

# Statement of Community Engagement

## Castle Farm Recreation Centre, Kenilworth

December 2020

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## Executive Summary

1. This Statement of Community Engagement (SCE) has been prepared by Turley on behalf of Warwick District Council ('the Applicant'). The purpose of this document is to report the pre-application consultation activities undertaken by the Applicant for the redevelopment of the Castle Farm Recreation Centre, including new headquarters for the Kenilworth Scouts and Guides and new sports facility for the Kenilworth Wardens. This SCE also outlines the feedback received in response to this consultation.
2. On Friday 25 October 2019, Warwick District Council launched a public consultation to gain comments on two proposed schemes:
  - The future of the Castle Farm Recreation Centre and plans to renovate surrounding grounds; including a new headquarters for the Kenilworth Scouts and Guides and a new sports facility for Kenilworth Wardens Cricket Club.
  - The future of Abbey Fields Swimming Pool to renovate the existing site, including proposals for a new family swimming pool.
3. The above proposals were consulted on together are part of one overarching period of public consultation. The objective of the public consultation was to seek and consider feedback from local residents, community groups and key stakeholders to help shape the final plans.
4. The 2019 consultation, on the final design of plans, followed an initial phase of consultation that took place in September 2018. The subject of this initial phase of consultation asked respondents to consider the mix of facilities on offer at Abbey Fields Swimming Pool and the Castle Farm Recreation Centre.
5. During the 2019 consultation over 530 people attended public consultation events and a total of 339 pieces of feedback were received, specific to the Castle Farm Recreation Centre. The feedback received as a result of the multi-phase consultation has demonstrated a local recognition for a need to invest in and improve facilities. Local stakeholders have demonstrated support, and provided constructive comments, for proposals, which are outlined in this report.
6. A number of changes have been made to proposals following the feedback received, including:
  - Additional cycle racks have been incorporated into proposals, along with capacity for including more in the future.
  - A travel plan has been developed with Everyone Active, as the centre operator, and local stakeholder input.
7. This SCE demonstrates that the Applicant undertook timely and effective pre-application consultation, informed by local and national policy guidance.

# 1. Introduction

- 1.1 This Statement of Community Engagement (SCE) has been prepared by Turley on behalf of Warwick District Council ('the Applicant') and forms part of a full planning application for the redevelopment of the Castle Farm Recreation Centre, including new headquarters for the Kenilworth Scouts and Guides and new sports facility for the Kenilworth Wardens.

## Report structure

- 1.2 This SCE provides a detailed overview of the pre-application consultation that has been undertaken by the Applicant with key stakeholders, local community groups and residents, on the proposed redevelopment of the Castle Farm Recreation Centre. To provide a summary of the public consultation, this SCE includes:

- An overview of national and local policy guidance that is relevant for pre-application consultation;
- A summary of the consultation activities that took place;
- An outline of the feedback received during the consultation period; and
- The Applicant's response to the comments received.

## Consultation summary

- 1.3 In October 2019 Warwick District Council launched an overarching public consultation to gain comments on the redevelopment of the Castle Farm Recreation Centre, alongside proposals for Abbey Fields Swimming Pool.
- 1.4 This consultation follows an initial phase of consultation that took place in September 2018. The Stage 1 Statement of Community Engagement (2018), setting out the 2018 consultation activity and feedback received, can be viewed at **Appendix 1**.
- 1.5 During the 2019 consultation, to ensure all groups had the opportunity to view and comment on the proposed plans, a number of engagement methods were used including:
- Pre-application discussions with key stakeholders;
  - Distribution of an information giving 'bin tag';
  - Display of posters in public locations and on the Council's website;
  - Hosting a public consultation webpage on the Warwick District Council website; and
  - Holding public drop-in events.
- 1.6 During this period, 530 people attended public consultation events and a total of 339 pieces of feedback were received.

- 1.7 The feedback received as a result of the multi-phase consultation has been generally positive, with recognition for a need to invest in and improve facilities. Local stakeholders have demonstrated support, and provided constructive comments, for proposals, which are outlined in this report.
- 1.8 A number of changes have been made to proposals following the feedback received, including:
- Additional cycle racks have been incorporated into proposals, along with capacity for including more in the future.
  - A travel plan has been developed with Everyone Active, as the centre operator, and local stakeholder input.

## 2. Policy Context

- 2.1 The Applicant recognises that National Planning Policy places an emphasis on community involvement as an important part of the planning application process. To ensure the approach taken in the pre-application stages of this application is consistent with national and local guidelines; relevant policy was reviewed in full.
- 2.2 The Government's policy on community involvement is set out in a number of statutory and non-statutory documents, including the National Planning Policy Framework (2018) and the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004). Warwick District Council provides guidance on pre-application consultation in their Statement of Community Involvement (2016).

### **National Planning Policy Framework (2019)**

- 2.3 The revised National Planning Policy Framework (February 2019) ("the Framework") sets out that the planning system should be a collective enterprise with the purpose of helping deliver sustainable development.
- 2.4 Paragraph 128 specifically promotes early pre-application engagement and the front-loading of consultation and explains that applications that can demonstrate effective pre-application engagement should be favoured over those that cannot. The purpose is to better coordinate public and private resources and help identify issues that can be resolved at the pre-application stage. In addition, paragraph 39 states that as a result, the outcomes for the community are improved and the planning system is able to function more effectively and efficiently.
- 2.5 As set out in this Statement, comprehensive community engagement has taken place prior to the submission of the planning application, in full accordance with guidance set out within the Framework.

### **Warwick District Council Statement of Community Involvement (2016)**

- 2.6 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004) requires Local Planning Authorities to produce policy documents, called Statements of Community Involvement. Warwick District Council sets out its expectations for pre-application engagement in their Statement of Community Involvement in Planning (SCI) 2016 document<sup>1</sup>.
- 2.7 The SCI encourages applicants to undertake consultation, stating that *'Developers and applicants are encouraged to discuss their proposals with planning officers, statutory consultees, neighbours to the development and the wider public where relevant.'*
- 2.8 The project team have fully reviewed both national and local guidelines on pre-application engagement before creating a bespoke engagement strategy as detailed in Chapter 3.

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[https://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/downloads/file/3173/statement\\_of\\_community\\_involvement\\_2016](https://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/downloads/file/3173/statement_of_community_involvement_2016)

### 3. Consultation Activity

3.1 A comprehensive engagement strategy was formulated at the start of the project and included:

- Engaging with officers at Warwick District Council
- Engaging with key stakeholders
- Consulting the local community

3.2 The engagement strategy was developed with consideration of the government's policy on community involvement and Warwick District Council's SCI (2016), as detailed in Chapter 2.

#### **Pre-application discussions with Warwick District Council Officers**

3.3 Pre-application meetings were held with officers at Warwick District Council on 2 April 2019.

3.4 In general terms, officers were supportive of development proposals in principle, noting the fact that sites are in existing, active leisure use, that evidence of need had been established and that significant health and wellbeing benefits could be expected to arise.

3.5 Further detail regarding these meetings, including the feedback received, is included in supporting submission documents.

#### **Engaging with key stakeholders**

3.6 Key stakeholder groups were identified and contacted to raise awareness of the consultation and seek feedback.

3.7 A number of stakeholders responded to the consultation, including:

- Statutory groups
- Local community groups
- National sporting bodies
- Local sporting groups

3.8 The above mentioned stakeholders were contacted via email and letter in October 2019. This provided stakeholders with an update on the progression of the project, introduced the next phase of consultation and sought feedback on proposals. A copy of the letters are included in **Appendix 2**.

