category

Dear Sirs

I write in connection with an Asset Transfer request submitted by Ellon Wheels Park Group relating to the lower section of Gordon Park, Ellon.

Please record my objection to this application. Gordon Park is an important green space in the heart of Ellon, providing an open link between Station Road, the primary school, children's play area and public walks along the River Ythan. The importance of Ellon's community-owned green heart is recognised by its inclusion on the Fields in Trust list of protected parks – in this case in the Queen Elizabeth Fields Protection Type. In addition, Aberdeenshire Council should not consider leasing an area that has been gifted to the wider community of Ellon, it's availability and use must not be restricted in this way.

I am certainly not suggesting that the town should not have a skate park, but this is not an appropriate location.

Please consider these points and, if the Council supports this type of facility, provide an alternative more appropriate location that does not compromise the use of public open space.

For clarity, I confirm that I object to this CAT application being granted.

Thank you

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from Outlook 2016

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 26 April 2022 14:23
To: Formartine Area Office
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Ellon Gordon Park proposal

Categories: Green Category

Attn Area Manager

Sir, regarding the Ellon Gordon Park, wheel park proposal, I have the following comments to make –

I totally support the venture itself and think it will be a tremendous asset for the burgh, attracting visitors and providing much needed entertainment for local people of all ages.

However, The Gordon Park was gifted with the intention of providing a green area for the people of Ellon in the centre of the burgh.

Already, one third of the park has been lost to the building of the primary school in 1960. Ellon was expanding, the population was increasing and there was a desperate need of a new school.

Parking in the area is already a challenge. A successful new facility will hugely increase the traffic footfall.

Secondary age children already walk or cycle to the new campus therefore there can be no objection on the grounds of distance, to the new facility being located at Cromleybank.

Therefore I suggest that this alternative location be investigated.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 April 2022 16:26
To: Formartine Area Office
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Annexation of Gordon Park

Categories: Green Category

I object to this proposal as Gordon ParPk was gifted to the people of Ellon in a Trust by Arthur Gordon & therefor must be illegal, & certainly immoral.

I am,

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 April 2022 16:57
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Skate park in Ellon

Categories: Green Category

To whom it may concern

I am emailing to raise a strong objection to the proposed building of a skate park in the Gordon Park. I live opposite the park and use it all the time for dog walking and attending events there. It is the only green area in the middle of Ellon and is used especially over the summer by the School, 2 nurseries, football, cyclists, cycling proficiency, walkers, Ellon Gala, sports days etc. By using the whole of the lower area every recreational event would have to be the upper part of the park. This is with an increasing population. I have no objection to a skate park being built but I believe the Gordon Park was for the use of all people in Ellon and not 1 group and certainly for a commercial enterprise.

Yours with thanks

[REDACTED]

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Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 April 2022 17:33
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Community Asset Transfer - Gordon Park

Categories: Green Category

I am writing to you to support the community asset transfer for Gordon Park Wheel park.
I believe the Friends of the Gordon Park Committee have a vendetta to get as many to object to this as possible.

As a member of another small community group trying to better the community I am emailing in support of such an amazing facility to be placed in what is an unused area of Ellon. As a mum to two boys who will grow up in Ellon I cannot wait to see the opportunity this facility will bring and the people this could bring to Ellon which will then help our local businesses!

With Thanks

[REDACTED]

Sent from my Galaxy

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 April 2022 18:00
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Support for wheel park

Categories: Green Category

Good day,

I am writing in support of the land exchange in Gordon park for the wheel park.

The plans for this development is an asset to Ellon, that will increase footfall into the centre and help with recovery after the pandemic.

In addition it will encourage children/young people and adults to exercise. This will help with the rise and issue of obesity in children as well as mental health issues by providing a place where they can exercise regularly.

It will also encourage use of scooters/skateboards and bikes around Ellon helping with the environmental & green Scottish government agendas.

That particular area of Gordon park is not utilised efficiently and provides an excellent central location for residents of Ellon to get too.

The park is also in easy walking distance from the car parks, or bus stops where users may travel in to use the facility.

Huge support for this to go ahead.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 April 2022 18:53
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon Gordon park proposal.

Categories: Green Category

I would like to formally object to the cycle park development in the gordon park.
In my view the change of use would adversely impact the use and enjoyment of the park for the vast majority of the Ellon population who do not want the park useage changed so dramatically.
Little thought seems to have been invested in the traffic management issues this would bring not to mention removing a significant amount of the few green areas left in the town.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 April 2022 18:53
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Fwd:Ellon wheels park group

Categories: Green Category

Sent via BT Email App

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Apr 26, 2022 at 6:51 PM
To: formattineareaoffice@aberdeenshire.gov.uk
Subject: Ellon wheels park group

I think this is an excellent initiative and I think one that is long overdue for the youth of Ellon. It's about time this was passed and work started, it's fairly overdue for my family, I'm sure it will be positive for many others.

Please pass this initiative

[REDACTED]

Sent via BT Email App

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 26 April 2022 18:55
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Community Asset Transfer- Gordon Park

Categories: Green Category

Good evening

Please can you lodge my support for the Community Asset Transfer request for Gordon Park, Ellon by Ellon Wheels Park Group.

I can only see this as beneficial for the community and local businesses as a whole. The small minority who are objecting, some who actually live in Aberdeen strangely enough, are objecting as they feel that users of the park will park outside their homes, which I think would be mostly untrue considering most users will bike/scoot/skate/walk to the park.

Thank you

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 26 April 2022 19:01
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Support for Community Asset Transfer - Gordon Park, Ellon

Categories: Green Category

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to voice my support for the Community Asset Transfer of an area of Gordon Park to the Ellon Wheels Park Group.

I am a resident of Ellon, and my husband and son are keen cyclists with my son also enjoying stunt scootering. They have previously used similar facilities to those proposed, at towns elsewhere across Scotland.

The area of Gordon Park proposed for this use is a simple area of grass which requires maintenance by the Council and, in my experience, is used for dog walking mostly. There is occasional use for a travelling fair and an annual bonfire (both of which are extremely noisy and must be disruptive for local residents). Alternative locations are available in the town for these events so there should be no detriment to the wider community and indeed it should be a positive development for those local to Gordon Park.

There would appear to be little natural fauna or flora in the specific area as it is entirely laid to grass, so I believe the environmental impact is negligible.

It would be wonderful if Ellon could be 'put on the map' and have these facilities for everyone in the community to use.

I am aware there is a group of very experienced, enthusiastic and trustworthy individuals involved in the committee developing this proposal and I am certain they will make this a successful facility for Ellon.

I wish to register my full support for the Asset Transfer.

[REDACTED]
T

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 April 2022 19:11
To: Formartine Area
Subject: Proposed Cycle Track - ELLON.

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are writing to register an objection to the proposed cycle track in Gordon Park, Ellon.

Gordon Park was left for the use of the people of Ellon and that to us equates to EVERYONE, not a minority. Not only is it WRONG for anyone to demand it happens - we live in a democracy - but to think that this is what ALL the residents of Ellon want - we don't think so.

If this cycle track gets the go ahead, what about the elderly residents living right on the edge of the park, also the elderly residents of Ythanvale? Very unfair and totally thoughtless. You know full well it will be noisy, litter be left and not everyone will be sticking to soft drinks! Not everything revolves around the youth of today, one must respect all who and what has gone before. We as a family have spent hours using the park in the past with no cycle track required.

We also noted that a supporter of this cycle track said cycle lessons could be included in their plans. WHAT? Anybody old enough to be there, with their bike, would they not already be able to go a bike? DOH!

We have no objection **at all** to a cycle track being built in or around Ellon but definitely not in the public park. Public means exactly that, it is there for the public, to be enjoyed by all.

Thanking you for allowing us to voice our opinion, that's what comes with living in a democracy.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 April 2022 19:17
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Fwd: Ellon wheel park - support

Categories: Green Category

[REDACTED]

Begin forwarded message:

From: [REDACTED]
Date: 26 April 2022 at 19:13:19 BST
To: formartinareaoffice@aberdeenshire.gov.uk
Subject: Ellon wheel park - support

As a resident of Ellon, I support the wheel park and it's location in Gordon Park.

I feel that the location is central with easier access for families in Auchterellon, Meiklemill and Brodero and the estates around Castelton etc. Gordon Park means that younger users could still walk/cycle there without pushing those families into vehicles to access the wheel park were it to be located elsewhere.

Although use of the lower part of the park will be curtailed by this venture, I feel that the wheel park would have more regular use throughout the year compared with the few activities that would be cancelled (or potentially relocated).

With a seeming increase in reports of younger people hanging around town, a dedicated area for them to learn new skills and practice their wheel skills would be useful.

Development would hopefully also improve the lighting within the park, making it feel safer for people to use the riverside path.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 April 2022 19:17
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon Park- Capital Asset Transfer

Categories: Green Category

Dear Sirs

I wish to register my support for the proposed transfer to Ellon Wheels Pump Track/Cycle Track/Skatepark

Since ever I can remember [REDACTED] Ellon has been screaming for a location such as this, the time is right. There's so little for the young (and not so young) to do in the centre of Ellon I feel that this should be encouraged

I understand some will object because of the closeness to some elderly houses but I am so sure these elderly residents would enjoy watching the activity that should be encouraged - at the moment they stay inside and feel vulnerable because of the unsocial behaviour that is a constant blight to the area.

Please, please go ahead and support this worthwhile transfer for the good of the town in such a good central location

Thank you

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 26 April 2022 19:18
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Community Asset Transfer - Lower Section of Gordon Park Ellon
Categories: Green Category

I write to note my Objection to the above application by Ellon Wheels Park Group.

My reasons are as follows:

1. Gordon Park is used by a large majority (including myself) of Ellon Community for walking their dogs on a daily basis. I personally prefer the park to the railway line due to the amount of runners and cyclists who think it is a dog walkers job to make way for them!
2. Gordon Park is close to a development of housing which accommodates a number of elderly people and also includes a Care Home. This Wheels Park would surely create a lot of unwelcome noise on a regular basis
3. I believe that the whole of the 'Shire' would end up descending on Ellon for this type of facility and if there is no parking nearby, this would only cause bad feeling within the community
4. Gordon Park could be put to better use, for example, quarter of the Lower Park Area could be fenced off as a Training Park for dogs like the ones in Mintlaw; Inverurie; Bridge of Don etc. This would stop people having to travel out of Ellon
5. I don't have any objection to the actual Wheel Park but this really is NOT the right part of town for this. It would be best if it was out of the main town centre maybe in the area of the new academy

Yours rather angry

[REDACTED]

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 April 2022 19:28
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon Skate Park

Categories: Green Category

I fully support the proposal
Regards

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 26 April 2022 19:38
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Gordon Park.

Categories: Green Category

Good evening,

Just wanted to email to offer my support for this proposal for Gordon Park to have a bike track. Always seem to opposition to whenever anything is proposed for ellon, but anything that gives children exercise, fresh air, time away from screens and misbehaviour needs support. Those opposing seem to think parking is an issue but if its a bike track cycling to such area surely would counteract that. Also people exercising their dogs quite happy for them to not clean up after their animals elsewhere. Thanks [REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 April 2022 19:39
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Bike park

Categories: Green Category

Hello

I just want to voice my support for the bike park community asset transfer of the lower section of the Gordon Park. Ellon is hugely lacking in facilities for children. To think how much it as grown in the last few decades with hardly anything added to the town's infrastructure. It maybe would have been ideal if the council could have put a side land for a new recreational area in the recent developments in the town but as the hasn't happened it has left little options for an appropriate area that can be used. Therefore I support the application for the bike park. Thank you.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 26 April 2022 19:55
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon wheel park SUPPORT

Categories: Green Category

Good Evening,

I would like to formally submit this note of support for the proposed wheel park in Gordon Park in Ellon.

This would be a fantastic addition to a neglected patch of ground in the centre of Ellon. It will be used by many and will liven up the town centre.

I can't see any reason for this not to go ahead. There seem to be a number of complaints regarding what to do with the bonfire, gala etc. It would be ridiculous not to have this facility for the sake of saving the land for a few days use a year. There are plenty other locations the bonfire can go. The gala is always held in the upper part of Gordon park. This area is barely used currently and this facility would be well used by Ellon residents as well as bringing people from out with the town and revitalising the town centre.

