

Herbersthire Castle (The Gala) Park – Phase 1 Improvements



HERBERSTHIRE CASTLE (THE GALA) PARK – PHASE 1 IMPROVEMENTS

A local community group called Community Green Initiative has a long standing involvement in the care, maintenance and enhancement of the park, and following a previous successful LEADER funding application, led on the development of a Master Plan and Feasibility Study for Herbertshire Castle Park.

Catalysed by this preparatory work, a partnership of key stakeholders came together with the aim of delivering the park improvements proposed in the masterplan. Following a successful funding bid to Kelvin Valley & Falkirk LEADER earlier this year, detail designs have been prepared ahead of delivery of a first phase of park enhancements this autumn/early winter. The aim is to:

- create a more welcoming and attractive park
- make the park more accessible to all users
- celebrate the parks natural & cultural heritage

Who is involved?

A steering group of local representatives and other stakeholders has helped inform the development of the project as the proposals were developed in more detail. The group consist of representatives from the following:

- Falkirk Council – landowner and client providing advice and permission for works
- Community Green Initiative – providing support to steering group, coordination of community engagement activities/feedback on detail design proposals.
- Green Action Trust (formally Central Scotland Green Network Trust) – project management, design and fund raising.
- Elected Members
- Denny & Dunipace Community Council
- Communities Along the Caron
- Dunipace Football Club
- Falkirk Area Disability Access Panel
- Glenwood TRA
- Denny High School
- Denny & Dunipace Heritage Society
- Dunipace Church
- Girl Guides

Who are the funders?

The total package of enhancements will cost in the region of £250,000, with funding as follows.

- Kelvin Valley & Falkirk LEADER = £182, 619.24
- Falkirk Council = £64,000
- RHI Refractories = £2,700

What is being done & where?

Car Park area

- Modifying existing parking bays to the south (left as you enter) of the car park to create 4 accessible parking bays.
- Widening adjacent pavements and reducing gradients of connecting paths to improve accessibility
- Planting 14 large (4.5m – 6m) cherry trees along boundary wall
- Welcome/orientation signage

Stirling Street – South Entrance

- Planting a 6-metre-high ‘Legacy’ Sweet Chestnut tree (same tree species as the Kings Tree), with ‘conservation setts/cobbles’ around the base.
- Bound gravel paving
- Benches

Riverside Picnic Area 1 (overlooking weir)

- Installation of 2 picnic tables, 2 park benches and a bin
- Interpretation board
- Bound gravel paving
- Tree clearance works to open the river view and accommodate the picnic area (see [Diagram 1](#))

Riverside Picnic Area 2

- Installation of 2 park benches and a bin.
- Bound gravel paving
- Some tree pruning and vegetation clearance to improve views of the river (see [Diagram 2](#))

Central Picnic Area/Outdoor Classroom

- Installation of 3 picnic tables and a bin
- Planting a 6-metre-high ‘Legacy’ Sweet Chestnut tree (same tree species as the Kings Tree), with ‘conservation setts/cobbles’ around the base.
- Bound gravel paving
- Some tree pruning and vegetation clearance to improve views of the river (see [Diagram 3](#))

Other enhancements

- Installation of a further 5 park benches
- 4 interpretation boards
- Solar light studs along riverside path between Stirling Street entrance and Wallace Crescent bridge
- Re-painting of footbridge at Wallace Crescent entrance
- Upgrade of footpath from western edge of park to M80 bridge.

Detailed designs for the enhancements can be viewed by following the links below

- Diagram 4 - [Phase 1 Masterplan Enhancements](#)
- Diagram 5 - [Feature Area Detailed Layouts](#)

Green Action Trust are acting as project managers on behalf of Falkirk Council. If you have any queries relating to any of the above, please contact Mike Ewart by phone on 0771 505 1959, or email mike.ewart@greenactiontrust.org.

Project funded by:

The Scottish Government and the European Community LEADER 2014–2020 Programme.



And Falkirk Council



Falkirk Council



t: 01501 822015

a: Hillouseridge, Shottskirk Road, Shotts, Lanarkshire ML7 4JS



greenactiontrust.org



[@greenactionT](https://twitter.com/greenactionT)