East End Park

Report on findings of the 2023 public consultation on the Leeds City Council managed Community Park “East End Park” and vision plans for it.

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The Project

As set out in the Leeds Parks and Green Spaces Strategy, we are working to develop a 'plan on a page' for each of our 65 community parks. The aim of the plans is to set out a vision for each of the sites, with the aim of getting all community parks in the city to Leeds Quality Park (LQP) standard and delivering the priorities set out in the Parks and Green Spaces strategy such as 'Quality parks', 'Access for All' and 'Health and Wellbeing'

Figure 1: Satellite image showing location of East End Park in Leeds, West Yorkshire, UK



The Vision Plan

The initial proposal shown below was created by expert staff from Leeds City Council Green Spaces Service in collaboration with a team of Landscape Architects from Groundwork West Yorkshire.

Figure 2:(Overleaf) Proposal 'Plan on a Page' for East End Park

EAST END PARK PROPOSAL



Parks and Countryside Priorities

Health and Wellbeing
Providing a wide range of opportunities for people to receive the health benefits of spending time in green spaces

Climate and Biodiversity
Increasing wildlife and biodiversity and reducing the impact of climate change.

Culture
Providing exciting, diverse, interesting and enjoyable green spaces that reflect the history and culture of their local communities.

Working with Communities
Having a positive, open, helpful and collaborative approach.

Quality
Providing high quality parks and green spaces.

Access for all
Ensuring that parks and green spaces are accessible to everyone.

Child Friendly
Providing green spaces that children and teenagers love to visit.

Financial Sustainability
Ensuring that good quality public green space is available for the long term.







January 2023

Leeds City Council

The Consultation process

The Initial stage of the process was a site visit with Green Spaces Technical Officers, Area Officers, Site managers, and Groundwork's landscape architects. This resulted in the production of the draft proposal plan. This draft proposal plan was then sent for comments to the 3 ward councillors for the Burmantofts & Richmond Hill ward in which East End Park sits.

Following this, a public engagement and consultation process lasting 3 months was undertaken to enable us to get a really good understanding of what local residents think about the site and how it could be improved.

For East End Park the period of consultation was 12th June until 12th September 2023.

For this period an online survey was available on Commonplace, where it can still be viewed: https://leedscommunityparks.commonplace.is/

Paper surveys were made available and used by some people during onsite sessions and around 20 other people from community groups who filled them in in their own time.

The promotional materials (including posters and flyers) provided an option for contacting us by telephone or email to discuss the proposals, request a paper survey or for any further information.

The consultation was promoted as follows:

- Posters in the park noticeboards .
- Where their managers agreed, posters were displayed in shops, food outlets, pharmacies, barbers & other local businesses within 0.5km of the park.
- Direct postal mailout of flyers (like the posters below but printed in black & white) to 800 households close to the park.
- Attendance at Inner East Community Committee.
- Attendance at 2 existing public events in the park: Lark in the Park & Richmond Hill Elderly Action picnic.
- Emails were sent to the 7 schools closest to the park, these were followed up with phone calls with the aim of getting feedback about the park from local children and families.
- The following community groups were identified and emailed links to the online survey, visited with posters & flyers and/or sent paper copies of the survey to share: Wat Matchimaram Buddhist Temple, Cross Green Growing Together, St Vincents, Mencap at the Vinery Centre, Saxton Football club, Richmond Hill Elderly Action, Leeds Irish Centre & the Edmund House Club.
- Promotional posts were put on @leedsparks Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, including one geographically targeted boost of the Facebook post.
- An email linking to the survey was sent to all Green Spaces staff and paper surveys were made available to parks staff based onsite who cannot always receive email.

To gather input from people who prefer to chat face to face or who don't use the internet, a Parks Officer spent a total of 15 hours on site, over 4 different pre-advertised sessions in a variety of time slots (weekends, mornings, evenings etc) to be accessible to as many people as possible.

Further to being contacted, one or two schools forwarded the information to parents/carers telling them about the survey and Richmond Hill academy primary invited us to run a workshop style

session with a group of children from year 6. Their input is reported in the 'Children's Perspective' section below.

Figure 3: Promotional poster for the East End Park Public Consultation



Survey respondents

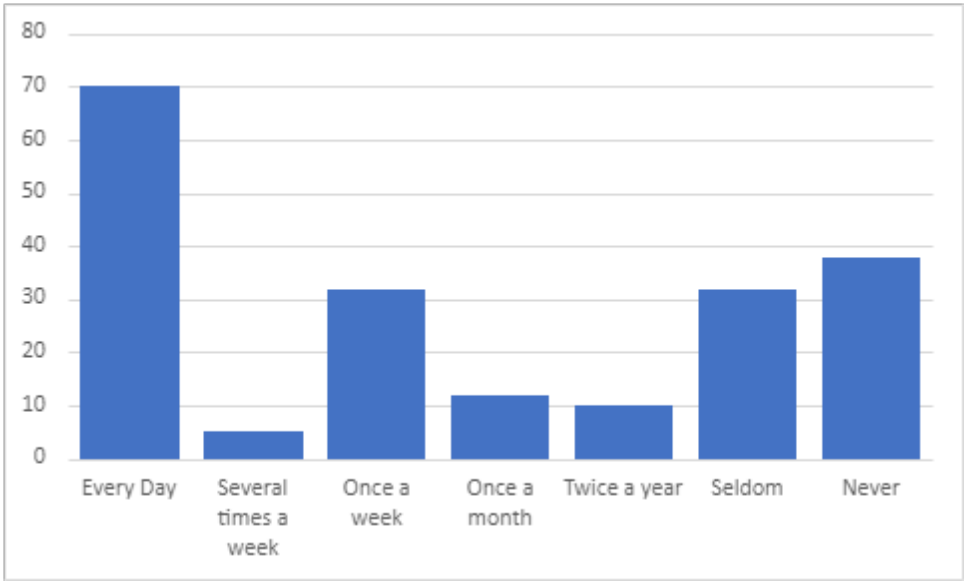
Between 12th June & 12th September there were 1,892 visits to the survey website and 176 people completed the survey. In addition, 34 people completed the survey in the park or completed paper surveys, these responses were added to the online data and incorporated in the information below. Of the total 210 survey respondents, it is worth noting that not all of them answered all of the questions. Information about the respondents themselves is provided in Appendix 1.

Whilst in the park, we also had conversations with members of the public who preferred not to complete a survey but had opinions they wished to share. Relevant comments from these more informal interactions are listed in appendix 2. Also, the vision plan was presented & discussed at East End Park Bowls club AGM, the findings from this session are in Appendix 5

How the Park Gets Used

We asked the Question “Approximately how often do you visit East End park?”

Figure 4: Frequency of visits to the park by survey respondents



We asked “What do you use East End park for?”

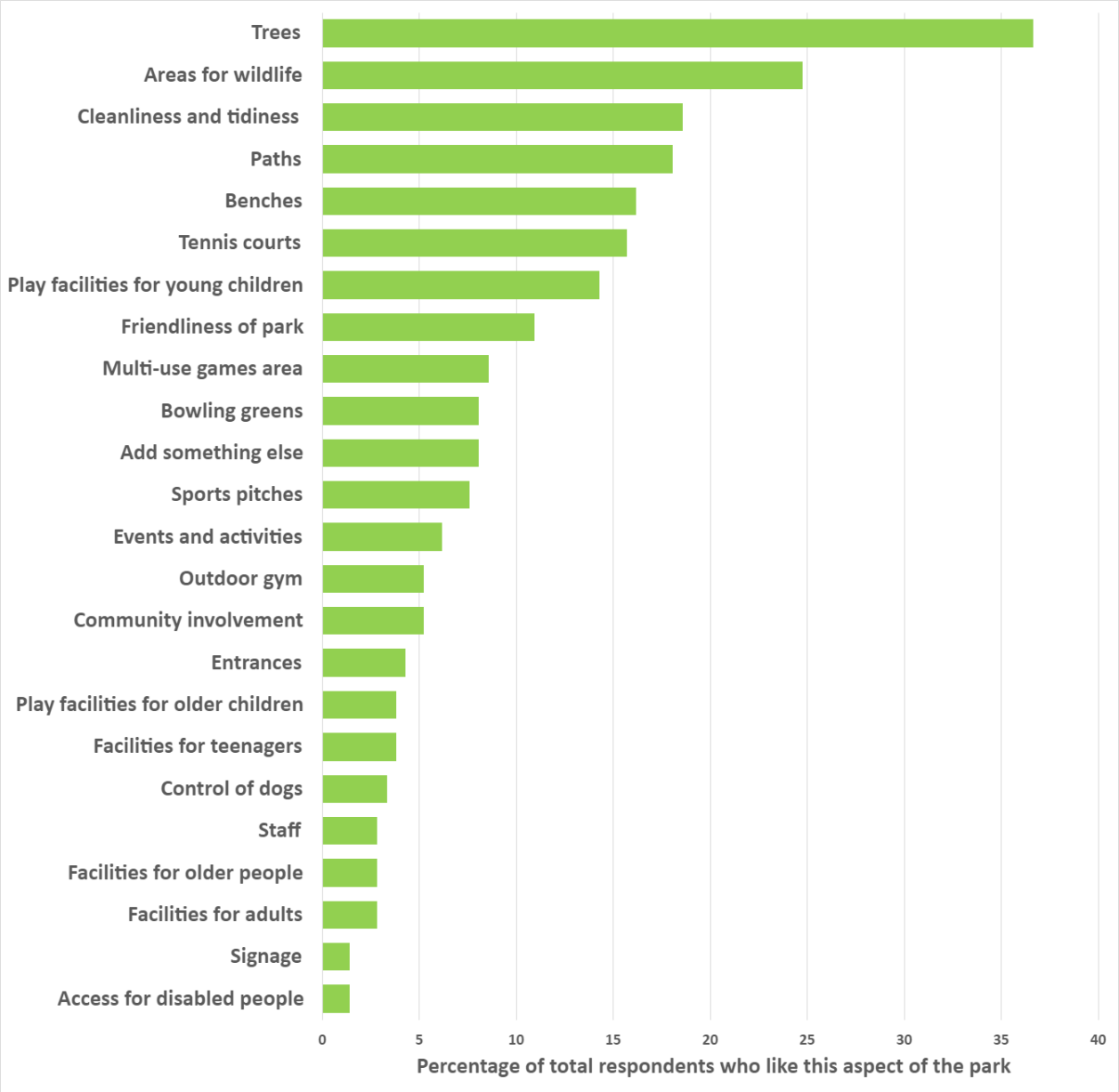
Figure 5: What survey respondents use the park for



