# Robotic Mower Trial

Husqvarna + City Of Edinburgh Council, Parks Greenspace & Cemeteries

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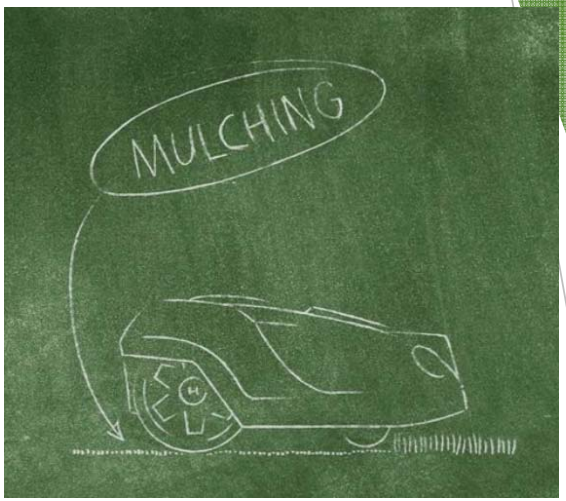
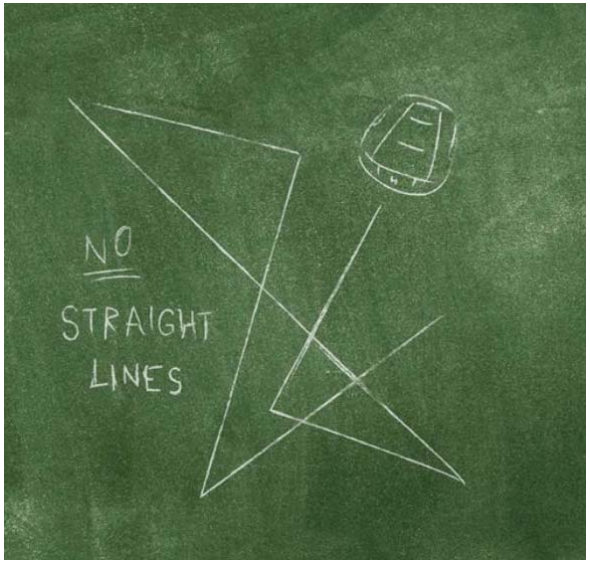
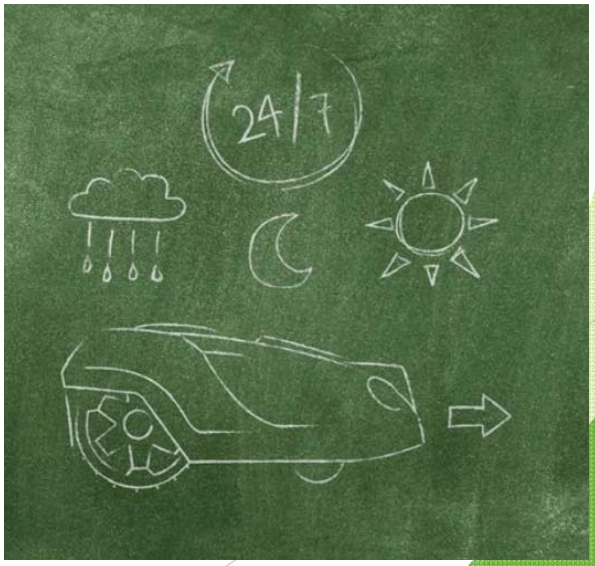
# How does it work



# Edinburgh - Location / site choice

Main Aim > Identify diverse range of greenspace to reflect broad maintenance standards and potential interaction issues.

- Fine turf
- Severe slope
- High public access / interaction
- Sports pitch
- Standard amenity grass
- Cemetery / noise control

# Location / site choice – restrictions

Two main restrictions:

- Plot required adjacent power source
- Suitable for installation of boundary wire

# Final Site Choice

- Princess Street Gardens x1 – fine turf & high public access/interaction
- The Mound x1 – severe slope & public interaction
- Mortonhall Cemetery x1 – noise restrictions
- Longstone Primary School x2 – sports pitch & amenity field + interaction from children

# Princess Street Gardens & The Mound

# Mortonhall Cemetery & Longstone Primary

# Pre-Trial Perception

- Standards not maintained – by small domestic mower
- Not cope with size of areas
- Stolen or vandalised
- Reduce / replace staff
- Not cost effective for large open grassland
- Not suitable for range / type of greenspace

# Trial Period – May > October

Results:

- Standards achieved – improved in all areas

- Pre trial standards

standards achieved

- Working 24/7 with limited restrictions - areas all cut
- Cut in all weather conditions
- Very limited interference from public – no vandalism & none stolen!
- Staff recognised free time allowed them to concentrate on other horticultural tasks

- Some problems with severe slop but standards still maintained
- No grass clippings / arisings
- Positive comments from public on site – The Mound became a bit of a tourist attraction

# Feedback – future development

- Wider Cutting area – increase in maintenance area
- Increased range of traction / wheels to cope with different terrain
- More robust - bigger wheel motors to cope with range of slopes
- Bigger range in cutting heights to cope with diverse range of conditions and feature types

- Larger battery capacity
- Move away from fixed power source – solar?
- Use of GPS instead of boundary wire – accuracy?

# Is this the future?

- Expanded trial required to determine use on a wider scale
- Further analysis required on financial benefits
- But…. Yes / No ….. As with all equipment it will work in certain locations not in others
- As technology improves – use and flexibility will increase