

Settlement Summary: Laurencekirk

Population: 1971

Observations (of Community Council)

The Community council provided the following feedback in response to the open space audit consultation:

- Agreed with issues identified by auditors
- Form garden of remembrance at cemetery

Green Network Links

Green links with the village itself are weak, but Gaugers Burn and the Kirk Burn run approximately northwest to southeast at either end of the village; a path along Gaugers Burn connects the old road at the southern end of the village to Denlethen Wood. The wood, which is managed by the Forestry Commission working with the local community, provides a focus for informal access in the area, and the community have aspirations to extend links to the south.

Open Space Requirements

The overall picture for open space provision in Laurencekirk is broadly comparable to that of Inverbervie and Fordoun: there is a relatively low proportion of public space for a settlement of this size. A significant proportion of the total is shown as amenity land, but is in fact transport amenity along the A90, or space associated with the business park or Council depot. Laurencekirk does have some large, good quality recreation areas however, at Garvock Road and the primary school; and the academy playing field appears to have capacity to accommodate more varied facilities, such as basketball or tennis.

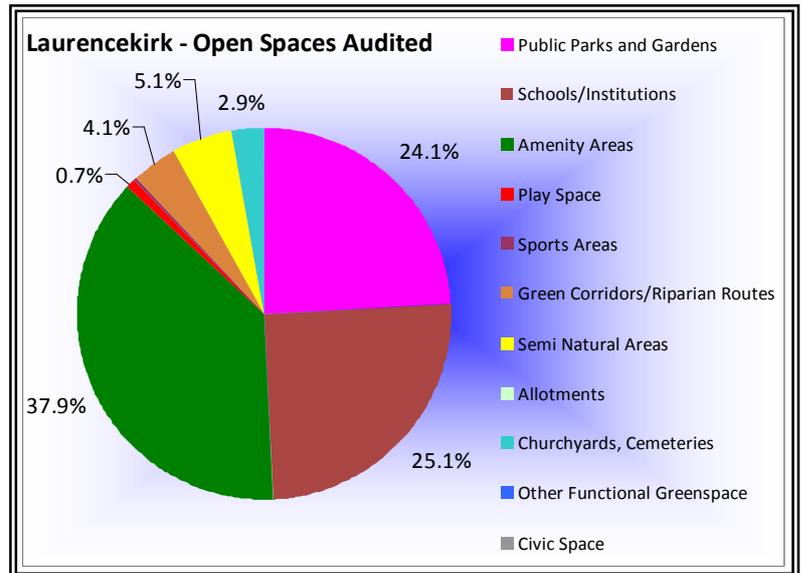
With a relatively low proportion of open space, opportunities for maximising the potential of that which exists can be made by for example, creating access to local woodland, or by providing seating. Suggestions include:

- Provision of seating within the green area at the front of Ducat Way
- Creation of an access and path within woodland to the rear of Ducat Way
- Woodland access at Burnside Care Home
- Provision of seating and lighting at Burnside Care Home

Note that private ownership is likely to be a consideration on some of these sites..

Suggestions for minor improvements include:

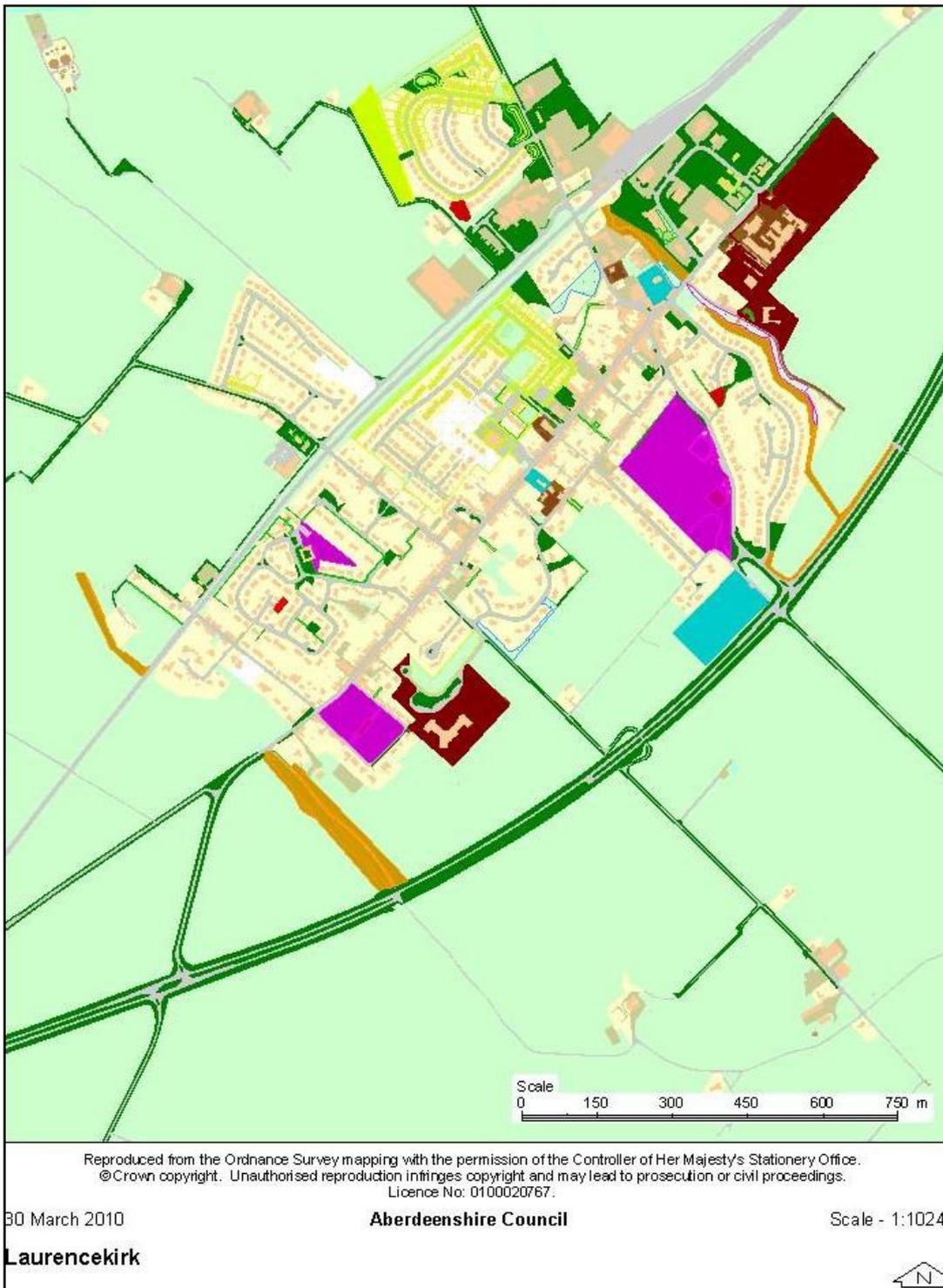
- Benches, bins and ornamental planting at the primary school
- Dog bins at the large recreation ground at Kinnear Square
- Seating at the Church of Scotland.
- Upgrading of site around the library car park, including removal of boat.
- Removal of abandoned vehicle at fire station.



Suggestions for additional play equipment include a:

- Teenage shelter at Ducat Way
- Additional swings and teenage equipment, and replacement of picnic benches at Mearns Court
- Repairs to the basketball net and goals at Laurencekirk pavilion.

All of the above will be considered as part of a detailed review of open space within the village; the request for a garden of remembrance in particular would need to be considered in further consultation with the elected Member for the area and the Community Council.