3.9 In response to this correspondence, specific meetings took place with the local stakeholders as detailed below:

- Kenilworth Town Council (1 August 2019)

- Daniel Jonas, operator of the café in Abbey Fields Swimming Pool (17 October 2019)
- Senior Managers' Forum at Warwick District Council (7 November 2019)
- Friends of Abbey Fields (7 November 2019)
- Manok Sonecha's Sports Development Network Event (11 November 2019)
- Representatives from Kenilworth historic societies, including Kenilworth Civic Society and Kenilworth History and Archaeology Society (20 November 2019)
- Lisa Dodd-Mayne, Director of Sport and Active Communities and Jo Handford, Regional Partnerships Manager at University of Warwick (21 November 2019)

3.10 The feedback received from stakeholders is summarised in **Chapter 5**.

### **Consulting with the local community**

3.11 Engaging with the community was focused on distribution of an information 'bin tag', display posters, hosting a project website and holding community drop-in events. These activities are summarised below.

#### **Awareness raising materials**

##### ***Informative bin tags***

3.12 To raise awareness of the proposal and public consultation, informative 'bin tags' were distributed to every household in Kenilworth, circa 10,000 properties, by Warwick District Council refuse collection on 4 November 2019 and 11 November 2019.

3.13 A copy of the tag is shown in **Appendix 3**.

##### ***Banners***

3.14 Large banners were displayed in five public locations to raise awareness of proposals and consultation events. The location of the banners are listed below:

- Green Man Public House, 168 Warwick Rd, Kenilworth CV8 1HS
- Abbey Fields Tennis Courts, Bridge St, Kenilworth CV8 1BP
- Castle Farm Leisure Centre, Fishponds Rd, Kenilworth CV8 1EY
- Holiday Inn railings on the Clock Tower roundabout, 212 Abbey End, Kenilworth CV8 1ED
- At the top of Rosemary Hill, Kenilworth

##### ***Posters***

3.15 Posters were displayed in public and community buildings to raise awareness of proposals and consultation events. Digital copies of the poster was also made available on the Warwick District Council website. The location of the posters are listed below:

- Kenilworth Town Council, 7 Smalley Pl, Kenilworth CV8 1QG

- Abbey Field Swimming Pool, Bridge Street, Kenilworth CV8 1BP
- Castle Farm Leisure Centre, Fishponds road, Kenilworth CV8 1EY
- Kenilworth Library, Smalley PI, Kenilworth CV8 1QG
- Holiday Inn, 212 Abbey End, Kenilworth CV8 1ED

3.16 Pop up banners were also displayed in both Abbey Field Swimming Pool and Castle Farm Recreation Centre.

3.17 Copies of the artwork from these awareness raising materials is included in **Appendix 3**.

***Postcard***

3.18 Postcards were distributed to local shops and facilities and at local clubs or events to raise awareness of proposals and consultation events. This included the below locations:

- Local shops in Kenilworth town centre
- Kenilworth Library, Smalley PI, Kenilworth CV8 1QG
- Jubilee House, Kenilworth Town Council, 7 Smalley PI, Kenilworth CV8 1QG
- Abbey Field Swimming Pool, Bridge Street, Kenilworth CV8 1BP
- Castle Farm Leisure Centre, Fishponds road, Kenilworth CV8 1EY
- Wardens Sports Club, Glasshouse Park, Glasshouse Ln, Kenilworth CV8 2AL
- Local Petanque clubs (distributed via Castle Farm Leisure Centre)
- Christmas lights switch on event in Kenilworth
- Riverside House, Milverton Hill, Leamington Spa, CV32 5HZ

3.19 Postcards included the time, date and location of the community drop-in sessions and directed individuals back to the consultation website.

3.20 A copy of the postcard is included in **Appendix 3**.

**Project website**

3.21 A dedicated project webpage was launched on the Warwick District Council website at [www.warwickdc.gov.uk/forourfuture](http://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/forourfuture). The purpose of the webpage was to provide local residents and other interested parties with an opportunity to view details of the development proposals, publicise information of community drop-in sessions and seek feedback.

3.22 Screenshot images of the webpage are included in **Appendix 4**.

## Press

- 3.23 A press release was published on the Council’s website on 25 October 2019, which introduced the 2019 consultation, advertised community drop-in sessions and directed readers to the project webpage where they were invited to leave feedback<sup>2</sup>.
- 3.24 Following this, articles were published in Kenilworth Weekly News on 25 October 2019<sup>3</sup> and on 19 November 2019<sup>4</sup>.

## Neighbour meeting

- 3.25 A meeting was held with immediate site neighbours on 30 October 2019 to discuss the proposals.
- 3.26 Seven addresses that neighbour the Fishponds Road access or the proposed entrance from John O’Gaunt road were invited to the meeting via letter, which was distributed by hand. An additional five local residents, who had previously expressed an interest in parking locally. A copy of this letter is included in **Appendix 5**.
- 3.27 Approximately 30 residents attended the meeting, along with local councillors, where members of the Leisure Development Programme Members’ Working Group and members of the project team were on hand to explain the proposals and answer any questions.
- 3.28 The focus of the discussion was on traffic, access and parking.

## Drop-in sessions

- 3.29 A total of seven community drop-in sessions were held over the course of three weeks. The details of events and number of attendees are summarised in **Table 1**, below.

**Table 1 – Community drop-in sessions**

Date	Time	Location	Approximate number of attendees
Saturday 9 November	10am – 3pm	Abbey Fields Swimming Pool	75
Tuesday 12 November	4pm – 8pm	Abbey Fields Swimming Pool	50
Wednesday 20 November	10.30am – 1.30pm	Castle Farm Recreation Centre	50

<sup>2</sup>

[https://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/news/article/341/council\\_seeks\\_views\\_on\\_fields\\_sports\\_and\\_pools\\_for\\_the\\_future\\_in\\_kenilworth](https://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/news/article/341/council_seeks_views_on_fields_sports_and_pools_for_the_future_in_kenilworth)

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.kenilworthweeklynews.co.uk/news/people/warwick-district-council-looking-for-opinions-from-public-on-kenilworth-leisure-facilities-1-9119914>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.kenilworthweeklynews.co.uk/news/people/warwick-district-council-hosting-five-more-public-consultations-on-the-future-of-pools-sports-and-fields-in-kenilworth-1-9147533>

Thursday 21 November 7pm – 9pm	Castle Farm Recreation Centre	62
Saturday 23 November 11am – 4pm	Holiday Inn, Kenilworth	136
Thursday 28 November 10.30am – 1.30pm	Kenilworth Centre	32
Saturday 30 November 11am – 4pm	Holiday Inn, Kenilworth	133

- 3.30 A copy of the information that was on display at the drop-in events is included at **Appendix 6**.
- 3.31 The feedback received both at, and following, the community drop-in sessions is outlined in **Chapter 4**.

#### **Resident meeting**

- 3.32 A number of concerns were raised during the public consultation in both 2018 and 2019 in regards to local highways. The Applicant therefore organised and held a specific online meeting to respond to these concerns and to present the Transport Assessment and Travel Plan to local residents.
- 3.33 Respondents who had asked for their details to be kept on file through the engagement process were notified of the meeting and sent a digital invitation. One respondent was sent a hard copy invitation.
- 3.34 Ahead of the meeting, an FAQ was circulated with the meeting invitation, the proposed Travel Plan and the Transport Assessment. A copy of the FAQ is included at **Appendix 7**. The FAQ was updated following the meeting and has been submitted as part of the planning application.
- 3.35 The online meeting took place on 19 November 2020 and was attended by 45 individuals, including: 16 residents; 15 councillors; and 14 officers / members of the design team.
- 3.36 The meeting was chaired by Andy Jones, Deputy Chief Executive at Warwick District Council (WDC) and consisted of a Panel including Paddy Herlihy (WDC), Adam Turner (SLR), with contributions by Cllr Moira- Ann Grainger and Rose Winship (WDC).
- 3.37 One resident, who did not have internet connection and was unable to attend the meeting, was issued a hard copy pack of the documents via post and invited to make any comments in writing.

