

## Summary of Snap-shot second survey: Canada Geese in Pavilion Gardens

Comments in order of submission.

I wish they could be encouraged to move elsewhere!
The only thing that needs controlling is humans and their compassion for other species 🙄
I don't live in Buxton but travel down on the bus sometimes with my dog for the day. I love sitting having a Spring picnic on the grass but you can't do this in Summer due to goose poo everywhere.
I cannot offer help at this stage until I'm settled
Geese don't need to be killed. Humans want to kill all the time. Humane methods must be found.
Nature will balance itself where humans don't interfere
It wonderful seeing the Geese in the Pavilion Gardens and in my opinion they have every right to be there. These birds are wonderful to watch and a tourist attraction.
The only species that needs population control is humans.
Leave the geese alone. Nature will find it's own balance.
I strongly disagree with oiling of the eggs.
Oiling eggs is highly unethical. Having wildlife in parks and gardens is something that should be encouraged. It enables younger generations to learn about different birds and other species.
Official signage should be erected by HPBC, discourage any feeding. Plastic models of Hawks and Owls should be also positioned around area they congregate, this is a proven method of scaring pests away
It is imperative that you do not destroy any birds, eggs or otherwise. Humans are the problem!
These beautiful creatures must be looked after, fed and protected by the council and the community, they are a part of Buxton life. They were probably here long before we were.
I'd not contribute to any egg oiling. Education and responsibility is the way.
Posts with low chains could be worth a try.

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<p>This survey does not address the real issue - the excessive geese population in the Pavilion Gardens. They have taken over and ruined most of the lawns and leave their mess everywhere - needs sorting!</p>
<p>Leave the geese alone :)</p>
<p>I'd like to know more about "ethical?" options for controlling geese population</p>
<p>All the geese in gardens should be culled</p>
<p>The geese are damaging water quality and feeding is attracting rats. I miss the swans. Action is required.</p>
<p>Leave the geese be and try and work out ways of ensure the spaces r protected for kids and families</p>
<p>Only contributed because angered by the victimisation of beautiful birds by a paranoid minority. Feel the council should have way more pressing concerns.</p>
<p>Are there moves that could be made to actively support the birds in other areas of the town and surroundings? Nothing against the geese, they just aren't compatible with an urban park and it's users.</p>
<p>would like to think something could be done to preserve the grass &amp; clean the paths</p>
<p>Be good to see some kind of improvements in the park and allowing the wildlife to survive</p>
<p>Fences won't work as the geese will either fly over. We need to stop the 3 people who bring huge bags of bread to feed the geese and ducks</p>
<p>Designated feeding areas seem like a good idea. Hopefully this would encourage the geese to congregate where they know they'll be fed.</p>
<p>Shoot them.</p>
<p>The walkways need management if the geese population continues. They need to be cleaned more regularly.</p>
<p>A strange survey with some weird questions</p>
<p>Leave the Geese alone! Humans create more mess then any other species! Stop the sewage being dumped instead! Shame on you for wanting to blame geese for the mess humans create and leave!</p>

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<p>Cull the geese. They are out of control. Then control numbers with contraception. Everything else is being destroyed or killed by the geese. Eliminate. That I would chip in for.</p>
<p>It's not the birds that's the issue it's all the poo on the ground that needs cleaning.</p>
<p>There is no need to cull the Geese. If a health risk to humans or nuisance, better to relocate 50% - 75% of the Geese minimum of 100 km away to ideal release site.</p>
<p>Please no more human interference with wildlife, that's partly why we're currently in this terrible ecological situation. Work with and around nature, not against it.</p>
<p>Don't plant wild flowers, it's isn't working on the slopes and it looks a mess!!</p>
<p>Canada geese are a focal point in pavilion gardens and they are very tame. It's nice to actually feed them from your hand I've learned a lot and not be so scared of feeding them. They should stay.</p>
<p>Maybe try partnering up with schools and environmental groups, ask Country File if it's a subject they'll consider.</p>
<p>Thank you for some very good ideas - I am not against the geese but they have become a nuisance recently</p>
<p>There too many geese and rats. The issue is the two aggressive ladies who feeds them daily and shouts at people if they go nearby plus the banks of all watercourses need restoring!!!!</p>
<p>I believe the council need to step up, they've let the park go and need to invest some money made from the Parkwood contract back into the park.</p>
<p>We come to the park from Macclesfield on a very regular basis. We enjoy feeding all of the birds with seed &amp; try to spread where we feed. They bring pleasure to my life &amp; I don't think exclusion is an</p>
<p>Geese need culling. It's destroyed the park.</p>
<p>Way too many geese, can't sit down on the grass with a picnic due to the amount of poo covering it.</p>
<p>Just drastically reduce the numbers they are taking over and you can't walk anywhere without standing in their mess why bother dog walkers when that is all around its disgusting.</p>