Best Regards,

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 April 2022 20:09
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Skate Park Ellon

Categories: Green Category

Good evening,

I would like to provide my full support for the building of the skate park in Ellon.

Thank you

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 April 2022 20:13
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Notice of Asset Transfer Request by Ellon Wheels Park Group of the lower part of Gordon Park

Categories: Green Category

[REDACTED]

I wish to object to the above request by Ellon Wheels Park Group. Gordon Park is the largest public green space in Ellon which was gifted to the people of Ellon to be used as a Public Park or Pleasure Ground and to be maintained by the Burgh Council - now part of Aberdeenshire Council. Other parks were created to comply with building regulations which applied to the housing estates being built in the town, but are not large enough to accommodate community events e.g. the Gala and Bonfire Night.

The Blench Charter decreed that "avoidance of anything calculated to interfere with the amenity of or to create a nuisance to any other grounds adjoining or to the occupants thereof" is forbidden. The vast majority of residents of housing near the park are against this transfer.

Apart from a pavilion and a Park Keeper's cottage, building of any other structure was forbidden. The construction of various tracks and ramps is a contravention of this condition. The children's playground areas for obvious reasons are secured as is the small exercise area at the bottom of the park.

What is known as the tennis courts, were tucked in beside the pavilion and are a permanent fixture, but were designed for multi use as volleyball and netball areas. The cricket ground area and the lower pitches are used for many other activities and all equipment is removed at the end of play to allow free access to all other users. The tracks and ramps needed for this Wheels Park are permanent fixtures and of no use to anyone apart from cyclists.

The carnivals pay a bond to cover the cost of repairing any damage they cause which is returned if not needed and also pay a substantial fee for use of the ground. All other teams pay a token amount for use of the park but certainly more than £1.00 per year peppercorn rent.

Reading the business plan produced by the Wheels Park Group, they intend to charge for training and also suggestions regarding a facility to sell snacks and refreshments. Again selling goods/services for personal gain is forbidden whether it be to an individual or a club.. They produced this documentation themselves referring to it as a business plan.

The proprietorial attitude of the adults towards other park users on Saturday mornings and the total lack of respect of all areas of the park, at times being downright rude, is appalling. This attitude is continued as they proceed towards McDonald Park trundling through the area used by children from Ellon Primary Nursery and children living nearby for play. Unless the 2014 update of the management plan of McDonald Park and Caroline's Well Woodland which saw the total ban of cycling amended, allowing cyclists to use the avenue to access the Formartine and Buchan Way has been superceded this is against the bylaws covering these areas.

There were plans underway to upgrade and promote the use of the park prior to Covid and unfortunately these had to be put on the back-burner as was the maintenance of the park itself. The use of the park for an Easter egg hunt was a very popular event and has resulted in several ideas of other events which would include the whole community.

The Wheels Park Group have had 2 years to plan this application and put everything together. Very few people knew of this and social media is not the platform which should have been used. The Community Consultation from 6th July to 2nd of August was another event which very few people were aware of and provided the information that 43% of the support for this came from 31-45 year old and 31% from 46 - 64 year old. Hardly supporting the argument that this would be attractive to teenagers and resolve all problems of antisocial behaviour in Ellon.

Several of the points I have made are garnered from people I have spoken to, but for various reasons do not wish their names to be published. Probably the most interesting comments were made by someone heavily involved in a club very similar to that proposed for Ellon. They stated categorically that the infrastructure is not in place - especially regarding parking- and because of the site it is impossible to put it in place. The source of electricity for floodlighting provided for a contribution £2 an hour is ridiculous and the deficit would have to be subsidised. Add to this that there are no facilities for toilets, changing rooms and storage for equipment and no space left for these within the area they request transferred to their control, the siting of these and therefore the expense involved would fall to the Council. Far from saving money this could result in great demands on a cash strapped Council.

Yours sincerely,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 April 2022 20:18
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Skate Park

Categories: Green Category

Good afternoon

I write to fully support the asset transfer and plan for a skate park facility in Gordon Park.

A good use of a community space.

Regards

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 26 April 2022 20:21
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon pump track /cycle park. Skatepark

Categories: Green Category

As an Ellon resident of over 17 years please find my support for the application. I only wish it had been built a few years ago. It will make a great use of the space and this is an ideal central location.

Best regards

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 April 2022 20:35
To: Formartine Area Office

Categories: Green Category

I'd just like to give my support for the community asset transfer of the lower section of Gordon park in Ellon to Ellon wheels park group.

The proposed use of the space would be fantastic for the area.

Although I don't live in Ellon we have family who do that we regularly visit but we very often go to other towns/villages to use their skateparks as there isn't one in Ellon.

Regards

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 April 2022 20:37
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Support for Cycle / Skate Park in Ellon

Categories: Green Category

I am emailing my support for the cycle / skate park in the bottom half of the Gordon Park. As a local resident with 2 young children I can only think of benefits to them and others with having this in our town. This attraction will bring people from other towns and that can only be a good thing for ours.

Best Regards
[REDACTED]

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Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 April 2022 20:44
To: Formartine Area Office
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Proposed asset transfer of land at Gordon Park, Ellon

Categories: Green Category

Formartine Area Manager

I wish to register some concerns about the proposed Asset Transfer of approximately 50% of the green space to the South side of our Gordon Park.

I have concerns about some decisions by your Planning Department but this email is about the use of the land.

1. I believe that the Gordon Park is one of the greatest assets that the people of Ellon own from a recreational viewpoint and that our citizens should not be effectively banned from access to about 50% of this area as may be necessary for Public Safety. Unless animal proof fences are erected around the whole area, it will be impossible to keep dogs from running across the tracks while enjoying their daily exercise.
2. I do not deny that there is a dearth of opportunities for our youth to entertain themselves in the Town, I have never been sure that this is the right place for this project. I understand that there is no suitable space left at the Academy site but feel a negotiated purchase of an area of land adjacent to the Town boundary at Cromleybank would have been a better option and within approximately the same distance from the Bridge at the centre of Town. However some of my comments below would also apply to this alternative.
3. Before I am accused of NIMBY, this proposal is far enough away from my house unlikely to be a problem.
4. Having seen a number of similar projects, initiated with all good intentions, fall into only occasional use and into disrepair, I feel that the Council need to look closely at the terms of any Lease.
5. I understand that the organisers are aware of the need for a Bond to cover the total cost of removing all of their infrastructure and to return the land to it's present state as a football pitch and open parkland. I would suggest that at least two dates should be included in any Lease, say four and ten years from commencement at which there should be an assessment as to whether the area is getting regular use (not just occasional) If not, then the organisers should be made to instigate the removal.
6. On a minor note, as one of the persons who do a Litter Pick in the Park on approximately 300 days a year, I would hope that whoever is organising this area are made to carry out daily removal and disposal of litter. It is a number of years since the Council had staff and funds to carry out this work and they rely on Volunteers to do it for them.
7. Our Council should not be responsible in any way for the routine maintenance, repainting, signage etc of these facilities but should have the power to ensure that these works are done.

The above notes signify my concerns about the Lease but I would like to express some concerns about the Planning Departments views on the proposals.

Firstly, I admit that I have not seen these but have only got anecdotal information.

1. I believe that the Council feel that there is no requirements for any Toilet or Changing provision. This is already a problem and I am sure that the Esso Garage would be happy to discuss the problems that they have with their Toilet and youngsters from the Park.
2. Likewise, they do not believe that there is any need for Car Parking in the area, on the basis that users of the bicycle tracks will ride their bikes to the Park. I believe that many parents of the younger users and those from outside the centre of Ellon will be bringing their children by car. The streets in the Park Road and Modley areas are already packed with residents vehicles and are unsuitable for additional parking. The parking area around the Victoria Hall is available but some way from the lower park and I think that the parents of younger Skateboarders will feel the need to supervise their offspring.
3. There is already a great need of CCTV coverage in the Gordon Park for security purposes. This will only increase and there will be a need for evidence of dangerous behaviour and bullying.

All the above may read as a little negative but my concerns are for Towns assets and to ensure that any such Lease shall be for our citizens advantage and not just for a particular minority.



Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 April 2022 20:49
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Capital asset transfer

Categories: Green Category

Dear Sir/madam

I am sending this email to show my support for the capital asset transfer for the lower part of the Gordon Park. I have lived in Ellon all my life and I really feel for the children in the area. There is nothing for them and this project would be a great addition to Ellon. The park is of a great size and reusing this part would not affect anyone. I am looking forward to seeing this project take off.

Regards

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 26 April 2022 21:05
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Support for assets transfer of Gordon park

Categories: Green Category

Dear sir/madam,

I am writing to you in support of the community assets transfer of the lower Gordon park to the ellon wheels park group. I feel strongly that there is a place in ellon for this and this is an ideal location given its centrality and accessibility for all within the town of ellon. It would be of great use for all ages and for future generations to come. It would be of benefit for the younger generation and give them something to do. Having 2 young children myself I know how much this will be utilised and negate the need to travel to other locations with this excellent facility. It will also bring about business to local shops and cafes. This is an essential transfer that must be in favour.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

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Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 April 2022 21:03
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon skate park

Categories: Green Category

Please find my letter of support for the planned skate park in Ellon. We really hope as a family this will go ahead



Thanks

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 April 2022 21:05
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Support for Ellon wheels pump track

Categories: Green Category

I wish to submit an email of support for the Ellon wheels pumtrack organisation that is currently in negotiations for use of the Gordon Park in Ellon, being an avid cyclist I feel it'll be a great addition to the town. I live outwith Ellon in Newburgh so it will be amazing to have such a facility within cycling distance of my home. I feel that the outlying villages of Ellon will benefit strongly from this project. Me and my partner are also expecting our first child later this year and I can already picture myself showing my child how to ride their bike at such a great facility.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 26 April 2022 21:06
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon Skatepark SUPPORT

Categories: Green Category

Hello,

This is an email from an ellon local in full support of the proposed Ellon Wheel Park. It will give much needed life to the community and a great place for all people to enjoy, learn new skills and have fun. There is a deep need for a skatepark and activity space in Ellon and the town would benefit from it greatly. I have been skateboarding for 13 years and know the strength of the Aberdeen/Aberdeenshire and Scottish skating scene as a whole and can confidently say it will be used and cared for.

Thank you

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 26 April 2022 21:07
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Capital Assets Transfer - Gordon Park, Ellon

Categories: Green Category

Sir/Madam

I fully support the change of use for the section of Gordon Park proposed for the Bike/Skate Track.

This would be a great facility for everyone in the area as well as attracting visitors to the town. It is something my family would be interested in using and we hope the plans go ahead.

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 26 April 2022 21:10
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon pump track

Categories: Green Category

Dear Sir or Madam

I would like to lend my wholehearted support to the Ellon Pump Track project. As a lifelong cyclist and father of a keen skateboarder I believe this project is exactly what's needed for young people in the area, something to encourage physical activity, healthy competition and social interaction. The Gordon Park is the perfect location, central and accessible to the whole community. It is currently poorly utilised and this project works undoubtedly bring some vitality to the area.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 April 2022 21:11
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: ELLON WHEEL PARK GROUP

Categories: Green Category

Upon reading the Facebook Post this evening and having read the leaflet thst was out through the door I FULLY SUPPORT the go ahead for the park to be transformed into something thst done have broken glass all over the place from school kids thst are out at night bores, nothing to do.

Having been a child myself I know that we made our own fun and games but that was over 30 years ago. Now it's all about drink n drugs and figure hugging clothes, fake tan and make up, so the proposed planning of this should be given the green light 100 % . I have an 8 year old boy and he comes to Gordon Park daily and I know he would probably love the wheel park.

kind regards

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 April 2022 21:20
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Email of support for capital asset request Gordon park, Ellon

Categories: Green Category

This email is in support of the capital asset request Gordon park, Ellon by Ellon Wheels. As a mum of a young family I believe this is an amazing, innovative and sustainable resource for Ellon, for all ages.

