

To: COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE		Subject: OPEN SPACE CLASSIFICATION OF MOSSEND PARK
From: DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES		
Date: 11 APRIL 2005	Ref: KW/KF/MB	

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Following a request from the Bellshill and District Area Committee, this report considers the open space classification of Mossend (King George V) Park, Bellshill.

2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 Six parks with adjacent Town Centres have previously been classified as Town Parks (Community Services Committee of 13 February 2003), however, Bellshill is the only remaining town centre without a Town Park.

2.2 The existing Town Parks are:

- Burngreen Park and Recreation Ground, Kilsyth
- Cumbernauld House Park, Cumbernauld
- Centenary and West End Parks, Airdrie
- West End Park, Coatbridge
- Duchess of Hamilton Park, Motherwell
- Belhaven Park, Wishaw

2.3 The Council is progressing an Open Spaces Strategy which aims to clarify all open space, however, since the process will take significant time, it is sensible to progress with the redevelopment of notable parks by utilising the broad criteria listed below.

2.4 Town Parks are considered to either currently, or have the potential to, provide a range of facilities and ease of access to a wide range of visitors, therefore being of importance to a large number of different communities.

2.5 Neighbourhood Parks are similar to Town Parks, however they are limited in some aspect, therefore, serving a restricted number of communities.

2.6 Local Parks are considered to either currently, or lack the potential to in the future, offer any more than limited facilities and whose significance is mainly only to the immediate, local community.

3.0 PRESENT POSITION

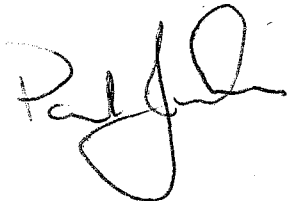
- 3.1 Bellshill and the surrounding area do not have a named Town Park.
- 3.2 Mossend Park is a 'King George V' gifted park and as such is governed by the National Playing Fields Association who is supportive of any improvements to the park and is keen on community involvement.
- 3.3 Under current criteria, Mossend Park does not fully meet the requirements to be designated as a 'Town Park', however could be provisionally granted status of Neighbourhood Park in the interim.
- 3.4 Milnwood Park has considerable potential for development but due to constraints such as the forthcoming closure of the park entrance at Warnock Crescent and the recent demolition of flats in Holm Gardens, it would not be deemed appropriate to consider additional developments at this time.

4.0 THE WAY FORWARD

- 4.1 It is proposed that assessments of use and conditions be carried out on Mossend Park to provide in-depth information to aid future development proposals.
- 4.2 Community consultation will be carried out focussing on Mossend Park and its' immediate communities. Later this will be rolled out to include the wider community enabling a more sustainable approach to local improvements.
- 4.3 Local groups, individuals and organisations will be contacted with a view to generating community interest in regeneration and development linking with the parks.
- 4.4 It is proposed that the Urban Park Development Team facilitate the establishment of a 'Friends of Mossend Park' with representation from local people and groups. Subsequently, through local consultation and partnerships, develop a range of projects and subsequent funding bids to address locally identified needs, priorities and aspirations.
- 4.5 Working partnerships can then be established with various funding bodies and other internal organisations to enable works to be financed and carried out effectively.

5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 It is proposed that Mossend Park be awarded in the interim Neighbourhood Park Status.
- 5.2 That the Bellshill and District Area Committee be advised.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul', is written over the bottom of the recommendations section.