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| ■ Public Parks and Gardens | ■ Schools/Institutions | ■ Amenity Areas |
| ■ Play Space | ■ Sports Areas | ■ Green Corridors/Riparian Routes |
| ■ Semi Natural Areas | ■ Allotments | ■ Churchyards, Cemeteries |
| ■ Other Functional Greenspace | | |

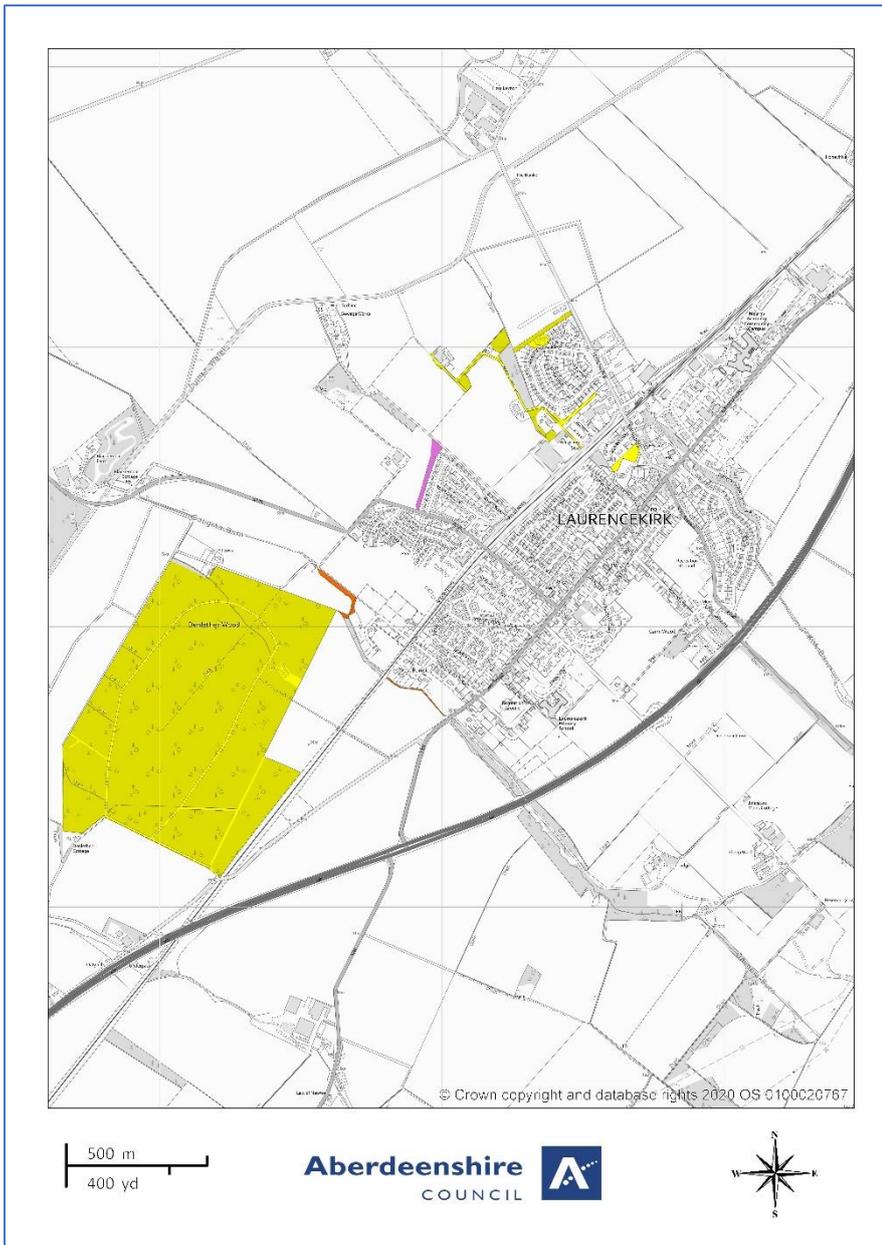
Open Space Audit Update 2019: Laurencekirk

An update exercise was carried out in 2019 to account for new open spaces arising from major developments completed since the Open Space Audit 2010, and to address any known disparities/gaps in information. The scope of the update exercise did not include a review of the Open Space Audit 2010. The Audit update 2019 has been used to assist in the preparation of the Proposed Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2020.

This is an interim Audit.

Whilst this information will feed into a future comprehensive Open Space Audit, at this stage there may be some auditing inconsistencies across settlements due to factors such as community interest, and landscape/topography influencing how open spaces are identified, particularly at and around the edges of settlement.

Allotments are excluded as these are audited separately as part of the Food Growing Strategy 2019-2030.



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