

Gainsborough Town Council
Richmond House, Richmond Park, Morton Terrace
Gainsborough, Lincolnshire, DN21 2RJ

Telephone: 01427 811573

Website: parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/gainsborough



REMOTE MEETING AGENDA

7 January 2021

Dear Councillor,

You are hereby summoned to attend a remote meeting of the **Community Services Committee** which will be held on **Tuesday 12 January 2021** commencing at **7pm**.

Members will be able to access the meeting via a link which will be emailed to their Town Council email address or through a calendar event.

Members of the public will be able to view the meeting at the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmIMaqH64ih1EDc6Cn56VWA>

The business of the meeting is set out in the agenda below.

Tom Clay
Town Clerk

Committee members: Cllr M Boles – ex officio, Cllr L Clews, Cllr D Dannatt (VC), Cllr T Davies, Cllr C Lambie, Cllr J Plastow, Cllr K Panter – ex officio, Cllr B Velan (C) and Cllr J Ward

Agenda

No	Agenda Item
	<u>Procedural items</u>
1	Register of attendance for a remote meeting Committee to conduct a register of attendance for a remote meeting.
2	Declarations of interest Committee to receive any declarations of interest in accordance with the requirements of the Localism Act 2011, and to consider any applications for dispensations.
3	Minutes of the previous meeting Committee to confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 8 December 2020. PAPER A

	<u>Standing items and updates</u>
4	Levellings Improvements Committee to receive an update from the working group. Committee to also note and consider a report detailing the results of a recent consultation exercise. Paper B
5	Armed Forces and Community Day Committee to note that there is no further update at this stage regarding Armed Forces and Community Day 2021.
6	Closure of facilities Committee to note an update about the closure of certain facilities following the announcement of the lockdown measures in England. PAPER C
	<u>Committee business items</u>
7	Request to install a barrier in the General Cemetery Committee to consider a request by a member of the public to install a barrier in the General Cemetery. PAPER D
8	Love Lane Allotment Garages 232 & 270 Committee to consider a report relating to the condition of Love Lane Allotment Garages. PAPER E
9	<u>Exclusion of the press and public</u> Due to the confidential nature, members may resolve to exclude the press and public from the meeting during consideration of the next items in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960. The items could be treated as confidential because of contractual or the potential for legal action and court proceedings.
10	Love Lane Allotment Garden Fence – Plot 20/24 Committee to receive and consider an update and to consider any matters arising. PAPER F
11	Cemetery Burial Software Committee to consider options for cemetery burial software and to consider an option for allotment software. PAPER G

PAPER A

GAINSBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of a REMOTE Meeting of the Community Services Committee held on Tuesday 8 December 2020 at 7.00pm

Present: Councillor Baptiste Velan (Chairman)

Councillor Matt Boles – ex officio
Councillor Liz Clews
Councillor Dennis Dannatt
Councillor Keith Panter

In Attendance:

Tom Clay	Town Clerk
Rachel Allbones	Deputy Clerk / RFO
Sean Alcock	Operations Manager

Also Present: Councillor Pat O'Connor

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor James Plastow

2. TO RECEIVE MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LOCALISM ACT 2011 AND TO RECEIVE ANY APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION

None received.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (Paper A)

Minutes of the meeting of Community Services Committee held on Tuesday 10 November 2020

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Community Services Committee held on Tuesday 10 November 2020 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

Note: Councillors Clews and Panter abstained from voting on the above resolution.

4. LEVELLINGS IMPROVEMENTS (Standing Item) (Paper B)

Members noted an update from Magda Reed Associates following the end of the on the consultation process.

5. ARMED FORCES AND COMMUNITY DAY (Standing Item)

Committee noted that there was no further update at this stage regarding Armed Forces and Community Day 2021.

6. **CLOSURE OF FACILITIES** (Paper C)

RESOLVED to NOTE the contents of the report and approve the actions taken.

7. **ALLOTMENT TENANCY AGREEMENT AND TERMS AND CONDITIONS** (Paper D)

Committee considered options for the Allotment Tenancy Agreement and Terms & Conditions.

Motion moved by Councillor Dannatt, seconded by Councillor Clews

Given that two sets of terms and conditions were sent to the Policy Review Group, one being rejected by Allotments Sub Committee and the other being rejected by this committee, it is proposed that the current terms and conditions only are considered by Policy Review Working Group.

Councillor Boles proposed an amendment, seconded by Councillor Clews

Only the draft Tenancy Agreement and Terms and Conditions be considered by the Policy Review Working Group for further tweaking before approval by the Community Services Committee.

At the request of Councillor Boles a recorded vote was taken as follows: -

Amendment:-

For: - Councillors Boles and Velan

Against: - Councillors Clews and Dannatt

Abstained: - Councillor Panter

Councillor Velan voted For with his casting vote.

The Amendment became the substantive motion.

RESOLVED Only the draft Tenancy Agreement and Terms and Conditions be considered by the Policy Review Working Group for further tweaking before approval by the Community Services Committee.

Note: Councillor Dannatt abstained from voting on the above resolution.

8. **COMMUNITY GRANTS** (Paper E)

Committee **RESOLVED** under Standing Order 10.a.vi to change the order of business and move the item to the end of the agenda.

9. **SUSTAINABILITY, CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY** (Paper F)

Committee noted that WLDC is holding a consultation in relation to the above strategy.

RESOLVED to include the below in a formal response.

- Transport - More representations to encourage walking and use of public transport, need to do more to bring in investment for cycle routes
- Waste – campaign to re-educate on how to manage your recycle bin at home, what is recyclable and non recyclable
Flytipping & PSPO's needs more enforcement, recycling centres need less restrictions

- Planning - Ensure new developments have walking and cycling routes that link into the rest of the town, and ensure houses are environmentally friendly

10. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

Due to the confidential nature, members may resolve to exclude the press and public from the meeting during consideration of the next item in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

The items could be treated as confidential because of the potential for legal action and court proceedings.

8. COMMUNITY GRANTS (Paper E)

Committee considered applications received to the scheme from 01 September 2020 to 30 November 2020.

RESOLVED that due to Bearded Fishermen already being awarded a grant in March 2020, decline the application at this time, but invite them to apply again in the future.

11. LOVE LANE ALLOTMENT GARDEN FENCE – PLOTS 20&24 (Paper G)

Committee considered the update following a decision taken at the October 2020 meeting.

RESOLVED to NOTE the contents of the report and for the Town Clerk to continue to pursue the matter in liaison with Councillors Boles and Velan. A further update will be provided at the next Committee meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.38pm

PAPER B

SIR HICKMAN BECKET MEMORIAL PARK (LEVELLING'S) CONSULTATION REPORT

1. Context of the consultation

1.1 The consultation was commissioned by Gainsborough Town Council. This was to gather the residents' views relating to potential improvements of the park.

1.2 The main rationale for the Town Council is to improve the facilities and increase usage.

1.3 The consultation was undertaken within 0.3 mile radius of the park given that residents and businesses within this radius are more likely to be impacted by any proposed improvements and more likely to use the park. However, given that the consultation documents were publicised on a number of media platforms (facebook, LinkedIn, Gainsborough Town Council and West Lindsey District Council website and Connexions website) all residents within the Gainsborough area had an opportunity to contribute their views and suggestions.

1.4 The consultation exercise ran between 29th October and 30th November 2020. Full details of the results are available in Exhibit 1.

2. Consultation Backgrounds

2.1 The purpose of the consultation exercise is to establish the requirement of the community in terms of what facilities and activities they would like in the park and how the appearance and amenities could be improved for the benefit of the community.

2.2 Two options for the proposed improvement plan were shown to the public which illustrate the scope of the facilities that could be achieved but it is not limited to this. The plan contains the proposed improvements such as the provision of:

- a) Skatepark
- b) Outdoor gym facility
- c) Splash Fountain

- d) Picnic area
- e) Decorative planting to the east and west borders of the park with planting conifers providing a demarcation line to the park and the residential area.
- f) Japanese Garden

2.3 The description of each of the proposed improvements have been presented in a way that it tells a story relating to the proposed improvements.

2.4 The consultation documents have been published on both the Gainsborough Town Council and Connexions website.

2.5 An on-line survey was created using “survey monkey” as an online data collection tool. A link to the questionnaire has been posted on the Town Council and Connexions’ websites together with any advertisements relating to the consultation.

2.6 Hard copies of the questionnaire together with information indicating the proposed improvements of the Levelling’s Park were hand-delivered to 2,275 residents and businesses within 1/3 of a mile radius from the park. The web link where to find the consultation documents and the online questionnaire were also included in the covering letter of the questionnaire. Residents were encouraged to either complete the questionnaire on hard copy and post it back to Connexions using the enclosed addressed envelope provided or complete the questionnaire online.

2.7 To make provision for residents who do not have access to the internet, A1 and A2 hard copy of the scheme lay-out and some bound copies of the full consultation documents were made available at the Connexions building, for the public to view, if required.

2.8 A poster detailing the consultation was generated handed to key supermarkets in town to be posted on their community board.

2.9 The consultation has been advertised on various media platforms to include Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter and some Facebook Groups such as Connecting Gainsborough, Business Lincolnshire. The advert was also forwarded to key organisations such as VCS Gainsborough, West Lindsey District Council Community Services Team and some community groups.

2.1 A total of 431 responses were received, of which, 237 were online and 194 hard copy (18.95%).

3. Consultants

3.1 The consultation was undertaken by Magda Read Associates (MRA), a local consultancy firm based in Gainsborough. Set up in 2006, MRA have been involved in a number of other initiatives both locally and nationally.

3.2 The consultants involved in the delivery of the project have a wealth of knowledge and experience in regeneration, community consultation/engagement, business development, facilities management, building surveying and open space development.

4. Key findings

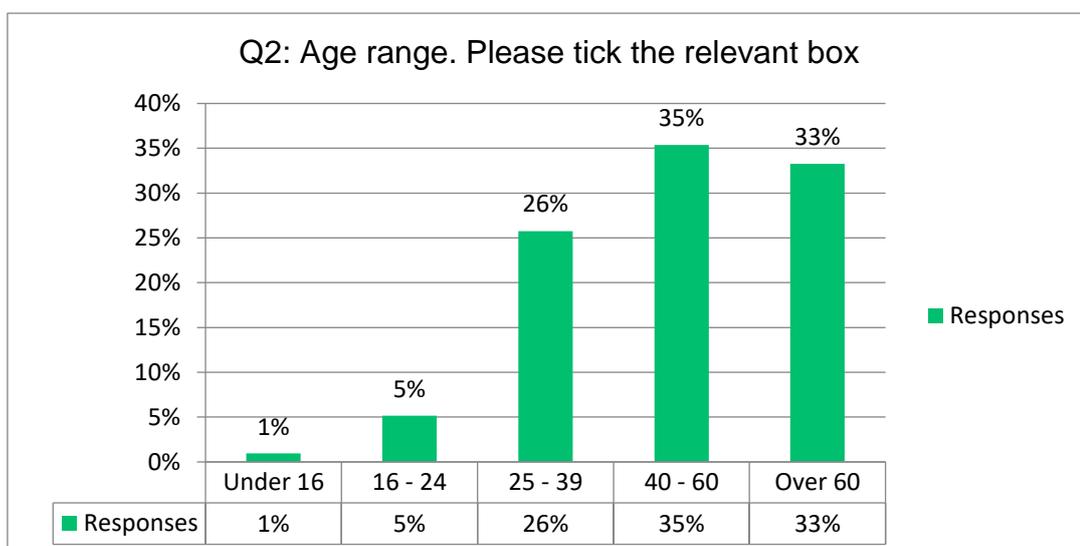
4.1 Participants profiles

4.1.1 The demographics of the participants show a significantly higher proportion of whites (with just over 99% participation rate). The ethnic minority participation was significantly low compared to the ethnic make-up of the Town.

