



Alexandra Park Consultation

Report of Findings August 2018

Contents

Introduction	2
Methodology	2
Results	4
Frequency of Visits to Alexandra Park	4
Satisfaction with Alexandra Park	6
Satisfaction with the current quality of items in Alexandra Park	7
Satisfaction with the current numbers of items in Alexandra Park	8
Sports equipment in Alexandra Park.....	9
Use of the Youth Shelter	10
Reasons why the Youth Shelter is being used inappropriately	11
Satisfaction with play offerings within Alexandra Park	12
‘Natural Play’ in Alexandra Park	13
Best Use of the Pavilion Building	14
Events in the Pavilion Building	18
Times Avoided in Alexandra Park	19
What People like about Alexandra Park.....	19
Other Thoughts and Improvements	23
Appendix 1 – Map of Respondent Postcodes	26
Appendix 2 – Respondent Profile.....	27
Appendix 3 – Question 12a ‘Other’ responses.....	28

Introduction

In 2018, the council had a budget of £82,000 to spend within the Penn Hill ward from 'Planning 'Obligations' funding. This included £47,000 for 'equipped play' and £35,000 for 'casual play and amenity open space'.

Alexandra Park is a popular and well-used open space and was selected to benefit from new investment.

The aim of the consultation was to gauge satisfaction with current facilities within the park and to get feedback on what the public would like to see improved. The consultation feedback will be used to inform the decision of how best to use the money for the maximum benefit of existing and new users of Alexandra Park.

Methodology

The consultation ran from the 9th July to the 6th August 2018. Promotional postcards were produced and distributed around different locations within Poole and in Alexandra Park itself.

A survey was produced which asked residents and non-residents for their opinions on various aspects of Alexandra Park and also for more general views about the Park and how often they visit. The survey was made available for people to pick up and complete in local libraries in Poole. It was also made available online at www.poole.gov.uk/alexandrapark along with a link to the Alexandra Park Poole Projects page pooleprojects.net/alexandra-park/, where respondents could find more information.

The consultation was hosted on the Borough of Poole consultation pages and there was a link to the consultation page on the Poole Projects website. The consultation was promoted through various channels including:

- News releases issued to the media
- Articles in various e-newsletters
- Articles in the Loop (staff newsletter)

The surveys were designed in Snap (survey design software). The paper forms returned were scanned by the Insight Team. These were kept in a locked cupboard and will remain securely held until they are destroyed confidentially until 6 months after the final outcome of the consultation is announced.

Online responses were downloaded into an Excel file and imported into Snap for analysis purposes. The data was checked and verified in preparation for analysis. The data is held in the Insight Team's secure area.

Quantitative analysis was carried out using Snap to identify the frequencies for each question. Demographic analysis was carried out to identify any differences in views by characteristics such as age, gender and disability to feed into the Equalities Impact Assessment.

The write in (qualitative) responses were exported into Excel and coded according to categories. Qualitative research does not seek to quantify data, instead, its purpose is to provide deeper insights into reasoning and impact and many researchers therefore believe that

numbers should not be included in reporting. The numbers of people mentioning the most prevalent codes are provided in this report to give an indication of the magnitude of response. Importantly, however, given the nature of the data, this does not provide an indication of significance or salience in relation to the question asked.

Results

A total of 241 responses were received to the consultation. 203 were online, while 38 were paper surveys.

Figures in this report are presented as a percentage of people who answered the question i.e. excluding 'don't know', 'not applicable' and 'no reply', unless otherwise described.

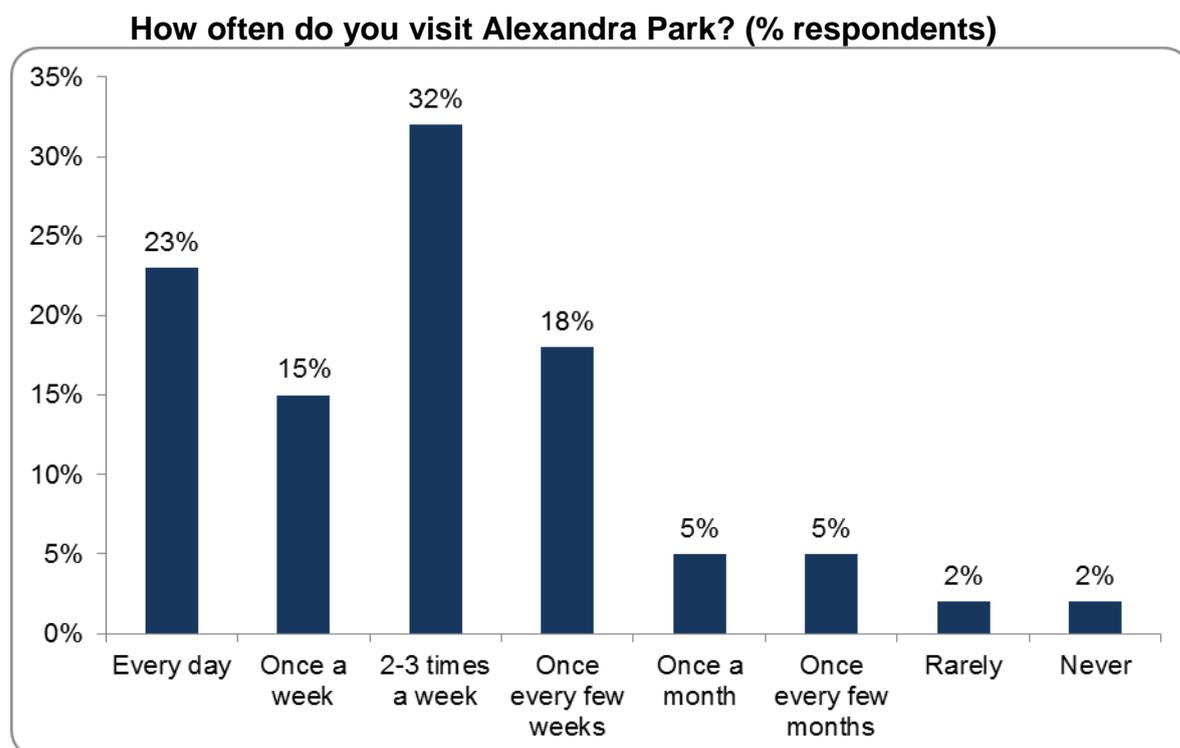
The percentages in this report will not always add up to 100%. This can be because of rounding, or because respondents are allowed to select more than one response.

Where there are significant differences between groups of respondents, this has been stated within the report.

Please note that where numbers have been provided for the most prevalent codes to open-ended questions, this is to give an indication of the magnitude of response rather than an indication of significance or salience in relation to the question asked.

Frequency of Visits to Alexandra Park

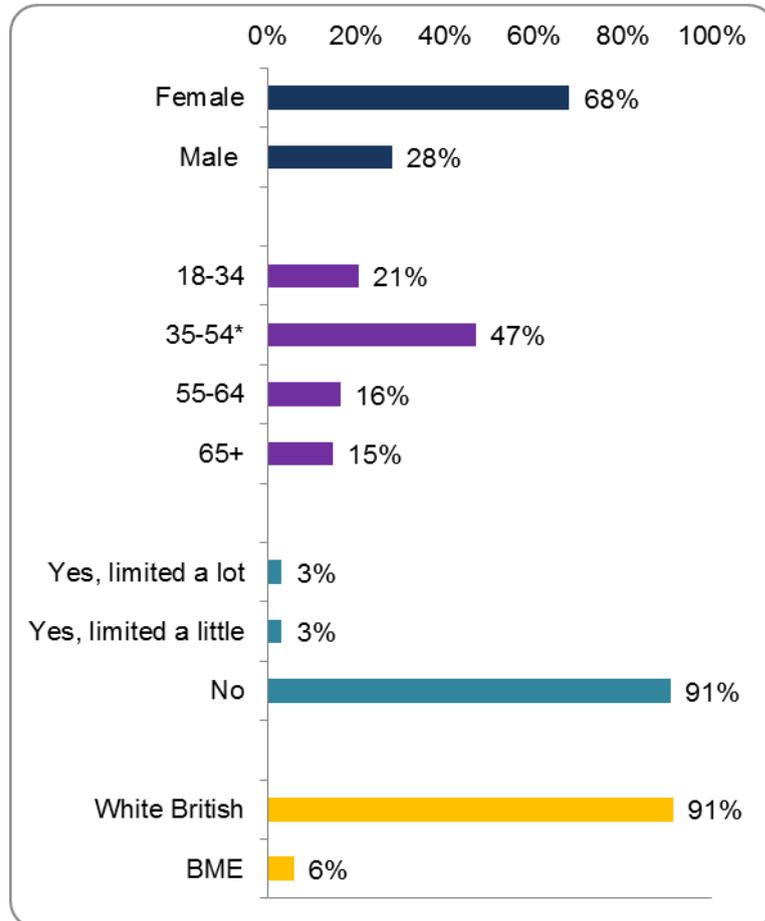
Just under a third of respondents (32%) said they visit Alexandra Park 2-3 times a week, while almost a quarter of respondents (23%) said they visit the Park every day. 18% said they visit once every few weeks, while 15% said they visit once a week. 5% said they visited once a month and the same proportion of respondents said they visit the park once every few months. 2% of respondents said they never visit Alexandra Park.



