



PARSONSPOOL STREET DESIGN PROJECT

SUMMARY OF RESIDENTS' RESPONSES

A street design workshop, jointly run by Sustrans, East Lothian Council and Sustaining Dunbar, was held on Saturday 11th February at Dunbar Library, close to Parsonspool. The workshop included an informal presentation and display of inspirational examples of street design and discussion of possibilities for Parsonspool. Residents then worked in small groups to discuss how they used Parsonspool, their likes and dislikes and current barriers to use of the street. This enabled the groups to work out what they wanted from a future scheme and the features they considered important. At the end, the groups got together to discuss and summarise their thoughts using a large scale plan of Parsonspool. The workshop was very well attended indeed; many residents stayed for the whole morning, others dropped in to give their views.

List of Attendees

[names removed from online version - 20 Attendees]

Written responses have also been received from:-

[names removed from online version – 5 written responses]

Summary of Responses from Workshop

How is Parsonspool Used? /Parsonspool as a route to local destinations

- Used as a route for DPS pupils going to their weekly swimming lessons at the Pool.
- Through route for children using park (Parsonspool and Lauderdale) and going to the pool.
- Park in Parsonspool is getting more use.
- Grammar school kids use Park.
- Used for journey to school from Winterfield area (via Letham Park).
- Used as route to police station.
- Used as route to High Street.
- Used as route to Harbour.
- Large volume of residents' cars.
- Used as route to Library.
- Used for parking by doo cot owners (doo cots located at rear of 46A/Letham Gardens sheltered housing).

Things People Like About Parsonspool

- Lauderdale Park very nice with cafe.
- Play area is used as a meeting point for parents and primary school pupils.
- There is no bother on the street.
- Multi-generational.

Current Issues

- Parking
 - lack of parking
 - problems with seasonal and tourist parking
 - too many cars parked on Parsonspool near Lauderdale Park; too narrow, dead-end.
 - double parking on pavement near Lauderdale Park.
- Play Area
 - too many cars parked near play area
 - play area has bins missing, including dog bins
 - well used as a meeting point for parents and children, but old play area and no seating
- Day Centre
 - parking on double yellow lines near day centre
 - double yellow lines wear out near day centre
 - footpath in poor condition near day centre
 - minibus parking blocks access, tight (at Day Centre), could they open up the area to the front?
- Pine Trees
 - pine trees to the west of the park – residents living close to the pine trees on the western boundary of the play area have contacted ELC about these trees; they are concerned that the trees could fall down onto their gardens/houses.
- Litter/Dog Fouling
 - dog fouling is a problem.(2 groups)
 - no bins for litter and dog mess
- Planting
 - Present planting areas not maintained; need commitment from ELC to maintain planting areas
- Lighting
 - very drab, need brighter bulbs.
- Road Design
 - Poor visibility at corner near 23/25.

Features Residents Would Like to See

- Lighting
 - better lighting along street as it is quite dark
- Parking
 - yellow lines to stop parking outside 42 to 44B
 - doo cots parking
 - use bushy area for parking
 - blocked off length of road south of the Park could be used as a communal car park
 - stop vehicles parking on grass areas, particularly the corners of the footpath at the top of the playground
 - marked parking

- do away with planting areas (D shaped blisters), give us parking
- parking for carers – not just residents
- dropped kerbs to allow cars to park off road
- driveways installed at same time as road works?
- area near 38-42 should be converted to parking.
- Play Area
 - dog fouling fence around park
 - more colour at Play Park
 - no cars west of electricity sub-station
 - seating at play area; at top of dip
 - Lighting in the play area to make it safer and deter anti-social behaviour.
- Planting
 - corner area next to no. 25 should be kept as a green area
 - pine trees to the west of the park removed and replaced with more trees that enhance the area, not poison it
 - raised planters
 - small flowering trees or evergreens
 - more greenery
 - maintenance of planted areas.
- Safety
 - maintain/enhance safe route to school
 - dropped kerbs for wheelchairs and mobility scooters
- Seating
 - Provide seating for elderly to rest
- Design
 - more colour on housing
- Traffic Calming
 - angle parking on alternate sides to help calm traffic
- Signage
 - No Through Road sign for Parsonspool at Westgate
- Road Design
 - turning space at T junction by 50 – 56 Parsonspool
 - corner at 23/25 enlarged
 - need safe access for emergency vehicles and ambulances (number of older residents in the area)

Features Residents Would Not Like to See

- Objection to social spaces in the middle of the roads. This would encourage noisy gatherings.
- Seating areas in Parsonspool.
- Lauderdale Park and Parsonspool play area mean less need for on-street playing?
- Parking against the play area (2 groups).