## 4. Community Feedback

- 4.1 Feedback has been received via a number of platforms including: feedback forms at the drop-in events; comments via the project email, and online feedback forms on the project webpage.
- 4.2 During the consultation period, which ran from Monday 4 November 2019 to Monday 9 December 2019, a total of 339 feedback forms were received. All feedback has been reviewed and shared with Warwick District Council.
- 4.3 The plan below shows the locations of respondents (using postcodes) represented by a purple dot. The numbers on the dots show how many people within that postcode responded to the public consultation.

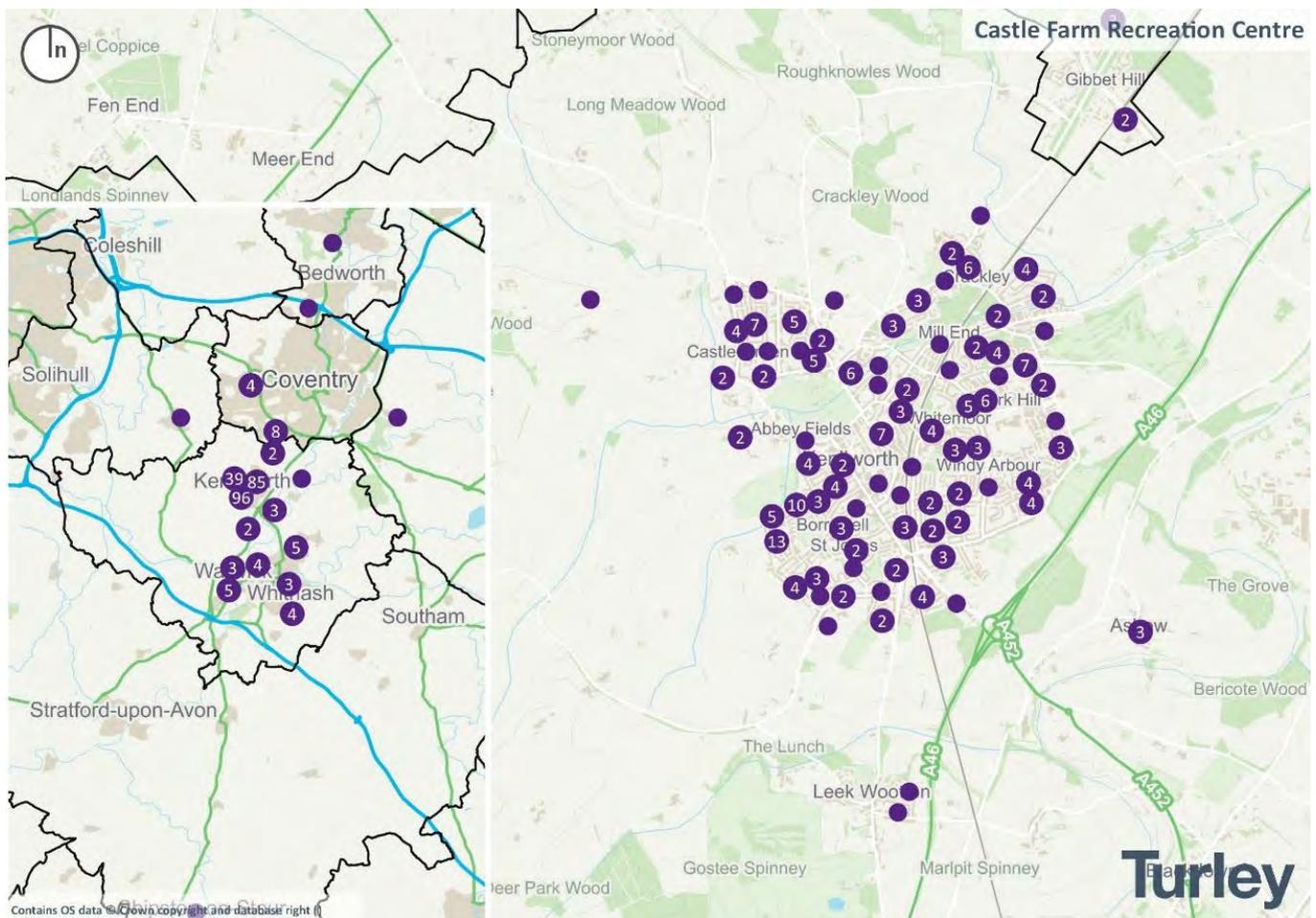
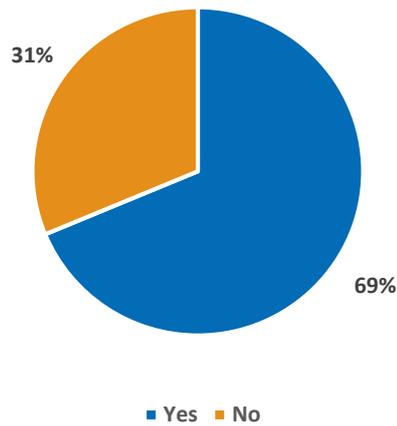


Figure 4.1 – Respondent locations

- 4.4 In addition to the above, socio-demographic information on gender, age, ethnic background, health and who the individual was responding on behalf of, was collected. The demographic data of the respondents can be seen in **Appendix 8**.
- 4.5 A detailed overview of the response received to each question is outlined overleaf.

**Question 1: Do you currently use the leisure centres at Kenilworth?**

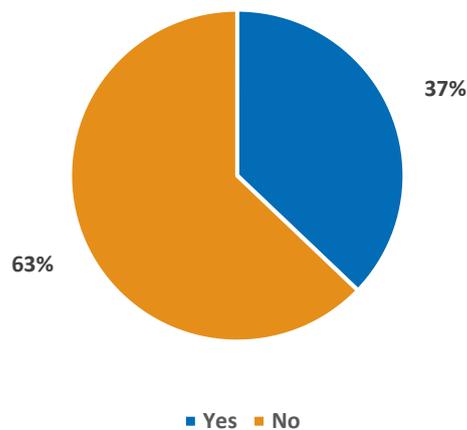
- 4.6 Question 1 provided respondents with tick box answers to state either 'yes' or 'no'.
- 4.7 339 respondents answered this question, with a total of 69% stated that 'yes' they did use the leisure centres at Kenilworth whilst 31% stated that 'no' they did not use the leisure centres.
- 4.8 These results are illustrated in **Figure 4.2** below.



**Figure 4.2 – Response to Question 1**

**Question 2: Are you currently a member of a leisure centre in Kenilworth?**

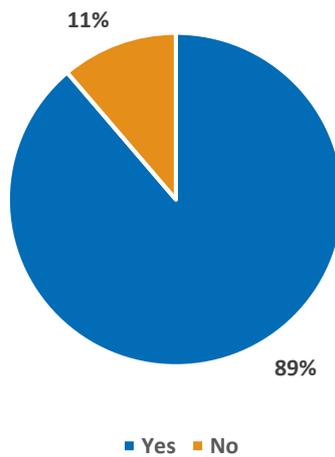
- 4.9 Question 2 provided respondents with tick box answers to state either 'yes' or 'no'.
- 4.10 339 respondents answered this question, with a total of 63% stating that 'no' they are not currently a member of a leisure centre in Kenilworth and 37% stating that 'yes' they are a member.
- 4.11 These results are shown in **Figure 4.3**, below.