Base: 240 respondents

99% of respondents were Poole Residents. Of these, 92% (n=218) were frequent users of Alexander Park, i.e. they visited the Park at least once a month. You can find a demographic breakdown of frequent park users below.

Demographic Profile of Frequent Users of Alexandra Park (% visit at least once a month)



Base: 218 respondents ('Prefer not to say' responses have been excluded from the chart above)

Please note, 'Frequent Users' represents respondents who said they visited the Park at least once a month.

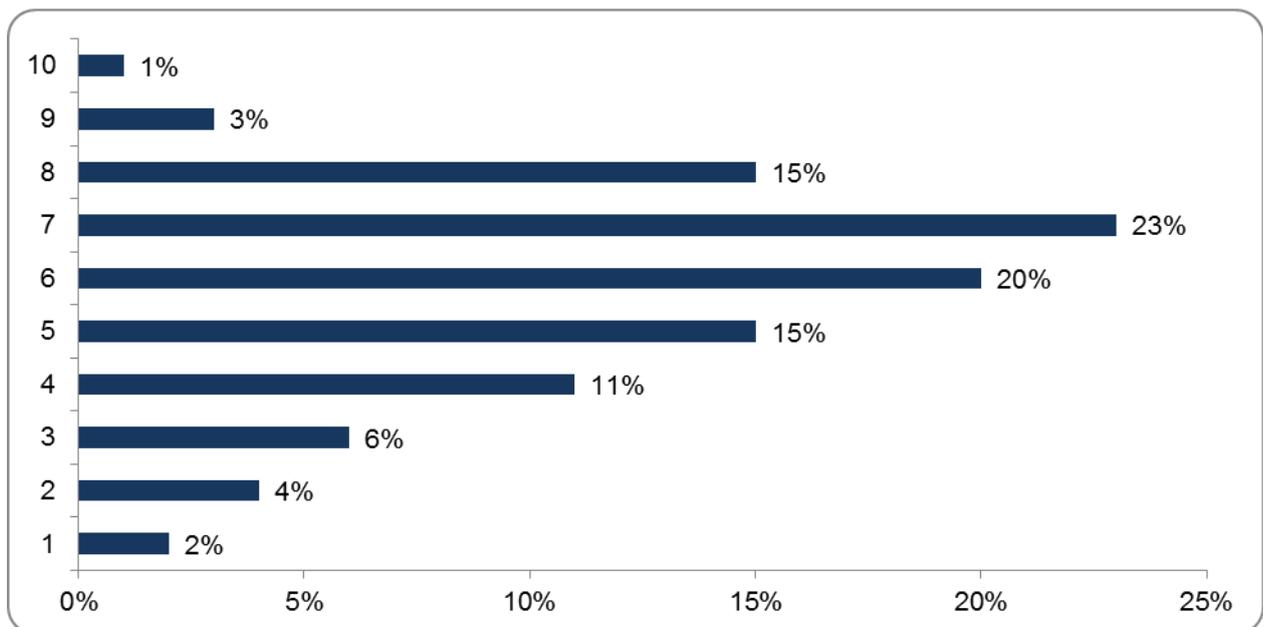
Frequent users of the park are more likely to be female (68%) than male (28%) and are significantly more likely to be aged 35-54 than any other age group. The majority of frequent users who responded to the consultation did not have a disability and were from a White British background (both 91%).

237 respondents gave their postcode. More than two thirds (70%) of these respondents live in the BH14 area. A map of respondent postcodes can be found in [Appendix 1](#).

Satisfaction with Alexandra Park

Almost half (43%) of respondents rated their level of satisfaction with Alexandra Park at 6 or 7 out of 10. 19% rated their satisfaction between 8 and 10 and 28% rated their satisfaction at 5 out of 10 or below.

On a scale of 1 to 10, where 1 is 'very dissatisfied' and 10 is 'very satisfied', how satisfied are you with Alexandra Park? (% respondents)



Base: 240 respondents

Frequent users were more likely to have a higher level of satisfaction with Alexandra Park than rare users (i.e. visiting once every few months or rarely) or non-users.

44% of frequent users said their satisfaction level was either 6 or 7 out of 10, while 20% said it was between 8 and 10.

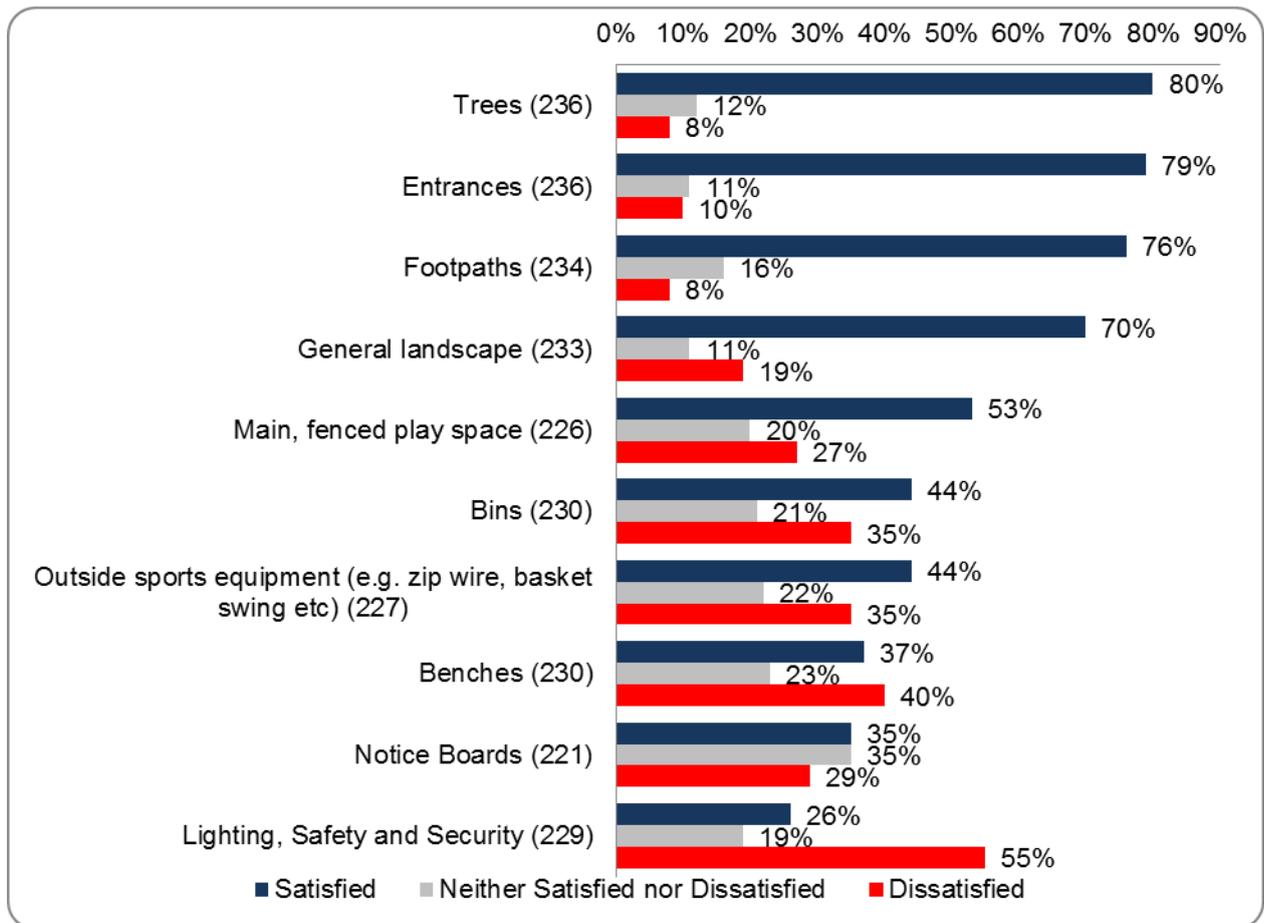
40% of Poole residents said their level of satisfaction was between 7 or 8 out of 10, 34% said it was between 5 and 6 out of 10, and 23% said it was between 1 and 4 out of 10.

