

## Settlement Summary: Newtonhill

Population: 10933

# Observations (of Community Council)

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

- Provide basketball nets at tennis court on Newtonhill Road.
- Improve maintenance at Cairnhill Road play spaces
- Provide bench/improve maintenance at Cairnhill Place play area.



- Install dog bin at larger greenspace on St Peter's Road
  Maintenance of greenspace at St Anne's Wynd
- Provide seating at north end of St Michael's Crescent greenspace; repair play element and maintain seating.
- Maintenance at greenspace 142-144 and 63-65 St Michael's Road



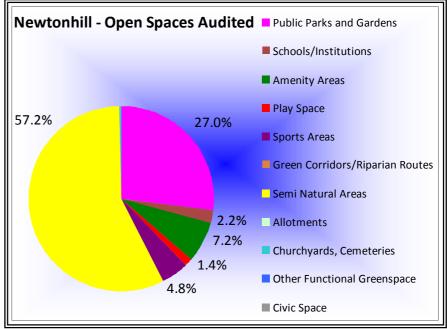
Newtonhill is linked to Portlethen in the north and Muchalls in the south, by an established section of coastal path. Within the village, greenspace in the St Michael's Road area is quite well connected, a pattern rarely found within older settlements in Aberdeenshire. To the north east, the buffer area along the Burn of Elsick marks the settlement boundary.

Links inland to the Causey Mounth and quieter road network are currently limited, with pedestrian crossing limited to the A90 flyover. There is however a (private) underpass leading from the area opposite Newtonhill School to Newtonhill Farm. In the event of further development west of the carriageway, this area may have potential to provide a safe non-motorised route between the village and woodland areas and footpaths to the west.

### Open Space Requirements

On reviewing detailed comments from the Community Council, it would appear that maintenance standards are of concern on a number of sites, some of which are not in Council ownership and control. The issue of litter is also highlighted, especially in the area around the school and the junction with the A90.

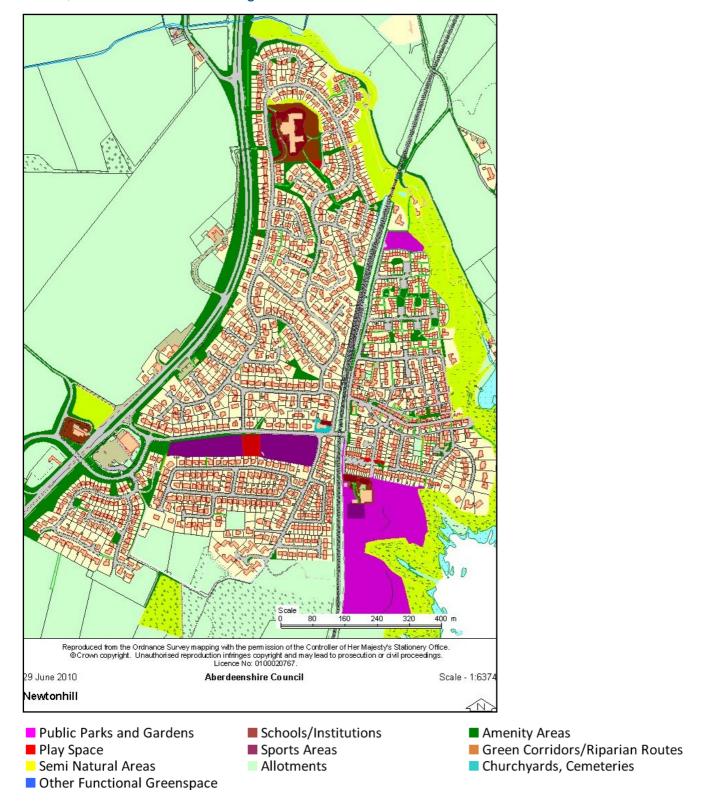
Whilst a detailed review of the open spaces in Newtonhill will take all comments into consideration, including those listed above, it is unlikely that the Council would provide increased resources to clear litter. Community litter picks are recommended in this case.





Taken together, the audited sites would suggest that Newtonhill has a moderate amount of open space; however, easy access to coastal areas provide a range of benefits for the community. There appears to be a good range of open space types within the village itself, including allotments, and a popular recreation area at Newtonhill Road. Some smaller areas of amenity greenspace appear harder to maintain, although not necessarily underused, as suggested by requests for seating. Should maintenance issues persist, one possibility might be to provide seating, but to consider providing a 'civic' space, as opposed to a green area, in some locations.

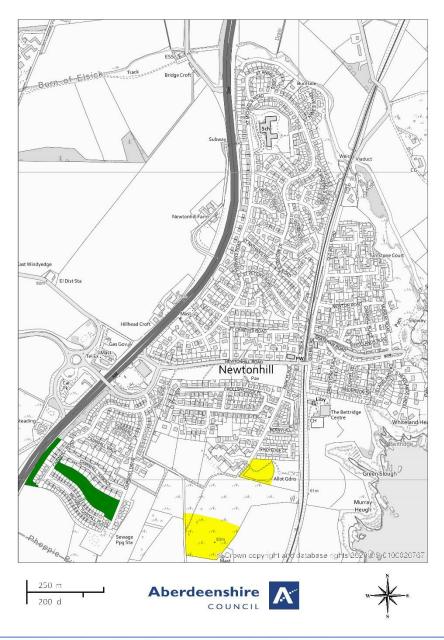
The large proportion of semi-natural land shown for Newtonhill reflects the inclusion of coastal zones, and the streamside along the Elsick Burn.





### Open Space Audit Update 2019: Newtonhill

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.

- Public Parks and Gardens
   Play Space
- Semi Natural AreasOther Functional Greenspace
- Schools/Institutions ■ Sports Areas
- Allotments

- Amenity Areas
- Green Corridors/Riparian Routes
- Churchyards, Cemeteries