**Figure 4.3 – Response to Question 2**

**Question 3: Have you read any of the background notes on the website or A4 leaflet accompanying this survey?**

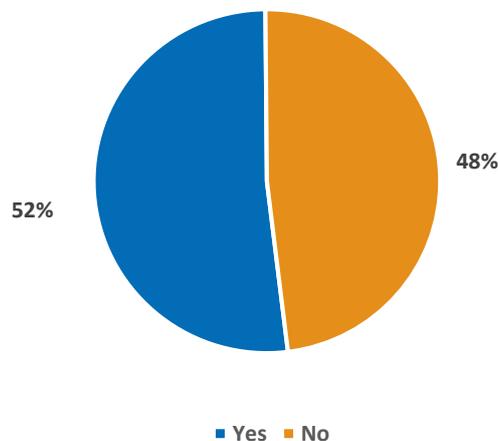
- 4.12 Question 3 provided respondents with tick box answers to state either 'yes' or 'no'.
- 4.13 339 respondents answered this question, with 89% stating that 'yes' they had read some of the background notes on the project and 11% stating that 'no' they had not read any of the notes.
- 4.14 The results are shown in **Figure 4.4** below.



**Figure 4.4 – Response to Question 3**

**Question 4: Have you attended one of our drop-in sessions/consultation meetings?**

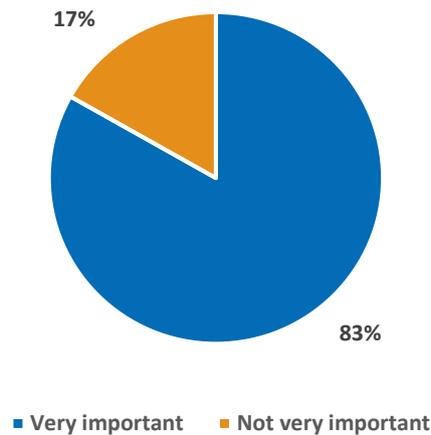
- 4.15 Question 4 provided respondents with tick box answers to state either 'yes' or 'no'.
- 4.16 332 respondents answered this question, with 52% stating that 'yes' they had attended a drop-in session/consultation meeting and 48% stating that 'no' they had not attended a session.
- 4.17 The results are shown in **Figure 4.5** below.



**Figure 4.5 – Response to Question 4**

**Question 5: How important is it that the proposed design provides extended facilities compared to the current provision?**

- 4.18 Question 5 provided respondents with tick box answers to state either 'very important' or 'not very important'.
- 4.19 333 respondents answered this question, with 83% stating that the proposed design extended facilities were 'very important' and 17% stating that they were 'not very important'.
- 4.20 These results are shown in **Figure 4.6** below.

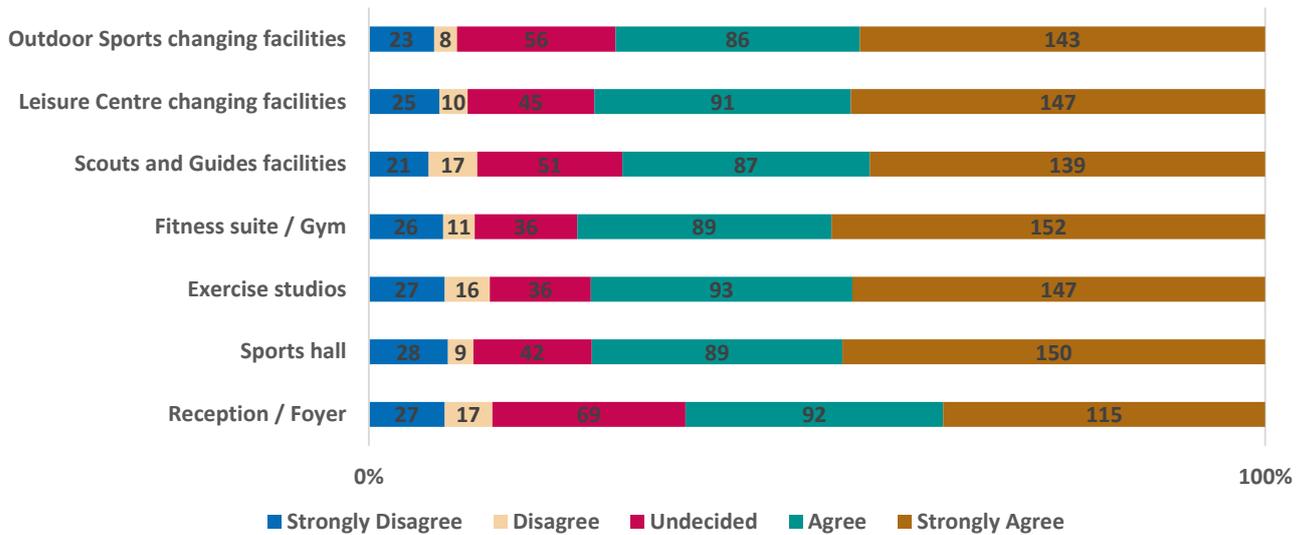


**Figure 4.7 – Response to Question 5**

**Question 6: The designs of the following areas are good additions to the proposed new leisure centre**

- 4.21 Respondents were provided with a likert scale to identify whether they 'strongly agree', 'agree', were 'undecided', 'disagree' or 'strongly disagree' with each of the below statements:
- Outdoor Sports changing facilities
  - Leisure Centre changing facilities
  - Scouts and Guides facilities
  - Fitness suite / Gym
  - Exercise studios
  - Sports hall
  - Reception / Foyer
- 4.22 324 respondents answered this question, providing a range of responses with regard to the designs which were thought to provide a good addition to the proposed new leisure centre.
- 4.23 Respondents showed highest levels of support for the proposed fitness suite / gym, sports hall and exercise studios. The area with the lowest level of support was the reception / foyer.

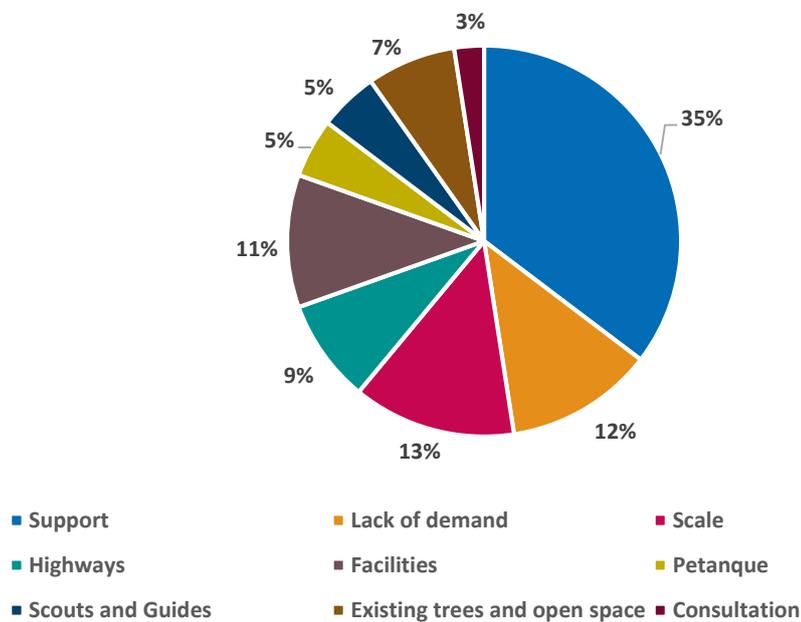
4.24 These results are shown in **Figure 4.7** below.