Satisfaction with the current quality of items in Alexandra Park

Respondents were most satisfied with the current quality of the trees (80%), followed by the entrances (79%), footpaths (76%) and the general landscape (70%).

Respondents were most dissatisfied with the lighting, safety and security (55%), followed by the benches (40%), the outdoor sports equipment (35%) and bins (35%).

Overall, how satisfied are you with the current quality of the following items in Alexandra Park? (% respondents)



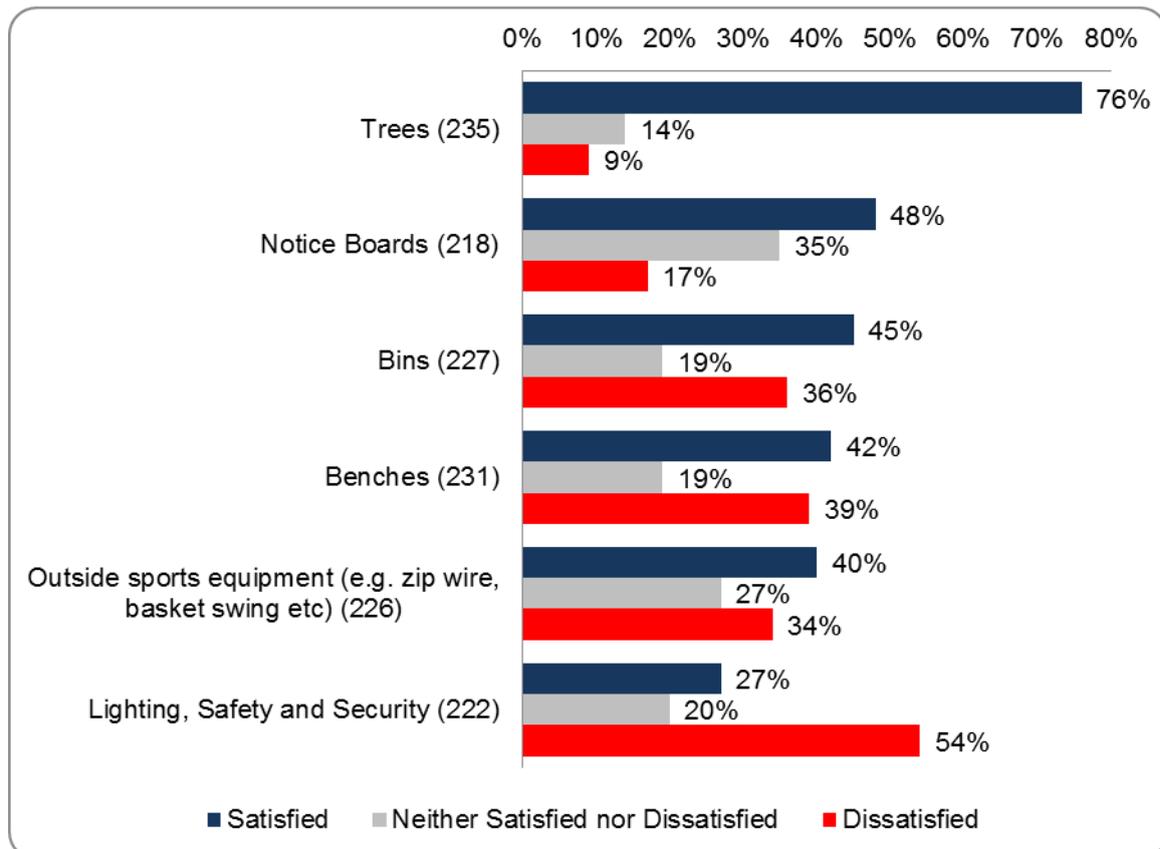
Base: as labelled

Satisfaction with the current numbers of items in Alexandra Park

Respondents were most satisfied with the current number of trees (76%), followed by notice boards (48%), bins (45%) and benches (42%).

Respondents were most dissatisfied with the number of lights, safety and security (54%), benches (39%), bins (36%) and outdoor sports equipment (34%).

Overall, how satisfied are you with the current numbers of the following items in Alexandra Park? (% respondents)



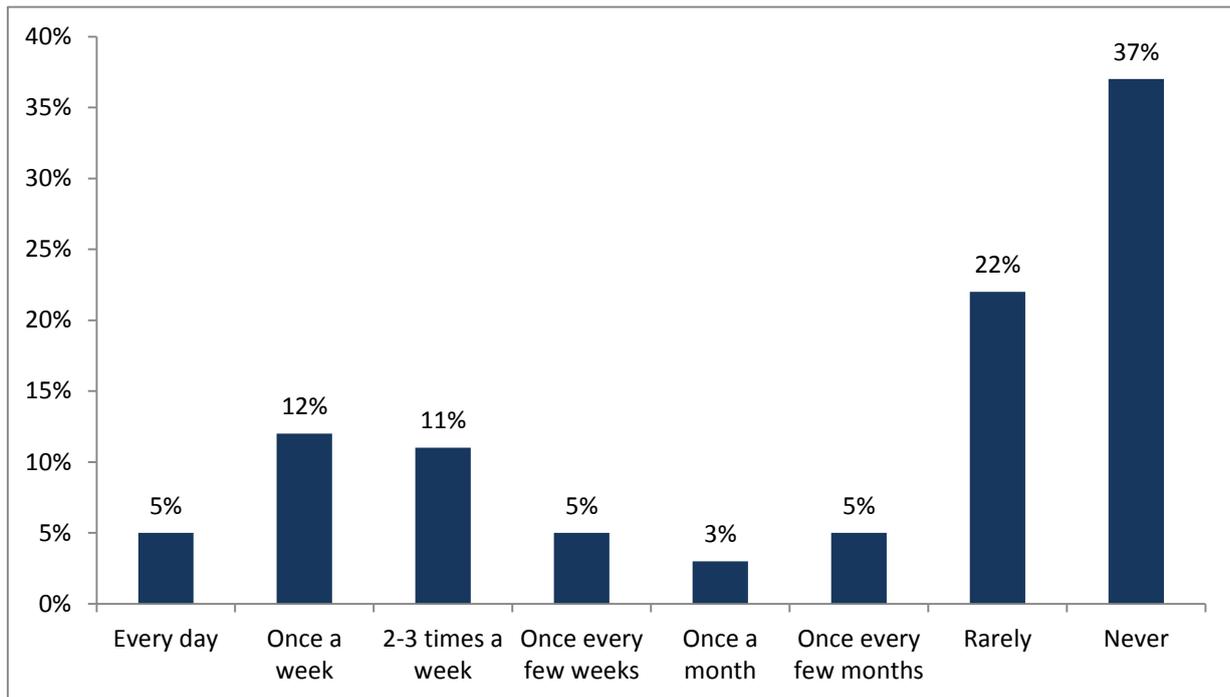
Bases: as labelled

Sports Equipment in Alexandra Park

Frequency of sports equipment use in Alexandra Park

Over a quarter of respondents (28%) said they use sports equipment in Alexandra Park at least once a week. Over a third of respondents (37%) said they never use the sports equipment, while 22% said they rarely use it.