- Circular feature to act as a roundabout outside 50/56 (suggested by two groups).
- Will there be enough road width to ensure that people can manoeuvre out of parking spaces to travel in both directions (i.e. won't have to make u/three point turns further along the road?).
- Curved roads ok (change of road alignment).
- Don't want seating area.
- Ok on any road plan and trees.

Voting on Images of Possible Street Design Features

Residents were asked to vote on a series of photos showing street design features using coded stickers. The results should be taken as a general guide only.

| Ref No | Description | For | Against | Neutral |
|---------------|--|------------|----------------|----------------|
| <u>1</u> | <u>Footpath build outs at T junction</u> | <u>6</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>0</u> |
| <u>2</u> | <u>Shared space with marked parking bays and trees</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> |
| <u>3</u> | <u>Stone posts showing road name</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>3</u> | <u>0</u> |
| <u>4</u> | <u>Stone planters</u> | <u>5</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> |
| <u>5</u> | <u>Art work on garage door</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>1</u> |
| <u>6</u> | <u>Informal crossing marked on the road</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>1</u> |
| <u>7</u> | <u>Life-size metal sculptures of trees</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>1</u> |
| <u>8</u> | <u>Raised planters made of railway sleepers</u> | <u>6</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>0</u> |
| <u>9</u> | <u>Chicane formed by build outs with raised brick planters</u> | <u>5</u> | <u>3</u> | <u>0</u> |
| <u>10</u> | <u>Trees planted in road surface</u> | <u>4</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>2</u> |
| <u>11</u> | <u>Road closed using posts, shrub and cherry tree planting</u> | <u>7</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>0</u> |
| <u>12</u> | <u>Footpath and road at same level, trees and planting</u> | <u>6</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>1</u> |
| <u>13</u> | <u>Parking perpendicular to footpath, bays marked by different road surface</u> | <u>6</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>1</u> |
| <u>14</u> | <u>Artwork set in footpath</u> | <u>3</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>2</u> |
| <u>15</u> | <u>Raised planters/seating made with railway sleepers</u> | <u>4</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>1</u> |
| <u>16</u> | <u>Artwork – sculpture with children's artwork</u> | <u>3</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>3</u> |
| <u>17</u> | <u>Railings around play area</u> | <u>5</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>1</u> |
| <u>18</u> | <u>Build out at junction with cobbled gateway treatment</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>3</u> | <u>1</u> |
| <u>19</u> | <u>Shared surface with trees, parking not marked</u> | <u>5</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>1</u> |
| <u>20</u> | <u>Cobble setts (similar to Dunbar High Street)</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>6</u> | <u>0</u> |
| <u>21</u> | <u>Road closed to through traffic with build outs and posts (maintaining veh. access on either side)</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>4</u> |
| <u>22</u> | <u>Cycling over painted road surface (multi-coloured tile pattern)</u> | <u>6</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> |
| <u>23</u> | <u>Shared road surface with planters and trees with cages</u> | <u>5</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> |
| <u>24</u> | <u>Graffiti style artwork set into footpath</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>4</u> | <u>1</u> |
| <u>25</u> | <u>Speed cushion, planters, trees, posts and communal wheelie bins</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>1</u> |
| <u>26</u> | <u>Milestone type artwork with place name</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>3</u> | <u>0</u> |
| <u>27</u> | <u>Painted wall</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>0</u> |
| <u>28</u> | <u>Large stones on shared surface</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>3</u> | <u>2</u> |
| <u>29</u> | <u>Parking perpendicular to footpath, wildflower planting and rough stonework kerbside</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>4</u> | <u>1</u> |
| <u>30</u> | <u>Speed cushion</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>2</u> |

| | | | | |
|-----------|---|----------|----------|----------|
| <u>31</u> | <u>Timber raised planter and seating</u> | <u>3</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> |
| <u>32</u> | <u>Raised planter made of railway sleepers</u> | <u>4</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> |
| <u>33</u> | <u>Shared surface with echelon parking and slightly raised planting</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>1</u> |
| <u>34</u> | <u>Standard park bench</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>1</u> |
| <u>35</u> | <u>Timber raised planter and seating</u> | <u>4</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>0</u> |
| <u>36</u> | <u>Timber raised planter</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>1</u> |
| <u>37</u> | <u>Shared surface with echelon parking and raised planters</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>1</u> |
| <u>38</u> | <u>Fruit trees and bushes</u> | <u>4</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>0</u> |

This suggests that residents are generally in favour of raised planters, trees, shared space and coloured road surface. They do not like speed cushions, cobbled setts and stone posts/features.