Feelings about East End Park

We asked “What do you like about East End park?”

Figure 6: What survey respondents like about East End Park

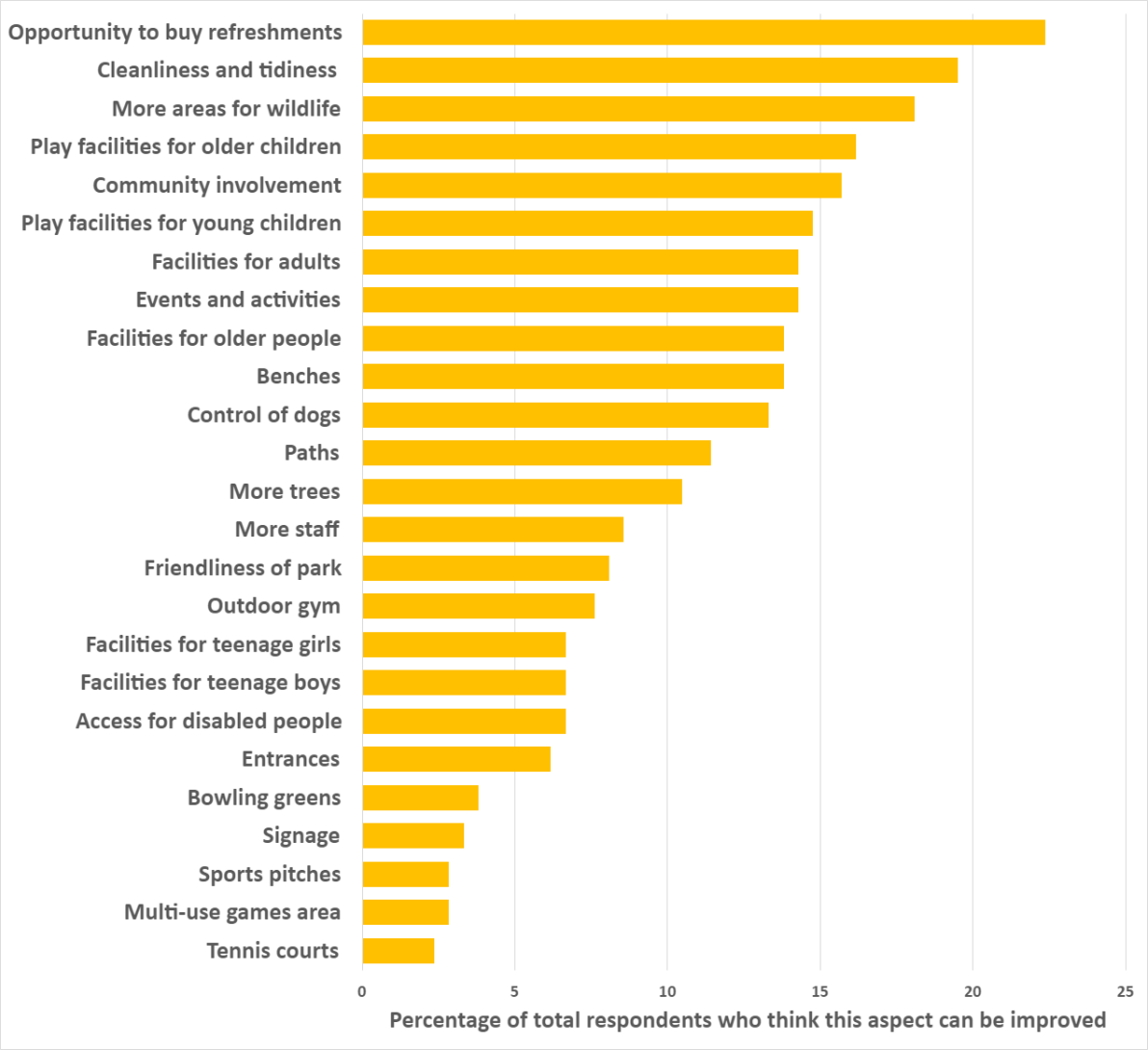


The 5 most popular responses to the question “What do you like about East End park?” were:

- Trees
- Areas for Wildlife
- Cleanliness & tidiness
- Paths
- Benches

We asked “Is there anything you think could be improved about East End park ?”

Figure 7: What survey respondents think could be improved about East End park



The 5 most popular responses to the question “Is there anything you think could be improved about East End park ?” were:

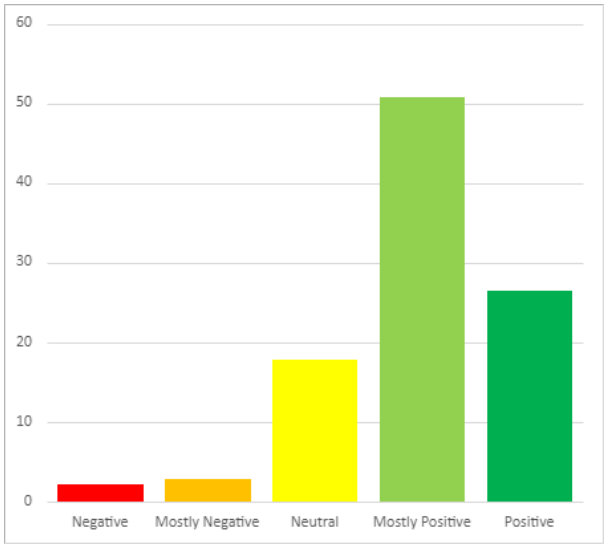
- Opportunity to buy refreshments
- Cleanliness and tidiness
- More areas for wildlife
- Play facilities for older children
- Community involvement

There was also an option to “add something else” here. These other options have been added to the data in Appendix 2 and summarised together with this data in the “Other ideas and comments” section of this document.

Feedback on the vision plan

140 people answered the question “Overall, what do you think of the plan for East End Park?”

