

Appendix 1

Matson, Robinswood & White City Community Partnership



Consultation Results for Saintbridge Recreation Ground

Aim: to undertake a consultation exercise with the local community regarding current use and future aspirations for the Saintbridge Recreation Ground.

Methodology:

Between the 21st February and the 8th April 2022 we consulted with local residents on their usage of the Saintbridge Recreation Ground site. This consultation took place in two ways:

1. Head count of usage
2. Door to door consultation and online survey

Results:

1. Head Count of Usage

We visited the site over a four week period to record daily usage figures. The headcount took place at specific times throughout each day, with the daily figures being used to generate an average use. The headcount took place from mid March through to early April to take into consideration the lighter nights and milder weather. It is important to note that the usage of the site was significantly increased on Sunday's due to the use by Rising Stars FC – we have not undertaken head counts on these days.

Day	Head Count Dates			
	14 th – 19 th March	21 st – 26 th March	28 th March – 2nd April	4 th – 9 th April
Monday	9	8	9	11
Tuesday	5	9	9	10
Wednesday	6	9	10	11
Thursday	5	10	9	11
Friday	8	8	8	9
Saturday	12	14	19	22

2. Door knocking has taken place over a 6 week period and we have knocked on doors in the following roads:

- Cotswold Road
- Reservoir Road – between St Aldates Church & the entrance to Robinswood Gardens
- Beaufort Road – between numbers 1 and 54
- Kingsley Road
- Baneberry Road & Broom House
- Woodruff Close
- Saffron Close
- Melick Close
- Myrtle Close

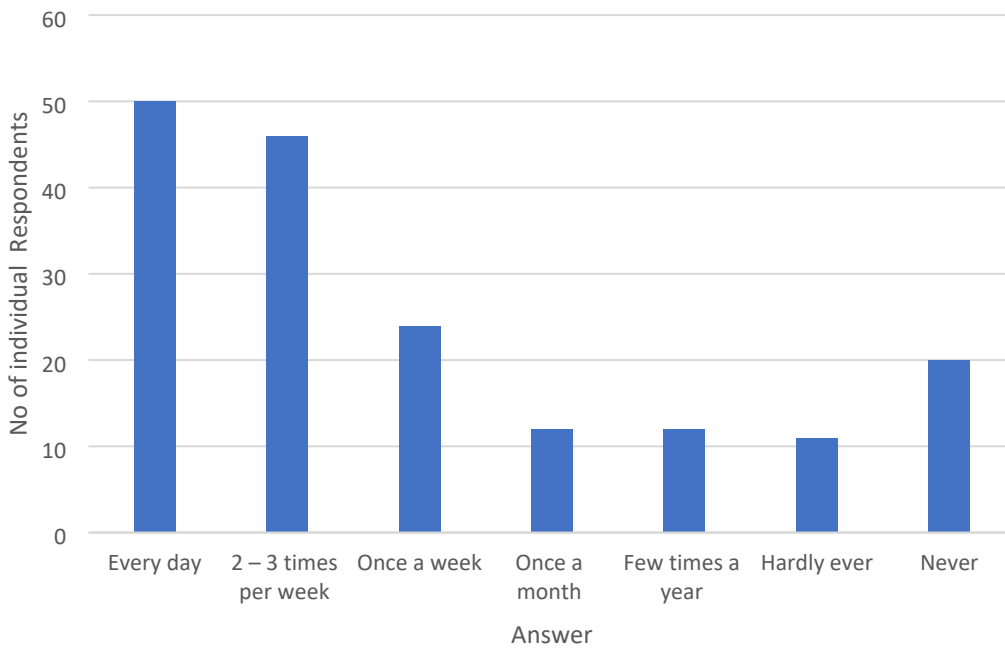
- Jenkinson Close

Where residents have not been home we have left copies of the questionnaire to either be completed and posted back to us or completed online. We also posted the questionnaire on our social media platforms to encourage more residents to engage in the consultation process.

Survey Results: 175 responses were recorded

Question: How often do you currently use the Saintbridge Recreation Ground ?

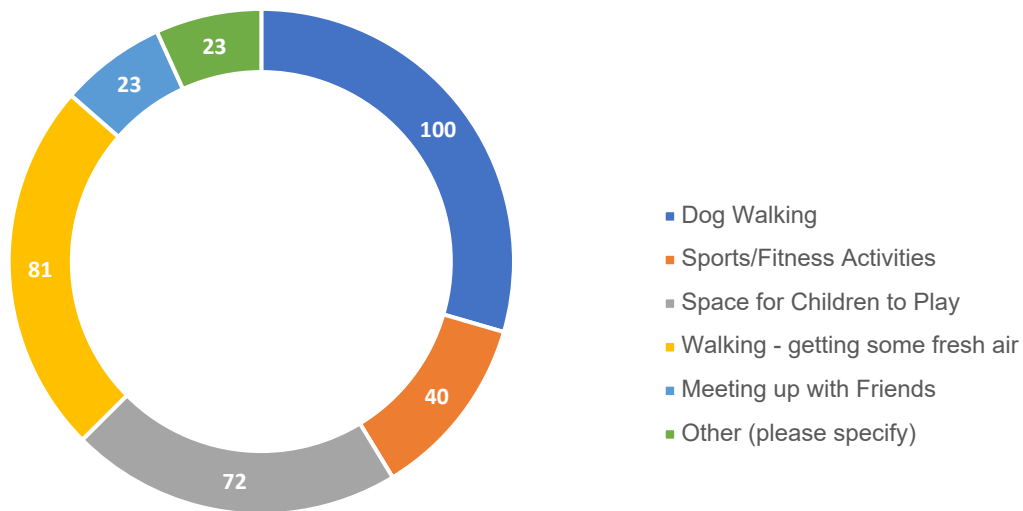
Answer:



68% of respondents said they used the park at least once a week and more than half said they visited 2 or more times a week.

