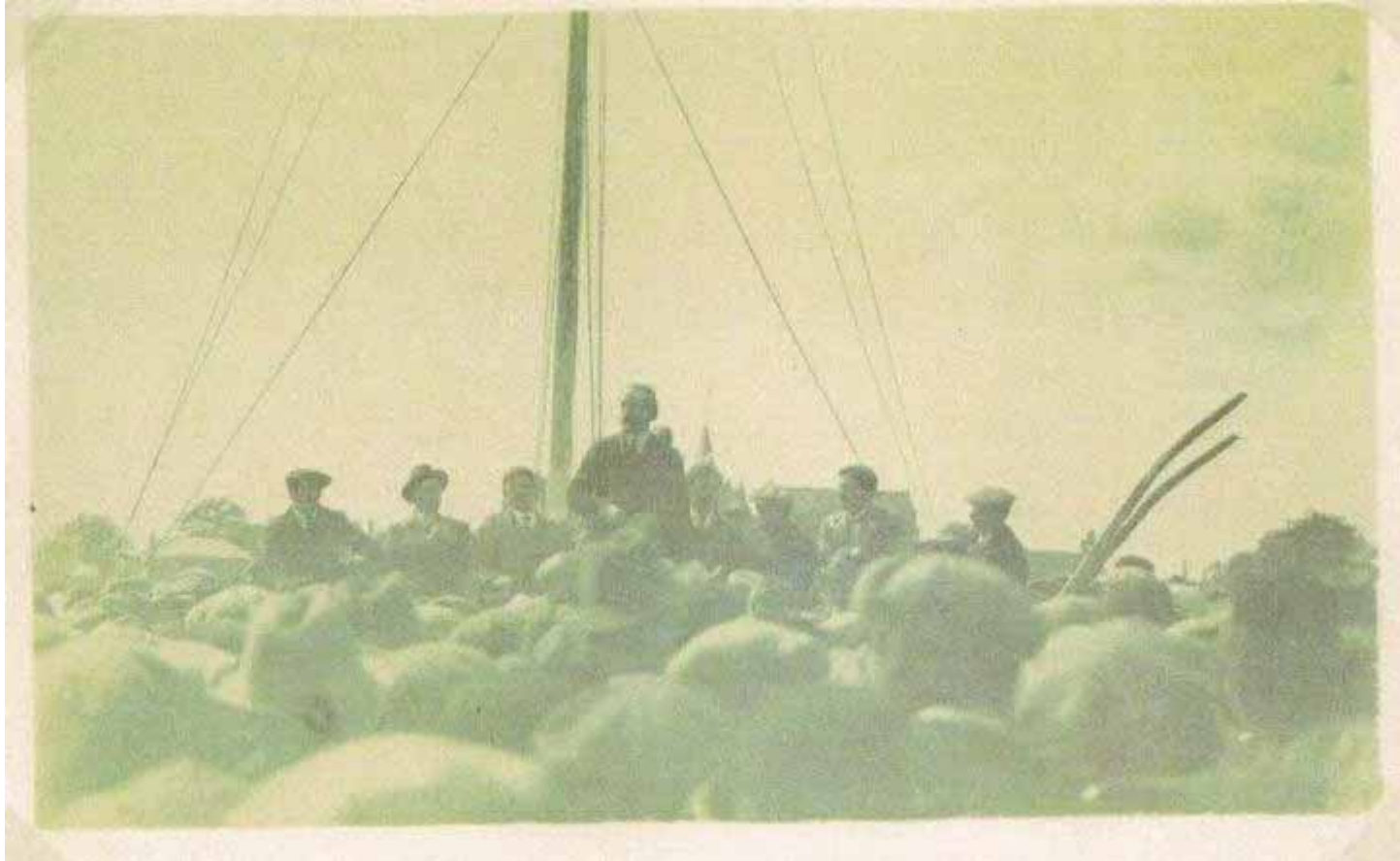


Climate Change Parks

can managing parks with a
climate change focus deliver other
benefits?

climate change parks

climate change parks



Developing the role of greenspace in climate change mitigation and adaptation

Scoping report



2011

greenspace scotland
July 2011

Creating a climate change park

Before – a typical park

[Click here to see how the park looks when it is managed to deliver climate change actions](#)



Click on the links to find out about climate change actions for:

- buildings and built features
- community growing
- ground areas
- lighting
- parking
- park wide and non-site specific
- paths
- pitches
- planted beds
- play areas
- ponds and wetlands
- trees and woodland
- watercourses