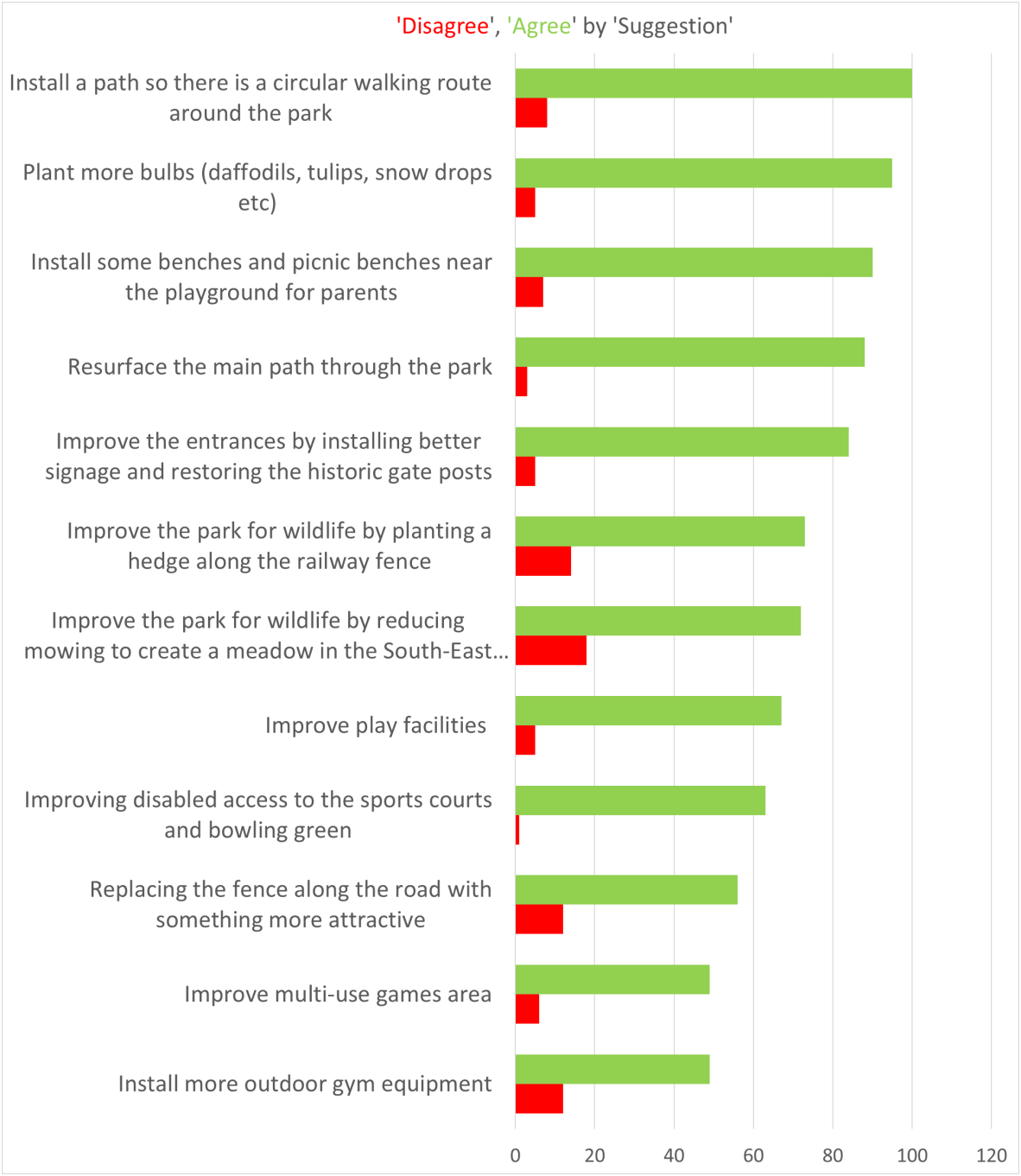
Figure 8: Overall opinions of the plan for East End Park by percentage of respondents



77 % said they were ‘mostly positive’ or ‘positive’ about the plan.
5% said they were ‘mostly negative’ or ‘negative’ about the plan.

We specifically asked for thoughts on 12 suggestions of ways we might improve the park which were shown in the plan. The respondents were asked which they agreed with and which they did not. It was not obligatory to answer this question so people tended to give no response if they were indifferent.

Figure 9: Chart showing number of positive and negative responses to the suggestions we made



The 5 proposals with the most agreement were:

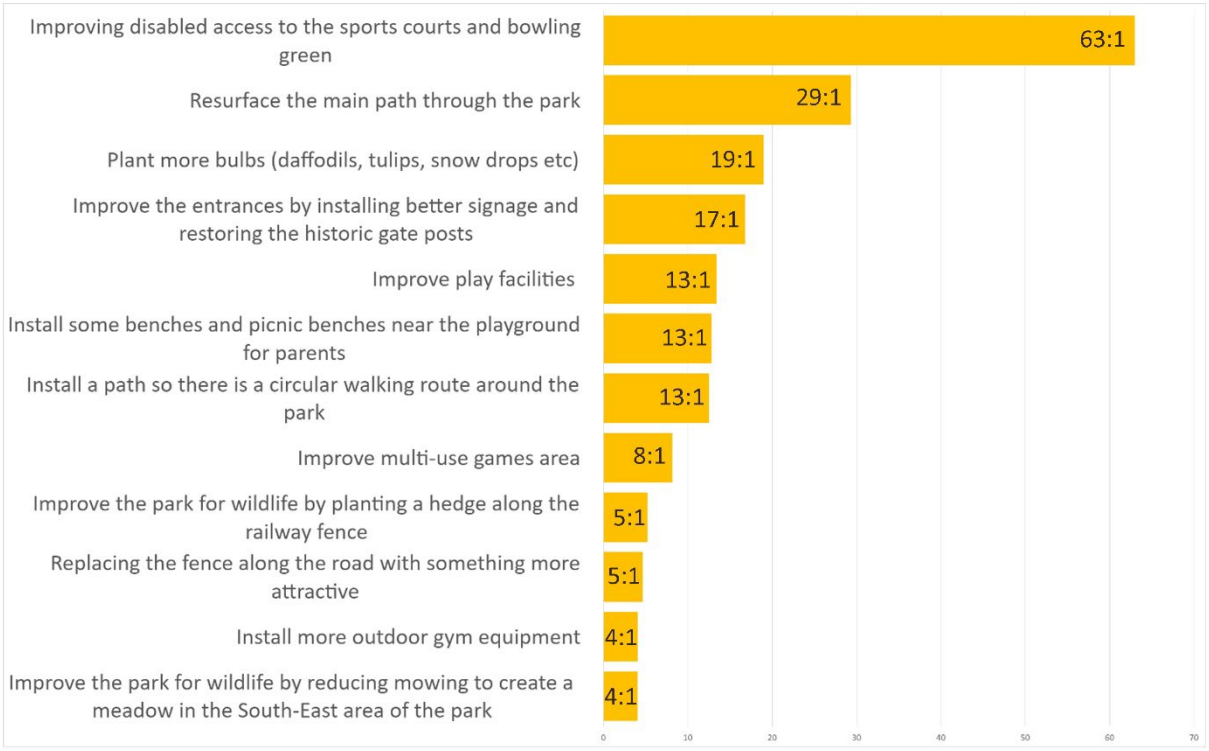
- Install a circular walking route path
- Plant more bulbs
- Install some benches and picnic benches near the playground
- Resurface the main path through the park
- Improve the entrances

The 5 proposals with the most disagreement (though the numbers of people disagreeing in general was quite low) were:

- Improve the park for wildlife by reducing mowing to create a meadow in the South-East area of the park.
- Improve the park for wildlife by planting a hedge along the railway fence
- Replacing the fence along the road with something more attractive
- Install more outdoor gym equipment.
- Install a path so there is a circular walking route around the park.

However, though there were some people who disagreed with some of the suggestions, there was significantly more support for all of them than disagreement. Below is a graph setting out the ratio of agreement/disagreement for each suggestion. The figure in the graph represents the number of people who agreed with the proposal for every one person who disagreed, for example, the figure 10 means 10/1 ratio (agree/disagree).

Figure 10: What survey respondents think of suggestions of ways we might improve the park, bar chart shows ratio of positive to negative responses, bigger bars meaning more positive. (Data table is in Appendix 3)