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

Sent from my Huawei phone

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 April 2022 21:24
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Proposed Ellon Skate / Pump Park

Categories: Green Category

To whom it may concern,

We wish to contact you regarding our support for the proposed Skate / Pump park at Ellon.

Being in our mid to late 40's we come from the generation that didn't get things like this built for us as young teenagers.

We didn't have options for recreation that didn't cost money to doother than football in areas with NO BALL GAMES signs everywhere.

We have a 7 year old son that is getting into skateboarding and cycling and having provision for purpose built facilities that cater for young people is essential for keeping them developing skills and being being able to socialise in a manner that keeps them away from boredom.

As from personal experience that is not a positive thing for the local community having bored young people around so it's important we give them things to do.

We hope this facility gets the go ahead as we will definitely use it, I'll even be dusting off my own skateboard and BMX once again.

Yours Sincerely

[REDACTED]

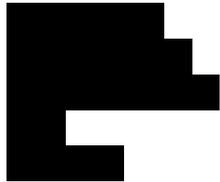
Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 April 2022 21:43
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon Skate/Cycle park

Categories: Green Category

Good evening,

I would like to state my positive feedback for the Community Asset Transfer of the lower part of Gordon Park to allow for the build of a Skate park and pump track as proposed. I have lived in Ellon almost 10 years now and would love to see such a fantastic asset for both young and old! In the proposed central location of Gordon Park then it will allow easy access for all and attract visitors from neighbouring towns which will help our local businesses too. There have been concerns raised about youth in ellon recently and I think this will be an excellent place to allow them to enjoy a hobby together and encourage pride and caretaking of the area.
I am very much in agreement with the transfer.



Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 April 2022 21:52
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Support: Ellon - Gordon Park Asset Transfer

Categories: Green Category

Hi,

Re: Ellon Cycle Park - Gordon Park Asset Transfer

I'd like to submit an email of support for the aforementioned asset transfer.

As an Ellon resident of 36 years (since birth) and as a parent of a 9 year old boy, I feel the proposed cycle park would only benefit Ellon and it's inhabitants.

My son asked me to 'vote' to ensure the park is approved, so I thought emailing my support would be the closest possible option.

Thanks for reading.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 April 2022 21:52
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Support for Ellon Skate Park

Categories: Green Category

To whom it may concern,

Please accept this email as my SUPPORT for the proposed Pump/Cycle/Skate to be located in the lower section of the Gordon Park, Ellon.

I believe this facility will be a great feature for the town and will give children and people of all ages a fantastic opportunity to develop new skills. I also believe this is a great central location, accessible to the majority of the town's population.

Thank you

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 26 April 2022 21:54
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Support of asset transfer

Categories: Green Category

Good Evening,

I would like to submit my approval and support of the Capital Asset Transfer request that is in for the lower section of Gordon park for the Wilon Wheels pump track/cycle track.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 April 2022 22:10
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon Wheel Park

Categories: Green Category

Good evening

I would like to voice my support for the planned skate park in Gordon Park Ellon.

We have visited the skatepark in Aberdeen's Westburn park previously and my son thoroughly enjoyed it so to have something in Ellon would be fantastic.

The area proposed I feel is a perfect as it currently very under utilised part. Whenever we utilise the park we have never had a reason to access this part and will play football at the top part.

I look forward to the wheel park being built and being a frequent user.

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 April 2022 22:30
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Support: Ellon Wheel Park

Categories: Green Category

Hello,

I would like to lodge my support for the wheel park proposed in the lower section of the Gordon Park in Ellon.

I foresee it being a great asset for both young people and anyone involved with enjoying taking part or watching positive inclusive accessible sports and healthy lifestyle activities in the centre of Ellon.

This is long long overdue and has been spoken about since my days as a youth here (a long time ago now!).

Positive diversionary activities and offering a new pursuit for people and the place to learn new skills and develop sports.

I think it's a great idea, and also think it will turn the area into a more positive, better used and safer space.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 April 2022 22:33
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Support for Pump Track and Skate Park

Categories: Green Category

Hi there,

I am an Ellon resident and regular user of the Gordon Park where I walk my dogs and also run alone and coach running groups.

I absolutely support the proposal for the pump track and skate park on the lower part of Gordon Park.

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 April 2022 22:45
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: CAT Gordon Park Ellon

Categories: Green Category

To whom it may concern.

I would like to pledge my support for the CAT of part of Gordon Park in Ellon to the Ellon Wheeled Project.

Thank you
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 April 2022 23:05
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon Gordon Park Capital Asset Transfer

Categories: Green Category

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear Sirs

The plans for the takeover of the Gordon park in Ellon by the Ellon Wheels Project seem to be singularly focussed on a specific section of the population. The Gordon Park has been enjoyed by generations for various sports and is occasionally given over to some temporarily to facilitate specific events; gala days, football, rugby, cricket, athletics, fairground etc.

As I understand it, this park was gifted to the people of Ellon for all of people of Ellon and the surrounding areas to enjoy and is protected by Fields in Trust since 2016.

Apart from the gifting element and protecting the wishes of the donor, there are several concerns that this development does not address.

Access. Currently the pathways in and around the park are used by the general public to access various parts of the town and provides good safe spaces to walk and exercise for all. Given that there are competitive elements to all of these wheeled activities planned, this is effectively turning the whole area into a racetrack. Organised racetracks have the great advantage of the general public not having access to them. In order to maintain safety, some of these areas shall effectively be no-go areas for the general public which is not in keeping with e with gift of Arthur Gordon in 1909.

Safety. As this shall be an area where competitive activities are taking place, accidents are likely to happen. I suspect that there shall be some sort of disclaimer that all participants do so at their own risk, but this does not cover the general public who are not participating in the activities but wish to access the park.

Parking. I suspect that the hope of the Ellon Wheels Project is that this part shall attract people from miles around as well as locals. Those travelling with bikes etc shall therefore need somewhere to park and given the general attitudes of the general public, they are unlikely to be wanting to park too far away. When there is a football;/rugby tournament at the meadows, and the car parks that are there fill up, and the car parks in castle park industrial estate also fill up, the public then start to park on the streets and very often in a very inconsiderate manner; parking across driveways, on corners, opposite other vehicles all has an impact of access of local people, buses and the safety of all road users. With the exception of the Ellon primary school car park (which I don't believe is even big enough for all of the staff) and the small car park at the pavilion, there is only the car park adjacent to Meiklemill Primary which also is unlikely to be sufficient to

cater for the numbers that the project organisers hope to attract. A small facility like Mitchell's House of Mayhem has significantly increased the number of cars parking around Station Road / Modley area.

Noise Pollution. A development such as this will create a great deal more noise than currently. Those living close by (and I suspect that none of the committee live adjacent to the park) will be subject to an increase in noise during the day, into the evenings and at weekends. Indeed, if this is going to be as popular as the organisers believe, footfall to the park shall have a significant effect on the lives of those who live close by.

Alternatives locations. With the new school now having been completed, it would seem that this area has far greater opportunities for a development of this sort and having the potential to integrate solutions in the greenfield site rather than the compromised of the brownfield site in town. Being on the opposite side of the river from the meadows would at least provide an opportunity for sharing toilet / changing facilities and parking.

Toilets and changing facilities. I am not aware of any changing / toilet facilities in the park area. Given the numbers that the group hope to attract to the area, I am surprised that there hasn't been a consideration for this in the plan. These facilities would obviously have to be built and maintained to facilitate organised activities along with some provision for adhoc visitors and activities. With the number of people expected by the group, I would be surprised if someone doesn't need a pee every now and again.

Antisocial cycling. There are a great number of very polite and courteous cyclist that take responsibility for their actions and make conscious efforts to accommodate other citizens. Where conflicts exist, it is normally in shared spaces as there are cyclists who are incapable of respecting the needs and safety of others. This occurs when taxis bully cyclist at junctions and when cyclist "ping" pedestrians (who may not be able to hear or see them approaching) to get out of their way. Making this a Wheels Park sends out the message that pedestrians and other park users are not welcome and implies that anyone on wheels has an automatic right of way.

In conclusion, I do not believe that this proposed development represents the needs of the whole community and serves only a small group. The Ellon Wheels Group believes that this development shall be very popular, but there does not seem to have sufficient consideration of the problems that this popularity would bring. I further do not believe that permitting this development is in the spirit of the gift made by Arthur Gordon to the whole of the Ellon community. It is my belief that other sites are more suitable and should be sought out by the Ellon Wheels Group and that the council should not permit this Capital Asset Transfer.

Regards



Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 27 April 2022 01:33
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon Wheels Park

Categories: Green Category

Good morning,

I am emailing to note my support for the proposed asset transfer request in relation the the lower part of the Gordon Park by Ellon Wheels Park Group.

I live near the Gordon Park and think this is a fantastic opportunity for Ellon in a great central location - my only concern would be in relation to parking facilities.

While walking through the park frequently, I rarely see the bottom of the park in use other than for dog exercise - including dogs being off lead and not in control which isn't acceptable in a public place, and dogs defecating in the area which the owners then leave and do not clean up.

While being a great asset for young people to benefit from, many adults will also make use of the facilities. Having frequented skate parks as a teen, and having to travel to access the facilities, I can only wish this had been done years ago.

I sincerely hope this project goes ahead.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 April 2022 04:54
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon Skate/Bike Park

Categories: Green Category

To whom it may concern

I would like to email to say I fully support the area in Gordon park being changed to build the skate/bike park

It will be a great asset to the town for children and adults and will bring others from surrounding areas

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 April 2022 06:09
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Fwd: Support for skate park

Categories: Green Category

>
>
> I'm just emailing to voice my support for the proposed skate park in Gordon park in Ellon. This is a fantastic opportunity for Ellon to have some free activities for the young/youth of Ellon to use.
>
> [REDACTED]
> [REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 April 2022 07:57
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Gordon Park

Categories: Green Category

To whom it may concern

I am writing at my dismay with regards to the proposed asset transfer of the Lower Gordon Park to Ellon Wheels Park Group for a £1 and the construction of a wheeled sports area. This is absolutely ridiculous. This is a lovely open green space in the centre of Ellon for the use of everyone and not just for the BMX/skateboard users.

I have no objection to such a construction being built in Ellon but the Gordon Park is not the place and even worse that it's given away virtually for free.

Why of why does the Council think that this open space should be turned into a concrete jungle. I hope this is not to save money on the upkeep i.e. grass cutting.

I'm sure a more suitable alternative site could be found.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 April 2022 08:31
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon Wheels Park

Categories: Green Category

My husband an I have NO objection whatsoever for the above facility. We feel it will be a great addition for the children and the community of Ellon. We strongly feel it should go ahead.
It's a big YES from us both.

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 April 2022 09:20
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Community Asset Transfer - Lower Gordon Park Ellon
Categories: Green Category

Sir/Madam,

I would like to lodge my support for the Community Asset Transfer of the lower section of Gordon Park in Ellon.

This is a key improvement to the local area and will benefit kids of all ages, improving their mental health and wellbeing.

Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 April 2022 09:46
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon cycle track/pump track

Categories: Green Category

Hello

I am emailing to support the transfer of land in Gordon Park, Ellon, to become a pump track/cycle track.

I am fully in support of this. Having moved to Ellon 8 months ago with a young family, this will be a fantastic asset to the town. It will be so easy for my boys to cycle/skate down and enjoy this facility, and it will increase their physical activity and turn into a regular activity, a good habit to have. My boys are excited to know this may happen, as up to now we have had to travel to other localities to use skateparks, which usually is dependent on a car and extra time for travelling, which puts us off.

We are looking forward to having this resource so accessible and will definitely be regular users.

Thank you

[REDACTED]

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 April 2022 10:26
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon Skate Park - Support

Categories: Green Category

Good morning,

I wanted to take this opportunity to lodge my support for the proposed skate park in Gordon Park.

This is a great idea and will be a very positive addition to Ellon, using an area which is currently not used other than for a handful of one off or annual events.

I hope the majority of Ellon people can see how positive this is for our town and our children and will also get behind the project and support it!

[REDACTED]

[Sent from the all-new AOL app for Android](#)

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 27 April 2022 10:33
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Proposed Lease of Gordon Park for Ellon Skate Park - Objection

Categories: Green Category

Dear Sir / Madam,

I wish to communicate my objection to the proposed lease of land at Gordon Park in Ellon for use as a skate park and other similar uses.