2012

Creating a climate change park

AFTER – a typical park

[Click here to go back to the park before it was managed to deliver climate change actions](#)



Click on the links to find out about the potential management and retrofit actions to create a climate change park:

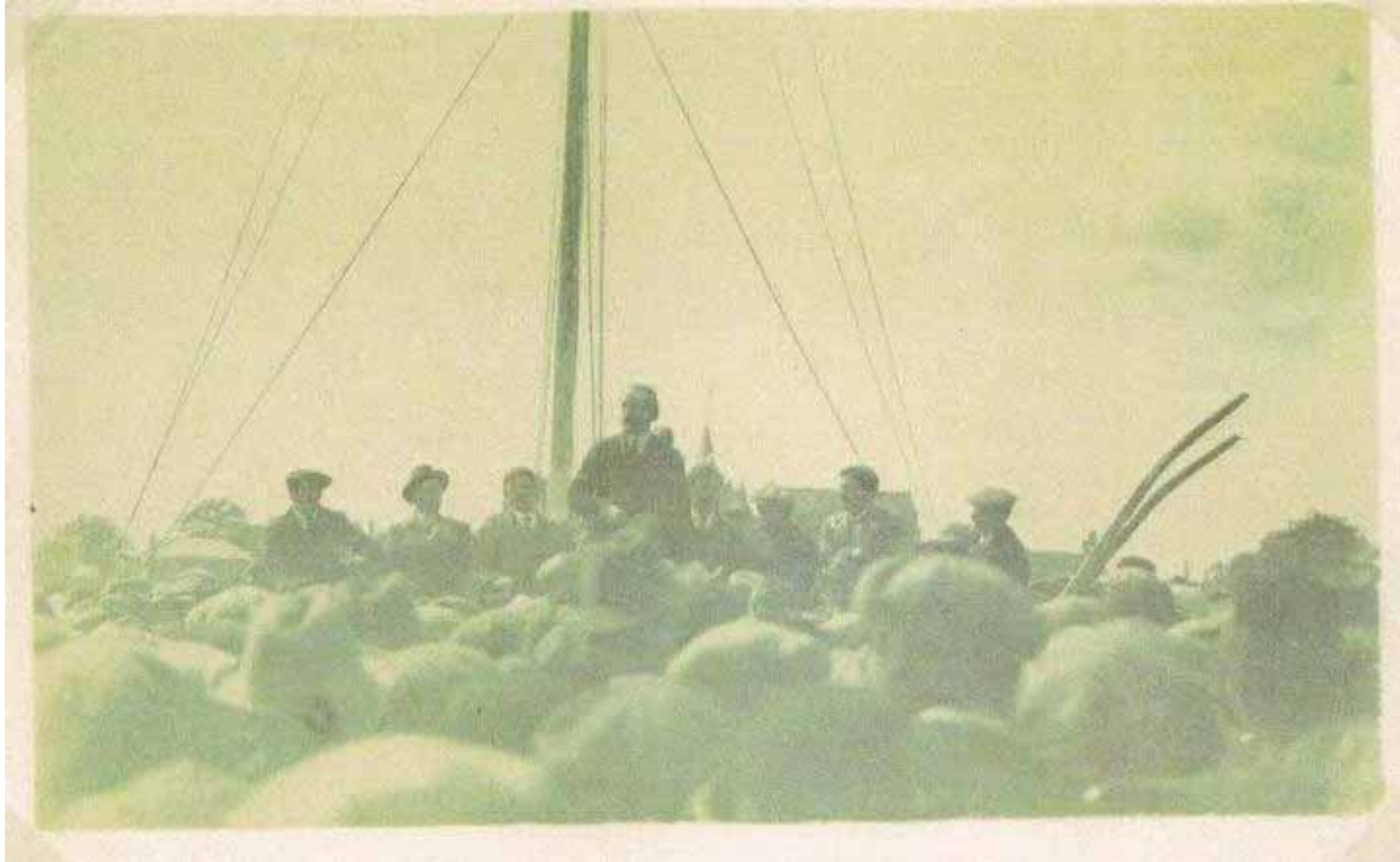
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greenspace and climate change action