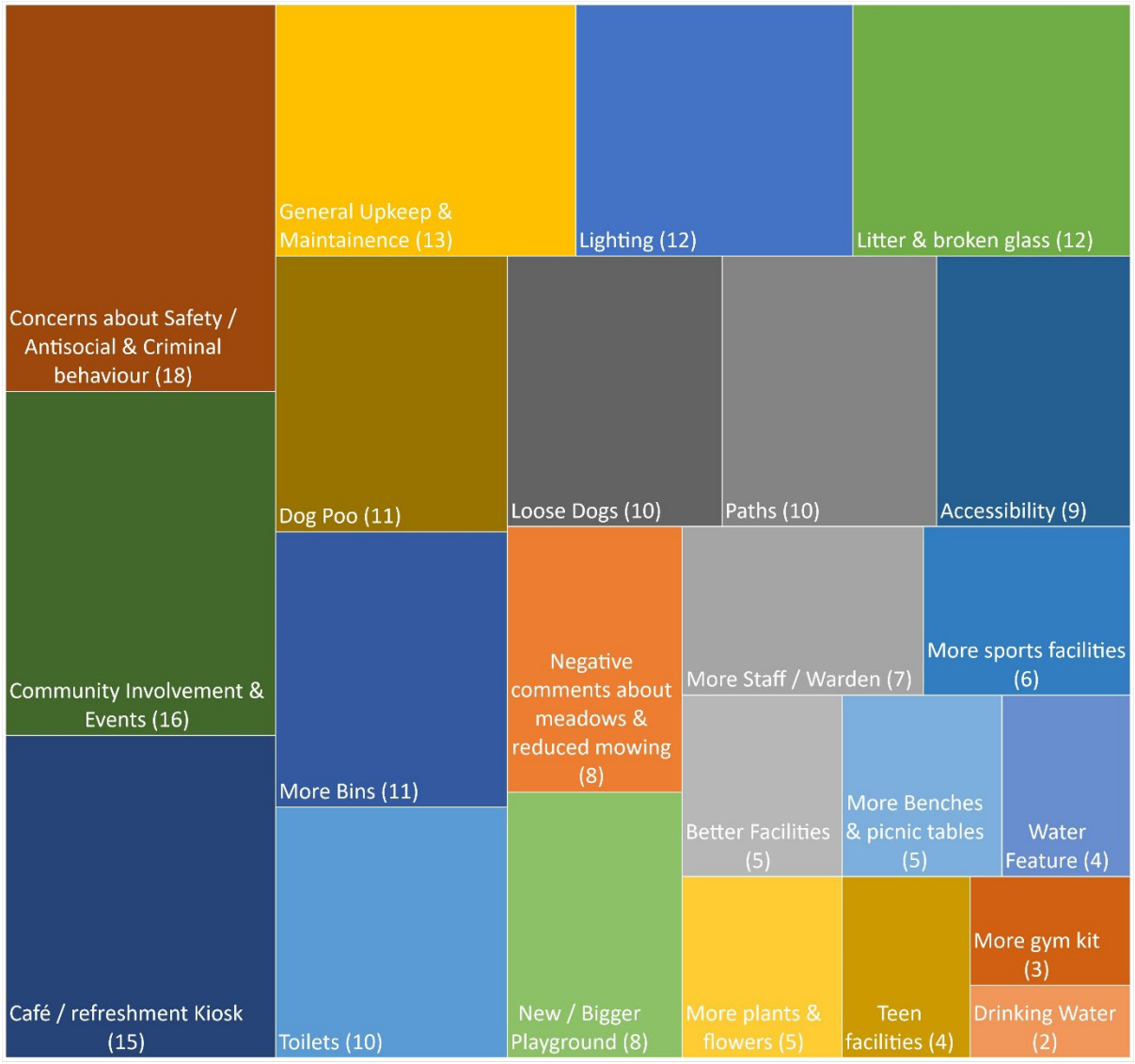


Other ideas and comments

We asked: “Do you have any other ideas for improving East End Park that you would like to share with us?” and “Do you have any other comments on East End Park?”

The comments and ideas are summarised in figure 11 below. The size of each block relative to the frequency of mentions the subject received in comments. The full text of comments by respondents can be found in Appendix 2 and data tables in Appendix 3.

Figure 11: Graphical representation of subject matter in comments, size of blocks representing frequency of subject occurring in the 'other' comments, graphic including number of occurrences.



Children's perspective

Input from a small group of year 6 children at a local primary school gave support for the following suggestions:

- Resurfacing Victoria Avenue
- Bulb Planting
- Improving disabled access
- More fitness equipment
- Adding paths
- Refurbishing and adding to the play area
- Picnic tables near the play area
- Planting to hide the unsightly skips in the works yard

Other ideas put forward included:

- Play equipment that is accessible to wheelchair users
- Slides for babies
- Roller skating area
- Make it easier to get bikes into the park
- More seesaws
- More car parking
- Toilets
- Better Goals for football
- Sports Events
- Get rid of nettles
- First aid area
- More paths

Conclusions

Summary of findings:

- 210 people filled in the survey about the proposals for East End park and we spoke to many more whilst on site and out and about in the community.
- The proposed plan was supported by the majority of survey respondents (77%) with only 5% saying they felt 'negative' about the proposals.
- The park is much loved and valued by its users who would appreciate it being well maintained and its existing features being refurbished where required.

In response to the findings of the consultation it is proposed that the following changes are made to the plan:

- Welcome signs with information about the site including a map to be added at key entrances.
- Mark up the main path for cyclists/pedestrians so they are kept separate to avoid collisions.
- More benches to be added along key walking routes and at viewpoints.
- Access controls (that do not exclude wheelchairs or disability scooters) to be added at entrances to reduce use of park by people on motorbikes.
- The proposed hedge along the fence between the park and the railway to be removed from the plan as people like to see the trains and a hedge in that location could potentially harbour anti-social behaviour.

Other things to consider:

- Respondents want to support more wildlife at the park, but any new meadows that are created must be designed sensitively so they look attractive rather than like areas that have not been looked after. Meadows should have plenty of paths through them so access is not restricted and they should be maintained properly so we can get the benefits to wildlife and none of the disadvantages (such as litter and dog mess) that longer grass can bring. They should be mown in winter as this will be most beneficial to wildlife and so they look tidy at that time of year.
- Anti-social behaviour and irresponsible dog owners (dogs off leads and dog fouling) are common concerns that are not within the remit of the Plan on a Page scheme but worth consideration by colleagues (such as dog wardens and the police) to identify ways by which they could be addressed.

There was quite a bit of interest in increasing community involvement at the park as follows:

- The idea of more events and activities taking place on the site is popular – are there any local organisations that might be interested in delivering these.
- A lot of people said they would like refreshments to be available at the site – is there an opportunity for an ice cream concession or community café there.
- Continue existing work for the bowling pavilion to be used for other community activities such as serving refreshments.

Appendix 1: Demographic data

Information about the survey respondents is shown below.