I believe the plans are vastly oversized and would spoil an important green space within Ellon with a huge amount of tarmac and concrete ruining the landscape. I think they would also prohibit the use of this land for other activities, such as firework displays, funfairs, bonfires etc that are regularly held in this area of the park.

I feel a proposal of this nature would be better suited elsewhere within the town, with a site adjacent to Ellon Academy potentially an option for use by teenagers.

Thank you for noting the points I raise in relation to this asset transfer request at Gordon Park, Ellon.

Regards, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 April 2022 10:35
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon Wheels Pump Track

Categories: Green Category

Dear Area Manager

I would like to register my TOTAL support for the proposed Ellon Wheels Pump Track/Cycle Track/Skatepark. This will be so beneficial to Ellon youngsters and the 'not so youngsters' in and around Ellon.

Thank You

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 April 2022 12:03
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Objection to Asset Transfer - Lower Gordon Park

Categories: Green Category

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 April 2022 22:53
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Asset transfer - lower Gordon Park
Importance: High

I wish to lodge my objection to the proposed asset transfer request made in relation to the lower part of Gordon Park.

The Gordon Park was gifted to the people of Ellon over a hundred years ago and to take it away from the people to give to a small minority would to my mind be a tragedy.

I was born in Ellon and have lived here for most of my 62 years and the Gordon Park has been an important part of my life, my children's lives and now my grandchildren's lives . I walk in the park at least twice a day and to say it is not used is a complete lie. There are always dog walkers, children playing , joggers, people walking along the riverside walk - how much less enjoyable would that be walking past a concrete monstrosity? And that's without considering all the other events that are held there at various times during the year .

I am not against the idea in principle – it would without doubt be an asset to Ellon but not at the expense of the only large green area in the centre of Ellon. I'm sure another more suitable site can be found which will allow easier access and adequate parking and allow Ellon to keep the historic Gordon Park.

As part of the ' Fields in Trust' I would have thought this area would have been protected ? If not it should be !!

Everyone in Ellon should be consulted about this extremely important proposal – I can't imagine there would be a majority in favour .

Regards



Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 April 2022 12:12
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: ELLON CYCLE PARK SUPPORT

Categories: Green Category

Good afternoon

I submit this email in support of the Cycling tracks in Ellon.

Currently myself and many of my cycling friends travel to Inverness to practise on their tracks. This is a long, costly journey of about a 200 mile trip. Living in Inverurie I know many people from my town who would make use of this facility. To add to this it provides activities and health/wellbeing options for residents of Aberdeenshire.

I hope this opinion in support of the cycle park is taken into consideration. I understand there will be opposition to the cycle track however from a young person's perspective there is not much opportunities such as this in the shire for people like myself without travelling long distances and I feel this should be taken into consideration. Our closest proper pump track such as this one would be boat of Garten so again long distances away.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 April 2022 12:36
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Asset Transfer Gordon Park

Categories: Green Category

I wish to lodge an objection to the proposed asset transfer request for lower Gordon Park.

I have lived in Ellon my entire life (39years) and the park has always been integral. Whether it's walking the dogs, playing, meeting, walking & events.

At the moment the park is fully inclusive for all residents of Ellon, to be concreted over for a small minority just seems absurd and a complete tragedy for the town & all the wonderful events the park currently holds.

However, I'm not opposed to the idea, I think it would be beneficial but there must be a better place for this? The old trim track, the old academy, balmacassie, land at new academy to name a few?

The Gordon Park is a protected area with Fields in Trust <https://www.fieldsintrust.org/FieldSite/Gordon-Park>



Sent from my iPhone

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 April 2022 12:43
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Fwd: Support for Gordon Park Capital Asset Transfer Request

Categories: Green Category

To Whom it may concern,

I would like to convey my support for the Capital Asset Transfer Request that has been put in for the lower section of Gordon Park, by Ellon Wheels Pump Track.

This would be a fantastic opportunity for the town to have brilliant facility for both young and old alike. This would be a community hub where families come together to have fun and exercise in and outdoor area.

I regularly use the park and that bottom section is very rarely used. I go to the park at various times throughout the day and I can count on one hand the number of times I've seen the grass actually being used.

This facility would bring people to Ellon from surrounding villages, who would spend money in the cafes and shops. This can only be a good thing, and I really hope a few narrow minded individuals don't stop this from getting the go ahead.

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 April 2022 12:44
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon Skate Park proposal - SUPPORT

Categories: Green Category

Hello,

I'd like to offer my support for the proposal for asset transfer for the skate park at the Gordon Park, Ellon.

The proposals look well thought out, considering many alternative locations. It seems that the proposal could proceed whilst retaining sufficient area of the rest of the park for people who aren't skaters.

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 April 2022 13:40
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon Wheels proposal for Gordon Park

Categories: Green Category

Dear Sir/ Madam,

I write to lend my support to the proposal from Ellon Wheels for a Capital Asset Transfer for the lower section of Gordon Park to develop a Pump Track/ Cycle Track/ Skatepark.

I believe this will be of significant benefit to Ellon and provide an opportunity for all people - young and old - to participate in healthy activities in this area.

Best,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 April 2022 13:58
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Objection to Asset Transfer of Gordon Park to Ellon Wheel Hub group.

Categories: Green Category

To whom it may concern.

Please accept this email as my formal objection to the Asset Transfer of The Gordon Park, Ellon to the Ellon Wheel Park Group or any other group unless for it's preservation and development of a green space and thoroughfare for local residents and visitors.

The park was gifted by Mr Gordon in 1909 to the then Burgh of Ellon for the purposes of recreation and access to all to a central green space.

I would welcome the park to be further developed to encourage biodiversity and wildlife habitat as well as an open space for all to enjoy.

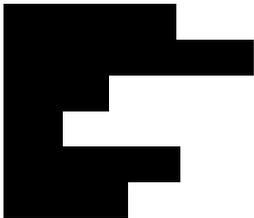
If enhancements were made to existing children's facilities I would be in favour of that.

My strong objection is to the loss of green space to a development that takes over the whole lower part of the park for the use of wheeled pursuits and in particular the cycle track(s).

I also would request that I be given access to the common land register held by the council as required by The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015.

Please acknowledge receipt of this email by return.

Thank you and look forward to your earliest response.

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area of the email.

Sent from my iPhone

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 April 2022 15:23
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Gordon park asset transfer

Categories: Green Category

Dear Aberdeenshire council

This email is confirmation of my objection to the asset transfer of part of the Gordon park , Ellon in relation to the proposed wheel park

I feel that this will have a significant impact on the green space and surrounding area if this transfer goes through and the residents of Ellon will lose part of the few green spaces we have in the town

Please send a confirmation email that you have received this objection

Regards [REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 April 2022 15:53
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Email of support for capital asset request Gordon park, Ellon

Categories: Green Category

Great to see this project gathering steam. As a keen MTB'er, MBLA holder and father of young children, I believe that access to local free high quality training and recreational facilities are absolutely essential for so many reasons. These include combating the nations obesity crisis, providing training and skill development opportunities and helping to create the next generation of world class athletes. Scotland in particular has a rich history of outstanding cyclists and facilities like this help to find and foster these talents. Pre and post covid, this nations young people have experienced a poverty of experience and this should not be further impaired by inability to travel to access high quality facilities. Let's not forget the positive extranalties to local business who will benefit from people staying/visiting and spending in Ellon. Build it and they will come. Myself and my family certainly will 😊

Sent from my Huawei phone

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 April 2022 17:11
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Proposed Plans by Ellon Wheels Park Group

Categories: Green Category

Members of Aberdeenshire Council,

I am writing in protest to the proposed plans to construct a wheeled sports area within Gordon Park. Gordon Park has been a multi-use community green space for over 100 years. I was born overlooking this Park over 80 years ago and have always enjoyed the space and have many happy memories of playing there as a child. Times and facilities have changed over the years when the chute, roundabout and swings have been replaced with more modern equipment. I remember the paddling pool, tennis courts and cricket played there all summer. Change is inevitable, I know, but this proposal is way beyond anything reasonable. Many many people enjoy the Park as is. Dog walkers, joggers, children from the nursery, fireworks, carnival, and just people out for a leisurely stroll around the peaceful walkways. I particularly enjoy the pathway that takes me in to Ellon along the river where snowdrops, daffodils are in abundance. From looking at the plan I don't see the path above the one down by the river, this is the one I must use since I need to ride in a buggy. It provides safe, easy access to the town centre, while providing the aforementioned calm peaceful outing in the fresh air.

I cannot imagine that staying the same with the noise, additional traffic and mayhem that may ensue because of this proposal.

While I am totally in favour of the idea of something like this for the town, it would be a wonderful activity for young and not so young to enjoy, I just don't think using up public, community multi-use valuable green space for the activity is in the best interests of the community at large. Please reject it and find a more suitable place to offer this forward thinking group of wheelers.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 April 2022 18:45
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Asset transfer proposal by Ellon Wheels Park Group re lower land at Gordon Park
Categories: Green Category

[REDACTED]

I am writing to lodge my objection to the above mentioned Asset Transfer Proposal as I don't think this is the right area for such a project as it is not a large enough area for any future development . There are also concerns regarding accessibility to the area with specific regard to parking, and if Emergency Services need access. In other words if this is really proposed for the good of the whole community then it needs a larger piece of land to allow for expansion.

Yours [REDACTED]
Sent from my iPhone

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 27 April 2022 21:39
To: Planning; Formartine Area Office
Subject: Objection to - Application for the Community Asset Transfer of the lower section of the Gordon Park by Ellon Wheels Park Group.

Categories: Green Category

Hello

I wish to object to the proposed Application for the Community Asset Transfer of the lower section of the Gordon Park by Ellon Wheels Park Group. Unfortunately, I feel where they have planned to use for the Skate/Bike track this will remove the park for many things it is already used for which is not available in any other part of Ellon. The area highlighted in the plans is a busy area already in use for many things that unites the Ellon community such as the Ellon Gala Days, Bonfires, the fun fairs that come to the town over various times during the year, the football clubs and rugby clubs that play in this section, dog exercising. It may also hinder the cricket club that regularly play in the park. You will also find various members of the elderly community daily having a stroll around the park as it is a nice walk local which is close to their homes. The park also hosts a good sized play park used by the kids of the two local primary schools as well as the community as a whole. The area planned will be removing the bumpy slide that all the kids love to play on. If the plans were to go ahead it will also remove one of the last good places the kids of the town can use to go sledging on whenever it snows. And the area marked out is also used by both of the local primary schools and nurseries for their sports days and other activities they are able to run in the park throughout the year.

There is also a problem already in place within the park as there is no toilet facilities available there. I feel that promoting the area for extra people attending would also highlight this problem more. Also there is no lighting at night within the park at present and over numerous years there has been issues with underage children drinking and causing problems within this area of the park that the Police already have to deal with.

I am also concerned that if the Skate/Bike track was not a success it would take many years to remove the concrete that will be put in place to reinstall the park back to the grass and natural beauty that is currently in place. There used to be an unofficial Bike track in the Meiklemill park behind the Meiklemill School that was used for a short time which was made by kids within the local community but was very quickly forgotten about as the children grew older.

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 27 April 2022 21:49
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Gordon Park asset transfer

Categories: Green Category

Dear sir/madam

I object to the asset transfer of the Gordon Park to the ellon wheel group.
This needs to be kept as a green space and public Park as was intended when it was given to the people of Ellon in 1909.
There are other areas that would be more suitable for this venture.
This has not been openly advertised enough so I did not get a chance to object to all that is being proposed. Thankfully I was made aware by people who care about the Park and the people that This would effect.
Many thanks

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 April 2022 21:52
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Asset transfer of Gordon Park

Categories: Green Category

Dear sir /madam I object to the asset transfer of the Gordon Park to the Ellon wheel group ,this needs to kept as a public park as was intended when it was given to the people of Ellon in 1909 ,there are other sites in Ellon that would be suitable for this venture that not used as much by the general public ,such as the old football pitch between Brentfield circle and auchterellon school, there is very little knowledge of the plans around Ellon especially in the two housing developments either side of the park which both have parking issues [REDACTED]

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Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 April 2022 22:09
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Asset Transfer

Categories: Green Category

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Dear Sir/ Madam

I am writing to express my objection to the asset transfer of the bottom half of Gordon Park to Ellon Wheel Park. If the park was gifted to Ellon as I believe it was it should remain an area that can be used by all for a variety of activities and not just for those interested in cycle/ scooter and skateboarding activities.

