



SCIO Charity Number:
SC046919

Welcome to our
Autumn Newsletter
updating our
achievements and
plans for
Ury Riverside Park
SCIO.

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 3

OCTOBER 2019

Achievements this year include:

Planting of native species of trees and dry/wetland plants which has continued over the spring/summer by volunteers and contractors.

Grass areas: Our contractors have rotavated large areas of former farmland and followed up by seeding with grass in preparation for our future plans.

Further pathways have been completed, now around 3 miles to cover the park.

Increased numbers of visitors: It has been great to see so many people using the Park; including local individuals and groups of walkers, organised groups from Aberdeen and other places. Also regular joggers, cyclists and families with children and dogs enjoying the environment.



Current Plans:

New Entrance: Plans for design and sourcing of materials of our new entrance will highlight this wonderful new facility for Inverurie.

Children's Play Park, near the main entrance, and **Grassed Area** adjacent to the retail park where children can play and all can enjoy informal games, picnics, and have fun.

Second footbridge over River Ury: At planning stage - to link the Park to the new Portstown housing development, School and potential Meldrum Megway; and give access to the wider countryside beyond the Park.

More trees to be planted:

Volunteers wanted –

We are planning TWO tree planting days: Saturday 16 and Sunday 24 November.

Please look out for announcements on **Facebook** about dates and how to join in and register via Eventbrite. The event is free and registration will ensure everyone interested is kept informed. All welcome, and young children with parents/ carers especially may like to plant 'their' trees and perhaps watch them grow through the years.

Future Activities:

5K Park Runs

These will be around 9.30 am on Saturday mornings for exercise and then calorie replacement at nearby Inverurie Garden Centre - Hoping to start in November, and details will be on Facebook.

Groups to walk the site

Plans are in early stages for taking groups around the site to show people what is happening and how things are developing in the Park. This can include groups of children from schools, business sector, adults from all leisure interests. Enquiries invited so we can establish what sort of demand there is and perhaps start to plan a diary of walks / presentations etc on site for future consideration.

Litterpicking:

A huge thank you to all our volunteers who came out on a miserable dreicht day on 27 April to collect 25+ black bags of rubbish and other items from the site. Also to thank everyone who picks up on a regular basis, the Park is looking great now and the amount of rubbish collected a month is minimal. Thanks also to Nom's team from the Recycling plant who regularly pick up litter from the verge alongside the road which has helped enormously to stop plastic and rubbish blowing over the fence into the Park.



Doggie waste:

An extra plea continues to go out to dog walkers to take plastic doggie waste bags home for disposal. There is a dual-bin for this purpose on Birch Drive near the foot bridge. To answer the question of why no bins on the site itself? The current situation is that the council cannot access the site with their vehicles to collect and dispose safely – we will let you know if this changes. Meanwhile we ask for your assistance to take doggy waste and rubbish away with you to help keep our children and wildlife safe in the Park.

Poet's Corner –

A topical poem by Ian Mitchell

Litter Picking in Inverurie

Community Engagement shout out loud
To be part of the group I'm so proud;
Litter, flowers or just a tidy up,
Sit round the table with a coffee cup.

Think what's next and the way ahead,
Dead-heading flowers or weed a bed –
But come and help if you're keen;
Tidy up our village and keep it clean.

Something little or something big
I will do the plants if you don't want to dig,
But make the people around you proud –
We are Inverurie shout it out loud.

Don't drop it on the ground
Along your streets, bins can be found.
So keep the streets all litter free,
Inverurie is the place to be.

Come on, let's all get together –
Do a clean up in this great weather.
A litter picker, brush or broom,
Please help us go forward for
Scotland in Bloom.

If you feel inspired to write a poem about Ury Riverside Park, we would love to see it.

Wildlife:

The wild life is adapting well and relocating towards the natural growth areas which will remain wild to provide habitats for the variety of inhabitants which include otters, swans, geese in winter, skylarks. Let us know what you see in the park via Facebook.

Wildlife rescue: If visitors to the park find any creatures in difficulty please call the Scottish SPCA for advice.

(Tel: 03000 999 999)



Ian Talboys

George Petrie:

We are sadly saying goodbye to George, who as Secretary has played such a huge part in progressing the development of Ury Riverside Park SCIO. He has contributed a great deal of time and expertise to its activities and development, including on-site meetings and organising volunteer events. We wish George and his wife many happy years in their future adventures.

Giant Hogweed

Difficult weather conditions in Spring made effective spraying very difficult this year. However, some work has been done on the plants together with further work to remove a lot of the flowering heads. A more comprehensive programme is being developed for next and future years. Meanwhile visitors and dog walkers should continue to avoid contact with these plants particularly the sap which can burn skin.

Keeping in touch: www.facebook.com/uryriversidepark

Visit and Like our Facebook page, where we welcome pictures and comments about the Park. Also if you would like to receive this Newsletter via email, please send your email address to ury.riverside@gmail.com

We do not share information with other organisations and Data Protection terms apply.