Figure 12: Chart showing frequency of respondents to survey by age

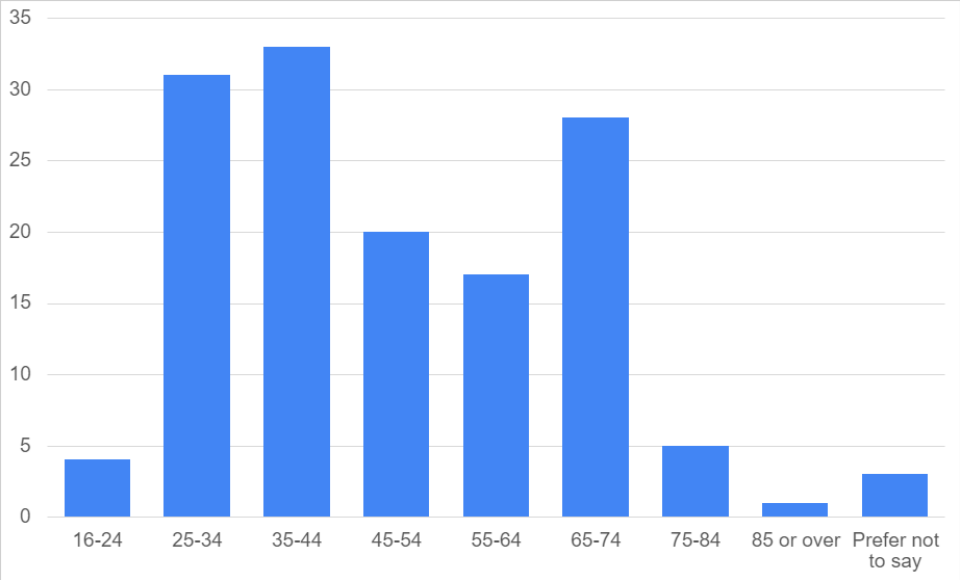


Figure 13: Chart showing employment status of respondents to survey

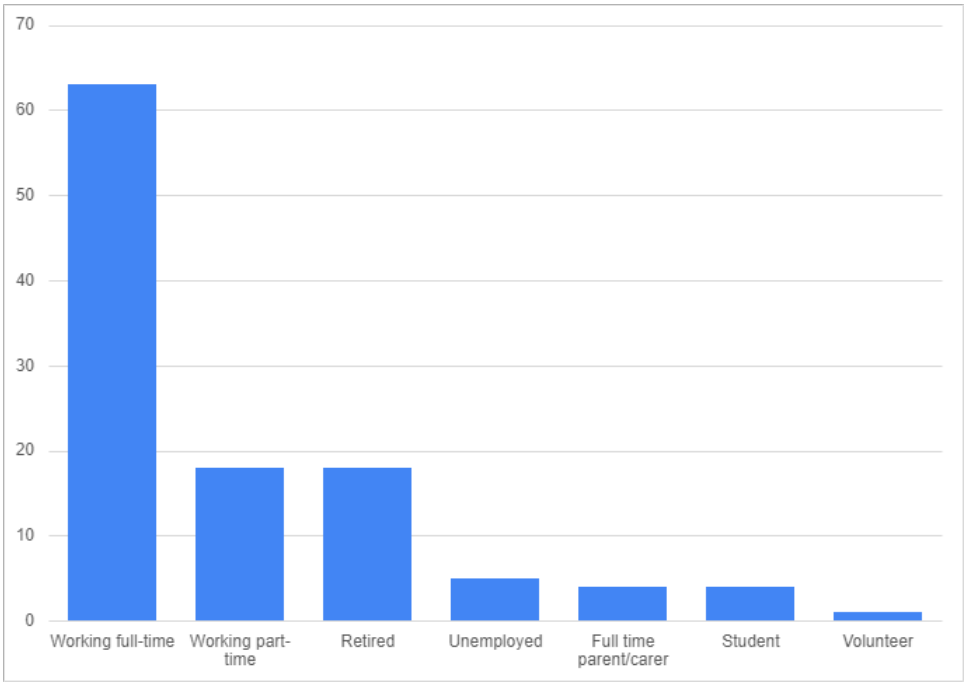


Figure 14: Chart showing how respondents to survey describe their gender

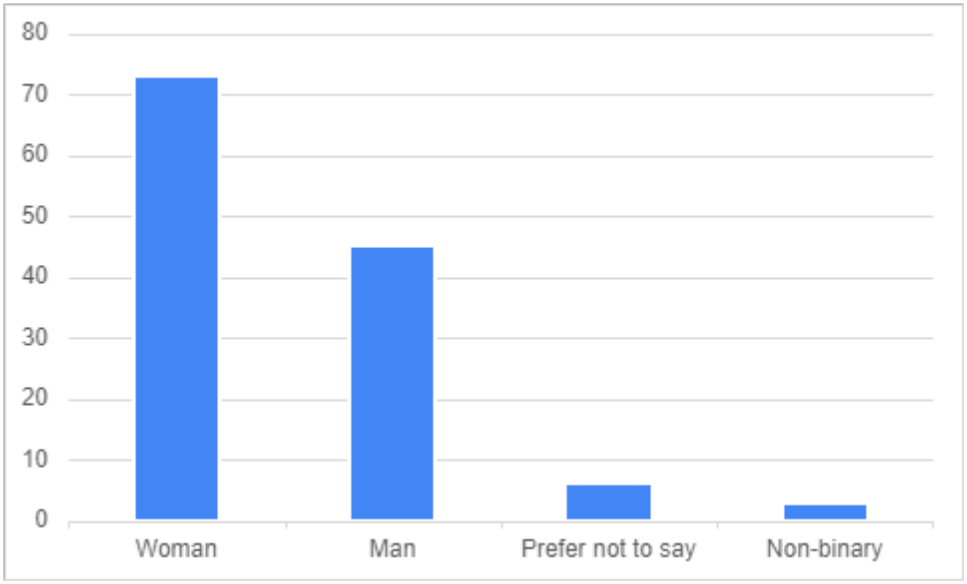


Figure 15: Chart showing how respondents to survey describe their ethnicity

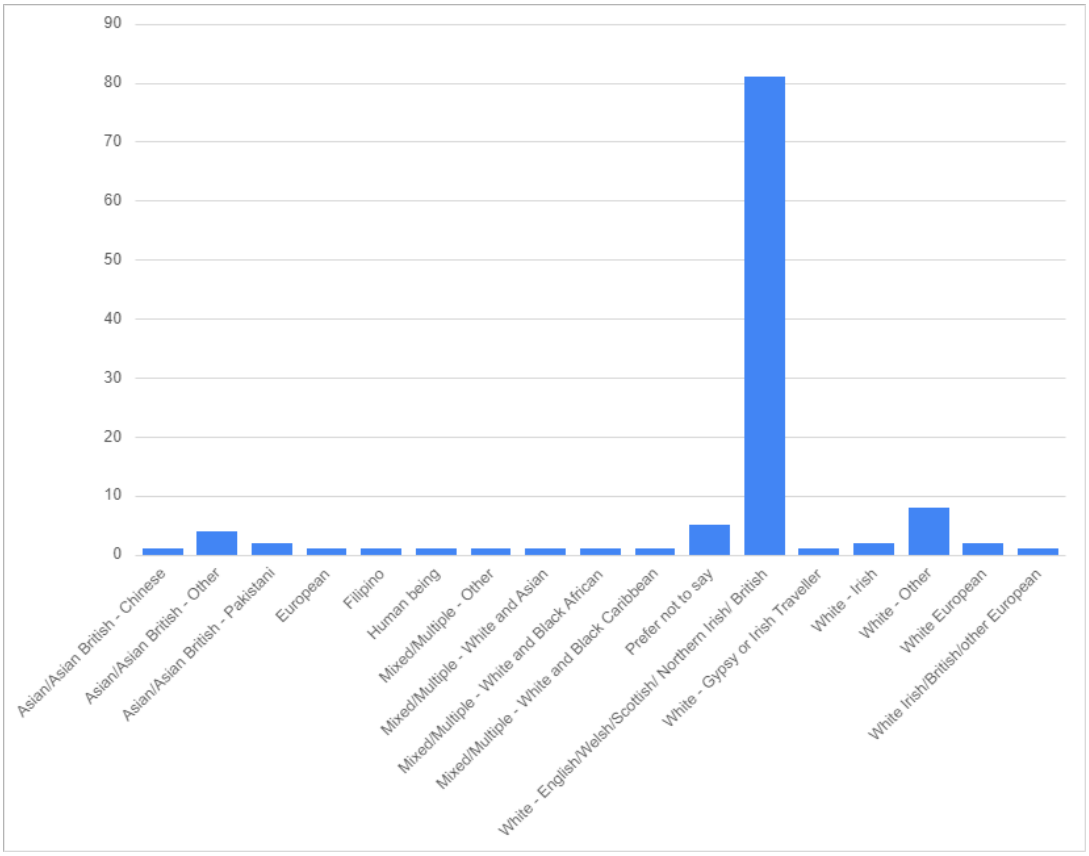
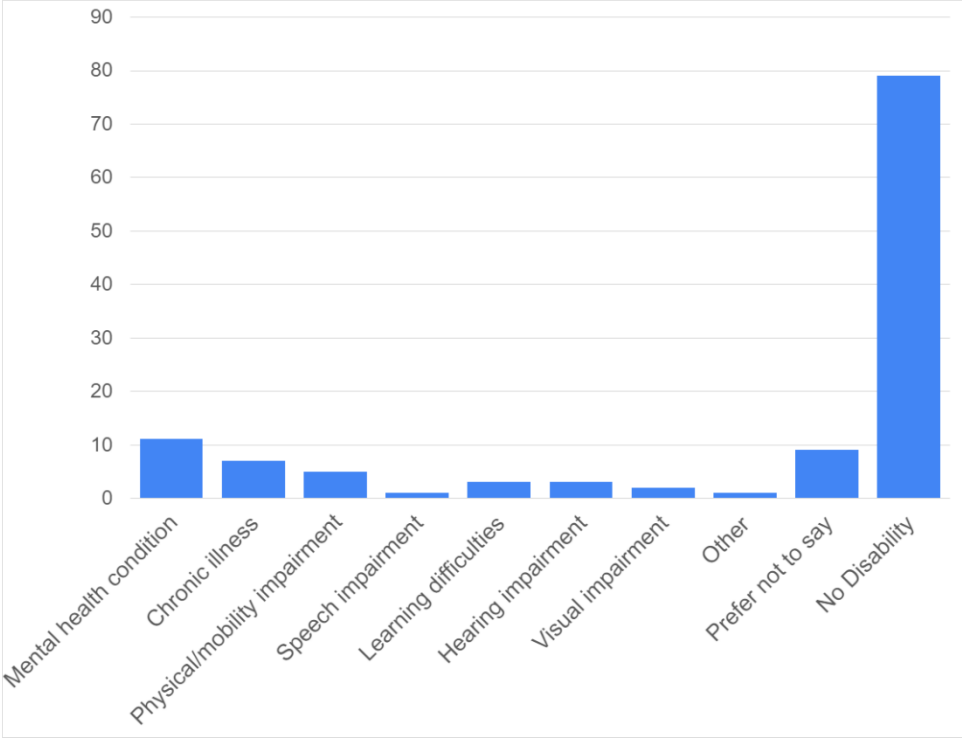


Figure 16: Chart showing number of people who identified as having a type of disability



Appendix 2: full text of comments by respondents

We asked "Do you have any other ideas for improving East End Park that you would like to share with us? **"** and "Do you have any other comments on East End park?". I have not censored these comments.

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a Park Ranger, kiosk... but not a big cafe, that has ruined Meanwood Park

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The safety aspect since the planting along the side next to Nixon Avenue, this worries me as all kinds of crime could be committed here unseen. It's a good hideaway for wildlife but also for wrongdoers. Because it blocks the previous widespread view across the park it asks for trouble unfortunately. Generally though, I think it's a pleasant well maintained park and an underused community asset. Unfortunately many young people seem to prefer to stay home on tablets/play stations, rather than getting out into the fresh air. Those who do use the park (walkers, sports people, parents of young children) I think very much appreciate the park, as a green haven in a built up area with very few other community facilities.

Please add toilets. If I want to visit and it takes me longer to get here, they are vital in helping me stay longer and enjoy the space longer.

Glass needs sweeping up around park

Access is not straightforward for those not within walking distance.

Clean up the dog poo. Stop drug dealing. Clean up the glass. Keep dogs on a lead. Clear graffiti.

A band stand and bring back the concerts

Entrances need to be wider to allow for wheelchair users as some gates are very narrow and make it impossible to even get a child in a wheelchair through and into the park. Needs to be fully accessible for those who have mobility issues and wheelchair users. Some park equipment that was accessible for children with mobility issues would be appreciated.

Develop a group of people to support the park

My family members have visited the park for well over eighty years and one thing my late parents always said degraded the park was the removal of the small lake, I think it would be tremendous if some sort of water feature, maybe a small pond could finally return to the park

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From the pictures on this page you can see where it can be improved. Better facilities and planting more flowers to make the park look better is just two suggestions.

I agree with almost all suggestions above and agree this work needs to be done to bring the park up to a good standard.

The barriers on the pedestrian parts of the south entrance are too narrow for most people to comfortably pass through, as evidenced by the dirt path walked into the grass by people instead walking round the barrier by the wall. remove them?

This is fantastic, you have my full support!

If you are going to plan a hedge along the railway line then somewhere it needs to be kept clear as my young children have spent many hours watching the trains.