**Figure 4.7 – Response to Question 6**

4.25 Respondents were provided with space to expand on their answer. The responses have been summarised by theme in **Table 7.1 of Appendix 9**.

4.26 **Figure 4.8** below illustrates the themes with the highest percentage of references in respondent comments.



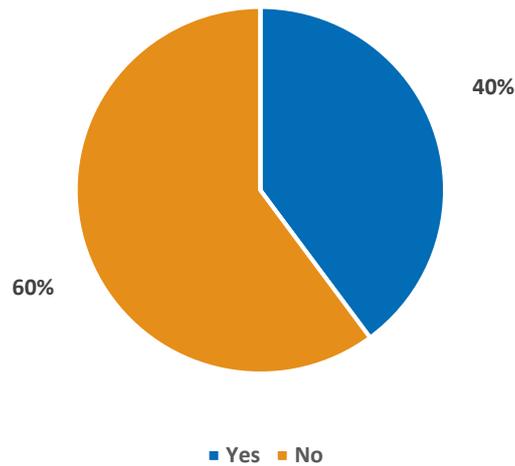
**Figure 4.8 – Key themes from Question 6 responses**

**Question 7: Do you think anything is missing from the proposed design?**

4.27 Question 7 provided respondents with tick box answers to state either 'yes' or 'no'.

4.28 306 respondents answered this question, with 60% stating that 'no' nothing was missing from the proposed design. 40% of respondents stated 'yes' to suggest that they thought something was missing from the proposed design.

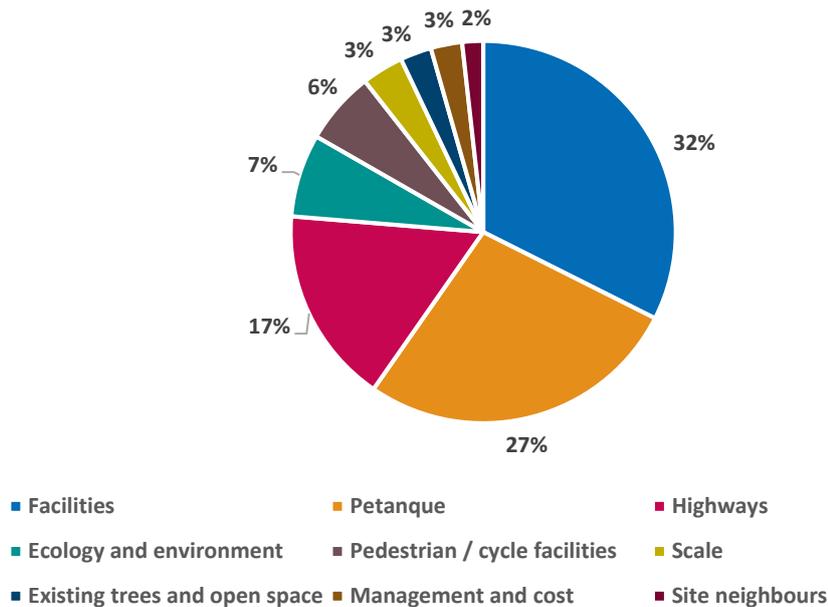
4.29 These results are shown on **Figure 4.9** below.



**Figure 4.9 – Response to Question 7**

4.30 Respondents were provided with space to expand on their answer. The responses have been summarised by theme in **Table 7.2 of Appendix 9**.

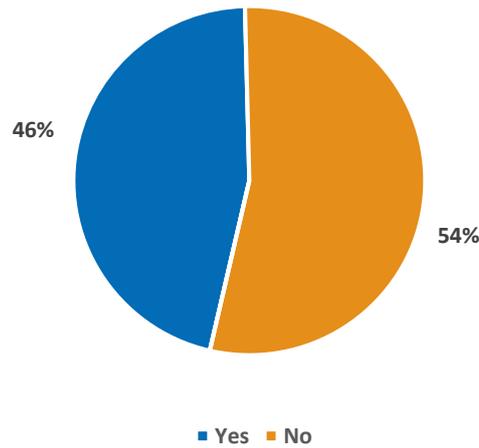
4.31 **Figure 4.10**, below, illustrates the themes with the highest percentage of references in respondent comments.



**Figure 4.10 – Key themes from Question 7 responses**

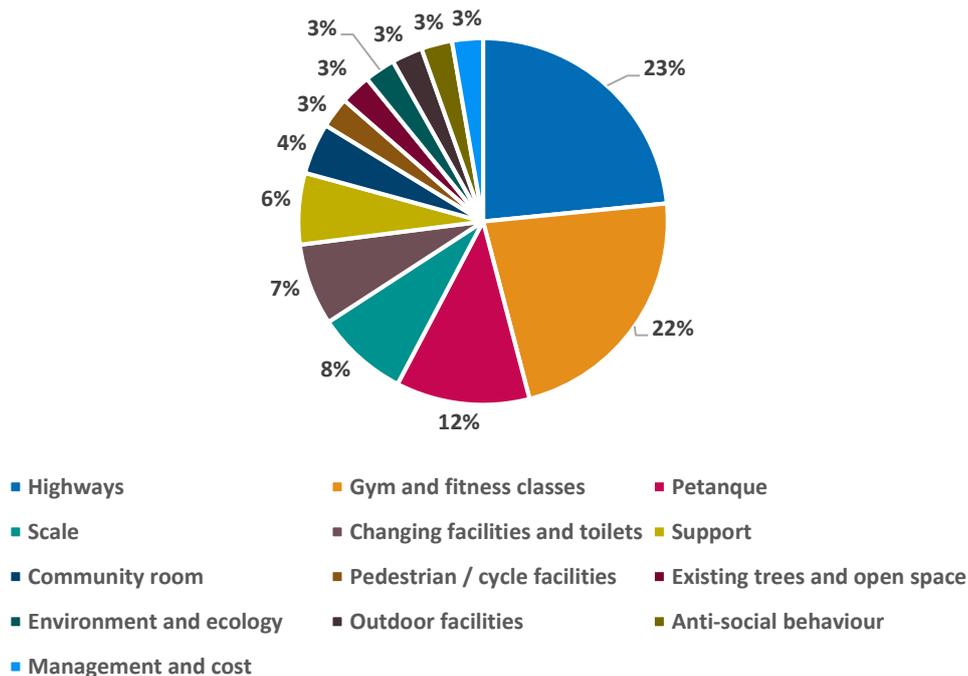
**Question 8: Is there anything that you would change about the current facilities?**

- 4.32 Question 8 provided respondents with tick box answers to state either ‘yes’ or ‘no’.
- 4.33 287 respondents answered this question, with 54% of respondents stating that ‘no’ there was not anything they would change about the current facilities and 46% stating that ‘yes’ in answer to the question.
- 4.34 These results are shown on **Figure 4.11** below.