How often do you use the sports equipment in Alexandra Park? (% respondents)



Base: 238 respondents

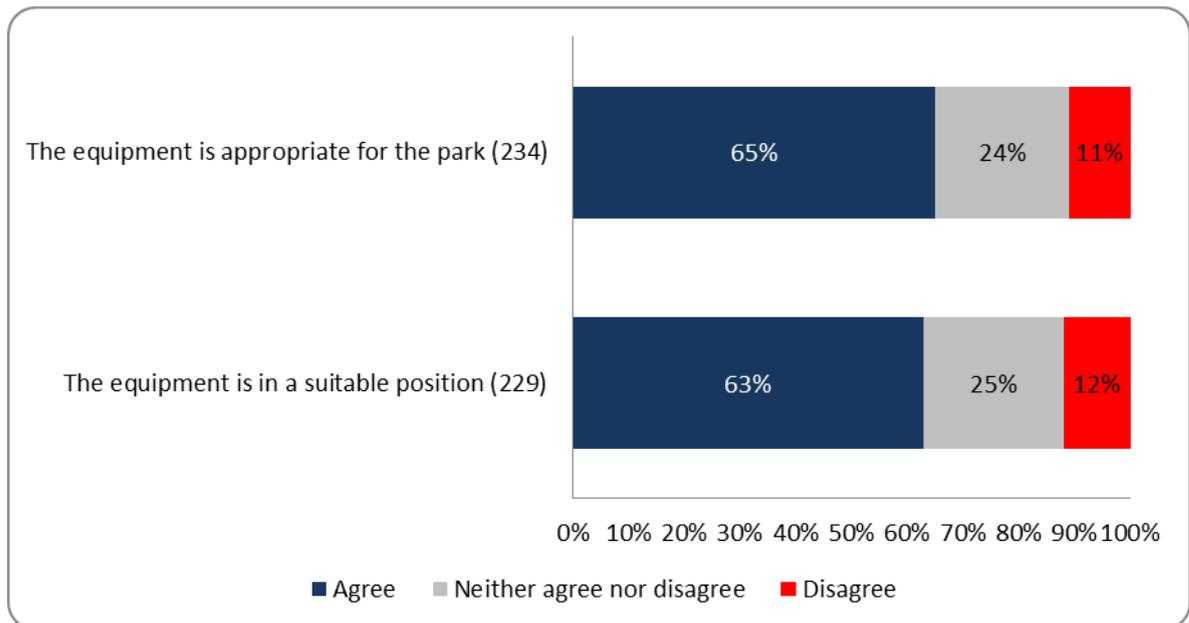
Over half of frequent users (55%) and Poole residents (59%) said they rarely or never use sports equipment in Alexandra Park.

The 35-44 age group are significantly more likely to use sports equipment once a week than other age groups.

Sports equipment outside of the fenced play area

Almost two thirds of respondents (65%) agreed that the sports equipment outside of the fenced play area was appropriate for the park. 63% agreed that this equipment is in a suitable position.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the sports equipment outside of the fenced play area? (% respondents)



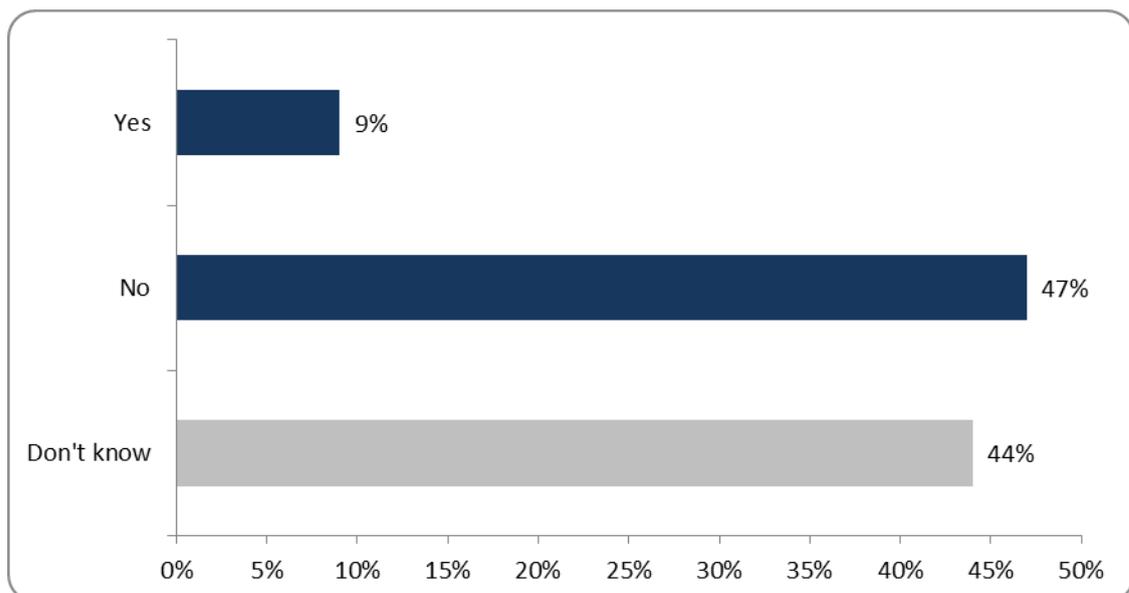
Bases: as labelled

64% of frequent users agreed that the equipment is appropriate for the park, while 67% agreed that it's in a suitable position. 64% of Poole residents agreed that the equipment is appropriate for the park, while 66% agreed that it's in a suitable position.

Use of the Youth Shelter

Almost half of respondents (47%) said the youth shelter is not being used appropriately.

Do you think the youth shelter is used appropriately? (% respondents)



Base: 239 respondents

Half of frequent users and 48% of Poole residents also said the youth shelter was not being used appropriately.

Reasons why the Youth Shelter is being used inappropriately

Those respondents who said that the youth shelter was not being used appropriately in question 7, were asked why they thought this was the case. A total of 108 respondents commented on this with 1 key theme emerging which was 'Anti-social behaviour' (81 comments).

103 (95%) of these comments were made by frequent users of the Park, i.e. they visit the Park at least once a month.

Please note that where numbers have been provided for the most prevalent codes to open-ended questions, this is to give an indication of the magnitude of response rather than an indication of significance or salience in relation to the question asked.

Anti-social behaviour (81 comments)

These respondents felt that the youth shelter was being used inappropriately primarily because of anti-social behaviour that takes place in the shelter itself or in the surrounding area.

Please note that all these comments (except 3) were made by frequent users of the Park, i.e. they visit the Park at least once a month.

The majority of these respondents felt that the anti-social behaviour in, or around, the youth shelter was being committed by adults who were abusing alcohol and drugs. Several were concerned about the fact this was taking place around younger children in the Park:

“People sit and drink alcohol, drunks congregate there, drug dealers do business in front of children.”

“Often intimidating when occupied by drinkers and anti-social types, especially on rainy days when the play area is nearly empty. Feels unsafe to walk through, even mid-afternoon.”

“Alcoholics sit/sleep in it, can be pretty scary when you’re a single parent with a young child and they are shouting at you.”

Some respondents felt that younger people were mistreating the shelter and therefore making it inaccessible for others:

“Kids swearing, throwing bottles into kids park, scaring the younger kids, dropping litter.”

“My son and I have been in receipt of offensive verbal abuse from some of the youngsters who hang out here. I would suggest that there is CCTV overlooking this area - or some form of security.”

“In my experience children just climb on it and it is often littered and broken.”

“Most youths use the shelter to climb on and sit on top of and often they congregate there in the early hours of the morning for drinking and smoking. It is rarely used during the day and then only by other park users sheltering from the rain.”

“Often used as meeting place for youngsters to smoke and drink.”