- Mitigation



parks as key local places



greenspace and climate change action

- Mitigation
- Adaptation



greenspace and climate change action

- Mitigation
- Adaptation
- Raising awareness



- greenspace design and management can deliver climate change benefits
- many of the 'climate change actions' are versions of things that park managers already do or already want to do
- greenspace budgets are under pressure
- public bodies have a statutory duty to take action on climate change

- greenspace design and management can deliver climate change benefits
- many of the ‘climate change actions’ are versions of things that park managers already do or already want to do
- greenspace budgets are under pressure
- public bodies have a statutory duty to take action on climate change

- ‘we don’t consider climate change when planning management (or when making the case for action)’

climate change park pilots

- Hazlehead Park, Aberdeen
 - Aberdeen City Council, Friends of Hazlehead
- Dunfermline Public Park
 - Park Improvement Group (Central Dunfermline Community Council, Fife Council, Visit Dunfermline, schools, Carnegie Dunfermline ...)

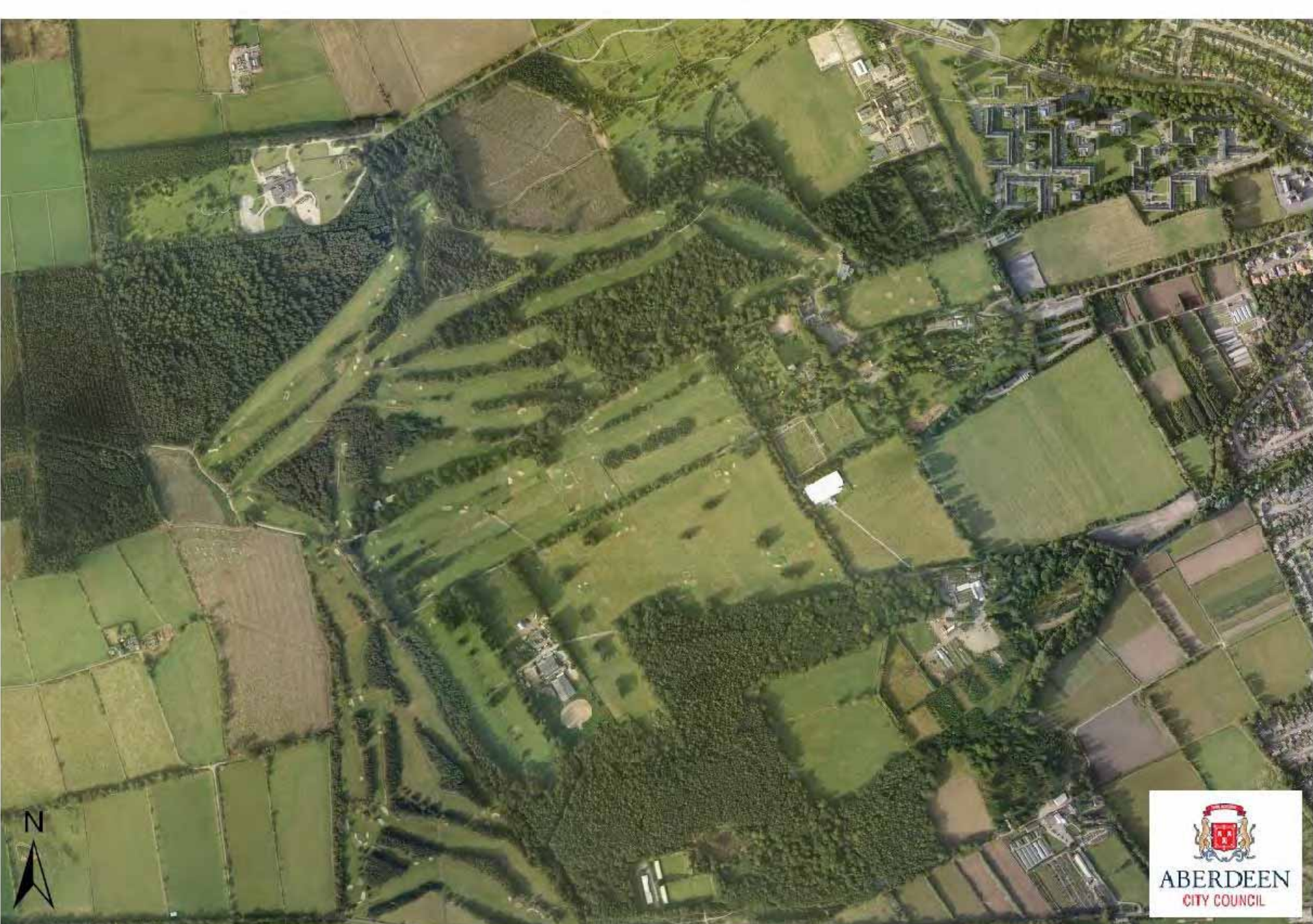
2 different parks

- Hazlehead:

large | high profile, flagship park | urban fringe | lots of facilities | policy woodlands | end of current management plans