**Figure 4.11 – Response to Question 8**

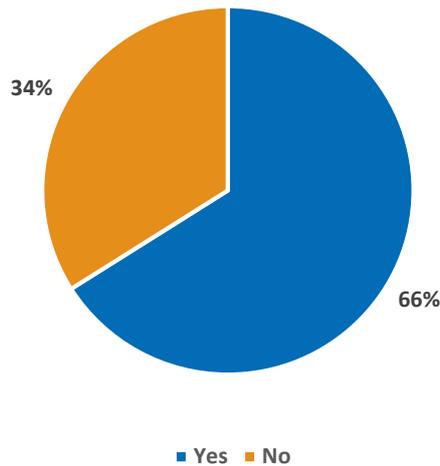
- 4.35 Respondents were provided with space to expand on their answer. The responses have been summarised by theme in **Table 7.3 of Appendix 9**.
- 4.36 **Figure 4.12**, below, illustrates the themes with the highest percentage of references in respondent comments.



**Figure 4.12 - Key themes from Question 8 responses**

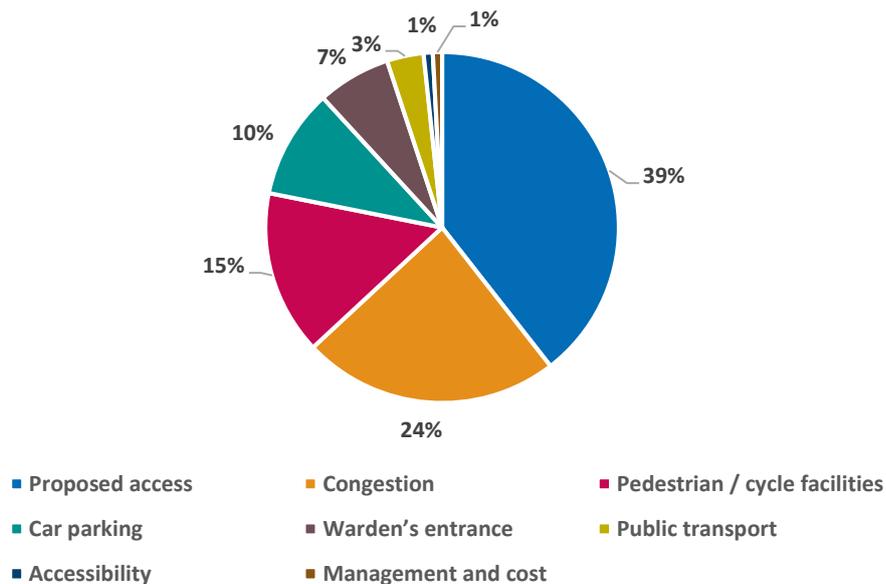
**Question 9: Do you believe that the proposed access arrangements are suitable?**

- 4.37 Question 9 provided respondents with tick box answers to state either 'yes' or 'no'.
- 4.38 309 respondents answered this question, with 66% stating that 'yes' they did believe the proposed access arrangements were suitable and 34% stated 'no' in answer to the question.
- 4.39 These results are shown on **Figure 4.13** below.



**Figure 4.13 – Response to Question 9**

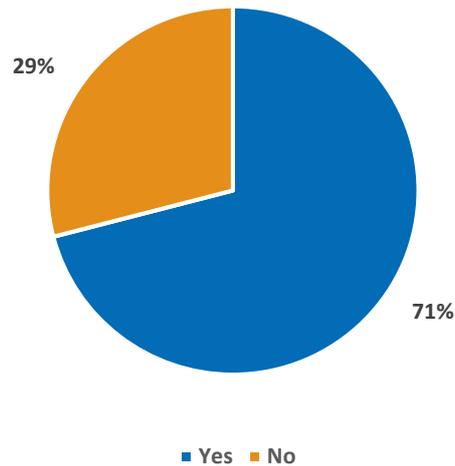
- 4.40 Respondents were provided with space to expand on their answer. The responses have been summarised by theme in **Table 7.4 of Appendix 9**.
- 4.41 **Figure 4.14** below illustrates the themes with the highest percentage of references in respondent comments.



**Figure 4.14 – Key themes from Question 9 responses**

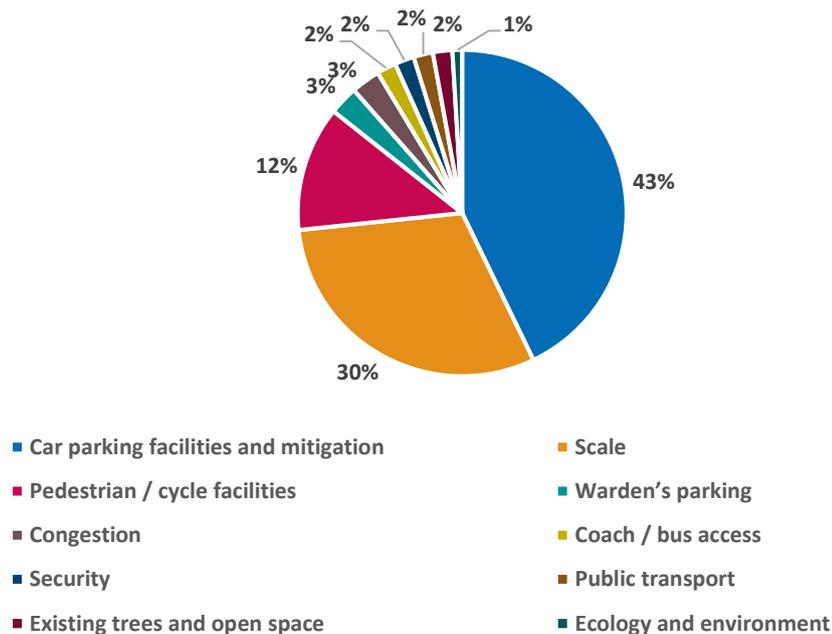
**Question 10: Do you believe that the proposed parking arrangements are suitable?**

- 4.42 Question 10 provided respondents with tick box answers to state either 'yes' or 'no'.
- 4.43 303 respondents answered this question, with 71% stating 'yes' the proposed arrangements were suitable whilst 29% stated that 'no' they were not suitable.
- 4.44 These results are shown on **Figure 4.15**, below.



**Figure 4.15 – Response to Question 10**

- 4.45 Respondents were provided with space to expand on their answer. The responses have been summarised by theme in **Table 7.5 of Appendix 9**.
- 4.46 **Figure 4.16**, below, illustrates the themes with the highest percentage of references in respondent comments.