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<p>There are far too many Canada geese and a cull should be considered. Maybe the geese could be eaten, or offered for sale.</p>
<p>There are far more worse things in PG than geese,that need a addressing first. Discouraging feeding would be beneficial and having fenced picnic area would help. Look at the rat problem and dirty lake.</p>
<p>Far too many Canadian geese in Buxton Park who are threatening the habitat of native ducks, creating excessive mess from faeces, scaring young children and causing the grasses areas to look unsightly</p>
<p>Need to control geese population as hard to have a picnic, scares children</p>
<p>There must be an alternative to culling geese. The lake however needs cleaning</p>
<p>The geese need more controls than suggested, a cull would be good</p>
<p>I don't see a problem with the geese, only 2 pairs ever breed and goose poo is easily cleaned with a bit of a jet wash</p>
<p>The Canada Geese ( as pretty as they are ) need managing . They are now overpopulated and are actually ruining the appearance of the gardens .</p>
<p>Sort out the rats and dredge/clean up the boating pond. Spend some money on looking after the plants and trees. Still looks unloved and as though management don't care</p>
<p>Should be mass cull of the birds in middle of the night allowing smaller native birds to thrive without all goose muck would less resemble a farm yard</p>
<p>The geese need to be culled and/ or breeding restrictions made. The ponds are full of algae and poo, the grass is ruined and the ducks are being driven out.</p>
<p>I still think the geese are in their natural habitat, and we have no more right to be in the park than they do. Small fenced off areas for picnics is a good idea, but beyond that its the geese's home</p>
<p>The birds themselves aren't too bad but the poo and mess they leave behind is absolutely disgusting, no better than having a park covered in dog shit, it needs sorting</p>
<p>Those geese have ruined the park, I wouldn't ever consider a picnic now as their poo is everywhere</p>
<p>Get someone to clean all the muck up</p>

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<p>The geese numbers are far too high and need to be reduced as they are resulting in lots of mess within the park, they then need to be controlled</p>
<p>Reduce the amount of geese, clean the pond regularly and get rid of the Rats</p>
<p>Please look after Big Duck on the main boating lake, he looks like a hybrid, and more information on him would be grateful received!!! Lots of people point him out due to him!</p>
<p>Humans cause far more crap than animals. We need to learn to live with them better, not fight them harder</p>
<p>The increasing number of geese is adversely affecting the park. Humane measures to control numbers is the only solution</p>
<p>If you sell seed it needs to be in paper not plastic. The pavilion gardens is extremely irresponsible with the plastic they use.</p>
<p>I love the Geese. I live on the Broadwalk and love watching them in their herds feeding. I do feed them in the winter but not in summer. There are too many of them but they shouldn't be culled.</p>
<p>Wildlife should be supported and protected now more than ever</p>
<p>40 years ago 3 geese would bite your ankles whilst you walking through the park. We really do need to cull them in some respectful way. They are quite frightening at breeding time.</p>
<p>There is too much bird mess in the park. Not very child friendly.</p>
<p>Definitely need to reduce the geese population. Horrible to walk around park, dogs eat the poo and it's all over the paths. Destroying the pond banks.</p>
<p>People need educating rather than the geese "controlling". There are a couple of regular people who feed all the birds bread, sometimes even mouldy! That is much more of a problem and encourages the rats</p>
<p>There are far too many geese in the park. I have been verbally abused several times when I have asked people with great big carrier bags full of bread to not feed the geese. Geese are meant to migrate</p>
<p>The numbers of geese should be controlled in some way. They are beautiful birds, but are becoming a pest.</p>