4.1.2 On gender, significantly more women answered the survey (64%) compared with males (36%).

4.1.3 In terms of age, there was a good spread. Under 60's represented 67% and over 60's made up 33% of the respondents. Of the under 60, just under half were between 16 and 39, showing a good representation of young people and potentially families. This figure means that the split between under 40's, 40-60 and over 60's was about even (representing 32%, 35% and 33% respectively). The age distribution of the participants is presented in Figure 1.

Figure 1: Age distribution



The results show a strong interest of seniors in the park and the proposed improvements.

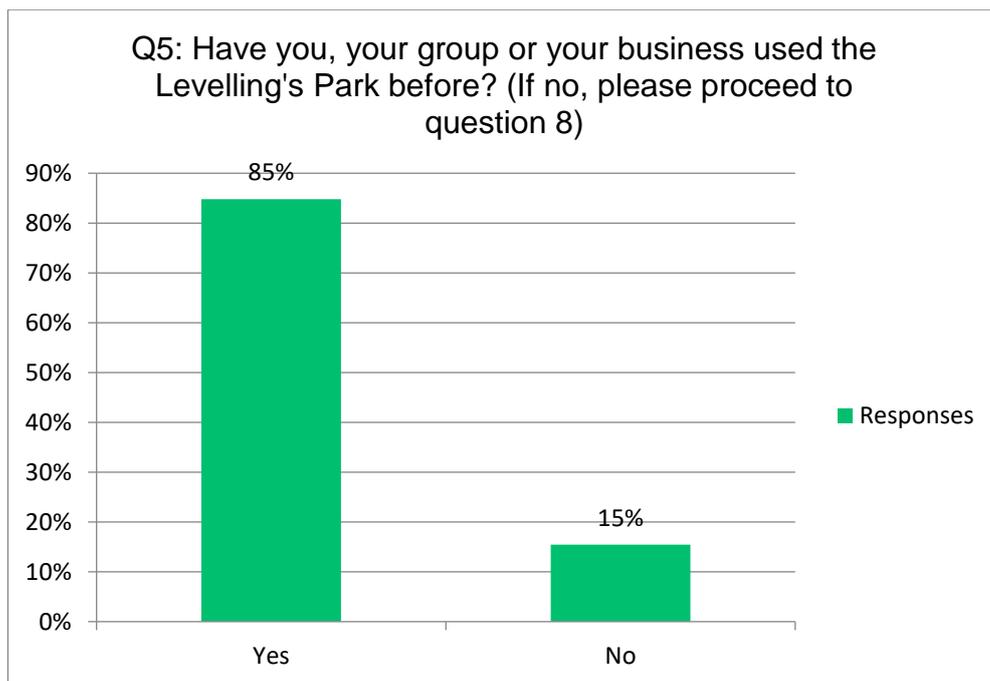
4.2 Proximity of respondents to the park

4.2.1 The results of the survey show that the target residents were reached. With 65% of respondents living within 0.25 mile of the park, a further 7.5% living within 0.3 mile from the park. Thus, almost 73% of respondents are within the immediate zone likely to be impacted by the parks proposed improvements. This means that the local residents and businesses' voices are significantly expressed in the survey. With 27% of respondents living further than a third of a mile from the park, who took the opportunity of the availability of the consultation on social media to respond. This enabled the consultation to reach a larger town-wide audience and views.

4.3 Participants' current use of the park

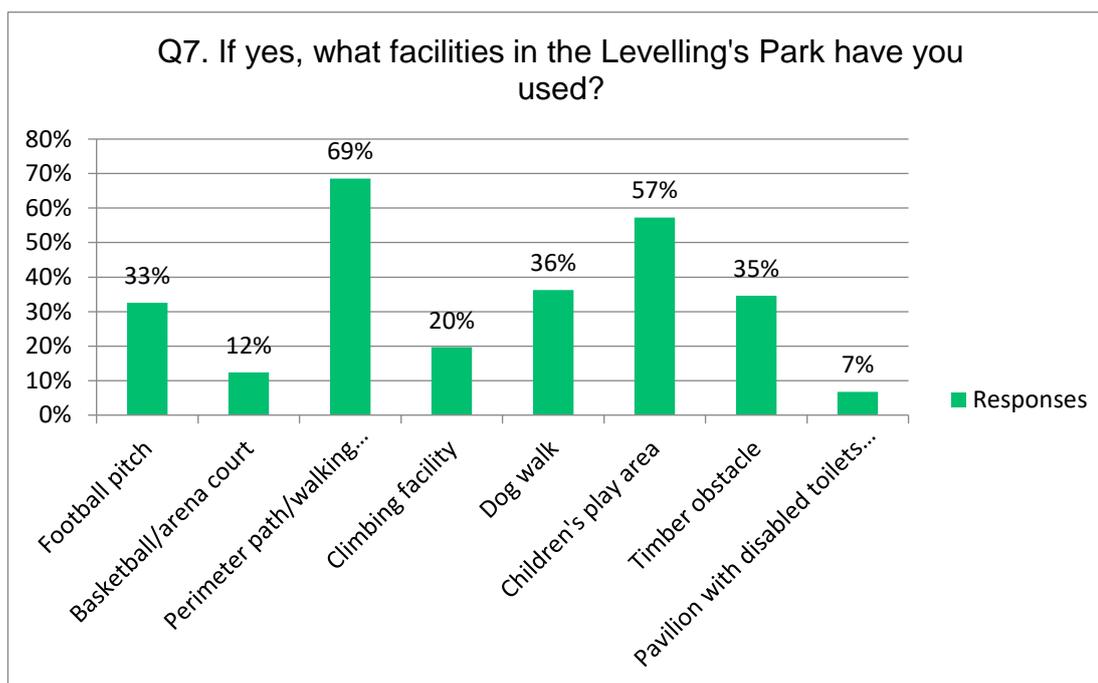
4.3.1 The overwhelming majority of the residents surveyed use the park. This shows that those who answered the survey have knowledge of the park and can express informed views. Nearly 85% of the participants have used the park at some time. However, the level of usage is relatively low, with just over a 25% of the residents surveyed visiting on a weekly basis and just over 15% daily. Thus, less than half the participants frequent Levellings Park regularly. This, perhaps, supports the case for the proposed improvements to render the park more attractive. The level of use of the park is shown in Figure 2.

Figure 2: Current level of use of the Levellings Park



4.3.2 The two single most used facilities in the park are currently the perimeter walk (68%) and the children’s play areas (57%). This suggests a significant use of the park by families. Dog walking. The football pitch and climbing frame uses are also fairly significant with over 30% of participants reporting using these facilities. Current usage of the existing facilities in the park are shown in Figure 3.

Figure 3: Facilities most used currently in the Levellings Park



4.4 Current perception of the park

4.4.1 The survey revealed that the residents have a lukewarm perception of the park at present. There is an almost equal split between those who see the park as ‘good’ (24.17%) and those who view it as ‘poor’ (24.88%). The vast majority perceive the park in its current state as ‘fair’ (46.45%). Only a slim proportion (under 5%) have a very positive view of the park as it is presently. This reinforces our earlier analysis of a possible correlation between the perceived attractiveness of the park and its usage, supporting the case for the proposed improvements.

4.5 Facilities most used and Suggested future additions

4.5.1 In terms of the future of the park, the residents surveyed expressed the view suggesting it remaining a family/community focused venue. The statistics show that a majority would like to see community facilities relating to these groups:

- Children play area (73%)
- Picnic benches (72%)
- CCTV cameras (68.54%)
- Gates (68%)
- Outdoor toilets (66%)

4.5.2 Other community facilities such as a Perimeter path (60%), Café (55%) and splash fountain (50%) were favoured.

4.5.3 Preference for landscaping centred on a Japanese Garden (40%) and landscaping to the east and west boundary (47%). Some average support for conifer shrubs (25%) along the east and west boundaries.

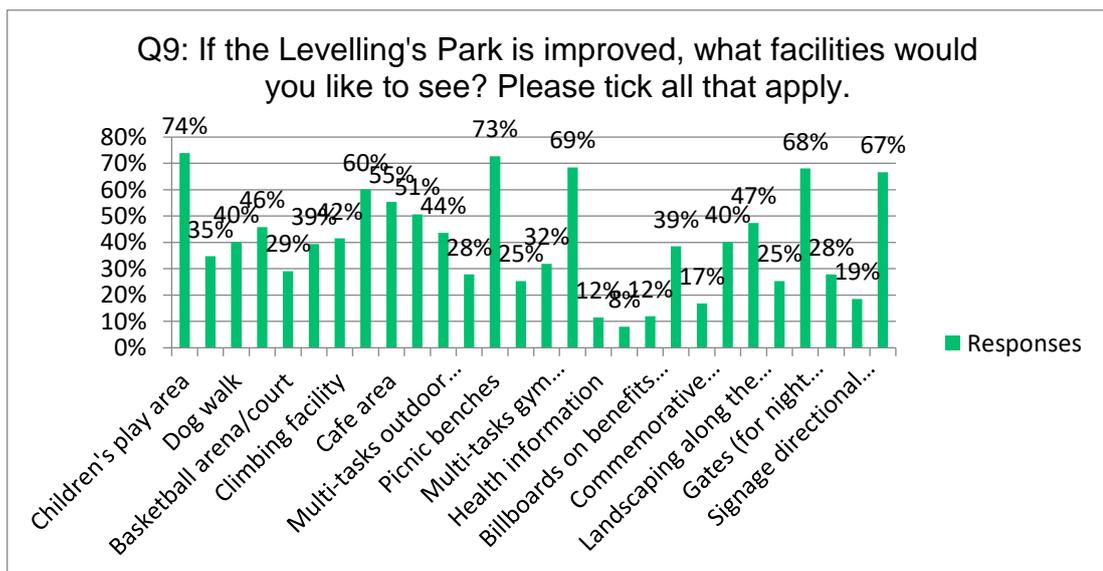
4.6 Proposed use of the improved park

4.6. The residents would like to see the improved park used for community and family orientated activities.

- Organised Family Day activities (82%)
- Fairs and Festivals/Concerts (Spring/Summer/Autumn) (76%)
- Community events run by community groups (73%)
- Sports activities (69%)
- College activities (63%)

4.7 The full breakdown of the residents' suggestion for facilities in the proposed improvement is show in Figure 4.

Figure 4: Facilities projected in the Levellings improvement



4.7 Favourite Physical activity facilities

4.7.1 In terms of specific physical activities there is a clear preference for the use of the Football Pitch (46%), Multi-task Outdoor Gym (44%), the provision of a Basketball Court (29%) and Skateboard Park (28%). Considering the age profile of the survey participants, we assume that these figures are significant to make a case for these physical activity facilities.