The area is already well used by dog walkers, walkers and joggers all day every day.

[REDACTED]

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPad](#)

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 April 2022 23:04
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Wheelie world Ellon

Categories: Green Category

Good Evening,

I am in support of the wheelie world for Gordon Park in Ellon. It will be a great use of space and will be a great asset for children, young people and the local community.

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 April 2022 23:10
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon Wheels/skate park

Categories: Green Category

Good evening,

I would like to submit my SUPPORT for the application for the Ellon wheels/ skate park.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 April 2022 23:12
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon cycling track

Categories: Green Category

Dear Sir/Madam

I think this is an excellent idea for the town of Ellon. We need to encourage youngsters to get off electronic equipment and get outside, meet others and have some fun and exercise. So I'm a Yes!

Thank you

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 April 2022 23:34
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Support of Ellon Wheels proposal

Categories: Green Category

Good afternoon

I am writing to register my support for the proposed bike and skate park development that has been earmarked for Gordon Park.

I can't stress how much I think this is needed for our town. I have seen how much hard work and dedication has gone in to planning and raising funds for the project and the group behind it have a brilliant vision that will elevate Ellon in a really desirable way. I think the park will be a huge asset to children, adults and families alike - you only have to look at other successful similar facilities to see how popular they are.

Not only will the park provide a space to do alternative sports, visually it will enhance the look of the area. Currently it is just grassy wasteland, and I think seeing it being used will be a wonderful improvement. The surrounding business are bound to benefit too. The new Morrison's will be so convenient, and the food premises locally will be a great chance to grab lunch or a snack.

To turn this idea down would be a huge mistake, and really shortsighted. By providing new and much needed facilities to a community that has been lacking for a long time, would be a coup that really would really make Ellon stand out in Aberdeenshire.

The noise being made by those in opposition will hold back Ellon, and to refuse planning sends a very loud and disappointing message to the next few generations of people living here. It's a shame that a group is going out to badmouth a project which has taken so much effort to get to this stage, and followed every due process to ensure they accommodated the views of as many people as possible. There will always be people that don't like change, and I understand that. But in this case, I think it's important to remember the bigger picture and keep focusing on the future of Ellon. It's a great place to live, and by providing the facility to do more activities outdoors we're investing in our town and showing everyone that it's worth the support.

Thank you for taking the time to read my view point.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 02:31
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: ellon wheels park group

Categories: Green Category

Hello,

I would like to voice my support for the proposal to bring the cycle pump track and skate park to Ellon. I have grown up in Ellon and have children now and see this as a great facility to be enjoyed by many people of all ages. The proposal has been common knowledge for long enough and the people opposing the facility at this late stage have no valid reason to do so other than to delay what will be a fantastic facility for many years to come.

Yours Sincerely

[REDACTED]

Ellon resident for 36 years.

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 03:28
To: Formartine Area Office

Categories: Green Category

Just a quick email in support of the Capital Asset Transfer request in for the lower section of Gordon park to the Ellon Wheel Park Group.

For once this is a brilliant piece of work which could bring people from all round the North East of not further to Ellon and really benefit the community. I hope this gets the go ahead and the NIMBYs who don't use the park in the first place do not influence the decision.

[REDACTED]
Ellon Resident

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 05:22
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Skate Park Proposal

Categories: Green Category

Good morning,

I am just writing to express my support of the proposed skate park facility in Gordon Park, Ellon.

The facility will be brilliant for the area in terms of people visiting the town to use the skate park (and local shops at the same time no doubt) and will also provide something much needed for the local young folk.

I think the proposed location is ideal.

Sincerely

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 05:23
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon skate park

Categories: Green Category

Dear council

I would like to show my support for the proposed skate park being suggested for Gordon park. I use this park frequently and see the bottom section where the skate park is being proposed constantly unused, what better use of this area than a skate and bike park for kids and adults to use.

The one in tarves and pitmedden do not seem to have issues with noise or disruption so I do not see why ellons would be different.

Please take this email as a show of support for the project and proposed location in Gordon park.

Regards

[REDACTED]

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Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 06:24
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon pump track/skate park

Categories: Green Category

Good morning,

I would just like to add my comments of support for the Ellon pump track/skatepark to go ahead.

I'm originally from Sussex and growing up the available skate parks were small, broken, and really weren't that good for skating on (and hence you often ended up with antisocial behaviour). I recently went back to Sussex and took my niece to her local skate park...it is a completely different story now. She has access to a full pump track and skatepark and it is full of the widest spectrum of people all behaving respectfully to each other.

I was honestly shocked at how having a decent place to go can so significantly change the behaviour that's observed. It felt like a hugely welcoming place, with people helping others.

A pump track and skatepark in Ellon would draw so many people in, not just from the town itself but across the county. Green spaces are rare, but there are others in Ellon and what Aberdeenshire doesn't lack is open countryside to explore!

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 06:35
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon skate park SUPPORT

Categories: Green Category

Good morning

I just wish to email to pass on my support for the proposed skate park being built in Ellon. I believe it will be a fantastic welcome to the town and Gordon Park is a perfect location for it.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

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Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 06:45
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Skate Park Ellon

Categories: Green Category

Hello

Just wanted to register a wee email saying my family are in support of the fab idea of a skate park

Thanks

■

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 07:07
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Support of transfer for Gordon park

Categories: Green Category

Morning,

I support the application for the bottom half of Gordon park to be repurposed as a skate park.
It's a wonderful plan for those who would utilise the area.

Regards

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 07:14
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon skate park Support.

Categories: Green Category

Good morning,

I have recently seen a lot of information regarding the possible ellon skate park. I think it's a great idea, my children and a lot of others would benefit greatly from that and it's a fantastic spot to put it.

Just wanted to send a wee email of support as have seen quite a bit of negativity from certain people on social media.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 07:16
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Support

Categories: Green Category

Hi , I just want to add my letter of support for the bike and skate park in ellon ... brilliant idea the sooner the better. Ellon needs something like this . Good luck. [REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 07:18
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: CAT - Gordon Park/Ellon Skate Park

Categories: Green Category

Good morning,

Please accept my email of support in relation to the above.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 07:35
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Support of Ellon Skate park.
Categories: Green Category

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing an email of support for the skate park to be built at Gordon Park in Ellon.

I have 3 boys 12,8 and 5 that will get much enjoyment from going, it would be an asset to the town. Currently we travel to Westburn park in Aberdeen to use the skatepark and bike park there. When we visit there are adults and children both using the facilities and everyone gets on. There is no antisocial behaviour at all so I don't know why it can't be the same in Ellon.

People coming to the town would use the shops so it benefits the town. Not everyone would need to take a car if it is at Gordon Park as it is easy accessible for everyone in the town. We are located at Auchterellon and we would walk/bike/skate down to use the park.

I find that the part of Gordon park it is proposed to go on, there is never anyone on it or using it. There will still be the top part of park to use.

Please don't let the objections put you off agreeing to the skate park, think of the kids in Ellon. They need this, there isn't anything else in the town to do.

My family would use the skatepark all the time.

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]

Sent via BT Email App

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 07:37
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon Wheels pump track

Categories: Green Category

I would like to say that my husband and I support the asset transfer for Gordon Park Ellon to get the go ahead for the bmx skateboarding track.

Think it will be good for the kids.

[REDACTED]

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Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 07:58
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon Wheel Park Support

Categories: Green Category

Good morning,

I don't believe this will need much explanation so i will keep it short.

Ellon has grown extensively in recent years. Facilities for our youngsters has not.

On social media, Ellon appears to have a youth problem quite often with kids reported flying about on bikes annoying people. Note, I said appears to.

Gordon Park is a wonderful facility but not really used by youths at all nowadays, and apart from dog walkers, the odd local event, or few games of cricket a year, it's not used at all by the community.

As long as the money can be raised without extra strain on the tax payer this can only be a win, win situation when its built.

I have family in Edinburgh, near to the Stenhouse skatepark which was built a few years back and even in the winter its busy with youths and young adults using it for the purpose it was built.

I live in Ellon and have done for nearly 20 years. I walk around the park (usually empty) i have attended gala days i had attended fireworks i have trained Meadows youth teams on the grass.

But please allow this application to be processed.

Regards

[REDACTED]

[Sent from Sky Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 08:04
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon skate park

Categories: Green Category

I would like to express my support of proposed skate park in Gordon Park. I think it is a brilliant thing for kids off all ages, my neices and nephew regularly go to the skate park in their area and love it, Ellon needs something more than the couple of play parks. I really hope that it goes ahead because it will be a great asset to the town

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

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Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 08:16
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon Skate Park - Letter of support

Categories: Green Category

Good morning,

I'm writing to offer my support to the proposed Ellon Skate Park within Gordon park.

Although I am now an Inverurie resident, I was raised in Ellon and have spent most of my adult life there so far, only moving to Inverurie 4 years ago.

Reason for my move was that I didn't want my 2 children growing up in a town where there was very little for them to do and summer holidays/ weekends are spent hanging around the town centre or streets. As a teenager we relied on our parents to drive us to another town to do activities.

I've now moved to a town where there is plenty public parks with fantastic play equipment, zip line, skate ramps, playing fields, community sports centre, bowling alley, cultural activities and so much more.

Ellon has suffered years of being only a commuter town with very little amenities other than take aways and my only reason to return is because my parents still live there. Even when my children visit their grandparents, they then drive to another town to do fun activities.

Ellon has an opportunity to create something amazing in the centre of the town that not only will entertain local families whilst engaging in outdoor energetic activities, but also attract visitors to the town which I'm sure other local business owners would welcome.

Kind regards,

E

Sent from my iPhone. Please contact 07375 473231 for any queries.

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 08:25
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Plans for Gordon Park

Categories: Green Category

Hi,
I would like to note my support for the new plans proposed for Gordon Park Ellon.
I think the plan to provide cycle/ skate facilities are fantastic and will attract more visitors to Ellon.
I understand it will be free to use by the people of Ellon as well.
The bottom of the park is only used by dog walkers from what I see.
Regards
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 09:17
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: SUPPORT - Skate Park, Gordon Park, Ellon

Categories: Green Category

Hi,

Please accept this email as my support for the change of use, by means of an Asset Transfer, allowing the erection of a skate park in Gordon Park, Ellon.

This is an opportunity for a fabulous facility for the youth of the town. Which in turn should create a lager footfall benefiting the local retailers.

Kindest regards

E

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 09:32
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Support for Ellon Wheels Capital Asset Transfer @ Gordon Park.

Categories: Green Category

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to add my support for the use of the Lower Section of Gordon Park as a combined Skate / Bike track. This could prove to be such a massive boost to the children in the area, providing them with some valuable free activities to do in town. Hopefully this will attract visitors into town who's parents may then spend money in the local shops and enjoy the local fare. This can only be a positive step for Ellon and in light of the recent problems with anti-social behaviour, may be seen as a positive move (i.e. a carrot not a stick) in alleviating the problem.

Having been to a couple of the earliest meetings on this subject, I know that the originators have gone to great lengths to find a suitable spot and the design work for this has been completed by established park designers who have successfully implemented other parks.

I hope to see it completed soon.

Regards

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 10:02
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: In support of Ellon skate park (Gordon Park)

Categories: Green Category

Good morning,

I write to you to voice full support for the asset transfer of part of Gordon park in Ellon with the intention of it being used as a skate park.

This is a facility that my children would definitely use, I believe this will be a great privilege for many people, children and adults alike in Ellon and surrounding areas. This will most definitely increase footfall into the town, not only from residents of Ellon who might not normally be active in the town but by also attracting people from outside of Ellon too.

Childhood obesity is a huge problem, this park will get children out in the fresh air and exercising, which is great for their physical health but also their mental health. At a time when wellness of mind is of utmost importance I believe this park will play a huge part in helping the mental health of many.