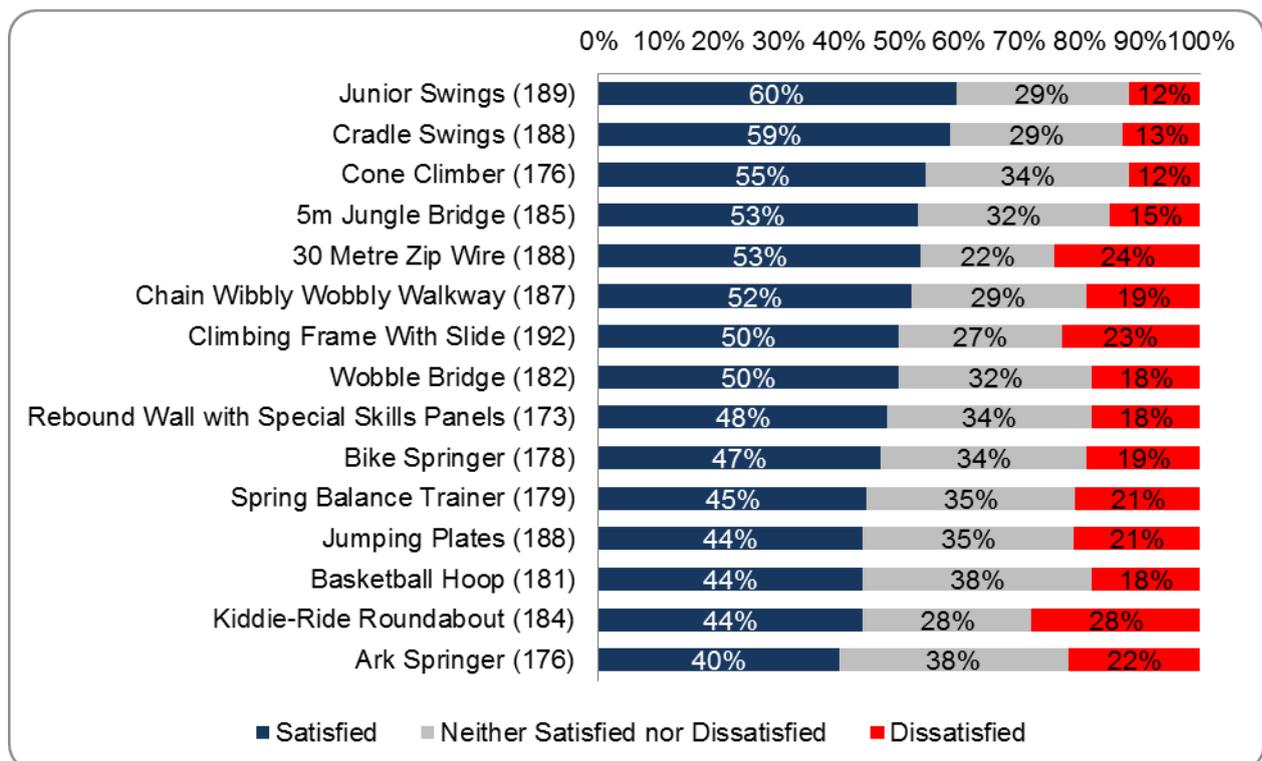
Satisfaction with play offerings within Alexandra Park

At least half of respondents were satisfied with 8 out of the 15 play offerings in Alexandra Park.

They were most satisfied with the Junior swings (60%), followed by the Cradle swings (59%), the Cone climber (55%), the 5 metre Jungle bridge (53%), and the 30 metre Zip wire (53%).

Respondents were most dissatisfied with the Kiddie-Ride Roundabout (28%), the 30 metre Zip wire (24%) and the Climbing frame with slide (23%).

Overall, how satisfied are you with the play offerings within the Park? (% respondents)



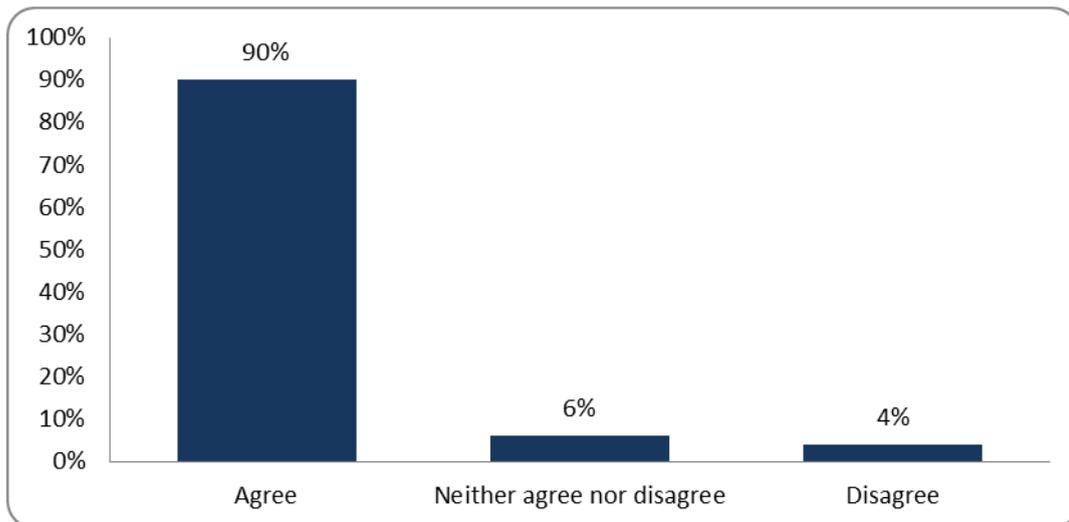
Bases: as labelled

'Natural Play' in Alexandra Park

Suitability of 'Natural Play' in Alexandra Park

90% of respondents agreed that 'Natural Play' would be suitable for Alexandra Park, while 4% disagreed.

To what extent do you agree or disagree that 'Natural Play' would be suitable for Alexandra Park? (% respondents)



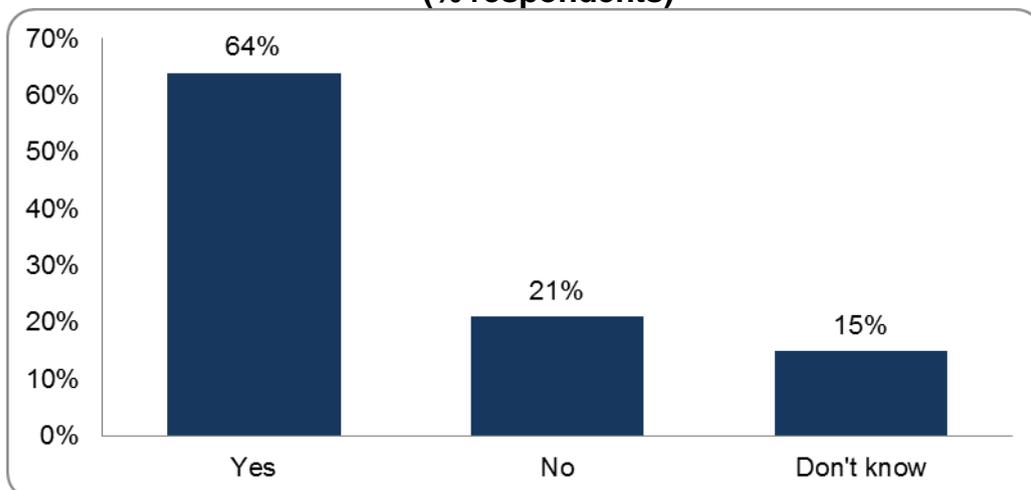
Base: 231 respondents

94% of frequent users and 90% of Poole residents agreed that 'Natural Play' would be suitable for Alexandra Park.

Meadow within Alexandra Park

Almost two thirds of respondents (64%) said they would like to see small areas of meadow introduced within the Park, while 21% said they wouldn't.

Would you like to see the introduction of small areas of meadow within the Park? (% respondents)



Base: 240 respondents

65% of frequent users and 64% of Poole residents said they would like to see small areas of meadow introduced within the Park.

Best Use of the Pavilion Building

Respondents were asked what they thought the best use of the Pavilion building would be. A total of 208 respondents commented on this with 2 key themes emerging. These were 'Cafe' (89 comments) and 'Community space' (63 comments). Respondents also referred to 'Toilets' (36 comments), 'Anti-social behaviour' (10 comments) and 'Examples' (7 comments) that the Pavilion building could be modelled on.

193 (93%) of these comments were made by frequent users of the Park, i.e. they visit the Park at least once a month.

Please note that where numbers have been provided for the most prevalent codes to open-ended questions, this is to give an indication of the magnitude of response rather than an indication of significance or salience in relation to the question asked.

Cafe (89 comments)

These respondents felt that creating a café would be the best use of the Pavilion building for a variety of reasons. These included for creating a meeting space, somewhere to eat and drink, a way of generating income and as a way of enabling people to stay longer at the Park. They felt this was an opportunity to reintroduce toilets and they also felt that the café could also accommodate space for a youth centre, classes such as yoga and/or dance and a space to hire out for events.

Please note that all these comments (except 5) were made by frequent users of the Park, i.e. they visit the Park at least once a month:

“Area for refreshment, seasonally only. As parents and children use this area a lot throughout the season and weekends are exceptionally busy.”

“Community cafe with the ability to hire it out as well.”

“It’s crying out for a community cafe / soft play with loos available to the park users. It has great potential as a community hub in such a densely populated area but as it stands it’s hugely underused.”

Some respondents emphasised the need for the café to focus on the community and felt there would be a range of benefits for the community as a whole:

“It should be used as a community hub / cafe for friends and family and visitors of the park to use it to work in as well as grab a coffee and meet up with people... it needs to be open to everyone rather than it being turned into somewhere which can only be rented and not accessible to the public themselves. The community would be the ones who would care for it the best and look after it.”