4.8 View of the proposed improvements

4.8.1 The overwhelming majority of the residents surveyed welcome the improvement of the park, with almost 90% expecting the proposed improvements to bring benefits to the area. This supports the case for the proposed improvements.

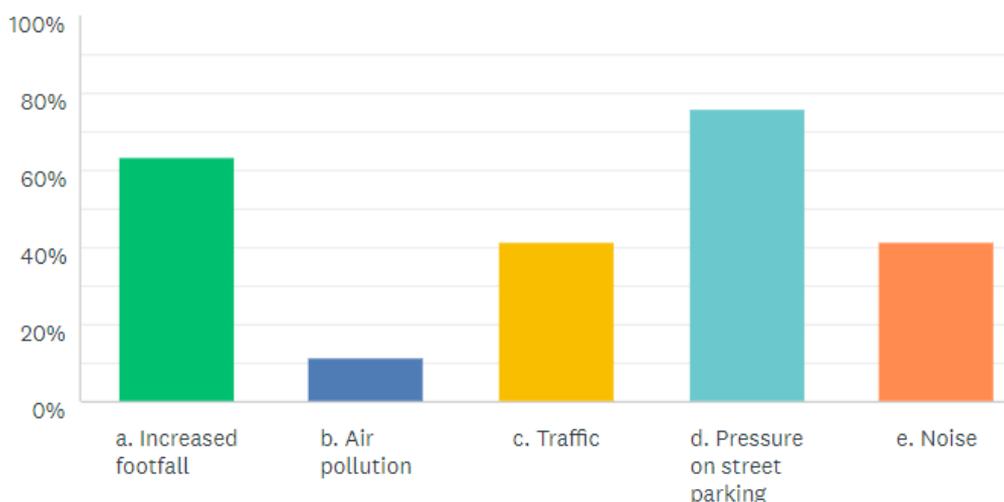
4.9 Main concerns

4.9.1 The residents' main concerns centre on:

- Parking pressure in the local area (76%)
- Pedestrian traffic (footfall) (63%)
- Noise (41%)
- Car traffic (41%)

4.9.2 These concerns are illustrated in Figure 5.

Figure 5: Graphical representation of residents' concerns about the proposed Levellings Park improvements



4.9.3 Parking is therefore the single most significant issue for the residents around the park when it is improved and potentially attracts more users.

4.9.4 In the qualitative comments, the residents also raised concerns about dog fouling in broken glasses which impede on the attractiveness of the park and its more frequent use. To mitigate dog fouling in the main park, there are suggestions about mandating that dogs be allowed only in designated areas, and signs reminding dog walkers to clean after their dog. Installing dog foul bins could improve compliance.

5 Conclusion

5.1 The consultation received a good response rate, representing 18.95% of the surveyed area with most of the questionnaires being fully completed, showing the residents interest in the consultation and the proposed improvements. With 72% of respondents living within 1/3 of a mile of the park.

5.2 Respondents expressed the view to see the park improved as a safe family and community facility.

5.3 A good mix of demographics, both the elderly and young people and families showed equal interest in the park and any proposed improvements.

5.4 The results of the consultation overall show support for improvements to the Levelling's Park.

5.5 Taking into account the preferences of the participants and their concerns, our suggested improvements could include the items in Table 1.

5.6 CCTV cameras and parking provision were key concerns that Gainsborough Town Council may wish to consider.

Table 1: Suggested configuration/facilities in the developed park*

Priority	Item	% Support
Community Facilities		
1	Children's Play Area	73%
2	Picnic Benches	72
3	Gates	68
4	CCTV	68
5	Outdoor toilet	66
6	Perimeter path	60
7	Cafe	55
8	Splash fountain	50
9	Car park	(76)**

Sport/Physical Facilities		
1	Football Pitch	46
2	Multi-Function Outdoor Gym	43
3	Basketball Court	29
4	Skateboard park	28
Landscaping preferences		
1	Landscaping to the east and west boundary	47
2	Japanese garden	40
3	Garden plaques to the planted area	25
4	Conifer shrubs to the east and west boundary	25

**Our ranking has taken into account the first 4 preferred items in each category or items that attracted at least 50% support.*

***This item is included in this proposed configuration because it appeared to be the main concern of the residents.*

5.7 The case for support for the proposed improvement of Levellings Park is further evident in the qualitative data as summarised in the quotes below:

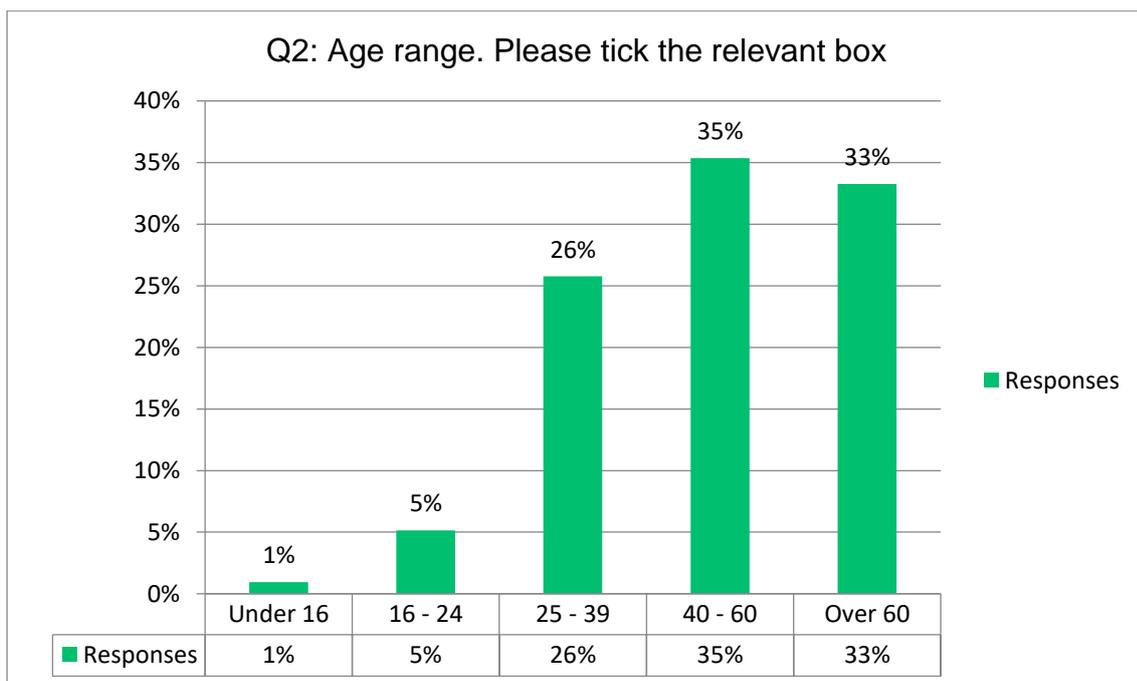
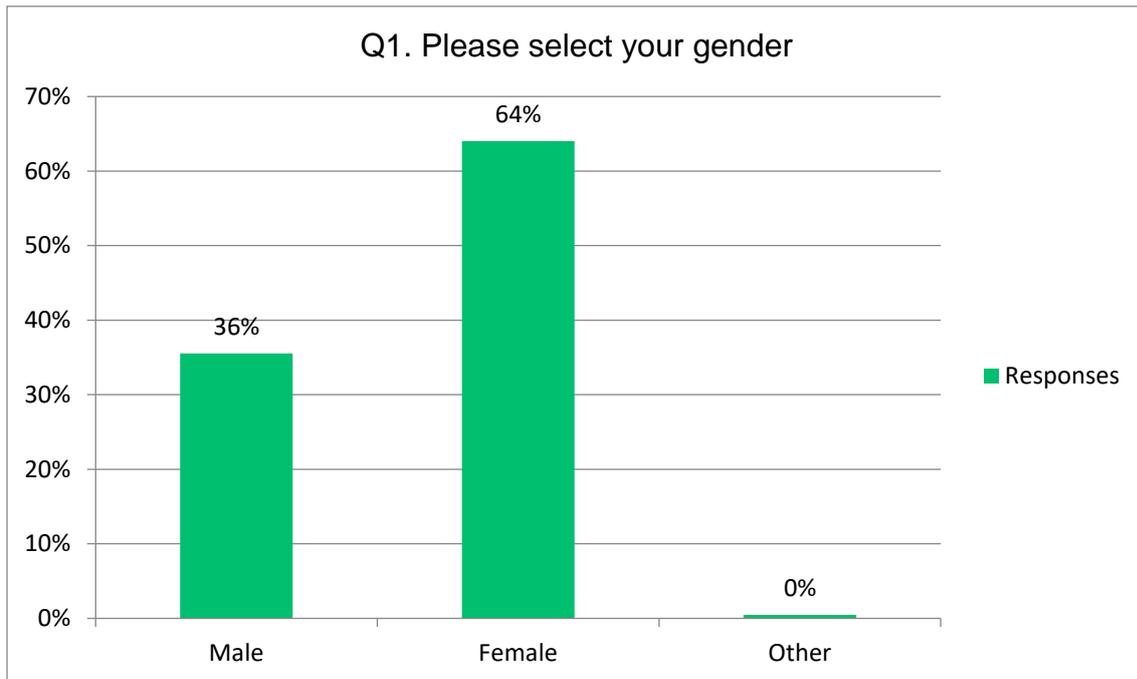
“Gardens for people who don't have one to sit in. Good for mental health. It should be a place for the use of all. The cutting of trees etc was a disgrace. We don't want you to spend money and change mind”.