- Dunfermline Public Park:

town centre | remains of a designed landscape | overlooked | under-maintained | key access route to local facilities



250 500

1,000 Meters



ABERDEEN
CITY COUNCIL

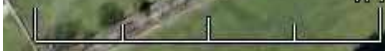
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Hazlehead Park

© 2015 Infoterra Ltd & Bluesky

Google earth

171 m



Dunfermline Public park

Prepared By:

Created Date: 01 February 2013



Dunfermline Photos



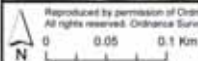
Dunfermline Photos



Dunfermline Photos



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transforming urban spaces into people places



Dunfermline Photos



Dunfermline Photos



Dunfermline Photos



Dunfermline Photos

climate change actions

Hazlehead

Mitigation:

- reducing heating and power costs of buildings
- reducing management intensity

Adaptation:

- using sustainable drainage approaches
- providing more shelter and shade at key places
- changing species selection to cope with a changing climate and changing conditions within the Park

climate change actions

Hazlehead

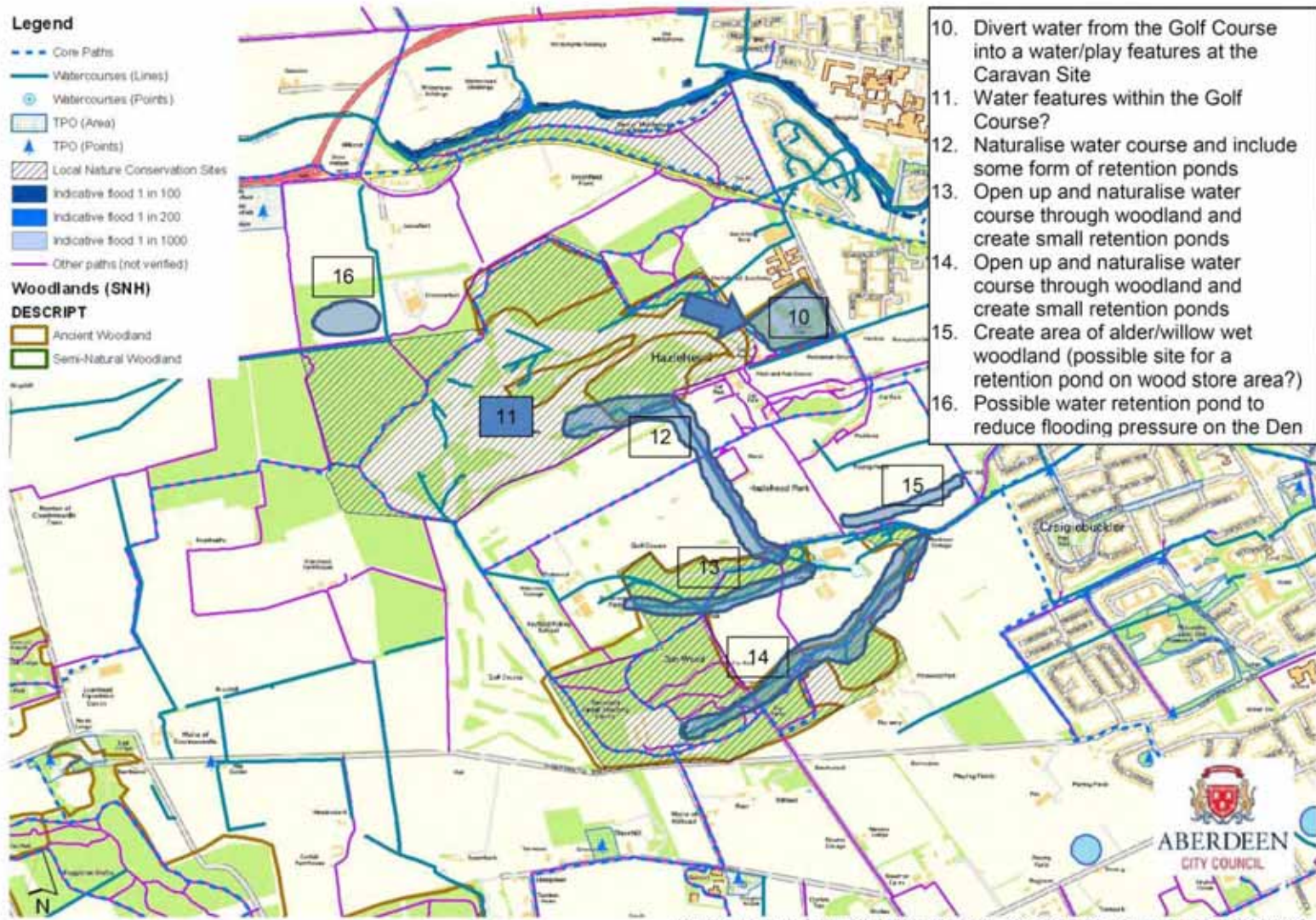
Mitigation:

- contributing to carbon sequestration for the city
- providing a source of biomass fuel
- supporting active travel
- providing a local resource to attract people and to discourage them from traveling further afield for their recreation

Adaptation:

- providing a link in the sustainable drainage of neighbouring areas
- providing a biodiversity resource (and linking out to the wider habitat network)

MAP 3 Options for water management and habitat enhancement



Dunfermline Public Park – mitigation actions

Action	Why?	Other impacts
Reducing the amount of the grass that is cut in the park by creating areas of wildflower meadow (also through woodland planting and wetland creation see below)	Reducing carbon dioxide emissions from mowing	Biodiversity Colour Health and Safety (no mowing on slopes) Slow water flow and reduce flooding pressures Reduced mowing costs
Promoting the use of the park by local people (a combination of place improvements and advertising/promotion/events)	Reducing carbon dioxide emissions from people using cars and other vehicles to travel	Busier, more attractive park Reduced anti-social behaviour (increased levels of informal surveillance)
Promoting the public transport, walking and cycling links to the park	Reducing carbon dioxide emissions from visitors using cars	Increased use of the park Improved levels of physical activity Reductions in traffic
Planting more trees in the park	Capture and storage of carbon (from the wider area) Making the park more attractive to local users	Biodiversity Colour Aesthetics Reducing amount of mowing Slow water flow and reduce flooding pressures shade and shelter increase the cooling effect of the park
Ensuring any new or replacement lighting is low energy	Reducing the carbon dioxide emissions associated with lighting the park	Reduced lighting costs
Local/community food growing	Reducing the carbon costs of transporting food from growers to consumers	Links to healthy eating and health education priorities

Dunfermline Public Park – adaptation actions

Action	Why?	Other impacts
Introducing water features (pond, wetland areas and naturalised burn) to reduce flooding while creating an attractive public greenspace	To reduce the impacts of predicted changes in rainfall (impacts on the park, park users and on surrounding areas)	Improved biodiversity More colour and interest in the park Reducing amount of mowing Open water will increase the cooling effect of the park on the surrounding area Educational opportunities
Increase habitat links (woodland, grassland and ponds) within the park and out to the wider green network	To help wildlife to adapt to climate change	Supporting walking and cycling links More colour and interest in the park Return to original avenue lines etc. Reducing amount of mowing Educational opportunities
Use tree planting etc. to create greater shade and shelter	To ensure that the park remains usable in hot conditions (and in rain wind etc.)	Improved biodiversity More colour and interest in the park Reduced mowing Trees will increase the cooling effect of the park on the surrounding area

what is being taken forward?

Hazlehead

- habitat creation and connection
- new surface water management
- enhancing walking and cycling infrastructure
- new information centre
- woodland management plan & succession planting
- events



what is being taken forward?

Dunfermline Public Park

- new lighting and signage strategies
- habitat creation and connection
- events
- art projects
- schools work
- connection to access network



additional benefits

- parks being considered much more holistically (and as part of wider networks)
- ‘greener’ solutions to existing problems
- park management gaining support and resources due to alignment with CC
- groups expanding and linking to other types of community activity

“Working with greenspace scotland gave us the confidence to embark on projects and look for funding to do so. We always refer back to the report and the recommendations made when we try to make our case for the park”

Jim Stewart, Chair of the Central Dunfermline Community Council

“climate change action is now a key element of our approach to all parks and spaces”

Steven Shaw, Environmental Manager
Aberdeen City Council