The area in Gordon park is disused to the point it is a crying shame and has become a waste of space. There are many other green space areas for play, walking and nature that are not suitable for the skate park and I believe this area would be utilised phenomenally more than it is now if the skate park is given the go ahead.

At a time where the cost of living is rising rapidly, we are recovering from a pandemic, and mental and physical well being has been jeopardised in such a significant way - it is essential that community groups like this are not only fully supported but encouraged by the council and the community that they represent.

Kind regards [REDACTED]

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 10:07
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Skate/bike park

Categories: Green Category

Hello.

I'm emailing you to express my support for proposed bike/skate park at Gordon Park.

It would be a positive asset as I believe that there needs to be something for kids to do. At the moment, the park is used for antisocial behaviour, drinking etc and the lower half is usually empty apart from the occasional dog walker.

Regards

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 10:07
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon Wheels Pump Track/Cycle Track/Skatepark

Categories: Green Category

I would like to register my support for this proposal. I will definitely use the facility as will my granddaughters.

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 10:11
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Asset transfer request by Ellon Wheels Group

Categories: Green Category

I wish to object to the asset transfer request by Ellon Wheels Group to turn the lower park of Gordon Park into a skate park and a road bike circuit.

I am not against the facility itself just the location. Gordon Park is one of our few green spaces enjoyed daily by walkers, mums with buggies, childminders, children and dog walkers. The houses neighbouring the park are mostly occupied by elderly residents and there is a care home nearby. The streets are narrow and there is limited parking as it is for residents and visitors to the Care Home. There are no toilet facilities nearby, the closest being by the riverside. We have experienced flooding twice in the past six years in [REDACTED]. I worry that the water will be pushed into the river causing it to burst its banks and flood if we have a concrete structure forming the bottom half of the park.

We had a very successful fair last weekend enjoyed by many and the annual bonfire is usually on that site making a lot of money for charities. The Ellon Gala is on this year and they usually use the bottom and top end of the park. Egg rolling, sports days, football matches and just general kickabouts are enjoyed in the park.

There must be more suitable green spaces to house this facility and let our residents enjoy their lives in peace.

Yours

[REDACTED]

Sent via BT Email App

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 10:14
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon Wheels Pump Track/Cycle Track/Skatepark

Categories: Green Category

I would like to register my support for this proposal. I know my husband will use the facility and he will also take our granddaughters to use it.

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 10:18
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Support for Ellon Wheels Pump Track/ Skatepark

Categories: Green Category

Hi - thought id drop an email to say I'm strongly in favour of progressing with the pump track/ skatepark in Gordon Park. Although now in my 30's, I grew up in Ellon & I know how poor Ellon is & has been over the years for kids & teenagers alike to grow up in. There is very little to do other than to hang around with no purpose. This over the years has resulted in kids & teenagers causing trouble & getting up to no good. It's still very much the case from what I've seen & heard from friends. Gordon Park is a central location & will be accessible to all. It will create opportunities for everyone to enjoy, adults included. The scale of the project & the finished article will undoubtedly bring people from far & wide. I live in Aberdeen now, but have two kids who both skate & bike, so we'd be regular visitors for sure.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 10:44
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon wheels park

Categories: Green Category

Hi,
i am writing in total support of the proposed shell park.

It is absolutely vital to provide the type of park that has the interest of the young and provides an area of their interest that will be used by many generations.

looking forward to seeing this progress and people getting things that interest them and I'm sure it will assist develop our sports stars of the future

All the Best

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 11:19
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Asset transfer request by Ellon Wheels Park Group

Categories: Green Category

Good morning,

I would like to express my support for the Ellon Wheel's Park to lease Gordon Park for the purposes of building a sports area for wheeled vehicles and similar (skates etc)

Having seen the plans and read about the details of the intended premises, I strongly believe this would become an invaluable asset to provide a safe space for the community to come together and encourage children and adults alike to exercise and enjoy the outdoors.

Therefore, I fully support the Asset transfer request.

I hope these comments are taken into consideration in deciding the outcome.

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 11:21
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon cycle track

Categories: Green Category

Hello,

I think the cycle park is a fantastic idea and fully support the the projects progression.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 12:29
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: The bike park capital asset transfer

Categories: Green Category

I would like this park to be half the size proposed, and for there to be an undertaking from the police to monitor the area more frequently frequently.

[REDACTED]

Sent from my Galaxy

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 12:51
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Proposed plans by Ellon wheels park group

Categories: Green Category

Dear Aberdeenshire Council

I email to note my objection to site a wheeled sports area at lower Gordon park.

Whilst supporting of development of sporting facilities in Ellon, the sighting of the proposal I feel is inappropriate. The Gordon park is a green open space in the centre of Ellon, the pandemic has further emphasised the importance of open space in health and well-being. It is vital that we retain our green spaces so the resource should be considered for elsewhere in the town. Placing a facility there as there as there is no where else immediately available, as indicated in the local social media chat, I feel would be a mistake which our community would have to live with for many years.

I am aware that others have highlighted noise, litter and anti-social behaviour and would agree that could be a concern, driving other users out of the potential remaining part of the park.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 12:54
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Proposed Skate Park

Categories: Green Category

Good afternoon

I just wanted to drop you a quick email in support of the proposed skate park at Gordon Park in Ellon.

I believe there have been some objections which I just cannot understand. I have lived in Ellon for almost 8 years and I am glad to see some new activities available for people of all ages and abilities. It is about time Ellon had some new development and something new and different.

My children are 3 and 6 and they will benefit greatly from something like this. It will also benefit the entire town and attract visitors from nearby.

I hope this project goes ahead.

Please let me know if I can voice my support elsewhere.

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 12:58
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Asset Transfer Gordon Park

Categories: Green Category

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing with regards to the proposed asset transfer of the Gordon Park to Ellon Wheel Park.

I think the group's proposal is a fantastic idea for the cyclists and skaters of Aberdeenshire and applaud the work and vision of the group.

What I do not applaud is the lack of community engagement and the manner in which surveys have been carried out.

The first I heard of the proposed plans was when I received a planning notice via the post. I was completely unaware of any of the posts shared on social media.

I believe that direct engagement with the community was and is called for in order for people to fully understand what is being proposed.

Gordon Park is the last public central green open space that is left in Ellon and is used by many. I believe that if the Park was changed to a pump, skate cycle tracks it would exclude many of the regular users and visitors that visit the park.

I am extremely concerned about the proposed plans for future lighting and cycling events as this will undoubtedly have a detrimental effect on wild life and residence that live in close proximity to the park.

I fully appreciate the need for such an amenity however I strongly believe that Gordon Park is the wrong location. A high intensity sports venue would be best situated away from a residential area.

Parking is also another concern as the feasibility study clearly stated that the group hope to attract 400 to 500 people for events and competitions. Surely some those attending such events would need to travel by car and the increase in noise levels would have a detrimental effect on people that live in close proximity to the park.

I strongly urge the council to consider carefully the full implications and impact this proposal with have for all concerned and identify another more suitable area for the group to build the Wheel Park.

[REDACTED]

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Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 14:32
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Gordon park.
Categories: Green Category

I am not happy your taking away a part of the park for a concrete bike skate park. It should have been at the old academy joining the woods . All flats getting built there what is for the kids . Gordon park is used everyday with dog walkers joggers walkers cycling so many folk walk the bottem part to the shops school ect. To take away lovely green grass for concrete afull. Kids can still ride bikes skate boards ect the way the park is . If you want fancy ramps ect get a metal shed to store ramps and get kids parents to take them out and supervise. My son managed his youth years on a bike in macdonald woods or we took him blackburn ect and the range at fortwilliam thats proper biking. You council often stop planing for little things but when there is big money involed you pass all diskrace all that flats going up yes i know housing very needed but you should have demanded they made a skate park. I am not happy you council are planning a office on the old acdemy site either waste of money. Also that trees you plant in all the parks waste of money cos near all ripped out . There was new ones planted last week in gordin park they are getting ripped out to. . The kids have wrecked the shelter tryed to burn the placstic benches ect i have never got over them burning down wullies shelter were the had a bike ramp. Gordon park is the heart of ellon everyone uses you should have found somewhere else big part back of Auchterellon ect. I feel i am getting pushed out of Gordon park.

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 14:55
To: Formartine Area Office
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Gordon Park proposed plans by Ellon Wheels Park Group
Categories: Green Category

Dear Formartine Area Manager, or colleague, I am [REDACTED]
I disagree with the proposed location of wheels park being the lower area of the Gordon Park, but I very much agree that it would be a great addition to the amenities for people in Ellon, and the people who will travel some distance to use this facility, there are better places in Ellon to locate it, I will list my thoughts below.
I think the best place for the wheel park would be near the new Ellon Academy, where there are a few suitable locations, this would provide safe parking for people who travel any distance to use it, it should not impact too much during school hours, as the main times of usage would be weekends and evenings, also the high usage during school holidays.
The relocation of the wheel park away from the Gordon Park, would prevent the people who travel to the facility, parking up and down Modley Place, Park Terrace and Crescent, Ythan Place, and the car park at Meiklemill primary school, this car park is used for other activities as well as the school parking, pick up and drop off, it is also used for canoe training and rescue exercises.
These are a few of my concerns about the the location of the wheel park being in the lower Gordon Park, and I support the project going ahead at a suitable location, that considers Ellon residents, and the safety of the people who will travel to use it.
I also fear that commercial reasons are the main thing preventing location of the wheel park being near the Academy.

Regards
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 15:16
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Support for ellon wheel park
Categories: Green Category

Hi, just email my full support towards the current plan for the ellon wheel Park.

As an avid cyclist and a resident in ellon all my life - I believe this will get more people out exercising and get more kids off their phones and doing something skillful which is great for mental health!

Apart from the carnivals once a year and dog walkers throwing balls and dogs off leads chasing small children around the current path, the wheel track will make excellent use of a disused piece of space in the heart of ellon which is bound to bring people from all around the shire!

You have my full support and glad to help out wherever I can!

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 15:18
To: Formartine Area Office
Categories: Green Category

Good afternoon

I write to support the application for Capital Asset Transfer request for the lower section of Gordon Park by Ellon Wheel Park Group.

The activities proposed are already taking place in the park and any change of use will support these activities with more suitable, accessible facilities. This is a fabulous opportunity to make better use of an under used space creating health and well-being benefits for children and adults and resulting in better outcomes for all.

Many Thanks

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 15:28
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Gordon Park

Categories: Green Category

I write to object to the change of use being proposed for the lower Gordon Park. The whole of the Gordon Park is a valuable Green Space in the centre of Ellon and is an asset enjoyed by many individuals and groups (formal and informal) for recreation, relaxation, social interaction and exercise.

The proposal to change the lower area into a wheeled sports area, with the extensive use of tarmac and concrete, flies in the face of frequent government and local government commitments to preserve and expand Green Space within our communities. Accessible Green Space is increasingly recognised as being essential for the maintenance of physical and mental health and a sense of well-being. This proposal seeks to remove an extensive area of the very limited Green Space in the centre of Ellon from practical use by wide sections of the community and would amount to significant loss of amenity with the potential for considerable disturbance for people living nearby.

I walk almost daily in the Gordon Park and it is gratifying to see so many people using the park in so many different ways. This proposal seeks to create a facility for a single activity group by building on the area where the current wide range of multi-use activities are carried out and sacrifices the benefits of the many for the benefit of the few.

The covering of large parts of this area with tarmac and concrete at a time when we are increasingly being made aware of the imperative need to reduce our communal carbon footprint is difficult to comprehend in the light of government exhortations to become more "green".

The creation of a wheeled sports park may be a good idea - but a very large part of the last remaining Green Space in the centre of Ellon with housing closely adjacent is not the place for it.

[REDACTED]

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 15:46
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Support for asset transfer request at Gordon Park by Ellon Wheels Park Group
Categories: Green Category

Dear Sir/Madam,

I write to you today to express my sincere and heartfelt support for the asset transfer request made by the Ellon Wheels Park Group for the use of the lower part of Gordon Park in Ellon.