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<p>The present situation in the Pavilion Gardens Park area, is completely unacceptable and for me, very off-putting. I live outside Buxton but avoid visiting the park because of the unkempt grounds.</p>
<p>There is no answer without cruelty</p>
<p>Pressure wash the broadwalk twice a day to clean and remove bird poo. This is the council's job. Council tax is high enough, they can afford it. The geese were here first, leave them alone.</p>
<p>The geese need to be culled - or humanely relocated if that's possible. The geese are ruining the gardens, due to bird droppings everywhere, erosion of the grass, attraction of rodents and algae bloom</p>
<p>Population of Canada geese fluctuates according to season. July/August sees increase due to birds seeking safe haven whilst regrowing flight feathers. Poo is messy green but harmless due to grass diet</p>
<p>I love wildlife but the geese are taking over from our mallards - and not only are they dominant, but they leave such a hazardous mess. I think we need to control the numbers.</p>
<p>Get rid of geese</p>
<p>The boating lake in PG currently looks appallingly dirty, not sure if this is totally due to the geese but they can't be helping. We need to find methods to Huntly manage their numbers. Good to try th</p>
<p>There seem to be more geese than ever and they now have goslings. There is also so much green ime on the boating lake that it is a health hazard. The slime must be associated with goose pollution.</p>
<p>I feel that culling the current flock of Canada Geese would be a good idea.</p>
<p>I am in favour of the wildflower planting but not physically able to take part unfortunately. The park is a delightful place and we are lucky to have it.</p>
<p>The geese have ruined the grass near the lake</p>
<p>Culling is unavoidable surely.</p>
<p>The population of geese needs to be reduced somehow and the feeding of birds with bread should not be permitted. Signs to educate people might help</p>

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Anything that will keep the populations of geese and ducks to a more acceptable number should be considered
Think the geese should've been discouraged from the pavilion gardens, and the do Gooders should not encouraged them by constantly feeding them ..
The geese are taking over and need to be controlled. Feeding bread should be discouraged it attracts rats.
It is the councils responsibility to sort this out with the experts.
They are spoiling the park by the removing of grass and the amounts of poo. The park is the main attraction for visitors and should be protected
Thank you for addressing the concerns of too many geese in The Pavilion Gardens.
Can the geese be culled before contraception trials for immediate impact and to allow other duck populations to flourish? I am in favour if culling and would contribute to the cost of this
It's lovely to have the birds but they do make a big mess in the park and eat the grass down to almost nothing. A humane way of reducing the numbers would be my preference
The geese are part of the character of the park, they should not be interfered with, but I do think that it is a good idea about improving the environment of the park with wildflowers to increase biod
Tittesworth had a similar problem several years ago..how did they reduce geese numbers to now manageable levels?
I like the geese and totally against the suggestions it's the way things have evovled
There appear to be less mallards since the rise of the Canadian geese so their numbers need to be regulated
Get rid of the geese and all the rats running around absolutely disgusting
I agree with discouraging people feeding the birds bread, a notice and explanation should be displayed, some fenced areas is a way to go around the lake. The contraception idea is ridiculous and wrong
more plants = more wildlife, great! love the nest boxes and watching Nuthatches nesting. Owl boxes? hedgehog houses?

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the rat increase is noticeable. good work on walls, waterfall and replacing soil erosion. Geese in a park? tiny, tiny bit annoying, NHS, housing and climate crisis are bigger problems to worry about

How do you propose to cut back on the number of these Canadian geese.. they should be left well alone they are not harming anyone

They need to be culled. Shot

The Pavilion Gardens are now a private concern. Why should members of the public be asked to contribute?