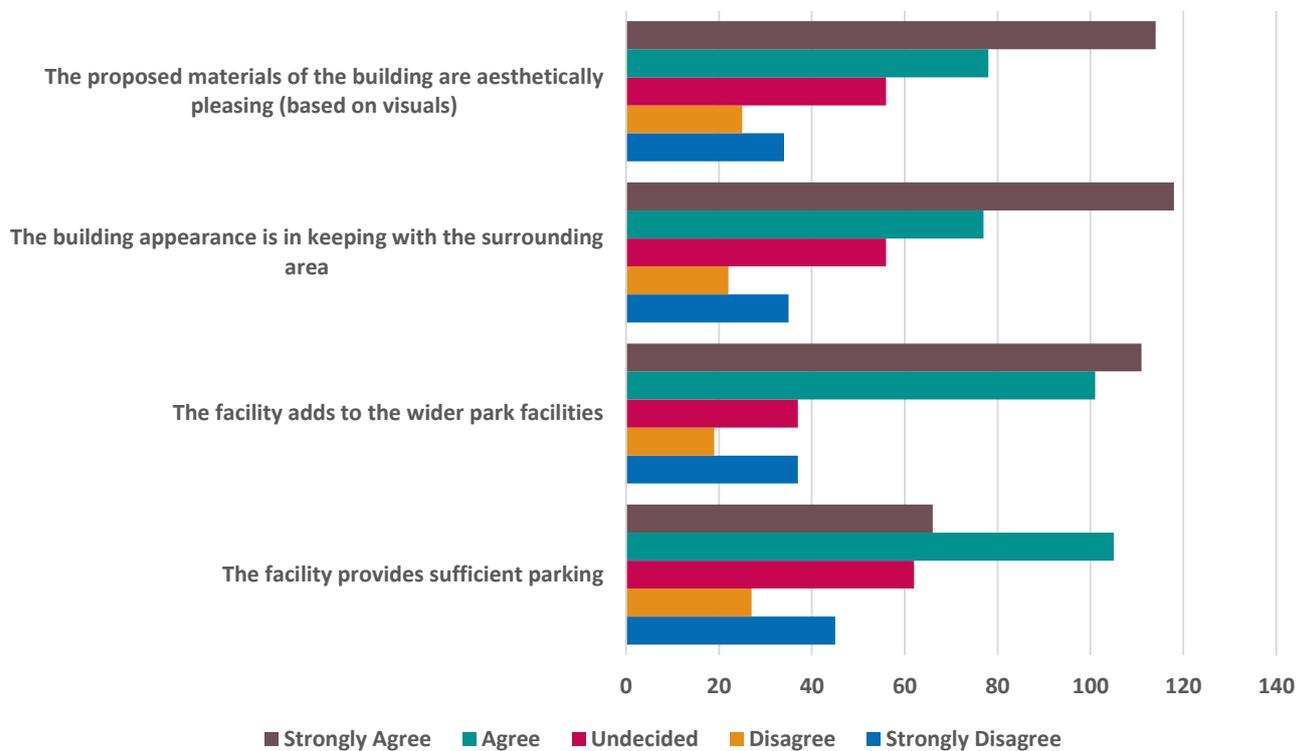
**Figure 4.16 – Key themes from Question 10 responses**

**Question 11: Please rate each of the following statements**

4.47 Respondents were provided with a likert scale to identify whether they ‘strongly agree’, ‘agree’, were ‘undecided’, ‘disagree’ or ‘strongly disagree’ with each of the below statements:

- The facility provides sufficient parking
- The building appearance is in keeping with the surrounding area
- The facility adds to the wider park facilities
- The proposed materials of the building are aesthetically pleasing (based on visuals)

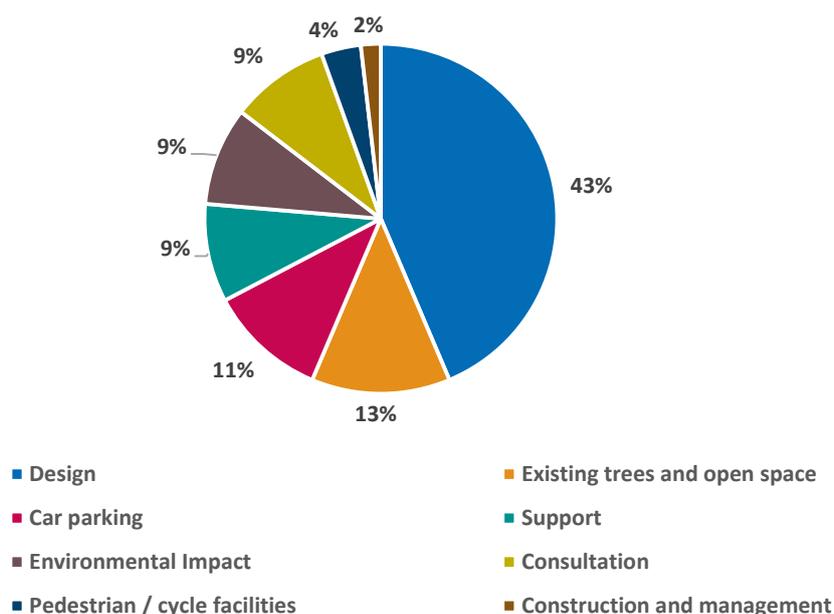
4.48 309 respondents answered this question providing a range of responses, which are shown on **Figure 4.17** below.



**Figure 4.17 – Response to Question 11**

4.49 Respondents were provided with space to expand on their answer. The responses have been summarised by theme in **Table 7.6 of Appendix 9**.

4.50 **Figure 4.18**, overleaf, illustrates the themes with the highest percentage of references in respondent comments.



**Figure 4.18 – Key themes from Question 11 responses**

**Question 12: We are considering re-naming the centre as part of the redevelopment. Do you have any names that you would like the Project Board to consider when making the decision?**

4.51 146 respondents answered this question, providing a variety of options.

4.52 64 of respondents suggested that the name should remain the same. Some respondents highlighted that the name should reference the history and heritage of the town.

4.53 Some of the suggested names are shown below.

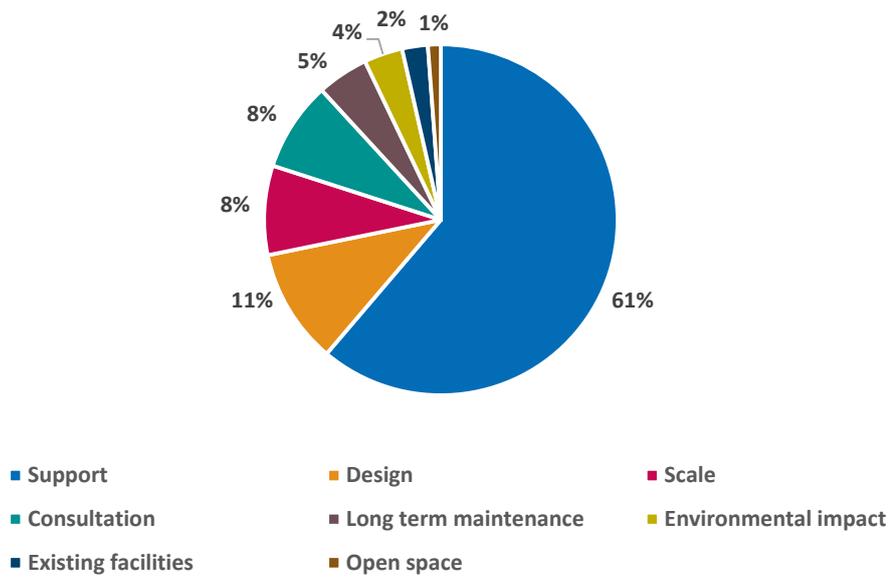
- Cokers Folly
- Castle Folly
- Kenilworth Sports Village
- Roy Gee Centre
- The Dick Turpin Centre
- Kenilworth Active
- Castle Farm & Wardens recreational Centre
- Castle Farm Training Facility
- Kenilworth Community Sports Hub

**Question 13: Do you have any comments to make about the proposed designs for the new headquarters for the Kenilworth Scouts and Guides?**

4.54 Respondents were provided with space to comment on the above question.

4.55 141 respondents answered this question. The responses have been summarised by theme in **Table 7.7 of Appendix 9.**

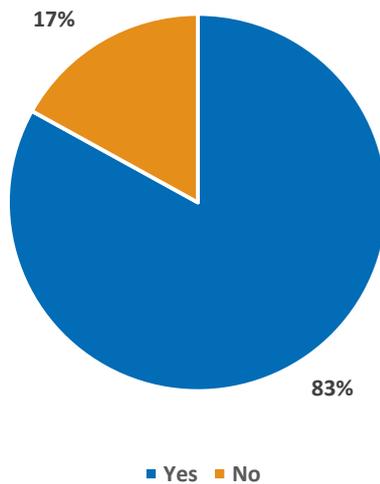
4.56 **Figure 4.19**, overleaf, illustrates the themes with the highest percentage of references in respondent comments.