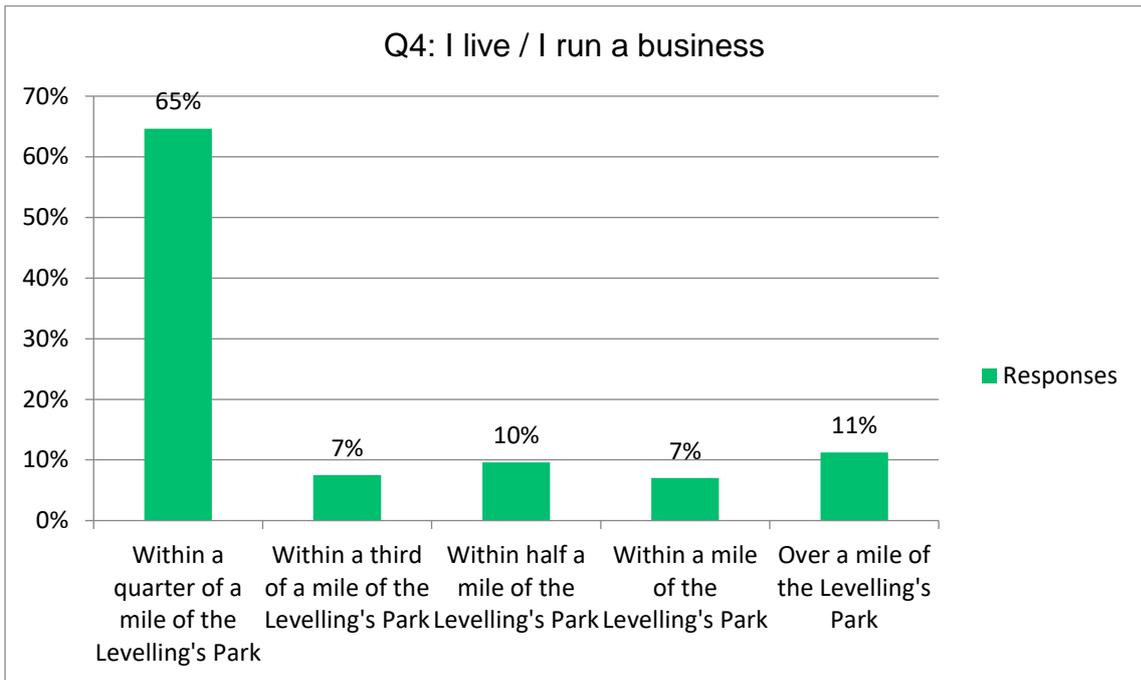
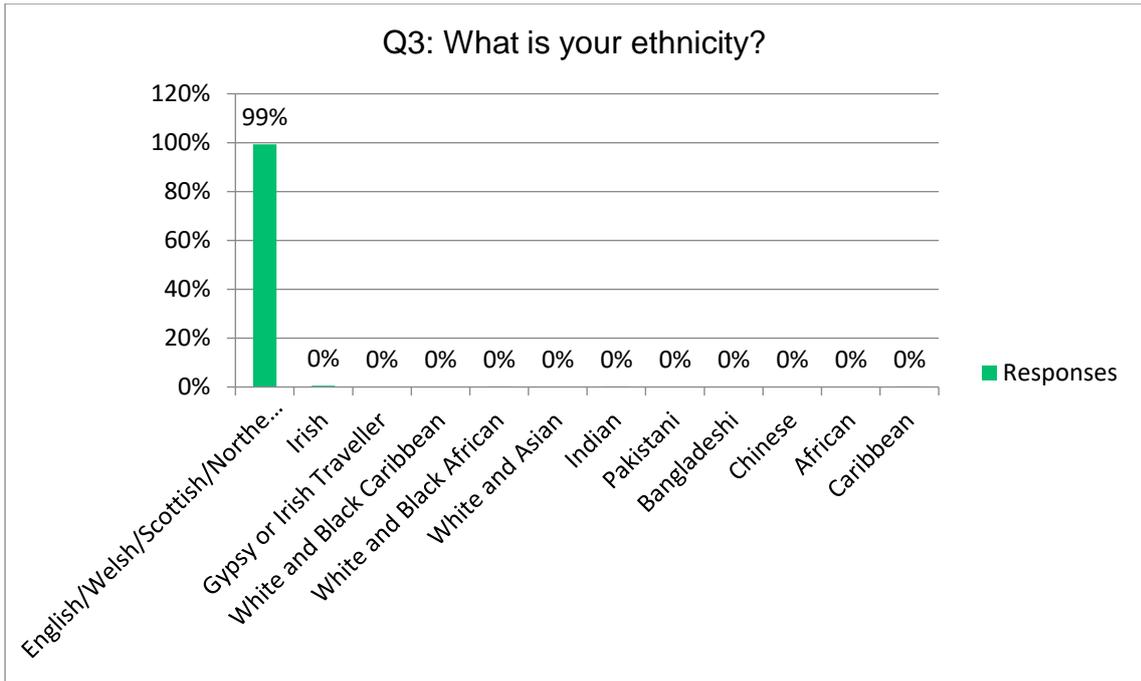
“It's about time. This park has been neglected for too long. We have many mature ages people at this side of the town. Can we have a garden for them to sit in and chat to each other. Sometimes being old is lonely. To save money on the upkeep, maybe an elderly gardening club”.

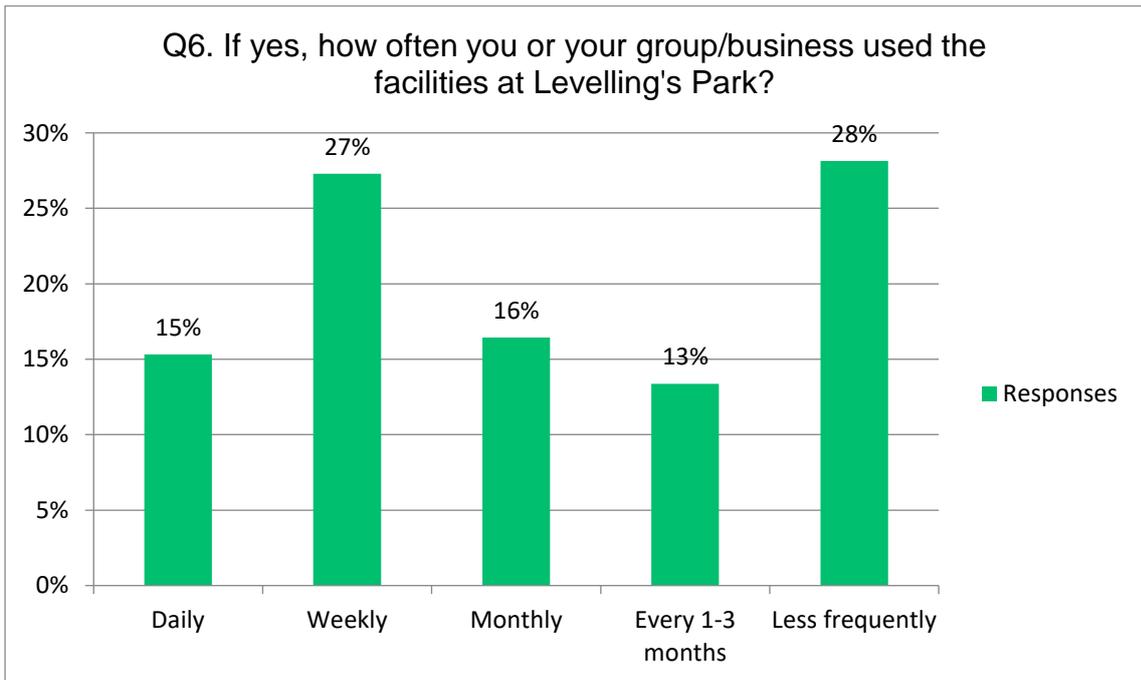
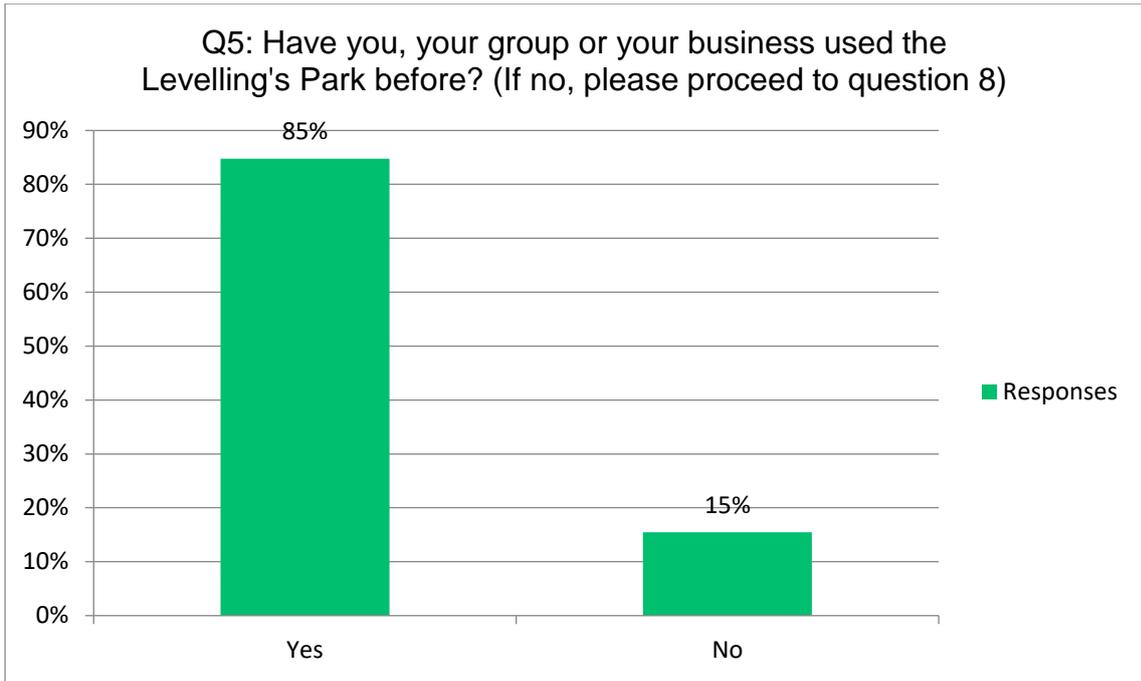
Note: Question 9 – the item ‘multi-tasks gym’ was omitted from the hard copy questionnaire and entered twice in the online questionnaire as ‘multi-task gym equipment’ and ‘multi-tasks outdoor gym equipment’ to designate the same thing. To resolve the anomaly in the analysis, we have considered the higher score (43%) under ‘Multi-tasks outdoor gym equipment’.

Exhibit 1:

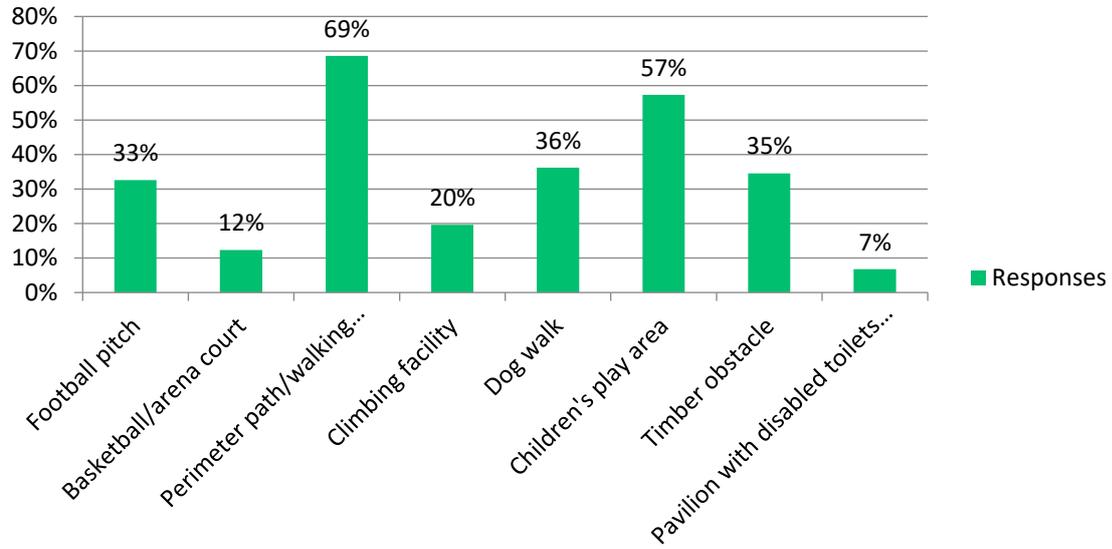
Sir Hickman Becket Memorial Park (Levelling's) Consultation Result