Some public facilities like food/drink would be very useful. Some more benches along the access road end of the park would be nice.

Play park needs to be expanded.

safe zones or presence of more staff during peak times, as sometimes the antisocial behaviour and unruly teenagers make it difficult for BAME families to enjoy the park. It may be worth looking into offering sporting equipment for hire so that young teenagers and adults can play in the courts, as not everyone is able to afford these

Many cars park on Victoria Avenue to access the park, providing access to EV CHARGING here would be beneficial to achieving the emissions pledge for 2025.

*The children's play areas are old and tatty. Other parks have way better facilities. Restricted access so motorcycles cannot get in, They are a major pain almost every night. Enforcement of dog walkers not picking up the ****

The park needs to be up kept. There's lots of graffiti on the children's play area, I realise this is an expense but it needs to be kept on top of. Someone should be patrolling the park, on weekends there's never any staff around and through the week the ones who are around don't speak to you anyway. The bowling green surely can't be used that much anymore, to put restorations in for this is a waste surely

Some EV Chargers would be nice, I often have friends and family who visit from the coast and there are no chargers in the area. I am a keen cyclist so it is good to see some work proposed on the paths and the pump track would be great for the local youths.

Addition of wooden tables/benches for picnics and potentially more adult outdoor gym equipment's such as a simple pull up bar.

The main reason we don't spend long periods of time in the park or sit and picnic in the park is because there is always dog poo everywhere and it feels like often dogs are out of control. The fact that there is dog poo in lots of areas reduces our enjoyment of the park and means that we are reluctant to let the kids round around everywhere.

Another bin towards the Nixon road end of the park. Community events are few and far between. Bring back the bonfire! Deep clean litter in wooded areas. Enforcement for Dog fouling. A fenced off dog exercise area would be brilliant for dog owners who want to exercise their dogs off lead. This would separate the dogs from families, cyclists and other park users which would be safer for everyone. There are some irresponsible dog owners in the park at times. I rarely feel unsafe in the park. Litter annoys me and I spend some of my own time for litter free Leeds cleaning the park and surroundings. On hot days when people don't take their litter home, the bins overflow. There should be more bins.

Cafe and toilets
Ice cream van

Would be appreciated to have a cafe in the park with outdoor/indoor seats so we can enjoy coffee/ nature and study/work outdoor, also a dog only area would be appreciated, the only one I saw is In the Docks area, too many unleashed dogs

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It has a lot of potential. The whole outdoor gym is poor. Pop up a few bars and dip stations and you have a callisthenics gym. Refreshments would be amazing and maybe more sporting groups and activities could be used by the park to get a higher foot count.

Need dog bin at Richardson Road entrance. Need path through to football pitch now overgrown. Weeds at edges on ings crescent overgrown.

East end park has a lot of green space which very often goes to waste, a massive area like that and nothing is really held on it.
I tried to arrange a community picnic but was given a massive form to fill out which I didn't end up doing, I'm just a parent with young children and would love to hold a community picnic or more local community events such as a an outdoor games day once a month or community games and picnic days etc make use of the space we have because there is nothing else for families to do in the area if they don't drive

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The pump track sounds good but wonder about the knock on effect of encouraging bikes in the area and if they will be contained to the track or cause more issues in the rest of the park.

Open the cafe, have more staff working on the site to improve security and safety of people. Park /Police patrols to deter the drug abuse in the area. Dogs restricted to certain parts of the park, not allowed near to play or picnic areas and on a leash at all times.

Over the last 20 years the council has destroyed the usage of the park with well meaning ideas which don't work or have a negative impact on usage of the park. So what I would

like u to stop with the meadow and woodland and put the firework display and maybe other events so people know it's there and use it

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Keep up to the flower beds. They are empty. They should be planted with annuals. Do not reduce mowing, keep the park an open space. Reduced mowing is just plain lazy, keep the place tidy like a park should be. Tree labels to identify the trees. This is to help engage with our public. There needs to be lighting. This park is a no-go area in low light or darkness. The copses that have been made by the parks are occupied by tramps, thieves & wierdo's

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A community cafe and hub would be nice. Plant swapping space where people could donate and take plants and get together for a chat. Also with sources of information on mental health support and the benefits of being outdoors in nature.

Have a park run on a weekend do people will use the park make something of the grass area and the bottom of the park.
There is another rugby pitch so use that one and create something else at the bottom
With access for wheelchair and pram users easier to get down. The rubbish and dog poo is terrible. Apart from the snow drops etc, are there any trees or bushes that could add more colour to the park? It's very bland. I'm grateful for the Christmas tree brightens the place up. Can we have winter lights on the trees at Christmas like Roundhay?

Toilets, somewhere to buy refreshments park run on a Saturday

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The bunker is under utilised. Could charge a fee to access. Don't remove any trees and replace with saplings. Although wilding would be a nice idea the location wouldn't. Crime is rising and worries of arson on dry hot months worries neighbours close to the park.
Noticed increase in vermin since the wilding project began

The areas around the fences near to Dawlish Grove is very overgrown and look unsightly. The park is often littered with rubbish and dog mess. There is often litter left on the lower field after football matches and anti social behaviour from people on motorbikes.

I would not create more hedgerow/wooded hidden from view areas, the openness creates a feeling of safety because you can see people coming your way. Also if the people creating these proposals explored the park on foot you would see these areas create litter traps that never get cleared and that brings down the park in my opinion, especially on lovers hills and along the railway boundary. A circular path would be great along with paths cut through meadows, there is a suggestion to create a meadow on the south area this is already the case it hasn't been cut for a few years, a few stripes with a ride on would make it nicer to walk through as it can get quite wet previously being a pond.

A cafe and indoor soft play area. Fenced off area to book to let dogs off lead as there is too many dog attacks on the park.

To have more interactive equipment for younger children, such as sand or some form of water play and or some play equipment that you can move around to form puzzles or follow lines. And the gym equipment to be placed together with more choices as currently there is little work out equipment and it is spread around. More seating in shade would be ideal. Also trees to be located near children's park as currently there is none in midday and it can make it impossible to stay and play in hot weather. Also, the bit up the hill into the trees should be made into a nature trail with steps up, path and signs. It is beautiful up there with a great view and would be lovely to be able to explore up there with children better.

Volunteer community group to look after the park
Weekly Park Run
Areas of plants/flowers
Cafe near the playground
Security cctv as the park has had a great deal of antisocial behaviour
I live in East End Park and use Temple Newsam for exercise because of fear of crime/antisocial behaviour in East End Park. I know this is its reputation and that's what you need to deal with. Other areas of Leeds have 'Leeds in Bloom' but not us, why not? I'd volunteer to help with this if it was possible.

Roundhay have a proper outdoor gym. We have some useless bollocks near the tennis courts near the dilapidated 'rose garden'. We understand we are LS9 and the middle classes always get more but come on. Where's our outdoor gym? Is the bowling green even still running? Why can I find no information about it online? I went there 30 years ago with my grandfather and I'd like to play with my dad but I cannot figure out if it's even active.

Lights for better in dark nights

Lighting needed

I live right next to the park and go there every day with my dog and now baby for walks. The paths could do with improving as they are bumpy to push a pram on. I like the park and feel quite safe going there in the afternoon. But when it gets dark it can be scary and unsafe as there is no lighting throughout the park. Especially in winter when it gets dark early. I think a pond would be really nice to take my young child too. It would also increase the wildlife for ducks, fish, frogs etc. The playground definitely needs improving. With an area for younger babies/ children and those with special needs. The gates around the playground need to be more secure. There should be an area for older children/teenagers so they don't ruin the younger areas playground. It needs to be looked after and maintained.

Fed up with people coming on with dogs and leaving their poo. And tipping. We need lights in the park too.

Water feature

Reinstate old paths. More flowers.

Love the crocus in spring. Bring back the bonfire.

Water feature. More free activities in park & exercise classes. Picnic area.

The park should remain a park...not an outdoor gym facility, bike run, easier place to conceal knives etc.
It's important, I believe, to get the basics right first. For example...the zip wire, never completed due to theft, ongoing damage.
Areas of the park, like Elephants Back, if "developed" actually makes illegal activity easier for those inclined.
Would be great to improve what the park does well and keep on top of that, without all the bells and whistles which is likely to be trashed if experience is anything to go by and/ or no warden provision is enhanced.
Maybe slowly introduce more community activities, like brass bands, park runs etc to encourage people to use park appropriately and increase its care first before " development".

Keeping the tarmac area for people to learn to cycles / or to replace this with a circular route

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Coffee shop or place to sell things would be nice

More bins dotted around as rubbish does build up over the summer

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More bins, both for general litter and dog waste. And I have no idea how it could be achieved but any measures to stop equipment being vandalised would be greatly appreciated!

I have been meaning to contact LCC about this for a while so very glad to hear about this consultation. Currently all entrances to the park are not accessible to wheelchairs or even larger pushchairs due to the narrow metal gates at all entrances and low border fence around the perimeter. The proposal seems to possibly address this though it's not explicit, but I think it should be a top priority to ensure all residents can benefit from the park.