Summary of Written Responses Received

Written Response 1

Emergency Access - Widen roads; take away 1ft. Pavement and ½ moons, NO TREES.
 Parking - Dip pavements to make driveways into gardens.
 Make the two overgrown areas at the T junction into parking areas.
 Play Park Area - Fence off and put seating round for parents.
 Picnic benches top and bottom of street.
 Street Lights - Brighter street lights.
 Dog Poo Bins - At top of hill, and near Park.
 Salt Bin - At top of hill.

Written Response 2

Better street lighting needed.
 Areas adjacent to 25 and 42 should be used for parking.

Written Response 3

Parsonspool at entrance to Lauderdale Park – remove gate, to stop cyclists using pavement – this is to stop kids using cars to lean against and let pedestrians use pavements as they usually have to get on the road.
 Parking - Areas adjacent to 25 and 42 should be used for parking.
 Area near 39/41 should be used for parking.
 46's and 44's – if cars to these homes are parked at doors, no access for emergency vehicles.
 Parking is a priority.

Written Response 4

Remove dangerous trees to the west of 64.
 Provide additional car parking in areas adjacent to 25 and 42.
 Provide more car parking on eastern side of play area.
 Provide car parking for play area to west of electricity substation.
 Provide seating for play area and shrubs around play area on southern side of play area.

Written Response 5

Object to areas adjacent to 25 and 42 being converted to car parking on personal and aesthetic grounds; detract from amenity, affect views from nos. 25 and 42 and could cause noise problem. Number of cars which could be accommodated here is small and would do very little to solve the larger parking problem. These areas should be retained in present use.

Railings adjoining Belhaven Rd ad posts at library car park must be retained as safeguard against Parsonspool becoming a through route, even for emergency vehicles. Should remember that there is unenclosed children's playground here. Road is often used by large vehicles as turning point.

Although unconnected to this scheme, would like to point out the need for a repair on pavement where Delisle Street meets the exit of the library car park.

Does the project include the upgrading of the roads?

Conclusions

Use of Parsonspool

Parsonspool is used as a route to many areas of the town; High Street, harbour, library and parks. Because of its relatively low level of traffic, it is a popular route for children going to the nearby play areas and the swimming pool for their weekly lessons. Residents feel that good points are that it is a trouble free area, multi-generational and popular with children and parents as a safe route and meeting point.

Concerns

Parking is the major concern for most people living in Parsonspool. Residents feel that there is a lack of parking and many are concerned that emergency vehicles might not be able to reach elderly residents. Parking at the Lauderdale Park and also causes concerns, as does parking at the Day Centre.

Dog fouling is also seen as a problem, and residents would like to see more dog and litter bins. Other concerns include the lack of Council maintenance of the existing planting areas, poor street lighting and poor visibility at the T junction. The pine trees bordering the path at the play area were also a cause of concern for residents living close by.

Results of Public Consultation

Residents were generally in favour of the ELC suggested scheme, particularly the increase in the number of parking spaces. There was some concern about manoeuvring into/out of the echelon parking, reassurance is sought that there would be enough road width. It was suggested that provision be made for turning, such as an informal circular feature/mini roundabout at the T junction near 50/56.

Residents were generally in favour of more planting and greenery; smaller trees, possibly fruit, with railings around, and evergreens and raised planters were also generally well received, but a commitment from ELC to maintain the planting is sought.

The proposed seating area was not welcomed, many thought it would encourage anti-social behaviour. Instead it was suggested that seating be provided at the play area, on the higher ground, and that this be

well-lit, again to deter anti-social behaviour. The parking around the play area caused some concerns; it was instead suggested that the proposed parking on the eastern side of the play area be moved to the other side of the road for road safety reasons.

Pavements at the same level as the road or dropped kerbs were welcomed to help wheelchair and mobility scooter users, and improvements to street lighting were also considered necessary.