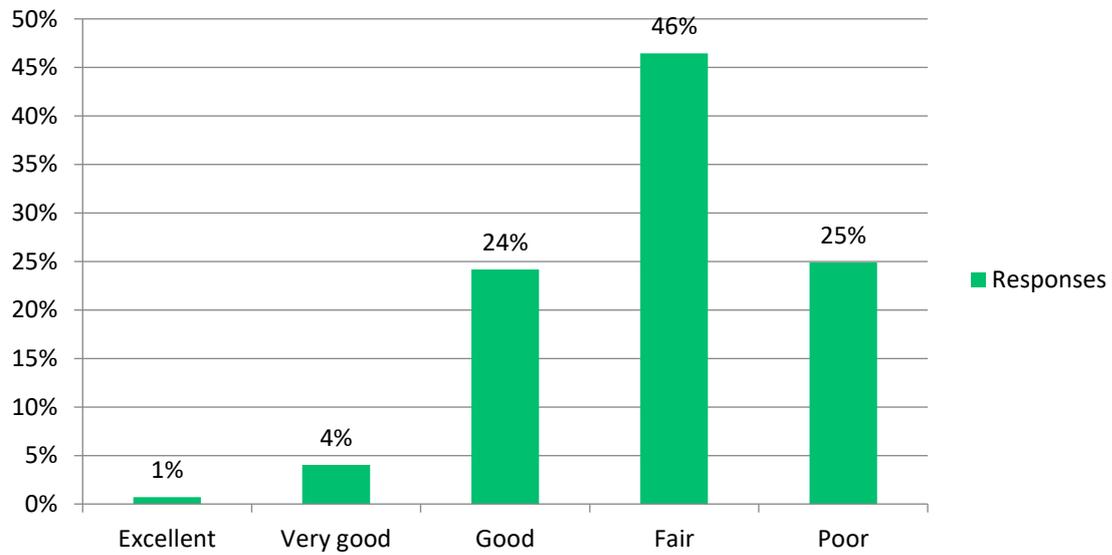




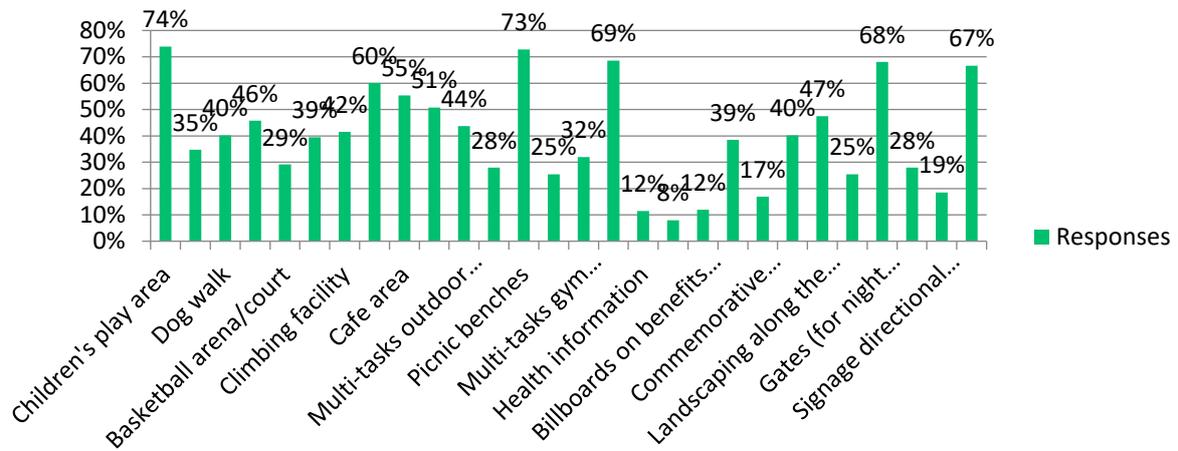
Q7. If yes, what facilities in the Levelling's Park have you used?



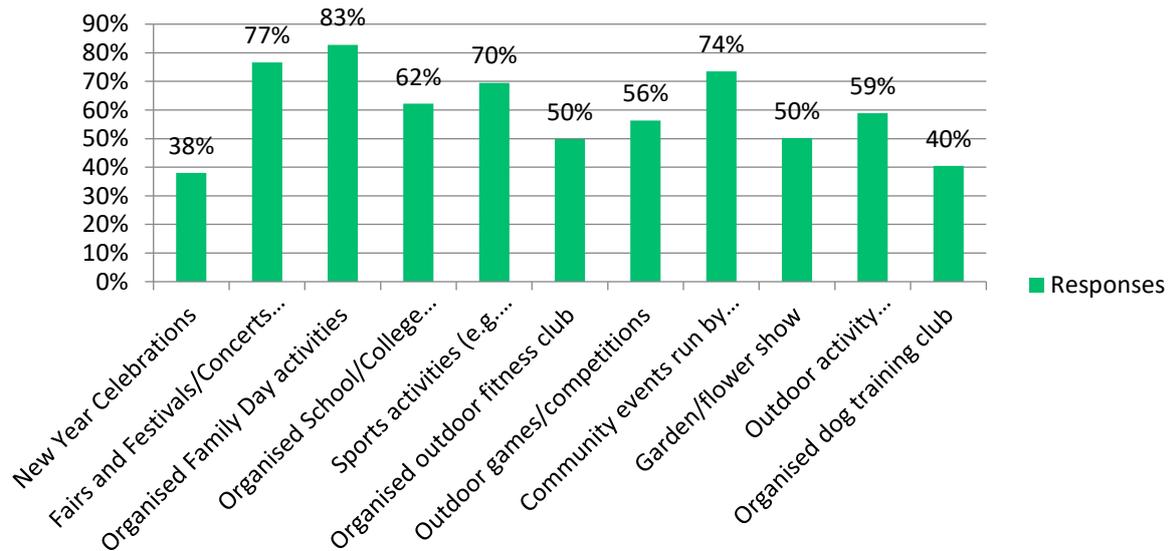
Q8: What is your view of the Levelling's Park in its current condition?

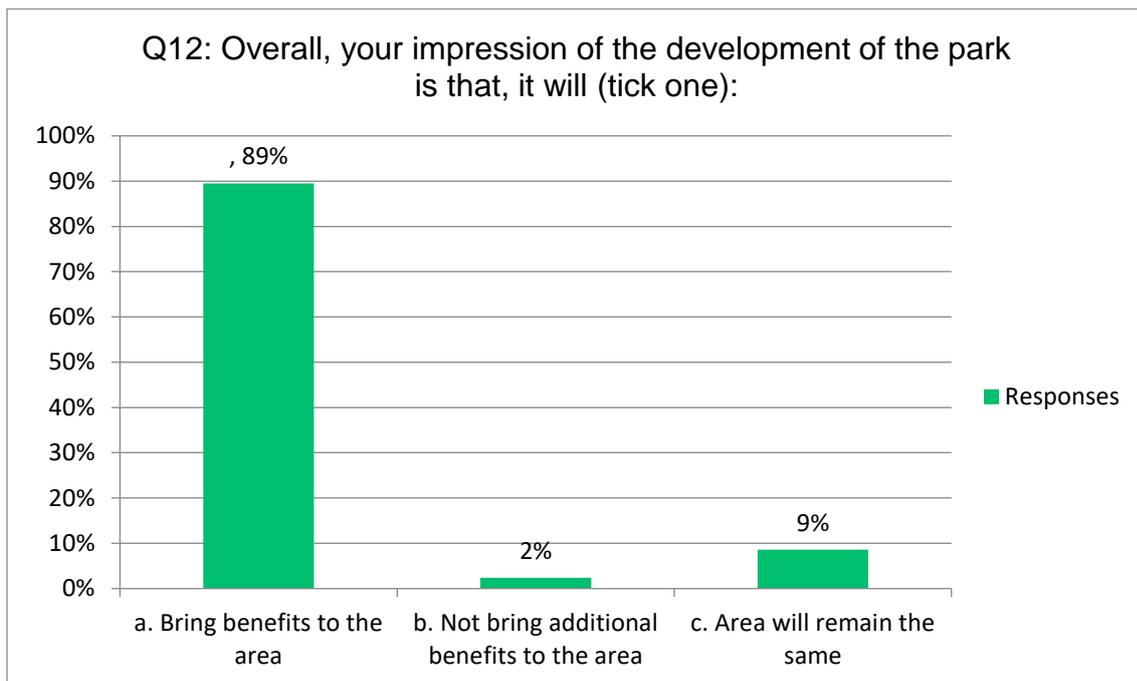
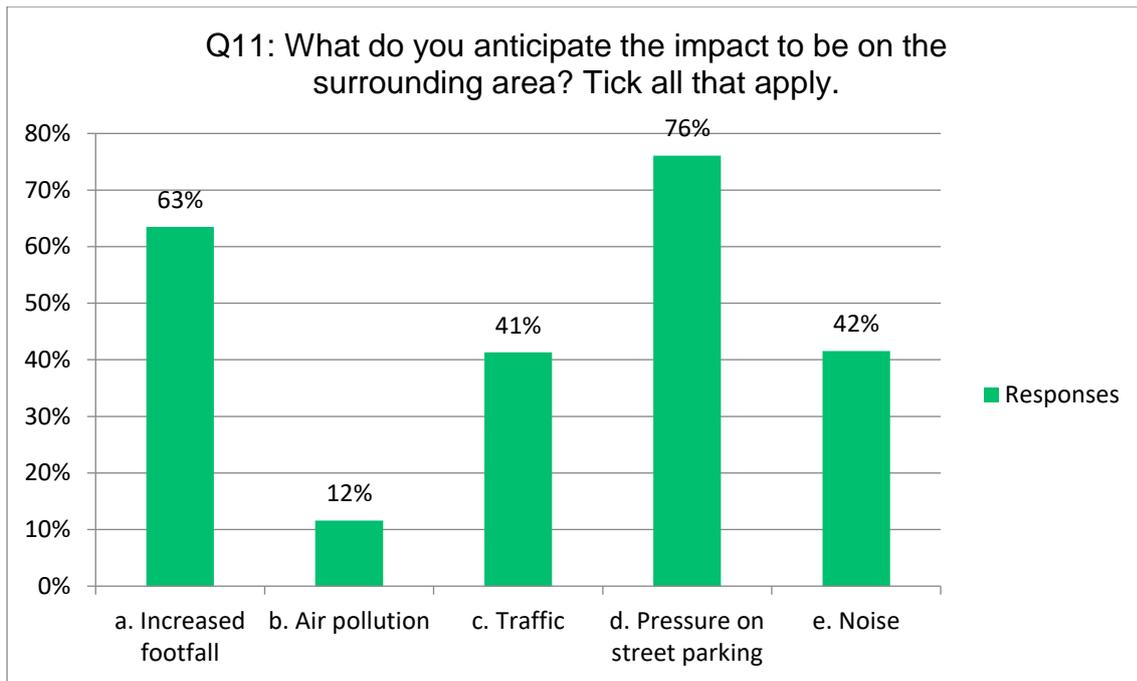


Q9: If the Levelling's Park is improved, what facilities would you like to see? Please tick all that apply.



Q10: What major activities you think the park could be used for? Please tick all that apply.





Any other comments:

Do you have any queries or suggestions regarding the proposed improvements of the Levelling's Park. State below:

A good skate park will defiantly give children of all ages a chance to improve their skills, keep fit, make friends and build possibly learn something new.

A new fence for the houses that back on to levelling's Park, Alfred St., Roperly Road. The pence that up now is

broken down by kids.