I think a new path would be good at the opening onto the park on Ings Crescent, as a path from there across the grass meeting up with the main path would be good as it's on the brow of the hill and means if you're a female walking on your own you can see all around you making you feel safer as you can see the houses and the road from there. A lot of females won't walk the path which goes along by the football pitch as when you're down there you're hidden from the rest of park, so a path which is on the brow of the hill would make females feel much safer. Also if some lighting could be put on there for ether darker nights when lone women are walking dogs or cutting across the park. I think your rewilding and the no mowing areas have made the park look the worse it's looked in years. Women already feel unsafe out walking and you're actually creating these overgrown areas that women don't like walking near.

Maybe a cafe could be considered, Need more facilities for teenagers

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Toilets and somewhere to buy refreshments like at valley gardens, paddling pool, or area for children to use boats etc, skate park for older children.
More staff around so people feel safe when the groups of teenagers are on there.
And if you are to have areas for wildlife have designated areas and don't swop and change them.
Have wardens on it annoys me that I clean up after my dog and keep on lead and others let theirs go even when there aggressive and they don't clean up after them. And its same people every day.
No good having a lovely park for kids and picnics and your constantly surrounded by dog faeces.
Maybe install security cams on trees to catch them.

All parks need netball courts. Children/ clubs unable to play as not enough netball courts available. Netball played at grassroots level, encouraging girls to stay in sport and the health benefits that brings.

Netball Court

More friendly access for disabled people on mobility scooters or in wheelchair, dropping the kerbs that go towards sports field and bowling green, benches and picnic areas scattered about not just by kids area. Accessible loo and more things for adults, definitely need more bins especially when sports

playing. See above, I love it but currently it's damaged my scooter, the smell by work buildings is awful especially when water sits there and due to poor lighting don't feel safe after dark

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Currently people are using the tennis courts to let their dogs run around in, I think it would be a good idea to create a secure dog exercising area with a dog bin next to it. It may help to reduce dog mess in the park. The groundskeepers do such an amazing job looking after the park but I do miss the rose garden.

I have spoken with my children and as well as the new and improved play area they would also like a bird viewing area. Bird Hides somewhere to sit and watch. As before it's important to inspire the next generation around the environment. Could there be recycle bins etc given the waste management site is in eyesight? Could the history of the area and park be visualised? Informative and engaging park. The park should be engaging for all. things that parents can engage with children with. An area where children and parent/guardian engagement is low...could an inclusive park encourage this behaviour? Areas for teens to play, purposeful graffiti walls? areas for community groups to upkeep, bedding boxes, cafe and so on.

The grass in the southeast area is already unmown, so this wouldn't be a change from current strategy, but it is a nice area and I'm seeing increasing wildlife there. Adding a hedge along the boundary line to the railway is a good idea, but I think the species of tree needs to be considered to be sympathetic to the existing environment (e.g. hawthorn, of which there are already many in the park, rather than beech).
There is a proposal on the map to coppice the hazel trees southwest of the football pitch. Whilst I am aware of the reasons for coppicing hazel in some circumstances, I don't think a mature copse of trees which currently provides an excellent habitat should be changed, particularly if it's not part of a long term strategy which the council have capacity to maintain to manage the hazel trees and utilise the coppiced wood.
I'd like to see some encouragement for the football teams to put their litter in bins or take it away with them - there a frequently piles of used, single use plastic water bottles around the goalposts after game days.
There are plenty of daffodils and crocus bulbs in the grass either side of the main path through the park, so it seems like a waste of money and time to plant others there, especially if it involves digging new beds.

Add more bins around the park. Revamp the BMX track. Don't make picnic benches for parents. They will stop looking after their children and sit on their phones. Stop dog walkers letting their dogs run off lead where children and other dog walkers are.
Put double yellow lines on the main road, no more double parking on a bus route when bowling and rugby/football is on at the same time. No more non fire displays. Re do the park where the fun fair has churned up the paths.

Keep the gates so motorcycles can't cut through to Halton Moor
Install some lighting around the park
Cut the wild grass as it's made the park smaller for walking and avoiding other dog walkers. Put more bins where the football pitch is because that's the only place to walk and avoid other people who are not watching their kids and letting their dog run at dogs on leads, while there on the phones. The park has no consideration for other people anymore. The photos look lovely. Probably taken by the grounds people first thing on a morning. Who sadly have to come and tidy up the mess people have made with overflowing bins and people sleeping rough in the woodlands. The fire brigade were there last week.

Apart from the main path and the one towards the east, the small part between the main building and bowling green is in bad condition - you need to pass around the barrier and even after the smallest rain it's a little water pool... it's the only place with some lighting at night if you'd like to cross the park west to east and it doesn't help.
I love having this green space on my doorstep. I've been thinking of contacting the councillors about the condition of paths as it's really bad and hard to use for wheelchairs/buggies and even pedestrians. If resurfaced well, it could be used for roller-skating and other activities too.

I believe part requires good CCTV due to criminal activity. If would be great if bonfire night can be reinstated.

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1. Planting bulbs is a great idea but I'd suggest nearer the Park Keepers house for flowers such as daffodils as it has been observed that certain residents are picking the flowers as soon as they flower - especially for Mother's Day!!
2. Improve litter-picking on the park. This is currently very hit and miss and appears to be done, in the main, by a female employee whilst the males enjoy a coffee and bacon butty !! Empty bins on a Friday so there is space for rubbish over the weekend. Usually they are left full on a Friday and then overflow over the weekend.
3. Add more bins and dog waste bins - there are very few and the new ones disappeared after a few months never to be replaced.
4. Many residents are happy to pick up litter - perhaps the Park staff room could offer litter-picker equipment and bags to residents who are happy to help. Put a sign on the office to say the equipment is available. Lots of us would do this - gratis!!
5. Are there really that many running and cycling clubs using the Park on a frequent basis. I personally do not think so. If the main road through the Park is improved this should suffice.
6. The 'Pump Track' is one of the worst ideas for the Park. It should be a 'good idea' but as we know many of today's society is not respectful of the suggested use . It will be used for anti-social trials bikes/off-road bikes which are already causing a nuisance and noise nuisance for residents of Richardson Road/Crescent/Ings/Nixons. Also a nuisance for dog-walkers and groups playing sports etc. It needs a definite re-think.
7. Paint the existing fence rather than replace if you are trying to save money. If you budget is endless - go for it !!
8. The 'Trim trail' was vandalised as soon as it went in and is rarely all used. Perhaps a covered open shelter where teenagers could sit and meet up. There is very little to draw teens into the Park unless they are sport orientated etc. As we know teenagers like to meet up, but there are no Youth Clubs anymore. Perhaps a shelter 'might' be a thought? - but in a position that is easily visible, not hidden

away.
8. Ensure the bowling green's new entrance has a secure gate to stop unwanted access.
9. Relocate table -tennis table nearer the Park keeper's house to try to prevent vandalism. Does LCC provide the bats and ball? Perhaps available at the Park-keeper's office or bowling green at the weekend? (Not sure that would work as may be open to abuse - lose equipment)
10. If now mowing woodland area so often PLEASE mow a path through for dog walkers as the long grass means walkers and dogs are more susceptible to ticks in summer months
11. Please remember to attend to the areas of the Park on the west side. These areas are often left with lots of litter in the woodland areas for weeks on end. Also the grass/weeds bordering the edges of the park to the west are left get overgrown and makes the area unsightly.
12. As the grass on the pitches/grassed areas are not mowed enough , when they are finally mowed great clumps of grass are left everywhere including the footpaths. Its is unsightly.
13. Please can the workers actually walk around the Park at least twice a week and then they will see that the path from the Park keeper's house is regularly littered with broken glass which is very hazardous to dogs. Surely when the bins are emptied the workers can get a sweeping brush out and clear this up. It is now left, kicked to the edge of the grass.
14. Finally - phew - if the Council is spending on bulbs etc then please ask the grasscutters to use some common sense and not cut over them. All the lovely crocus's were decimated this year. What a waste!!
Perhaps a local ice-cream van could be arranged at weekends for drinks and refreshments - this could attract more families

Better/some lighting on paths leading through park to west side.