This is really not a complicated issue. They are wild birds and will congregate and produce more young wherever there is a constant and easy supply of food. Just. Stop. People. Feeding. Them. Simple!

The geese have destroyed all the grass everywhere

Control the geese, but do something about the rats! The Pavillion Gardens are overrun with them. Is HPBC insured for any claims if children playing in the water catch wells disease?

A cull would be a good idea

Don't understand the comment on trials so can't really take my reply into account. All I would like to say is, we shouldn't over intervene, who so we think we are ?

The Canada geese need culling and their population reduced considerably. The amount of droppings is really disgusting and must be a health hazard!

Some good ideas be good to see them take place. The answer is oiling and removing some geese to wild life park. Place where they are looked after . That isn't something we can do in the gardens

Can we encourage swans and more ducks back to the Pavilion Gardens. The geese have adversely affected other bird populations and reduced species diversity.

Gesellschaft droppings have stopped me enjoying playing on the grass with grandchildren

Remove the food then the rats will leave. The geese will always find feed and fend for them selves. There were young rats on the pavement on Burlington Rd a couple of weeks ago.



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<p>The problem I see from any form of control is it will be ongoing every year. These are wild animals and should be allowed to go wherever they want to.</p>
<p>The birds have lived happily along with ducks pigeons plus many more birds i don't see why all of a sudden the council have a problem with the geese we feed them corn every day</p>
<p>I'm quite happy to see the geese. I would rather do a big cull on rat infestation in the park first and foremost. Stop the food altogether. I would help out if the rats went. I'm terrified of them!!!</p>
<p>Geese to be removed and rehomed, wings clipped so they do not return. People ignore signs about feeding. selling food just encourages the birds who should be eating the increasing unsightly pond weed</p>
<p>Just leave the geese alone. Stop messing around with nature. They may not be a native species but they add to the character of the gardens.</p>
<p>Why not try removing the eggs from the nest like they do in Canada to reduce the hatching</p>
<p>Geese are cool! We need to help them, as a superior species (or so we believe).</p>
<p>For gods sake live and let live they have as much right to be in the town as we have</p>
<p>The number of geese has to be at least halved. What about noise pollution when they are, presumably, mating? Feeding should be totally banned. Do nothing to encourage geese to visit!</p>
<p>I think you need to get professional expert guidance from rspb. I hate the idea of killing or sad geese</p>
<p>The RSPB say "Build it, and they will come". The Pavilion Gardens is a perfect goose environment! So we need to alter that environment to deter them, and encourage greater biodiversity.</p>
<p>Get them the f*** out the park... these no where to sit on the grass without getting shit on my clothes. It's a joke a little shit is ok. But all that they leave behind</p>
<p>The geese need culling , a stop on feeding them with heavy fines for those breaking this</p>
<p>Something needs to be put in place before the next breeding season makes the problem worse.</p>

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<p>The geese are lovely we feed them and the ducks pluse other birds corn each day as do lots of other people</p>
<p>The geese problem is out of hand. The damage to the ecosystem, 0.9kg faeces per goose per day and mud banks are increasingly evident. Radical solution needed. A park for a range of ducks is required.</p>
<p>The numbers of geese must be reduced and public persuaded this is necessary. 'Discouraging' feeding etc is not going to work. They are an eyesore and ruining the beautiful Gardens</p>
<p>Why make seed available and set up feeding stations if we want to discourage the geese? Suggest on information boards how geese are damaging the gardens. Are geese linked to the algal bloom on pond?</p>
<p>This is not a well-worded or considered survey and does not address some issues and possible solutions.</p>
<p>Wildflower planting and discouragement of feeding the geese in addition to education of the public has proven effective elsewhere and should be trialed here.</p>
<p>FYI - there are already info signs for species at the boating lake. The Kiosk also sells bags of seed very cheaply. So those two comments were a waste of time.</p>
<p>Get rid of them. Not culling perhaps but re housing them. They have ruined the whole area of grass. Used to have weddings, festivals, picnics, generally enjoying the peace of the beautiful gardens.</p>
<p>Something needs to be done</p>
<p>Leave the geese alone</p>
<p>Too many geese and too much of their waste EVERYWHERE</p>
<p>There needs to be a proper cull done to control an obvious over population. Bring in the birds of prey</p>
<p>It's lovely to see wildlife and I hope we can continue to live amongst them</p>
<p>We have to live along side nature. Most of the 'problems' that occur between humans and animals are because we have taken, or degraded their habitat. Biodiversity is vital in combating climate crisis.</p>
<p>The geese are fine how they are just leave them be</p>