A splash park would be wonderful for the children in Gainsborough as would the area being locked at night.

The reason we don't go as often as we do to Richmond Park is that there is always smashed glass everywhere which is extremely dangerous for children.

The reason we don't go as often as we do to Richmond Park is that there is always smashed glass everywhere which is extremely dangerous for children.

All ideas would be great, but would need some kind of CCTV, as Richmond Park often gets damaged, and people need to be held accountable for any damage caused.

All very good ideas in principal as long as they are able to be well maintained and everything is monitored and kept tidy. Sometimes less can be more though.

Allow dogs as long as cleared up after and kept on a lead as the dog walk is not big enough.

Allow dogs to use open areas. Responsible owners cleanup.

Allow parking facilities. It is difficult to park for residents. A return to the beautiful gardens and seating area that everyone could enjoy.

Any improvement would be great for the Ropery Road area. The gardening idea sound great but may get vandalised.

Anything that brings the community together and makes people value the park and Gainsborough in general will be appreciated.

As a dog walker, I am appalled by individual who fail to clean up after their pets. If CCTV were in place, people may alter their behaviour.

Ban dogs on main field - people do not adhere to rules as they are now. Dog owners have a dog walk.

Banning dog walking in the park. It is currently littered with dog faeces. Better policing of dog fouling is essential. Neither Gainsborough Town Council or WLDC is taking responsibility for this.

Believe there would be a need for monitoring for damage and vandalism.

Better football facility for Sunday league even a venue/ sports bar child friendly.

Bins to place dog waste in. Recycling bins near the play area.

Birch trees planted on walkway.

Cannot answer 12 until proposal is a firm one. It's position as a local playing field should be paramount.

Can only be good for the area.

CCTV needs to be installed to catch those who don't clean up after their dogs. Dogs should be walked on the park but dog mess is an issue.

Children should be supervised all ages and no smoking allowed.

Communal meet ups. Annual festivals.

Continuous maintenance needed - it needs to cater for public i.e. kids that use it.

Definitely install CCTV. Park keeper on duty daytime - splash fountain case as often don't use if on my own - security would help this.

Definitely needs lockable but high gates to stop people entering after hours.

Do not allow dogs on the pitch area.

Do not under any circumstances, consider putting a skatepark in it's suggested location. I will fight this tooth and nail being right opposite my house. This will attract a bad element to the neighbourhood. Our friends in another town have a skatepark nearby and they are constantly having to call the police due to unsociable behaviour. Please go ahead and beautify the park but NO SKATE PARK!!!!

Dog owners must clean up after their dogs.

Dog walk needs to be bigger with better paths (perhaps a perimeter area) and lighting when dark.

Dog walk should be totally enclosed with gates that shut each end - in case dogs get out of the road if playing with other dogs.

Dog walking on the park to be banned and only kept to the dog walk area.

Dogs should have a specific area, owners don't clean up after them so either fine them or give them their own area.

Dogs to be banned and monitored. Dogs' faeces all over the place.

Don't allow dogs on field.

Don't use it as it does not have a facility my children want. Why introduce a splash area if it comes with a huge cost. Also, why the need for a food van. Gainsborough has many shops and it is another avenue for causing trouble.

Extra bins and CCTV to help catch the people that keep trashing it all and smashing glass everywhere.

Extra lighting as with all areas of the town.

Fantastic idea.

Gardens for people who don't have one to sit in. Good for mental health. It should be a place for the use of all.

The cutting of trees etc was a disgrace. We don't want you to spend money and change mind.

Gates to be locked at night due to groups of children hanging around inside. More dog waste bins. The trees that have been cut back looks a mess at the moment. Lighting on days when it gets dark early.

General tidy as kids tend to litter and destroy new plants/trees.

Graffiti on pavilion needs removing. Pavilion is NOT very enticing or child-friendly (bad words / pics on graffiti).

Great to see this area bring improved. We use the park a lot (multiple times a week) so pleased to see some investment to make it even better.

Had water for kids. Sand all ruined. Gardening area mess full of weeds makes park very un-attractive.

I fear that whatever improvements are made they will sadly be damaged or broken by older children that hang around there at night.

I feel it is time more use was made of this space to benefit the community.

I think all the improvements are a fantastic idea and needs to happen ASAP. For weekends a gate could be added to the college for extra parking options.

I think it would be good for all age groups to benefit from exercising and have fun.

I think Option 1 is better on the site plan keeping all activities up the end of the park, leaving the dog walk and garden area more of a strolling peaceful area.

I think the proposed skate park would be better suited at the Alfred St gate. 1) to keep the whole field accessible for events and circus'. 2) to keep different age groups separate.

I walk my dog daily. Dog fouling on the field is disgusting. CCTC camera please!

I would like to see a nice park as it was. I used to work on the park so I know all about it. I used to mark out the football field, cut back the shrubs, look after the playground, dig the borders over, sweep the path and cut back the trees. I worked for the council for over 20yrs, I love every minute of it.

I would love to get involved as much as I can. I have 15+ years skateboarding experience and I am part of a travelling and expanding skate school.

I would not like to see dogs on the park, people cannot clean up after their poaches. Please keep park clean! If anything is build CCTV needs to be installed. This is Gainsborough, don't put money into something unless you can ensure its safety.

If is able to be used during the improvement.

If you are going to improve it do it right.

It is a large space which should be utilised by everybody. The more people use it, feel involved, the less chance of vandalism than it being left to ruin.

It is a nice big space but hardly used.

It is important to invest on open space and this year so important people have somewhere to go. I hardly go as to get there, it is dull and uninvited place.

It looks fantastic and will add more value to this wonderful little market town.

It needs to be developed further so it will attract more users to it.

It will definitely need gates and CCTV as concerned about getting something so amazing and it being damaged by others.

It would be nice to see some sort of reinstatement of the old paddling pool or water feature as used to bring great enjoyment of Richmond Park.

It would be wonderful to see the park used to its fullest and not just used as an area for dog walkers which is the case at the moment.

It's about time. This park has been neglected for too long. We have many mature aged people at this side of the town. Can we have a garden for them to sit in and chat to each other. Sometimes being old is lonely.

To save money on the upkeep, maybe an elderly gardening club.

Just that it gets improve sooner rather than later.

Keep an adult football pitch and a junior football pitch on the main grassed area.

Keep dogs off the area.

Keep it green, no fake grass plenty of shrubs, flowers, trees like it used to be and accessible to all.

Keep the gates locked from dusk till day light like they used to be. No dogs allowed how it is used to be.

Use the dog walking area for dogs.

Leave it is.

Lighting in the park so it can be used in the evenings.

Main concern is preventing new facilities from being vandalised.

Maintain and repair existing facilities, get real about financial resources available and the area that the site is in. Anti Social Behaviour is inevitable and whoever thought a Japanese garden would not be ruined within about 5 minutes of planting lives on another planet.

A splash pad is expensive to operate and at a difficult financial time the Council needs to help keep taxes to a minimum and not acting like money is no object.

Make sure there are plenty of bins for the dogs too much mess already on park not good for children or people playing football.

Make sure there's onsite parking. And it MUST be made to be totally secure and locked at night.

More Litter bins. More dog bins.

More adult focused, pleasant place just to walk/relax, gardens, enforce dogs on leads or no dogs.

More bins and dog poo bins are desperately needed.

More lighting, removal of graffiti, less metal more wood, different areas rather than one large field.

More play equipment for younger kids and more seating area for parents. More lighting at later times of day.

Most of the park has been locked up when I have been there but I have walked through the dog section.

It is a great facility for the area although we would all like change, it must reflect on the people who live in the surrounding area and can cope with any extra facilities that are added and not make their lives difficult through noise, crowds, etc. Glad you are thinking of improving it and not closing it. Good news.

Multi Astro / enclosed multi-utility games arena (MUGA) like facility at North Wheatley.

Must have a dog warden.

My children aged 5 and 7 say they would. Love a splash park or water of some kind.

Need hard parking area.

Needs improving.

New Year and 5th Nov. celebration firework could cause anxiety to pets plus sufferers of PTSD - prior warning plus silent fireworks could help. It needs to have use for all the community - all ages/abilities (young/old/married/single/families/pets). Multi-functional - able to host events. Sensory inclusive for those, with autism Plus learning disabilities.

Anything done to the park will be an improvement.

No dogs allowed.

No dogs on football pitch or children's area. Dogs only allowed in dog walk area.

No dogs. No skate park.

No matter what happens on levelling's park the biggest worry for myself is what will go where the ropery inn was with it overlooking the park

Of the options shown, option 1 seems to be the better fit. Although not ideal the location of the outdoor gym equipment in this option does not remove the onsite 'car parking' which is heavily used when there is a Sunday League football match on. Have you ever been down Love Lane when this is occurring? Overspill from visitors parking on Love Lane itself makes it quite busy.

The idea of planting to the east and west of the park seems a good idea as does a garden at the Ropery Road entrance. No suggestion has been made on improvements to the Alfred Street entrance, would some sort of planting not improve this area too? Going back to my previous point, although parking on Sundays is a problem having a local sports team on the park really brings life to the area. Could these visitors not be monetised more to help pay for any improvements with a small cafe facility as part of the pavillion, or by utilising a small mobile catering unit? I personally use this type of amenity a lot as my son plays football all over the county (See examples at Welton, Horncastle, Louth, Navenby, Waddington).

Finally, I feel more summer activities on the site would definitely bring the community together too. A small community festival possibly? Rossington in South Yorkshire, amongst others, hold a very successful annual community festival (live music, beer tent, takeaway food, fairground rides for children) would something like this not be feasible? Looking forward to seeing what materialises!

One thing you should be careful. Is making the park an area for jobs to gather.

Outdoor cinema, music, food and comedy festivals.

Outdoor gyms- waste of time. Just have to look at other parks with them on. No one uses them.

Park warden - removal of dogs in Levellings.

Parking has to be free at point of access.

Pathways need resurfacing. Too many children falling off their bikes/scooters because of the poor condition.

2 or 3 more dog waste bins.

Gym equipment, to my knowledge, outdoor gym equipment are on Aisby Walk and Richmond Park, a huge gap between the two.

Football pitch could use some TLC now that Roses has become private it's one of the few places a team can play at.

Prefer plan 2 with skate park and gym equipment situated away from current grassed area to leave a bigger open space for sports, community events and shows. Also don't think the water feature is necessary.

Proper car park so it does not pressure on street parking like it does when there is a football match plus town work.

Proposed Japanese garden should be low priority.

Re building the skate park would be great for the children that live in the down hills area of town, the one up the hills is great but is ruined by the area it was built in.

Regarding dog walk, although it is an asset, I know a lot of people who won't use it because so many people don't clear up and don't want to risk their pets getting in mess. Therefore, policing of some sort must be done to make it more dog friendly and provision made for someone to do the cleaning up!

Remove overgrown vegetation along the east and west boundaries and replace the wire fencing along the same boundaries.

Replace perimeter fencing on east and west boarder with 6 feet wooden panels. Nothing that can be vandalised.

Richmond park can get busy in the summer so would be good to have improvements to Levellings and encourage more people to go there. Can same also be done to Lea Park as well please!

Secure gates on both ends of the dog run.

Secure the dog walk both ends.

Security - potential for vandalism.

Security is a major issue. My children have been bullied a lot by gangs of teens.