As a local Aberdeenshire resident (Newburgh) and frequent visitor to Ellon, this transfer would support a very valuable project which would revitalise the Ellon town centre with a new attraction. It would provide an ideal place for children to congregate safely, and also to support the health, exercise, and wellbeing of local adults. The proposals cover a wide range of wheeled sports to encourage frequent and wide use by people of all types, which I believe is nothing but a good thing.

The proposed development would also attract visitors and business to the establishments of Ellon from far afield. I see nothing but benefit to this request and I urge that you and the council approve this request for the benefit of all.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 16:23
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Re: Proposed Plans by Ellon Wheel Park Group

Categories: Green Category

[REDACTED]
Attention: Area Manager

Sir, Firstly I would like to state that I am not opposed to the above venture, I am of the option that it would be as asset to the local area, I am however strongly opposed to the request that the Wheel Park is sited on the lower part of Gordon Park.

I have resided in Ellon for over 46years during which time my family have enjoyed the freedom to participate in a wide range of leisure activities, all of which are free for everyone to use.
I have always considered the Ellon community to be extremely fortunate to have such a fantastic multi-use green space area within the Center of Ellon and would be deeply disappointed if another more suitable area cannot be identified to move forward with the plans for a wheeled sports area.

It seems unreasonable that in order to gain a Wheel Park the community of Ellon must loose a multi-use free green space within their Central Park, surely there must be a more suitable alternative? resulting in the area actually gaining additional leisure facilities, not building one to the detriment of the other.

This land was gifted to the people of Ellon by Arthur Gordon in 1909 and has been protected by Fields in Trust since 2016. I feel that this needs to remain as is respecting the need for green space in Ellon.

[REDACTED]

--
Sent from Gmail Mobile

----- Forwarded message -----

From: [REDACTED]

Cc:

Sent: Thu, 28 Apr 2022 at 15:20

Subject: Land assets transfer Gordon Park ellon

Dear sir/madam am writing to oppose the transfer of Gordon Park Ellon. to Ellon wheel Park am not against a wheeled Park it just think in the wrong place there are no toilet facilities there if as they say lot of people coming to use this facility surely this must be taken into account.. great facility for Ellon I know my family will use it and hopefully it will thrive .just in the wrong place. your [REDACTED]

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 16:47
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Gordon Park Community Asset Transfer - Support

Categories: Green Category

Hi,
I would like to lodge my support for the transfer of the lower part of Gordon Park to Ellon Wheels Park Group.
Regards,

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 28 April 2022 16:51
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Objection

Categories: Green Category

I object to the asset transfer of Gordon Park to Ellon wheels park group.
I strongly believe that Gordon Park should continue to be a free green open space for everyone to use.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 17:17
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon pump track support

Categories: Actioned, Green Category

I write this email in support of the Ellon skate and pump track at Gordon Park.

I support this project as it will have many benefits for Ellon and the surrounding area. Sport is an important aspect in life, supporting physical health as well as the mental health benefits. Due to the diversity of the sports, it would welcome users locally and from the wider area, which would also bring more footfall to the local shops and cafes of Ellon.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 17:34
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon Wheels Pump / Cycle Track / Skatepark

Categories: Green Category

Hello,

I'm writing to express my support for the capital asset transfer of the lower half of Gordon Park in Ellon to the Ellon Wheels group.

I've lived in Ellon for 16 years and have seen that this section of park is rarely used by members of the public and that it has previously had issues with the grass surface which made it unsuitable for football matches and other sports.

The transfer of this section of the park to the group will provide an opportunity for it to be developed (and maintained) into something new which will provide a place for people of all ages to enjoy fun, healthy exercise activities and would be a great asset to the town.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 17:39
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon Wheels Pump Track / Cycle Track / Skatepark

Categories: Green Category

Hello,

I'm emailing to add my support for the asset transfer of bottom half of Gordon Park in Ellon to the Ellon Wheels group.

I walk through this park nearly every day and this section is very rarely used. I would much rather this area was redeveloped into a facility that Ellon can be proud of and which will benefit people of all ages by providing a place where they can spend time having fun and practicing their wheeled sports with their friends.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 17:54
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Objection

Categories: Green Category

I wish to register my objection to the asset transfer request made to Aberdeenshire Council application for the proposed use of the land to construct a wheeled sports area to include a cycle pump track BMX/ skate park and a road bike circuit.

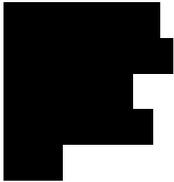
I am a local resident [REDACTED] who has lived and worked almost my entire life in Ellon

I am objecting on the following grounds:

The park was gifted to "the people of Ellon" by Arthur Gordon for use by the whole community. The asset transfer would pass the land to a specific group for a specific usage. The proposal contravenes the original purpose and the intent of the gift of the land and its use over the last 110 years as an area for all.

The majority of Ellons population will be denied any further access/usage to a much needed green space in the middle of an increasingly built up town

The current open grassed area will be largely concreted over and be unable for any future alternative use without significant remediation costs. These have not been considered in any proposal or assessment and there is a risk that the failure of the venture leaves a derelict eyesore in the middle of Ellon.



Sent via BT Email App

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 18:10
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon Wheel Park

Categories: Green Category

Sir/madam

I am sure you will be getting plenty of objections to the skate park in Ellon. I was very much for the park, but the location concerned me. HOWEVER I had overlooked the plenty other green spaces we have in Ellon.

I hope the skatepark goes ahead in the Gordon Park location.

With the amount of complaining I have seen about it, I just wanted to make sure I did my bit and put in an email of support.

I am sure the objections are from an older generation that have had their use of that park. I hope it's continued to be used by the younger generation with the installation of the skatepark.

Regards

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 19:46
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Support for bike and pump track Ellon

Categories: Green Category

To whom it may concern,

Please note my support for the above, as a resident of Ellon, I think it would only benefit the town, youth, parents, shop keepers and café owners.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 19:48
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Fwd: Cycle park support

Categories: Green Category

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Date: 27 April 2022 at 12:27:40 pm BST
To: formartinareaoffice@aberdeenshire.gov.uk
Subject: Cycle park support

Good Afternoon,

I just wanted to write and put in my support for the bike/skate park in Gordon Park - I am in Gordon Park almost every day as my daughter goes to Gordon Park 2's group and my son to Ellon Primary and the area that the bike park is to be in is almost always empty so I do not see why people want to reject it.
I hope this helps in favour anyway.

Thank you

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 19:52
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Capital Asset Transfer Request - Gordon Park, Ellon

Categories: Green Category

Good evening

I am writing to support the above request from Ellon Wheels Pump Track/Cycle Track/Skate Park.

I am delighted to see such a project get this far along the line and wholeheartedly support the request for an asset transfer to allow the project to continue on. I can see so many positive prospects for our town as a whole should this come to pass.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]
Ellon Resident

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 20:02
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Gordon Park Skate Park

Categories: Green Category

Good evening,

I am writing to express my support for this great opportunity to go ahead. It would very much benefit both young and older children who live in and around Ellon.

I feel it would help generate more business to Ellon as many would “pop” into the coffee shop or local shops whilst visiting.

Thank you

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 20:02
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon Wheel Park

Categories: Green Category

Good evening

I am in favour of the wheel park proposal for Gordon Park. I believe this will be good for the local community and the town. We need to move forward with the times and offer a facility that will interest both children and adults alike.

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 20:16
To: Formartine Area Office
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Objection to Wheeled Sports Area in Gordon Park, Ellon

Categories: Green Category

To Whom it may Concern,

REF - ELLON WHEELS PARK GROUP/ WHEELED SPORTS AREA IN GORDON PARK,ELLON

We refer to the application by the above group to take over the bottom area of The Gordon Park and convert it into use as a "Wheeled Sports Area".

The Gordon Park is the main Green Space at the heart of "Old Ellon". Can any of us imagine an Elgin without the Cooper Park, an Aberdeen without the Duthie Park, or any other town or city fortunate enough to have a green space at its heart? If this application for something which is a permanent, sole use project, goes ahead, our valued green space will be lost to future generations for ever.

Our understanding is that this park was gifted to the people of Ellon for the benefit of all - not for a specific group only.

We accept the need for, and the benefits of this application, but Ellon People's Gordon Park is not the location for it, and we fervently hope that this objection is heeded.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 21:15
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Attention: Area Manager

Categories: Green Category

Sir, firstly I would like to state I'm not opposed to the above venture, I am of the opinion that it would be an asset to the local area, I am however strongly opposed to the request that the Wheel Park is sited on the lower part of Gordon Park.

I have resided in Ellon for a long time during which my family have enjoyed the freedom to participate in a wide range of leisure activities, all of which are free for everyone to use.

I have always considered the Ellon community to be extremely fortunate to have such a fantastic multi-use green space within the center of Ellon and would be deeply disappointed if another suitable area cannot be identified to move forward with the plan for a wheeled sport area.

It seems unreasonable that in order to gain a Wheel Park the community must loose a multi-use green space within their Central Park, surely there must be a more suitable alternative? resulting in the area actually gaining additional leisure facilities, not building one to the detriment of the other.

This land was gifted to the people of Ellon by Arthur Gordon in 1909 and has been protected by Fields in Trust since 2016.

I feel this needs to remain unchanged.

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 April 2022 22:00
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Proposed Plans by Ellon Wheels Park Group

Categories: Green Category

Good evening,

I've read a lot about the proposed plans for a Cycle Pump Track etc for Gordon Park and would like to submit my support.

I live in Ellon and myself and my 4 year old daughter would use the facility. I also think it would be of benefit to the young people of Ellon and offer them something to do.

We use the park frequently and feel there will still be plenty of space for other activities.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 29 April 2022 07:04
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Gordon Park Ellon

Categories: Green Category

To Whom it may concern,

I have looked at the plans to concrete the lower gordon park as ludicrous. For over 100 years the park, being gifted to the people of Ellon, has been an oasis of greenery in the centre of the town. It hosts galas, fundays, funfairs, sports competitions and a recreational area for all.

The idea of a cycle/skate park for the youngsters of Ellon is a brilliant one but surely a better site could be found without giving away this long established haven. Is there not land available at one of the newly demolished academy sites or industrial land that is undeveloped?

Think again a better solution must be at hand

Regards

[REDACTED]

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 29 April 2022 08:33
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: SUPPORT for Ellon Wheels Pump Track/Cycle Track/Skatepark

Categories: Green Category

We would like to register our support for the above.

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 29 April 2022 08:36
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Gordon park cycle/skate track

Categories: Green Category

Hello, My name is [REDACTED]

I would like to state that I think that the idea for a cycle/skate track in Gordon Park is a great idea and that I am in support of the idea.

There is plenty of space for everyone to use it.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 29 April 2022 09:21
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Support for Ellon Wheels Pump Track/Cycle Track/Skatepark, Gordon Park asset transfer

Categories: Green Category

To Whom It May Concern,

I'd like to register my support for the Capital Asset Transfer of lower Gordon Park for the purpose of the development of Ellon Wheels Pump Track/Cycle Track/Skatepark.

I'm a resident of Ellon. I grew up and lived here for approximately 20 years before moving to London, and then returned in 2014. I am currently attempting to earn a living in the area, and at the moment that involves operating a small local business. I currently do this from home because the cost of renting a commercial location in the town centre is very high considering the low footfall that Ellon attracts.

Ellon is not currently an attractive town to spend time in or to visit. Several commercial properties have been sitting vacant in the town centre for years. Conversations with other small business-owners in Ellon generally reveal the same thing: profit margins are very low. Investment in the town from any source has the potential to help the town prosper.

I strongly support the development of the Ellon Wheels track due to its likely impact on improving the attractiveness of the town and the positive effect it will have on local trade; its likely positive impact on reducing anti-social behaviour; and its likely positive impact on the health and wellbeing of the community via increased physical activity and social cohesion.

Objections to the Wheel Park generally seem very weak, and I have a concern that a group of individuals who have embarked on a campaign against the park may have made it appear that there is more opposition than there is in reality. I was particularly disappointed that a number of items of misinformation have been spread, although it is not clear where this misinformation originated.

Many thanks for your consideration.