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Continue restoring the banks and put a board at the top of the steps on the main pond that they cannot step over.
Leave the geese alone, before spending this ridiculous time and effort on these surveys. Maybe focus your efforts on Fairfield road and Arc housing
I've heard many tourists with small children express how horrified they are at how 'dirty' the areas of the gardens are where bird poo is overwhelming. Also, my dog poo is smaller than goose poo
Culling of geese
Prevention of geese rats and pigeons (if possible) and promotion of others such as the Muscovy ducks and others that have suffered great loss would be good so it's a positive story as well , thank you
leave the birds alone
Lyme Park were having similar issues I heard, so their staff might be worth a chat with!
We should be encouraging wildlife and educating people. I love seeing the birds, of all types, in the pavilion gardens. The goose creche is particularly cute.
Leave the geese alone! You have no more right than they do to be in the world
Thank you for considering something other than culling
Whilst I am a supporter of wild life in the park, I feel the quantity of geese in the park has become destructive. Large areas of grass have been turned into mud covered in faeces.
balance of nature has been lost & geese are so many they are out competing other waterfowl Where have the swans gone goose poo all over the paths and grass is frankly disgusting & pollutes the lake
Is it possible to try future contraceptive methods rather than any sort of cull? This may not see an immediate impact but the cull of birds in their natural setting just seems cruel.
I think a cull is required. There is no biodiversity in the park and the water is filthy, and the sides is disgusting. Filled with geese poo and rats . They completely iradicate all forms of life!
The Geese are making a terrible mess of the Gardens. A large cull or managing of the population is needed asap. Other species are being bullied out and the amount of faeces in the water will soon make

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<p>There are far too many Canada Geese in the gardens, to the detriment of other water bird species. They need to be controlled. The gardens look such a mess.</p>
<p>The cost should be footed by the High Peak Borough Council</p>
<p>Putting low fences will not stop geese as the geese can fly</p>
<p>Should set up a survey to monitor numbers of Canada Geese. Are their numbers increasing or decreasing over the years? Is there any historical data? Good to do a base line count this year and monitor.</p>
<p>To many geese in the park now, not sure what the solution could be? But needs some serious thought and discussions about this problem</p>
<p>The pavilion looks a total mess at the moment! The ponds need draining and refilling with fresh water! These aren't ponds they are SWAMPS! The pavilion looks run down and poor! Bird poo central!</p>
<p>With me been disabled I can not afford too pay towards the cost or help planting plus you have a grounds maintenance team who is qualified &amp; payed to look after the parks</p>
<p>Wirthbtryingbsomething and wildflowers greatvfor bees too</p>
<p>Wild flower planting is a brilliant idea - as long as the mowers don't mow them!</p>
<p>There weren't any questions about culling the geese,which I thought was the object of the survey</p>
<p>Don't believe in killing wildlife I believe some sort of organised control would be more beneficial for everyone</p>
<p>The geese would probably move on if the public did not feed them, there is not enough grass to sustain a large flock. Also have any sucessful strategies bern found elsewhere?</p>
<p>Somehow large areas of grass should be unavailable to geese in some way so that the grass grows, remains unsoiled by droppings and can be freely enjoyed by all.</p>
<p>This is an old issue which is no surprise to anyone. It just needs managing. It isn't rocket science</p>