Seems a bit daft to have the dog poo collection right next to the Japanese garden.

Families would appreciate picnic area being covered over giving shelter from sun and rain.

Please keep the park dog free sick of seeing kids with poo on their feet.

Should be used as much as possible. Any activities are good for the community but **parking must be sorted properly.**

Sir Hickman bacon left the park to the people of Gainsborough.

Some disabled play facilities.

Something for all ages of kids with paper maintenance and guidance.

Stop drug dealers.

The area would benefit from a community garden with raised flower and vegetable beds, maintained by volunteer groups but for use by the whole community with security cameras on site to reduce the possibility that people will take advantage. The approach must be holistic and consider disabled access, it must also have occupational balance to provide a meaningful experience for its visitors to promote health and wellbeing.

The dog walk needs to be more secure. Only one end has a gate, so dogs cannot be let off.

The only thing that spoils the Levelling's are the dog walker. Very few keep their dogs on leads hence dog poo allowed in the area.

The park needs updating to accommodate children who are too big for a baby swing, as a parent we need toilet facilities as well, and we need it enforced about no dogs on the field rules, due to poo being everywhere.

The park was a cleaner place before but not now as dogs are allowed to run about.

The pavement on Love Lane is atrocious. It needs resurfacing before someone falls over.

There are too many visitors to the park who have drugs and alcohol as their past time especially after dark this is a really good outdoor space and should not be used as a drop in for down and outs. Empty cans are often littering the ground.

To be used for the whole town both older and younger alike.

Update the play equipment, install a changing places facility, make it more secure and get more use out of it.

Very concerned about parking as it is difficult as it is to park in our street and surrounding street.

Volunteers for the park security to check the park for vandalism.

Ways to deter dog walkers leaving their dog fouling!

We need more equipment for smaller children there is one swing for under 5s.

We need things for the young ones more savings a see saw.

Whatever improvements or extra facilities are installed off road parking areas must be provided.

Whatever is done it will end up being unmaintained, vandalized or stolen as has happened to other things that have been done in the town. Walk along the riverside, the emergency ropes that were installed a few weeks ago, all but one has been vandalized.

Who's paying for it. Council need to show clearly where the funding is coming from and more importantly how it is maintained and monitored.

Will be good for the area more for us to do as long as NO DOGS to foul the area as there is now. Would use more if there was no dog mess to deal with.

Will landscaping include flowers/ berry bushes for insects - preferably not more concrete or gravel.

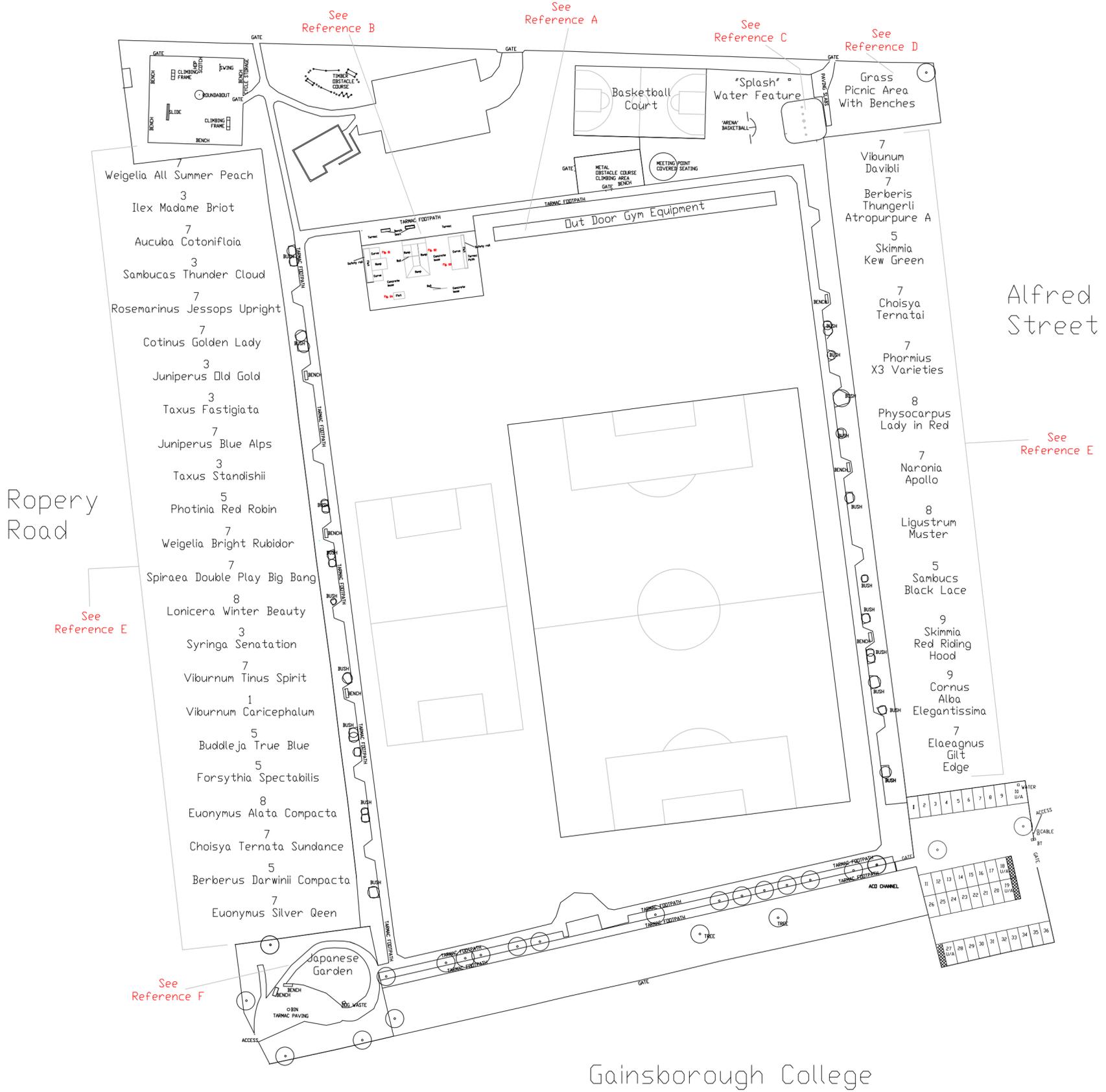
Will this impact the current football that is played on Sundays seeing as there is a shortage of pitches as it is.

Yes, just leave it as it is but a new path in round the inside. It is a lovely park and football pitch. Nice place to take your kids to play where they are safe.

You need to incorporate activities for older kids and not just focus on the younger kids. Skate park is good for the teenage group, current area is good for under 6 but nothing available for 6-13.



Love Lane



Sir Hickman Beckett Bacon
Memorial Park
(Levelling's Park)

Gainsborough

Proposed Site Plan
(Car Parking)

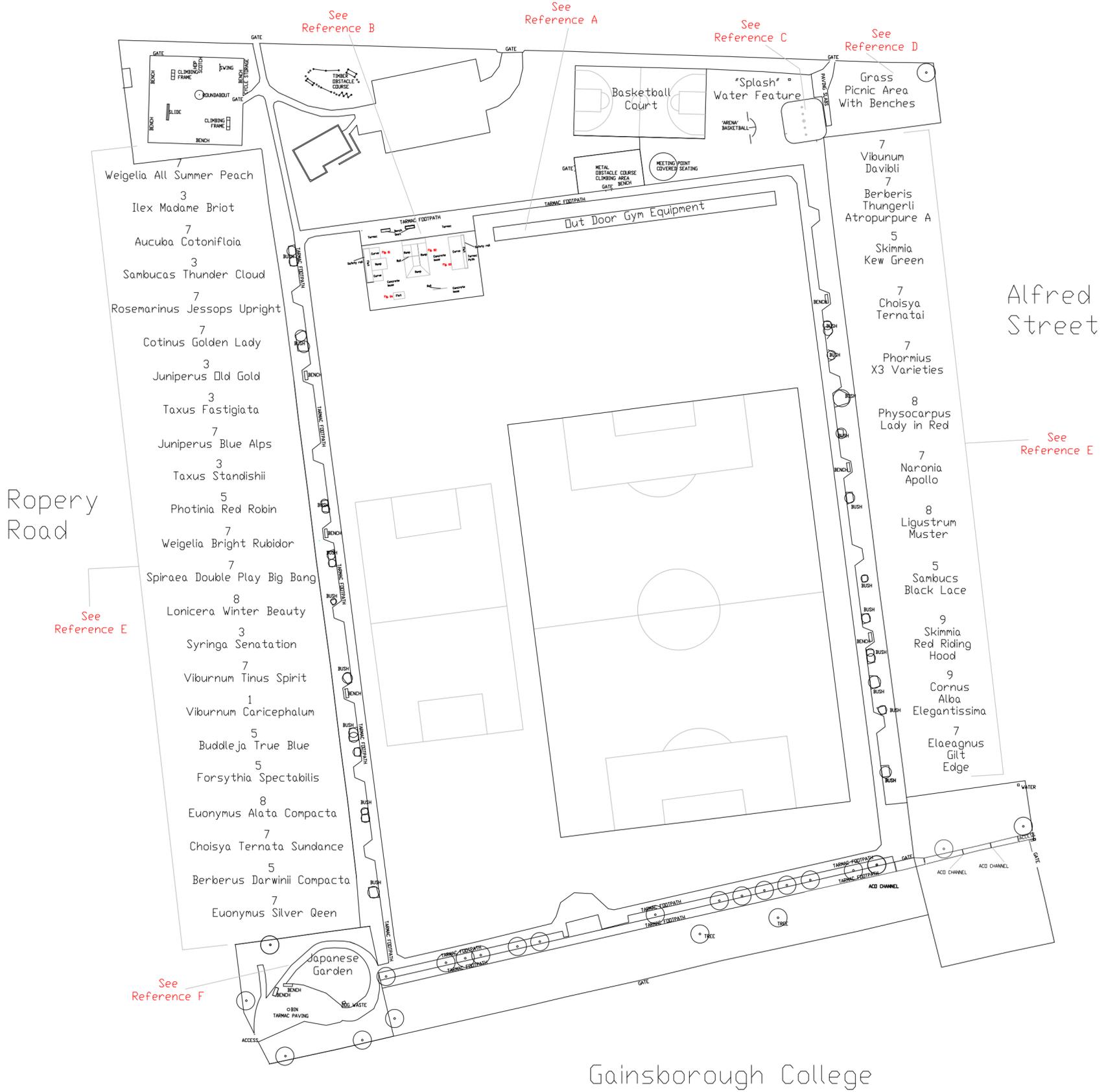
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Rev 0 Option 1

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Love Lane



Sir Hickman Beckett Bacon
Memorial Park
(Levelling's Park)

Gainsborough

Proposed Site Plan

Drawing No. LP204
Rev 0 Option 2

Scale

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SIR HICKMAN BECKET MEMORIAL PARK (LEVELLING'S)

DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Proposed Contents of the Final Report

1. Executive Summary
2. Introduction
3. The Site
4. Proposed Scheme
5. Consultation
6. Improvement Costs Guide
7. Revenue Streams
8. Risk Associated with the Development
9. Conclusions
10. Recommendations
11. Appendices
12. Consultant's Profile

PAPER C

**Officer Report to the Community
Services Committee**

Report Author: Tom Clay

Report Date: 5 January 2021



Gainsborough
TOWN COUNCIL

Subject: Third Lockdown - Closure of Facilities Update

1. Summary

- 1.1 The report will briefly summarise the facilities that have had to close and the actions taken for Members to note.

