

Floodgates Park

Floodgates Park is owned by Ards and North Down Borough Council. At present, the land is currently unmanaged and consists of two watercourses and scrub vegetation including gorse and self-seeded willow trees. There is a World War II strongpoint abutting the floodwall that would benefit from some remedial works to make a feature of this historic monument.

This location provides an opportunity to integrate with the greenway network in the wider area that is currently under construction, including the extension of the existing Comber Greenway from Belfast Road, Comber to Newtownards via the floodwall (ref: LA06/2019/0308/F), as well as the stretch linking Georges Street to the floodwall via Portaferry Road and Londonderry Park (ref: LA06/2019/0544/F).

Proposals for a new football stadium and car park are being progressed by Ards FC as a separate project and planning application (ref: LA06/2024/0104/F). It's anticipated that this proposed car park will also be available for use by users of the proposed Floodgates Park, the greenway and overflow from Londonderry Park.

The park aims to provide a space for all, with biodiversity as its core. The World War II heritage feature improvements and the surrounding views of Strangford Lough and Scrabo Tower will be complimented by interpretation signage, bringing an extra element to the story of the park.



Legend

- Planning Reference Number LA06/2024/010/F Submitted by Ards Football Club
- Floodgates Park proposed planning application boundary
- Park Furniture**
Benches along floodwall, and bins to be replaced.
- World War II strongpoint railing**
Existing fence to be removed and proposed fence to be installed on the boundary of the green space around the strongpoint.
- Proposed entrances.**
 - Portaferry Road Entrance
 - 3 x Entrances to Floodgates trail
 - 1 x Access to Existing Greenway
- Interpretative signage**
Signage detailing history at strongpoint and views at lookout point.
- Timber bridge**
Timber bridge allowing pedestrians to cross existing watercourse
- Proposed pathways**
Compacted gravel paths. Majority will follow existing desire lines through existing gorse
- Native Tree Planting**
Additional tree planting to enhance biodiversity across the site