“I think a cafe would be great for the community.”

“[A] commercial enterprise such as cafeteria would give 'buy in' to security of the park and casual supervision would be increased through staff and customers.”

Community space (63 comments)

These respondents felt that the Pavilion building would be best utilised as a space for the community which should be open and used by all. Within this broad code, 2 key sub-codes emerged which were 'Events space' (21 comments) and 'Multiple use area' (18 comments).

Please note that all these comments (except 2) were made by frequent users of the Park, i.e. they visit the Park at least once a month.

- **Events Space (21 comments)**

These respondents felt this space should include events that are community-focused but that also generate income:

“The pavilion should be made available for rent, similar to the Branksome Dean Chine hall, could also be used for small local public events, with suitable licencing and noise controls. e.g no amplified music.”

One respondent also felt that this space could be used to tackle social isolation:

“It needs to continue to be a community resource - I would like to see artistic/craft sessions and possibly yoga, pilates, dance. etc available here as it would bring life into the park for local residents. Could be a great resource to help combat loneliness.”

Some respondents liked the prospect of having a space where different groups within the community could meet:

“A community resource open to all to book and use for a range of activities. Like the idea of it being a space that is private in that a group can gather there.”

- **Multiple use area (18 comments)**

These respondents wanted to see the Pavilion building to be a space that could be utilised in a variety of ways as this respondent proposes:

“A community center that could be used for a variety of purposes: events (perhaps outdoor shows, cinema etc during the summer), activities (e.g. summer camps for school kids, monthly boules competitions), social space for the local community to meet, perhaps a basic café as a central hub (could be run by the 'Friends of' group - profit used to maintain the park), interpretative displays showcasing local news/events and the history & wildlife of the park, drop in support sessions for various difficulties people may be having - (e.g. sessions on how to build a CV, how to access council support networks, basic

computer skills etc), it could be rented out for private parties - proceeds again used to maintain the park I think it could also be used as the central hub for an annual 'Alexandra Park Summer Fayre' which could have stalls set up throughout the park with live music, food & drinks, crafts stalls, children's activities etc. The enclosed nature of the park would make it an ideal safe space for a fayre and would really help promote & showcase the local community and the park. Any money made from the event could then be used to help maintain the park."

Some respondents wanted the space to include activities for children, parents and families:

"The majority of people who legitimately use the park are mothers, childminders and toddlers. I would love to see the pavilion used as a room to meet for Mum and baby groups. Social gatherings of young mums, toddler groups, cafe. A toilet (that is well maintained and free of homeless drug users) would be useful too."

"Sport of bumps and babies clubs Private hire for kids' parties and anniversaries etc."

"I would like to see it used by the community in lots of different ways, may be a youth club, mum & baby group, toddler groups, hired out for parties, meeting, etc."

Toilets (36 comments)

These respondents felt that toilets were an essential facility to have at the Park and that they should be reinstated at the Pavilion Building.

Please note that all but 1 of these comments were made by frequent users of the Park:

"A Cafe would be a nice addition and maybe it could be available for hire for small events. I would also like and strongly feel that the toilets should be re-opened. Does it not make sense to have a park that families go to and also dog walkers like myself that has toilets to use?"

"Definitely toilets, as the park is somewhere we stay for a good amount of time."

"An enclosed football space with a cafe would be helpful, but without toilet facilities anything is a NO GO. You can't take children into the park for long as there are no facilities for cleaning a grazed knee, using a toilet, getting a drink of water. And it's not just the children. Dog walkers need lavatory facilities, and the toilets need to be looked after to stop the drug users, alcoholics and youths trashing them all the time."

Anti-social behaviour' (10 comments)

These respondents felt that in order to make the most of the Pavilion building, anti-social behaviour in Alexandra Park needs to be addressed:

“For it NOT to be a drug den! For it not to be used for the drinking of alcohol. To be not used for young kids to just sit and smoke weed. Your problem isn’t children on swings it’s the young adults. They have NOWHERE to go and NOTHING to do! It’s all well and good having a nice play area but like I say the children aren’t the problem. You could have the opportunity to sort this problem out, don’t waste the money on new swings!! The above problems will STILL be there even with a new swing park!! I’m not liking the teens that hang out within the park or the drug dealers but they are NOT going away! New swing park or not.”

“Must NOT be a drop in centre for undesirables!”

“Small cafe or soft play area - but it needs security to dissuade the unsavoury characters that hang around there, especially at night.”

Examples (7 comments)

Some respondents referred to other places/buildings that the council could model the Pavilion building on, which they considered to be successful and appealing. These were:

- Redhill Park in Bournemouth (x2)
- Jazz Café in Poole
- Upton House café
- Branksome Recreation Ground (including café)
- Ashley Cross Green
- Branksome Dene Beach Hut

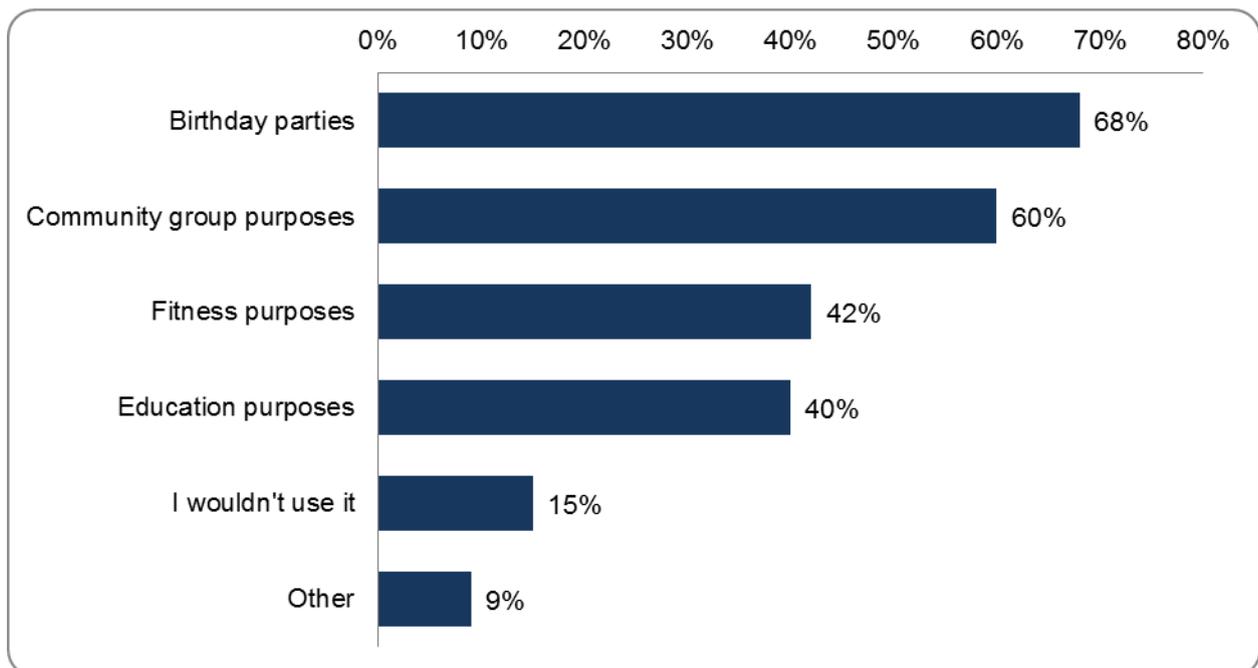
By reflecting on the successes of these places and the services they provide, respondents felt that the Pavilion Building could generate income, improve safety levels, provide a high quality café, hold appealing events, provide an excellent community meeting facility and a space that is child and dog friendly.

Events in the Pavilion Building

More than two thirds of respondents said they would use the Pavilion building for birthday parties (68%) and 60% said they would use it for community group purposes. 15% said they would not use the building at all.

A breakdown of all the 'other' uses respondents suggested can be found in [Appendix 3](#).

If the Pavilion Building was available to hire for events, what would you use it for? (% respondents)



Base: 238 respondents

69% of frequent users said they would use the Pavilion building for birthday parties and 58% said they would use it for community group purposes.