2. Background

- 2.1 Prior to 5 January 2021 the only facility that was closed was Richmond Park public toilets.
- 2.2 On 4 January 2021 it was announced by the Prime Minister that a third lockdown of England would be in effect from Tuesday 5 January 2021 until the middle of February 2021.
- 2.3 The announcement can be accessed here:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/prime-minister-announces-national-lockdown>
- 2.4 The specific guidance can be accessed here:
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-lockdown-stay-at-home>
- 2.5 Members should note that as with previous lockdowns the guidance could change as the situation evolves.

3. Closure of facilities

- 3.1 The effect of the third lockdown on Town Council services would appear to be similar to the second lockdown.
- 3.2 Unless further clarity is provided, or guidance changed, the following Town Council facilities will be closed from Tuesday 5 January 2021 until the third lockdown ends:
 - Levelling's Playing Field: field and play area will be OPEN – The pavilion will be CLOSED.
 - Richmond Park: play areas will be OPEN daily until 4pm. Public toilets and adult gym equipment will be CLOSED.
 - The General Cemetery and North Warren Cemetery are OPEN – but should not be used as parks.
 - Playgrounds including Aisby Walk, Danes Road, Mayflower, Sandsfield Lane North and St Georges will be OPEN, adult gym equipment will be CLOSED.
 - Marshalls Sports Ground – Site will be CLOSED.
 - Gainsborough Town Council Offices will be CLOSED. All business will be dealt with over the phone, via email, or through videoconferencing technology (that is Zoom or Teams).

- 3.3 Staff have posted updates on the websites and social media. User groups have also been informed.
- 3.4 Members should also note that a large number of amateur sports have been impacted by the lockdown. In certain cases where facilities are open it is unlikely that there will be any team sports played on them.

4. Risk, budget, and policy implications

- 4.1 The recommendations in this report conform to Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.
- 4.2 The lockdown will most likely lead to a loss in income for the Town Council from the rent of facilities. It is currently not clear what impact it will have on the overall budget situation of the Council.
- 4.3 No new policies or training is required.
- 4.4 The measures taken are a risk mitigation measure put in place by national government. They should therefore help to tackle the principal risk which is the spread of infection.
- 4.5 Other risks associated with the closure of facilities can be managed with communications, such as, putting up posters, placing information on the website, etc.

5. Recommendation

- 5.1 The Committee is recommended to note the contents of the report and approve the actions taken.

PAPER D

**Officer Report to the
Community Services Committee**

Report Author: Tom Clay

Report Date: 6 January 2021



Gainsborough
TOWN COUNCIL

Subject: Request to install a barrier in the General Cemetery

1. Summary

- 1.1 The report will set out the request made by a member of the public to install a barrier in the General Cemetery.

2. Background

- 2.1 Early in January 2021 the Operations Manager received a request by email from a member of the public to install a barrier in the General Cemetery.
- 2.2 The request has been made by the member of the public because they feel it will protect a memorial bench which has been installed. Permission was given for the bench.
- 2.3 The request is for the installation of three or four steel poles at approximately 30 inches in height to be placed behind the bench.
- 2.4 A diagram supplied by the member of the public has been included at appendix A of the report.

3. Issues to consider

- 3.1 The Operations Manager has reviewed the request. Whilst it is for Members to determine whether permission should be granted, there appears to be no issue with what has been proposed.
- 3.2 The Town Clerk has approached the Town Council's insurance provider. No concerns relating to the Council liability or insurance policy were raised.
- 3.3 If permission is granted Members might wish to make clear that the barrier would not be covered by the Town Council's insurance. Nor would the Town Council carry out any repairs and maintenance to the structure.
- 3.4 Should the barrier not be maintained to a good standard it might be that it has to be removed. This should also be made clear if permission were granted.
- 3.5 Finally, were permission given Members might wish to stipulate that final specifications and appearance of the barrier be reviewed by the Operations Manager before installation. This would be to ensure that it is in keeping with its surroundings.

4. Risk, budget, and policy implications

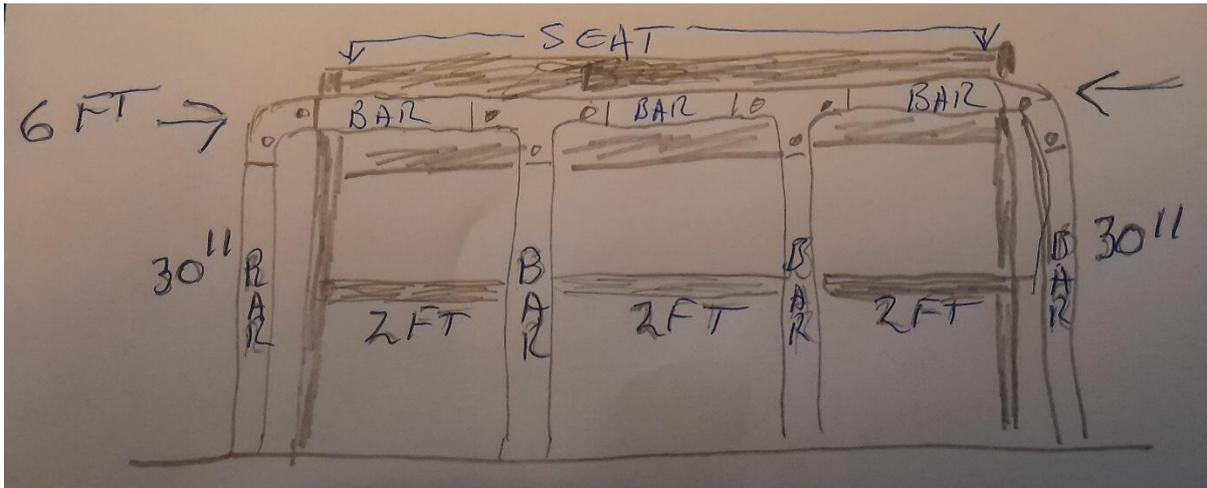
- 4.1 The recommendations in this report conform to Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.

- 4.2 There is no budget implications for the Town Council.
- 4.3 No new policies or training will be required.
- 4.4 The General Cemetery is inspected on a regular basis. Therefore if a risk arises with the barrier it will be relayed to the member of the public as soon as possible.

5. Recommendation

- 5.1 The Committee is recommended to agree to consider approval of the request on the basis that the following is made clear:
 - The barrier will need to be in keeping with the surroundings;
 - The barrier will not be covered by the Town Council's insurance;
 - The Town Council will not be responsible for upkeep or maintenance of the barrier, and;
 - Should the barrier not be maintained to a good standard or if it becomes a hazard it may be removed at the Town Council's discretion.

Appendix A – Diagram of the proposed barrier



PAPER E

**Officer Report to the
Community Services Committee**

Report Author: Sean Alcock

Report Date: 5 January 2021



Gainsborough
TOWN COUNCIL

Subject: Love Lane Garages

1. Summary

- 1.1 The report will briefly summarise the issue and set out options for members to consider.

2. Background

- 2.1 From time to time the garages off Love Lane, at the rear of Ropery Road, become vacant or issues are identified.
- 2.2 Recently several vacant garages have been inspected. Issues have been found with some of them. These correspond roughly to the following addresses on Ropery Road:
- 232 Ropery Road – The garage is a corrugated metal structure with a small amount of asbestos within, it was previously subject to some unauthorised use and when the Council investigated this and reclaimed the garage it still contained an amount of maintenance materials.
 - 270 Ropery Road – This garage is mainly constructed of asbestos and is showing some signs of deterioration.
 - Double vacant garage on the bend of the access road – This garage is constructed from timber and asbestos and has been subject to a significant amount of unauthorised use, the garage is in a very poor condition and is in my opinion unsafe.
- 2.3 Pictures of the garages in question have been included at appendix A of the report.
- 2.4 Asbestos has been found in the structures. In addition to that the structures are old and generally are not in a good condition.
- 2.5 The Town Council has a general responsibility for the maintenance and upkeep of the structures. It has more specific obligation in law to ensure that dangerous materials, such as asbestos, are managed and disposed of correctly.

3. Options

- 3.1 The options are listed underneath for consideration. A recommendation is set out at section five of the report.

Option 1 – Remove the garages

- 3.2 The first options would see the garages where issues have been identified removed and disposed of.
- 3.3 This action would be a risk mitigation measure in and of itself. It would remove the risks associated with the old structures and the asbestos.

- 3.4 The only quote received currently is from Rilmac a reputable company with experience in handling dangerous materials. The quote is at appendix A.
- 3.5 The quote received is £3090.00 for the removal of the double garage and the one to rear of 270 Ropery Road. There is no budget currently assigned for the removal works.
- 3.6 It might be possible to remove in house the third garage at the rear of 232 Ropery Road. A skip might be required at a cost of £175 per skip, but there would be no professional removal fees if the work were done in house.
- 3.7 It should be noted that there would be a very small budgetary impact. The Town Council would obviously not be able to rent out any demolished garage. However, the spaces to the rear of 232 and 270 Ropery Road could be let as parking spaces.

Option 2 – ‘Do nothing’

- 3.8 This option would see the Council ‘do nothing’ and leave the structures in place.
- 3.9 This would obviously have no direct financial implication for the Town Council.
- 3.10 However, it is doubtful that the Town Council could continue to rent out the structures because of the presence of damaged asbestos and the condition of the structures.
- 3.11 Leaving empty structures of a poor construction with asbestos would be a risk. The site will continue to be inspected on a regular basis. However, no risk mitigation measure will entirely remove the risk that someone could enter the structures.

4. Risk, budget, and policy implications

- 4.1 The recommendations in this report conform to Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.
- 4.2 The budgetary implications are made clear in the report.
- 4.3 There is no need for training or new policies.
- 4.4 Risks and management strategies are identified in the report.

5. Recommendation

- 5.1 The Committee is recommended to agree to option 1 and instruct that the garages identified in the report are removed.

Appendix A – Pictures of the Love Lane garages

<p style="text-align: center;">270 Ropery Road</p>  <p>This photograph shows the interior of a garage at 270 Ropery Road. The space is cluttered with various items, including several paint cans, boxes, and other debris. The walls are made of corrugated metal, and the floor is concrete. The lighting is somewhat dim, and the overall appearance is that of a well-used but messy storage area.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">232 Ropery Road</p>  <p>This photograph shows the interior of a garage at 232 Ropery Road. The space is clean and empty, with a smooth concrete floor and walls made of corrugated metal. The lighting is bright, and the overall appearance is that of a well-maintained and unused storage area.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">232 Ropery Road</p>  <p>This photograph shows the exterior of a small, single-story shed or garage at 232 Ropery Road. The structure is made of corrugated metal and has a simple, rectangular design. It is situated on a dirt or gravel area, and a brick building is visible in the background.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Double Garage – Love Lane Access Road</p>  <p>This photograph shows the exterior of a double garage structure located on Love Lane Access Road. The structure is made of corrugated metal and has a long, narrow profile. It is situated on a dirt or gravel area, and there are trees and a fence visible in the background.</p>