Question: If you do currently use it, what do you use it for ? Tick all that apply:

Answer:



No. of Individual Responses

The 2021 Community Well Being Survey of Matson, Robinswood, White City, Podsmead, Tuffley and Stonehouse identified walking and visiting parks and green spaces as the most common activity undertaken by residents to promote their wellbeing (48% of respondents).

Question: Would you like to see the space improved?

Answer:

Yes – 88%

No – 7 %

Don't Know – 5%

If you answered no, please tell us why ?

There were 17 comments added to this section – they were:

- 'But not built on ! keep it free for community use'
- 'No new houses though'
- 'I like the space the way it is'
- 'There are not enough opportunities for activity'
- 'So it can be used for the community and not built on'
- 'A nice big park that's worth the time of day, also a disabled friendly part would also be great'
- 'Clearly marked out sports pitches would hopefully encourage dog walkers to stay off that area'
- 'It was willed to the community many years ago and is a nice flat space for those who can't manage the slopes'
- 'It's a beautiful space leave it alone'
- 'It is a lovely big open space that is perfect as it is'

- 'Perfect safe area for dog walking'
- 'Bit of upkeep and bush trimming'
- 'The space how it was before the football pitches were erected was perfect and should have been left how it was'
- 'More bins and some benches'
- 'No building – recreation only !!!'
- 'Just tidied up. No Building'

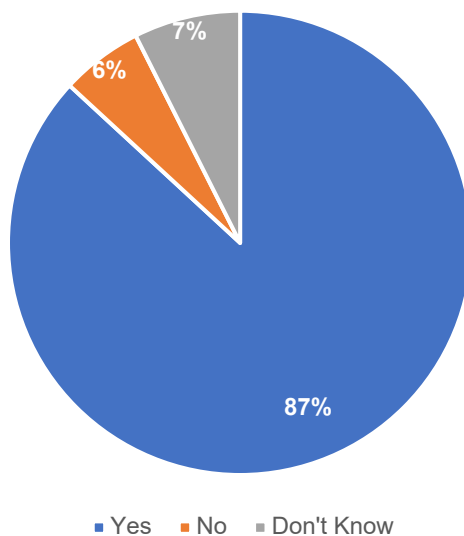
Question: If you answered 'Yes' to question 3 please can you rank the suggested improvements in order of preference.

Answers – in order of popularity:

1. Play equipment for younger children
2. Planting of trees/fruit trees
3. Facilities for informal recreation, play & games
4. Facilities for older children
5. Being greener – community growing space, wildlife area etc
6. Clearly marked pitches for sports pitches
7. Lighting

Question: If the Recreation Ground had any of the above facilities would you use it more frequently ?

Answers:



Question: Any Other Comments

Answers:

We received 98 additional comments – we have categorised them into areas of similarity and given a few examples:

Nature of Comment	No. of responses	Sample Comment
Benches/Bins/Litter	22	'More bins required, usage has been increased since installing goal posts I frequently see more people using it'
Do not build houses	10	'Keep it as a green space to enjoy do not build houses on it'.
Keep for community use	28	'If it was designed right the beautiful green space could accommodate lots of different usage in a positive way'
Outdoor gym/Sport	19	'Another skatepark in Gloucester in that area would be a great idea. Having a hobby which can be done at a skatepark can incentivise young adults to keep healthy, stay away from gang related issues , create friendship & relieve stress'
Wellbeing	2	'Nice piece of green area when you need 5 minutes head space'
Safety/Lighting	6	'Gates at the entrances – the road is really busy now'
Wildlife/Growing Space	7	'Community gardens would be lovely'
Play Area	4	'I think maybe some play equipment for children 10+ to play on and use would be greatly beneficial'.

The consultation generated significant debate on social media – we have included a selection of comments:

- 'Really makes me sad'
- 'If it's for social housing it shouldn't be an issue. We are in desperate need of affordable social housing'
- 'Ruining the liveability of a place doesn't improve the situation though. Matson and Robinswood had much more green space but now that's hardly true. Much of the green space has now been built upon. We need sensibly planned new towns not just shoving more housing on any available plot'
- 'We use this green space all the time for family games and recreation. It would be a travesty if we lost another green site'
- 'Forget it people. By the time you hear about it it's already a done deal with somebody making money, like on Winnycroft Lane'
- 'We want the land for community green space and recreation'
- 'We need recreational things for older children, basketball hoops etc'
- 'We use this land for frisbee, kite flying and just to exercise as a family'

- 'Loved this space growing up and it's easily accessible too'
- 'Want a multi-purpose area for netball, tennis for all ages'
- 'Rising Stars are delighted to be using this space!'
- 'My house faces this field and I look at views of hills and trees. My children play there and we walk the dogs there. It's great to see goal posts that are being well used'
- 'Please don't build here! My children and dog loving playing here'
- 'I use it all the time!'
- 'Nearby children use it so that they don't have to cross the busy Baneberry Road'
- 'Please don't put a housing estate there'
- 'We use it every day for the children and walking our dogs. We love the wildlife. Please don't keep taking our green space to build more homes'
- 'Use empty buildings to convert for housing, not our green space'