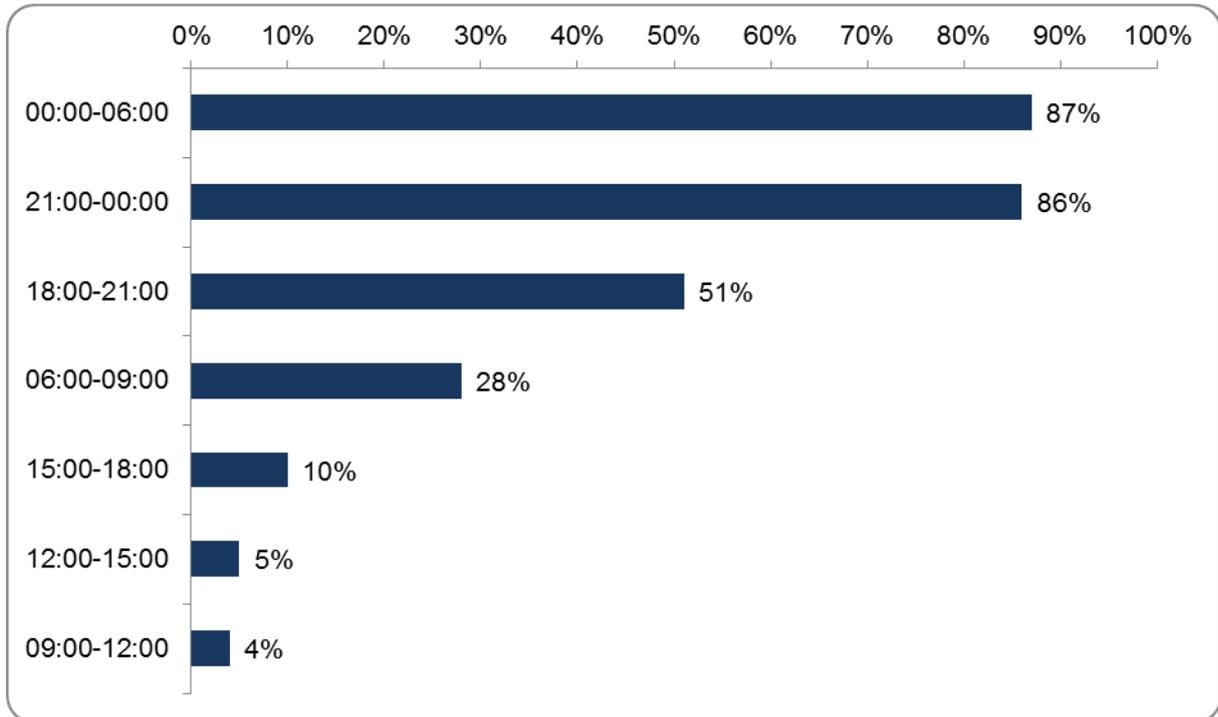
68% of Poole residents said they would use the Pavilion building for birthday parties and 60% said they would use it for community group purposes.

Respondents who were 'limited a lot' in their day-to-day activities by a long-term illness or disability were significantly more likely to say that they would not hire the Pavilion building for an event.

Times Avoided in Alexandra Park

Respondents said they mainly avoided the park between 12pm and 6am (87%) and 9pm and midnight (86%).

**Are there particular times when you avoid visiting the park?
(% respondents)**



Base: 201 respondents

Frequent users said they avoided the park between midnight and 6am (88%) and 9pm and midnight (87%), while Poole residents said the same. They also avoided the park at midnight and 6am (87%) and 9pm and midnight (86%).

Males were significantly more likely to avoid visiting the park between 9am and 3pm, while females were significantly more likely to avoid visiting the park between 6pm and midnight.

The 35-44 age group were significantly more likely to avoid visiting Alexandra Park between 6am and 9am.

What People like about Alexandra Park

Respondents were asked what they like best about Alexandra Park. A total of 224 respondents commented on this with 1 key theme emerging. Most comments referred to the 'Space' (191 comments) in and around Alexandra Park. 176 (92%) of these comments were made by frequent users of the Park, i.e. they visit the Park at least once a month.

Within this broad code, 7 sub-codes emerged which were 'Trees' (70 comments), 'Open/Green Space' (59 comments), 'Location' (49 comments), 'For all the community' (34 comments), 'Dog walking' (31 comments), 'Play area' (28 comments), and 'Landscape' (27 comments).

Please note that where numbers have been provided for the most prevalent codes to open-ended questions, this is to give an indication of the magnitude of response rather than an indication of significance or salience in relation to the question asked.

In addition, be aware that some comments may have been coded into multiple categories depending on the content so they are not mutually exclusive.

Trees (70 comments)

These respondents said they like the trees in Alexandra Park:

"I like the trees, it's why I walk there rather than Branksome rec. The trees encourage so much wildlife. Please keep that lovely green space feel that's there now. I walk there everyday and even though it's in the middle of a built up area you can walk round a feel close to nature."

"The trees and the landscape provide a piece of tranquillity in a busy suburb."

"The trees and shrubs and the overall feel of an oasis in the town, when it is not spoilt by drunks and teenagers."

Open/Green Space (59 comments)

These respondents felt the open and green spaces in Alexandra Park are one of its best features:

"Great to have a green space for everyone to use. Lots of trees and quite quiet."

"Having a lovely green space so close where people of all ages can relax."

"The open spaces it has - sweeps of grass in the valley."

"Lovely large open space for families, dog walkers and others to enjoy..."

"It's a well looked after local green space which I feel is so important for children and adults alike."

Location' (49 comments)

Respondents felt that the location of the Park is one its best features, seeing it as convenient and unique:

“It's proximity to a largely residential area and the fact that my children can go and play with their friends unsupervised.”

“It's location, it is very close to the school, Ashley Road and my house.”

“It's a lovely contained park in an urban area.”

“The location - it's a quiet place in a built up area. Plenty of car parking available and is walking distance for many young families.”

“Its location [in] the heart of Parkstone and its accessibility.”

“It's local, a small oasis off the busy Ashley road.”

“I love that the park is central to schools, Alder Road and very much part of the community.”

For all the community (34 comments)

These respondents viewed the fact that Alexandra Park was available for all of the community as its best quality:

“It is an important open space in a quite densely populated area of Parkstone. The trees and grass provide a "green lung" and the park is very well used by dog walkers and children. It is a place where you can meet and get to know other people in the community.”

“I like the fact that it is there and for the use of the community.”

“Local space used by lots of local people.”

“It's a space for all ages...”

“The community feel provided by the majority of users including those who pick litter every day. A great area for responsible dog walkers.”

“Community. It's a place the kids enjoy, we walk/scoot round the park. Visit after school. We use the football area after dinner.”

Dog walking (31 comments)

Some respondents felt that the dog walking was the best aspect of the Park:

“Friendly dog walking space.”

“Lovely area to walk dogs.”

“Dog walking is such a friendly and sociable thing to do in the park. It is fairly well protected from the wind and rain as we all have to exercise our dogs.”

Play area (28 comments)

These respondents felt the play area is one of the best features of Alexandra Park:

“That the play park is fenced off.”

“The play park surrounding is very nice especially that has so many trees. We are living in concrete walls around but in Alexandra Park you feel like nature is next to you.”

“Large children's play park which caters for toddlers and older children alike.”

Although some felt the play park could be improved:

“A suitable sized play area (although it could do with modernised improvements)”

“We use the play equipment a great deal and some of it is very very tired and the variety is poor compared to other play areas.”

“The play area and other activities are pretty good but could do with more for all age ranges and keep them up to date and not look worn out.”

Landscape (27 comments)

These respondents felt that the Park's landscape is one of its best features:

“Love the mature trees and rolling landscape.”

“I think it's a beautiful park that has a lovely natural landscape and I wouldn't want to see that or the foliage/trees altered as I think it's great as it is.”

“The very varied landscapes. I love February and March in the park where you can see Spring arriving with the crocuses and daffodils, gives you hope.”

“I love the landscape, the greenness, foliage, the birds, the squirrels, and in winter the tobogganing!”

“I like the natural landscape - the fact that it's not flat makes it more interesting than many parks. It was great when it snowed!”

Other Thoughts and Improvements

Respondents were asked whether they had any other thoughts about Alexandra Park and/or suggestions for improvement. A total of 186 respondents commented on this with 1 key theme emerging. Most comments were 'Suggestions for improvement' (166 comments) in the park.

Within this broad code, 4 sub-codes emerged which were 'Anti-social behaviour' (61 comments), 'Management/Maintenance' (44 comments), 'Safety/Security' (49 comments), and 'Toilets' (39 comments).

Please note that where numbers have been provided for the most prevalent codes to open-ended questions, this is to give an indication of the magnitude of response rather than an indication of significance or salience in relation to the question asked.