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 29 April 2022 10:07
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Proposed plans by Ellon Wheels Park Group

Categories: Green Category

To whom it may concern,

I, [REDACTED] am writing to express my concerns about these proposals. Gordon Park is a wonderful green area used by the public for a variety of recreational activities. It is also vital for nature, especially in a time of 'environmental emergency'. Research has proved the huge benefits to people of spending time in parks, whether for exercise or quiet contemplation. How can destroying half of this beautiful park be a positive step for both people & nature? Surely, a brown site area should be used for this proposal? Therefore, I wish to formally object to these plans & I hope councillors will do the same.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 29 April 2022 11:11
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Transfer Request at Gordon Park

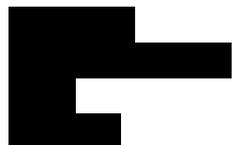
Categories: Green Category

Normally I would welcome an addition of a leisure facility in Ellon, but on this occasion I feel unable to support a cycle pump track etc in the Gordon Park.

My concern is that the facility would lead to a general deterioration of the lower end of the Park.

Were the project to go ahead, I would need an assurance that this would not be the case. Surely there are more appropriate locations for such a scheme in the town.

Yours etc,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

Sent from my iPad

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 29 April 2022 11:34
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon Skate/Cycle Park, Gordon Park

Categories: Green Category

Good Morning

I would like to register my support for the proposed Cycle and Skate park application submitted by Ellon Wheel Park Group in regards to the use of the lower section of Gordon Park in Ellon.

Such a development can only benefit to the town, which has seen very little development over the last few years. By developing such a facility, for use by everyone in the area, kids and adults will have somewhere fun and exciting, and importantly, free, to use for exercise and to promote health and wellbeing.

Having lived in Ellon for approximately 8 years, and having walked my dog along the river and around Gordon Park for that time, I have never seen the lower section of the park being used for anything other than the bonfire/fireworks events once a year, and occasionally the shows/carnival.

This development will also undoubtedly benefit the rest of the town as well, as it will bring extra footfall into the town centre, helping to boost the economy of local shops and amenities.

I appreciate that there are concerns raised over parking and noise levels, however given its central location, I believe that many folk (including myself) will walk/cycle down with kids in order to use the facility. And those that come from out of town will be able to park nearby at Victoria Hall or the surrounding streets. In relation to the noise issues, I don't believe that this facility will generate excessive noise as cycling/skating is not a particularly noisy sport.

Hopefully the development of such a fantastic facility will encourage others to develop and expand Ellon to help the town become vibrant and bustling, rather than slowly slipping into decline with no investment, no facilities and public amenities to speak of.

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

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Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 29 April 2022 12:42
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Gordon Park

Categories: Green Category

[REDACTED]

Firstly, I do not object to the idea of a skate park in the ellon area, I just believe it must be done correctly. Gordon Park is already a widely used Park for town events, it is used for bonfire night, sports galas, the fun fair the cricket team and the general public as a Olace to clear their mind, get some exercise and walk their dogs. Removing this space and these opportunities would be a huge detrement to the town and community.

The new park will become a hotspot for drug users and result in an increase in antisocial behaviour. Additionally it would stop many of the events that the ellon community loves from happening. This would push the community further apart.

There are many other places where this could go, but Gordon Park is not the right place.

Thanks.

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 29 April 2022 13:32
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Objection to cycle park

Categories: Green Category

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in objection to the cycle park being built on Gordon Park. I personally use the park daily to walk and play fetch with my dog, and weekly to run there. I have also used the park countless times in my childhood. I believe concreting over Ellon's most used public green space, would soon be regrettable and sadly irreversible. I am not against the Ellon Wheel Park group developing a cycle park, just not in Gordon Park.

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 29 April 2022 13:35
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon wheel park Capital Asset Transfer

Categories: Green Category

Hi,

I would like to register my support for the above proposal.

I think the wheel park is a fantastic idea which will have a whole raft of potential benefits:

- Offering young people an area to pursue fun activities, leading to a reduction in anti-social behaviour.
- Attracting visitors to the town and increased footfall in the town centre.
- Providing sporting facilities in Ellon for wheeled sports which are sadly lacking at the moment.

There is plenty of parking around the area, but a significant number of local people will be cycling / scooting / skating there, so no cars involved.

At present the area is a glorified dog run - unlike the top section of Gordon Park it isn't used for anything, and looks fairly unloved. It's just a wasted space at the moment. The wheel park will landscape the area, and ensure there are still green spaces as part of the plan. The whole of the top section of the park will also remain as is.

Along with the vast majority of people in this community I really hope this goes ahead. It must if our town is to develop, grow and evolve as so many others are. If we don't grasp this opportunity, plenty of other towns will, and they will reap the benefits.

Yes there is a vocal minority who seem keen on the idea but not the location. First of all it's the only possible location in the town. Secondly, the only noise will be from people enjoying themselves engaged in a fun activity. Thirdly there is ample parking, as the study confirmed. Fourthly the location is ideal as this is where young people congregate anyway, and in the town centre means it will attract people to spend money with local businesses.

Best regards,

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 29 April 2022 13:43
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon pump track/cycle track/skatepark
Categories: Green Category

Dear Area Manager

I will to express my support for the proposed Ellon pump track/cycle track/skate park in Gordon Park. Gordon Park is an amazing park in the centre of Ellon, but the lower park is rarely used. I have a child at Ellon Primary School, and am often at the park. The vast majority of people walk around the lower area on the paths, you note those actually walking over the grass as it is such an unusual event. A bike/skate park would be such an asset to the community, encouraging visitors to the town, and more footfall to our shops and cafes.

Yours sincerely
[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 29 April 2022 14:17
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Asset Transfer Gordon Park

Categories: Green Category

Hello,

I would like to lodge my objection to the construction of a Wheel Park in Gordon Park. I would like to confirm it is not the Wheel Park, but the location I am objecting to. The Wheel Park will be a wonderful asset to Ellon, but I also believe Gordon Park is a wonderful asset to Ellon. There has to be a way found to have both the Wheel Park and Gordon Park.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 29 April 2022 17:20
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Opposing skate park

Categories: Green Category

Dear sir/madam,

I am opposing the skate park at the Gordon park. I am moving back to Ellon within the next year. I used to go to the park when I was younger and I love to take a walk in the park when I am back in Ellon, I love seeing all the wildlife around the park

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 29 April 2022 18:23
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Objection to the asset transfer by Ellon Wheels Park Group

Categories: Green Category

To whom it may concern,

I wish to object to the asset transfer of the lower half of the Gordon Park to a group who wish to concrete over the green space. This area is an important part of the town, historically gifted to the people of Ellon by the Gordons.

I have already listed my concerns in my objection to the planning application which includes loss of green space, increased risk of flooding, loss of bio diversity etc.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Catherine Matthew

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 29 April 2022 20:23
To: Formartine Area Office
Subject: Ellon skate park objection

Categories: Green Category

I am emailing to express my views about the location of the skatepark at ellon Gordon Park.

I do think that this facility is a great idea to bring to ellon, however I feel that this would not be the right location. Ellon has lost a chunk of the mcdonald woods due to storm Arwen and now the green central space in ellon. I have seen the local nurseries using this space for picnics, sports, opportunity for them to explore the nature and what green spaces are good for.

I feel that the location has not been considered to the residents of the area for light and noise pollution. How people may feel walking past this area with the possibility of large group gatherings.

I feel the People of ellon are not aware about how the whole skate park will work, Is it going to be a free for all, an enclosed space? Members only? A supervised area? Access to toilets, are there going to be extra bins put in? All I have seen are plan of space.

As said above its a great idea but again location maybe not the best. There is a great community campus with lots of space around, it would be ideal to expand this area.

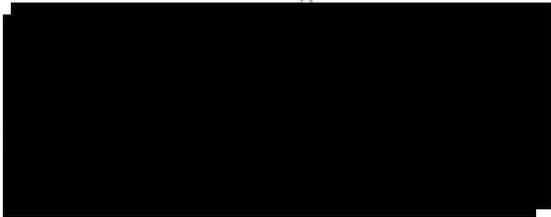
Kind regards
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
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I totally disagree with this project in Gordon Park it is far too big, its going to take 50% of the park.

I feel this would be a danger to the walking public.

Another smaller project in another part of town would be better, and who is going to pay for this idea.



APRIL 2022

FORMARTINE AREA MANAGER

GORDON PARK, ELLON

AS A RESIDENT OF ELLON FOR
THE PAST 40 YEARS WE WOULD
LIKE TO SAY THAT A FACILITY
LIKE THAT OF THE ELLON WHEELS
GROUP WOULD BE MUCH BETTER
LOCATED IN A DIFFERENT AREA
THAN IN THE GORDON PARK.

GORDON PARK IS USED BY
MANY PEOPLE EVERY DAY AND IT
WOULD SPOIL THIS CENTRE OF ELLON.
IT IS AN EXCELLENT GREEN
AREA.

Formartine Area Manager,
45 Neil Ross Square,
ELLON. AB41 9AA.

Re:- Asset Transfer under the Community
Empowerment Act.
ELLON WHEELS PAR Group.

To whom it may concern:-

Under no circumstances should the group be
allowed this transfer.

Given that the GORDON PARK since 1909,
has belonged to only "The People of Ellon",
and should remain so, for time immemorial.

I am, yours

REF. ELLEN WHEEL SPORTS AREA / GORDON PARK

On behalf of my family & father we would strongly object to the Ellen Park Group request made to lease the land at lower Gordon Park, for wheeled sports, Cycled pump, Skate Park.

We have lived in Ellen for more than 20 years, and one of the reasons we moved from Aberdeen to Ellen was because of the tranquil, peaceful, beautiful area. We have used the park on many occasions, and now walk through the park everyday looking forward to ~~the~~ see the wildlife and flowers.

The park holds a lot of memories for me as I used to take my mother there for walks and sit and enjoy the peacefulness as she had Dementia and it was a Calming therapy for her.

We have seen the park used for many occasions with the Resource

Centre, handicaps and the older generation enjoy coming out for walks and peace.

I'm sure that there are more people that have the same thoughts ↓ me. and don't take part in replying with Computers.

Ellow needs a peaceful, tranquil area. for also the mental health side

Please do not dispart the People of ELLow and SAY NO TO PLANS [REDACTED]

26 April 2022

To Friends of Gordon Park

Proposal of Wheels pump track/cycle track/skateboard park

We wish to refer to the above proposal and forward to you our reasoning behind our dissatisfaction of the council's possible approval of it.

We have been residents of Ellon for over 35 years and have enjoyed seeing our children grow up here who now have their own families residing in Ellon. In the many years we have enjoyed all the events organised within the Gordon Park and the gathering of the community which has raised a lot of money for various local charities with the support shown. These events include the Ellon Gala days and the Firework nights as an example. These events have always proven to be popular and also give local groups the chance to showcase their talents through the generations, for example the highland dancing displays and Ellon pipe band, the local school football tournaments.

There has recently been comments upon the gathering of youths in the Gordon Park and the introduction of such a facility would possibly encourage this further.

The park as you are aware is surrounded by housing and also a care home the disturbance from gatherings would be distressing to both. The park is used by many pedestrians of all abilities, joggers, dogwalkers, the local schools and nurseries who enjoy the lovely green space in a very central location.

New York has Central Park

London has Hyde Park

Edinburgh has Princes Street Gardens

Glasgow has Glasgow Green

Aberdeen is in the process of upgrading Union Terrace Gardens

Ellon has Gordon Park

Why should the people of Ellon not have the joy of a lovely green space in the centre of Ellon?

We read that they were looking for a large unused derelict area and we dont feel Gordon Park comes into that category.

We do not object to the Skateboard Park for Ellon however we are objecting to its location where there are other more appropriate areas to have this facility where there could be adequate parking and minimal disturbance to residents of the town.

Hopefully this is help to keeping Gordon Park a lovely open park for all residents of Ellon to enjoy and not just the ones able to use the proposed facility.

Skate Park / Cycle Park 29/4/22

I certainly do not object to this being constructed but like many other people I think it's very much in the wrong place. I would object to the noise the concrete and getting rid of yet another green area. Many functions happen in the Gordon Park eg. Funfair Gala's etc. and you can hear all the noise of people enjoying themselves, but it only last for a day or two !!

Regards