Cameras are expensive and not as easy to arrange but how about some signage to say there is CCTV in certain areas to act as a deterrent. Or some fake cameras on the Park keeper's house facing onto the entrance/paths. Not sure about legislation around this

---

A community cafe area would draw more customer. Also toilet facilities - and advertised available & whereabouts. Staff are doing a fantastic job

---

Would like some toilets as bowling green not always open

More Toilets

Some further comments from more informal conversations with users of East End Park:

- *Netball markings please and actual netball posts as they are different from basketball.*
- *Benches & more facilities for old people.*
- *If you are going to have rose gardens then look after them properly.*
- *Put out traffic cones on the roads when doing events to stop dangerous parking on roads.*

- *Toilets.*
- *Dog Poo is a problem.*
- *More bins needed.*
- *Drinking Water Fountains*

Comments from the “add something else” option of the “Is there anything you think could be improved about East End park ?” Question:

- *Toilets*
- *Picnic tables/community bbq added AWAY from the kids area - not all adults can and want to be around kids. More bins, especially near the east entrance. The latter is not very convenient in general, being tucked in the corner. Also, there's no toilet facilities and lighting - these are bigger investments but definitely worth considering.*
- *Cut the grass and stop with the woody areas. You're just trying to save money on mowing it. All it is attracting is dog owners not picking poo up. More poo bins are needed around the park.*
- *Encouraging people to take their litter away with them / more bins*
- *Could this park look at a model like crossflatts park? could there be space for meeting in and outdoors. Running community groups I know there are few venues in East End Park, this is quite central it may be a good location similarly to harehills park to look at the crossflatts model.*
- *There's a lot of dog mess in the park - it makes it unpleasant to let the children play on grass. Another improvement would be access to the park; currently there is only one point of crossing on the busy road that runs along the length of the park but the traffic lights take a long time to change. During rush hour, and after school the road becomes very dangerous with children trying to cross to the park.*
- *The smell by the green work buildings, dropped kerbs at end of the path (needs resurfacing) from by Richardson crescent past sport pitches and out by the bowling green, which is only access suitable for wheelchair and mobility scooter users*
- *Netball Court*

Appendix 3: Data tables

Table 1: Showing feelings about suggestions made on the vision plan for East End Park

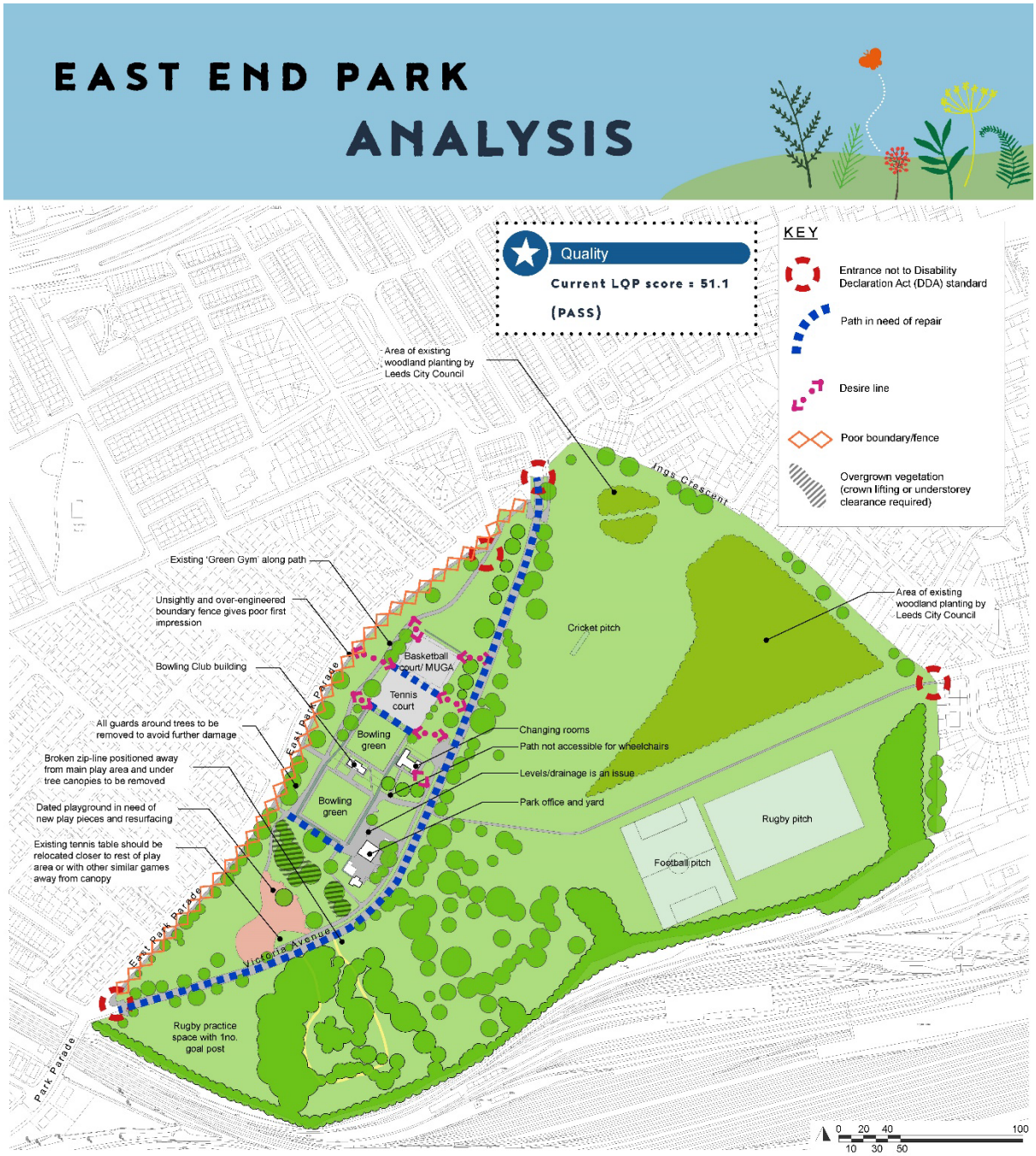
Suggestion	Disagree	Agree	total responses to suggestion	proportion of negative responses percent	proportion of positive responses percent	Positive to Negative ratio
Improve the park for wildlife by reducing mowing to create a meadow in the South-East area of the park	18	72	90	20.0	80.0	4.0
Install more outdoor gym equipment	12	49	61	19.7	80.3	4.1
Replacing the fence along the road with something more attractive	12	56	68	17.6	82.4	4.7
Improve the park for wildlife by planting a hedge along the railway fence	14	73	87	16.1	83.9	5.2
Improve multi-use games area	6	49	55	10.9	89.1	8.2
Install a path so there is a circular walking route around the park	8	100	108	7.4	92.6	12.5
Install some benches and picnic benches near the playground for parents	7	90	97	7.2	92.8	12.9
Improve play facilities	5	67	72	6.9	93.1	13.4
Improve the entrances by installing better signage and restoring the historic gate posts	5	84	89	5.6	94.4	16.8
Plant more bulbs (daffodils, tulips, snow drops etc)	5	95	100	5.0	95.0	19.0
Resurface the main path through the park	3	88	91	3.3	96.7	29.3
Improving disabled access to the sports courts and bowling green	1	63	64	1.6	98.4	63.0

Table 2: Data from analysis of the question "Do you have any other ideas for improving East End Park that you would like to share with us? " and "Do you have any other comments on East End park?"

	Proportion of total comments as percentage	**Number of times this subject is mentioned in comments**
Lighting	5.9	12
Negative comments about meadows & whip planting	3.9	8
More Staff / Warden	3.4	7
General Upkeep & Maintenance	6.4	13
Toilets	4.9	10
Litter & broken glass	5.9	12
Café / refreshment Kiosk	7.4	15
Safety / ASB	8.8	18
Loose Dogs	4.9	10
Dog Poo	5.4	11
Accessibility	4.4	9
Community Involvement eg: FO/sports group & Events	7.8	16
Water Feature	2.0	4
Drinking Water	1.0	2
Better Facilities	2.5	5
More plants Flowers	2.5	5
More Benches & picnic tables	2.5	5
New / Bigger Playground	3.9	8
More Bins	5.4	11
Better/more gym kit	1.5	3
Paths	4.9	10
Teen facilities	2.0	4
More sports facilities	2.9	6

Appendix 4: Current Analysis of East End Park

Figure 17: Analysis plan of East End Park





Park Parade is in need of resurfacing. Material and width to be maintained for walking and cycling club along with events.



Play area is dated and some pieces are broken. Over hanging trees contribute to the poor state of the area. However, the large area allows opportunity for an exciting new neighbourhood playground.



Well used community bowling green, but club building in need for new frontage including refurbishment of retaining wall, steps, ramps and flowerbeds.



No connecting paths from main circular path causing wear and obvious desire lines. DDA compliant paths and ramps to be introduced.



Entrances not DDA compliant. Unattractive fences around boundaries and access points do not feel welcoming and don't fit with traditional stone piers.

January 2023

Leeds CITY COUNCIL

Appendix 5: Bowls club feedback

The proposed plan was presented at the 2023 AGM of East End Park bowls club. Main points of discussion were the three suggestions directly affecting the bowls club area.

Those suggestions were:

- Take out section of hedge [*facing East Park Parade*] to create entrance to Bowling Green and path outside it to be made fully accessible.
- Refurbish club building including existing access ramp to assure it is suitable for wheelchairs.
- Walls repaired and planting improved.

The club members are in support of all of these suggestions, noting that the new entrance gate and path would particularly benefit members & visitors to the club, especially on match days when it does get busy.

Other comments made by the bowlers were:

- Please could we have a sign &/or noticeboard on the new gate and can it have the same key as we already have issued to members
- Club house toilets need improvement including for accessibility
- Some accessible car parking would be beneficial.
- As part of club building repairs, please include painting exterior walls, repairing path around building, exterior lighting around building.

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