In addition, be aware that some comments may have been coded into multiple categories depending on the content so they are not mutually exclusive.

Anti-social Behaviour (61 comments)

These respondents wanted to see an improvement in the levels of anti-social behaviour in the Park including alcohol and drug use, drug dealing, and vandalism:

"I think it should be properly gated to discourage anti-social and illegal behaviour as the remnants of this effect and endanger children and animals."

"Need to eradicate the threatening drug taking folks."

"I always think it's a shame the play equipment gets broken so regularly, especially the zip wire seat. Is there a way of having more security cameras around to maybe prevent mindless vandalism?"

"The park needs more security. There are kids getting high in the corners, drunks on the benches, kids vandalising the buildings and trees, even kids on motorbikes after dark. I avoid the park in the early morning and evenings which is a shame."

Management/Maintenance (44 comments)

These respondents wanted to see an improvement in the way that the Park is being managed and maintained. In particular, they felt the Park could be improved with the hiring of a Park Manager:

"As a community centre with a full-time Centre Manager. This should help solve vandalism issues, provide the facilities and income for the post of a Centre Manager."

"I would like to see more monitoring of those using the park just for drinking and a way we can feel safer to let our children visit it without parental supervision."

"Years ago, when I was a child, living nearby, the house in the park used to be The

Park Keepers house and he used to patrol the park on a regular basis keeping everything tidy and making sure people behaved appropriately. I am not suggesting a full time Keeper but somebody who would regularly go round the park making sure everything is in order.

Generally, they felt that the park would be cleaner and safer with a more systematic approach to managing the park space.

Safety/Security (49 comments)

These respondents wanted the level of safety to improve in Alexandra Park:

“CCTV security. Toilets in the café for use and be 'supervisor' to prevent ASB, but to help with children being able to have privacy when going to the loo (instead of going behind trees). CCTV to help prevent ASB/drinking etc. and prevent dogs fouling.”

“Would like to see the 'nooks and crannies' eliminated or under supervision e.g. the entrance to the old toilets, where I have seen needles and using drug addicts gathering, making me feel quite unsafe.”

“My only concern about the park is the security and the toilets. I do think there should be more park supervision or CCTV to try and make it safer for people.”

“I would like to see more obvious security e.g. Regular patrols.”

“Security and safeness. I'm concerned about letting children play unsupervised. The park has lots of hiding places, where children can be watched unfortunately by unscrupulous men. Over the years I've seen it myself as a parent it's worrying.”

“The park needs more security. There are kids getting high in the corners, drunks on the benches, kids vandalising the buildings and trees, even kids on motorbikes after dark. I avoid the park in the early morning and evenings which is a shame.”

Toilets (39 comments)

These respondents felt strongly about the need to improve accessibility to toilets in the Park:

“The biggest problem with the park now is the closure of the toilets. So many children use the park and yet there are no toilet facilities nearby. This is causing problems now and that will not improve. Already there is human waste behind bushes. No matter what you do to the park, without toilets it will not improve. Please look at the whole picture.”

“Toilets, reopen the toilets it's ridiculous how you expect people to use the park when there are no toilet facilities for the children.”

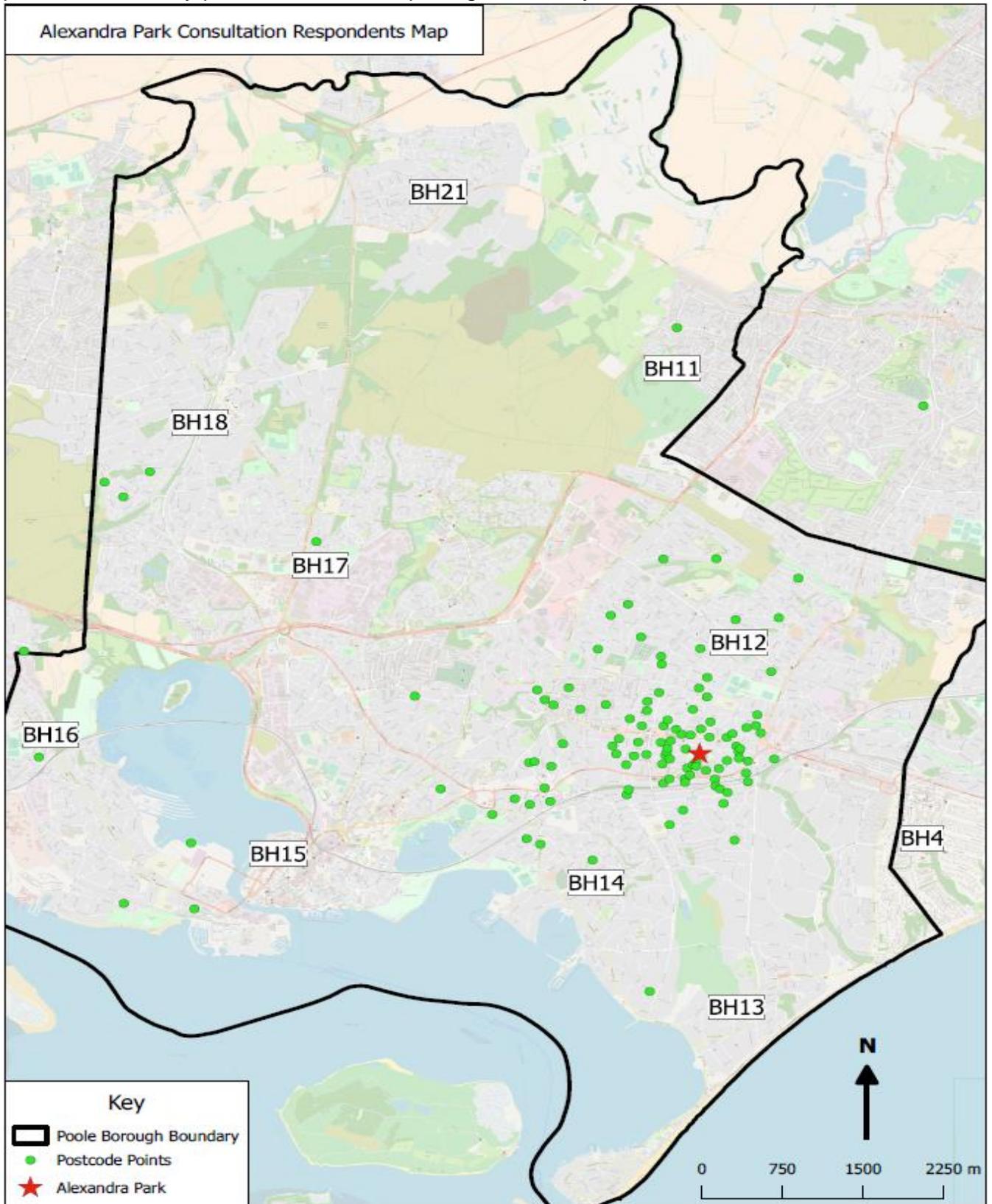
“The closure of the toilets needs to be reviewed, small children & families need toilets in open spaces, something our Edwardian forefathers recognised. Human

faeces is far too prevalent.”

“We have had to go looking for toilets and my granddaughter had an accident as there's nowhere for girls or women to go. Also seeing grown men and young boys using the shrubbery or going behind trees to go to the toilet is disgusting.”

Appendix 1 – Map of Respondent Postcodes

The following map shows where respondents come from based on their home postcode that they provided when completing the survey.



Appendix 2 – Respondent Profile

Respondent Type	Poole resident	237
	Someone who lives elsewhere in Dorset	2
	Someone who lives outside of Dorset	1
	Overseas visitor	0
Gender	Male	67
	Female	165
Age	Under 18 years	3
	18 - 24 years	4
	25 - 34 years	38
	35 - 44 years	71
	45 - 54 years	40
	55 - 64 years	44
	65 - 74 years	26
	75 - 84 years	9
Disability	85+ years	0
	Yes limited a lot	9
	Yes limited a little	8
Ethnicity	No	216
	White British	219
	Other white background	12
	Black or minority ethnic background	1

Appendix 3 – Question 12a ‘Other’ responses

Q12a. If the Pavilion Building was available to hire for events, what would you use it for? ‘Other, please specify’ Responses

Primary Code	Count
Multiple uses	6
Local groups	4
Not relevant	2
Suggestion	2
Café	1
Dog training classes	1
Lunches	1
Wellbeing classes	1