**Figure 4.19 – Key themes from Question 13 responses**

**Question 14: Overall, do you support the proposed redevelopment?**

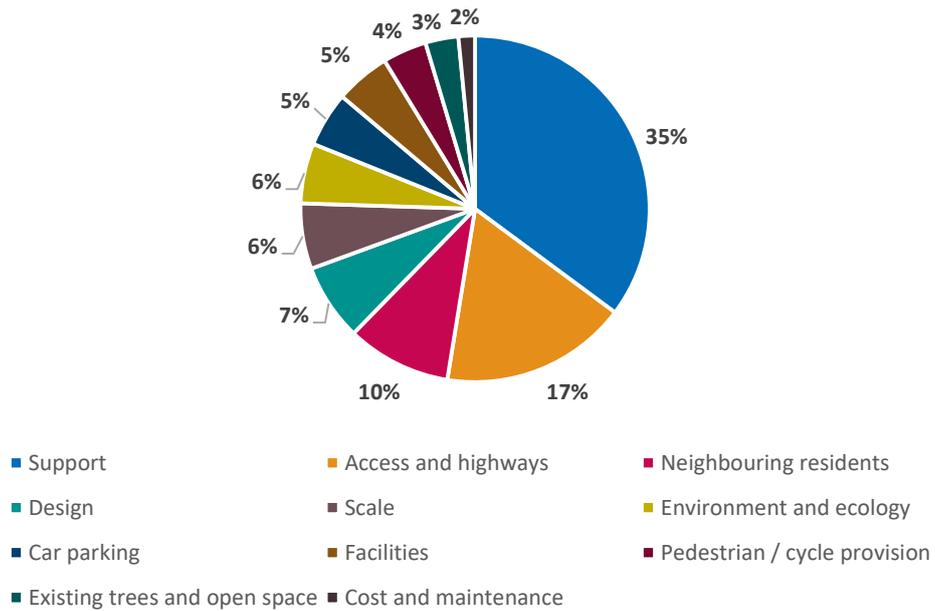
- 4.57 Question 14 provided respondents with tick box answers to state either ‘yes’ or ‘no’.
- 4.58 313 respondents answered this question, with 83% stating that ‘yes’ they did support the proposed development and 17% stating that ‘no’ they did not support the development.
- 4.59 These results are shown on **Figure 4.20** below.



**Figure 4.20 – Response to Question 14**

**Question 15: Do you have any comments to make on the design of the proposed site for Kenilworth Wardens at Castle Farm?**

- 4.60 Respondents were provided with space to comment on the above question.
- 4.61 196 respondents answered this question. The responses have been summarised by theme in **Table 7.8 of Appendix 9.**
- 4.62 **Figure 4.21**, below, illustrates the themes with the highest percentage of references in respondent comments.



**Figure 4.21 – Key themes from Question 15 responses**

## 5. Stakeholder Feedback

- 5.1 A total of 23 pieces of feedback were received from stakeholder groups during the consultation period, which ran between Monday 4 November 2019 and Monday 9 December 2019. This included 11 feedback forms and 12 emails/letters.
- 5.2 The feedback form asked respondents to identify themselves as a 'group' and the response from this category are stated in this chapter. All other responses have been included in the community feedback summary.
- 5.3 A summary of the feedback received is grouped by stakeholder below.

### Statutory Groups

- 5.4 Kenilworth Town Council provided feedback on the proposed development, which is summarised by theme in **Table 4.1**, below.

**Table 4.1 – Kenilworth Town Council feedback**

Theme	Summary of comment
Carbon targets	It was highlighted that, in accordance with district and national zero carbon targets and the Kenilworth Neighbourhood Plan, the proposed building should be built to be carbon neutral.
Sustainable transport	Sustainable travel, and encouragement of these travel options, should be prioritised.
Access routes	It was considered that further consideration could be given to access via alternative modes of transport than vehicular – including pedestrians, cyclists, busses and those using mobility scooters.
Water Dispensers	Councillors highlighted that free water provision should be included both inside and outside of the complex for users.

### Local Community Groups

- 5.5 The Kenilworth Town Council Liberal Democrat Group expressed support for the proposals. A summary of feedback received is outlined by theme in **Table 4.2**, below.

**Table 4.2 - The Kenilworth Town Council Liberal Democrat Group feedback**

Theme	Summary of comment
Sustainability	It was highlighted that sustainability measures and policies should be carefully considered through the design and development process.
Access	The group stated that further consideration could be given to parking, including the drop-off and pick-up provision.

	Members suggested that access could be provided from the north of the site, which could prevent congestion on surrounding residential roads.
Car parking	<p>It was stated that a flexible approach to parking should be taken to balance sustainable travel initiatives with realistic car use. It was suggested that parking provision be scaled back in the long term, with additional parking land being returned to its natural state.</p> <p>Members hoped to see electronic charging points installed in car parks.</p>
Environment and ecology	It was suggested that there could be an opportunity to increase biodiversity around the site.
Function room	<p>There was a request for further information on plans for the proposed activity / function room. It was highlighted that this should provide a space that is attractive and accessible to people of all ages.</p> <p>It was stated that the room should also present commercial opportunities – with revenue shared with the Council through the concession arrangement.</p>
Petanque	The Group were in support of the proposed petanque facilities.
Skate park	It was highlighted that provisions should be taken to preserve the existing skate park.
Design	There was support for the current design, which it was said present a modern and clean appearance.
Scouts and guides	Members were supportive of improved facilities, highlighting the importance of requirements for outside space.
Wardens	<p>There was understanding of proposals for the Wardens, however it was highlighted that this should be done in a way that does not negatively impact on amenity of existing residents.</p> <p>Members recognised that some efforts had been made to reduce the impact of the site on neighbours.</p> <p>It was suggested that parking and access be considered, along with limiting operation hours, to improve proposals.</p>

### **National Sporting Bodies**

5.6 A number of national sporting bodies provided support, and constructive comments on proposals. These included:

- Sport England
- Tennis for Britain
- Everyone Active
- Young Sport Trust
- RFU
- Football Foundation

5.7 The feedback provided by stakeholders is summarised overleaf, in **Table 4.3**.

**Table 4.3 - National sporting bodies' feedback**

Theme	Summary of comment
Economic opportunity	It was highlighted that the proposed development had significant potential and provided a sustainable investment for the future.
Accessibility	Stakeholders noted that the scheme would enhance the sense of community locally, as well as help improve the health and wellbeing of residents. It was highlighted that proposals provide the opportunity to make sport more accessible for the local community.
3G pitch	The RFU noted that the proposed pitch would not be able to service rugby union as the surface does not comply with World Rugby regulation 22 performance standards. It was suggested that a 3G pitch should be incorporated into proposals to avoid financial viability issues.
Cost and maintenance	The Football Foundation suggested that a long term plan would need to be prepared with a sustainable financial model for Kenilworth Wardens.
Facilities	There was support for the range of facilities, including space for classes in studios rather than just sports halls. It was highlighted that the modern design would be an improvement on existing facilities.

**Local Sporting Groups**

5.8 A range of local sporting groups provided feedback on proposals including:

- Local petanque groups
- U3A
- Nomades Club
- Birmingham FA
- Kenilworth Wardens
- Janet’s Bowling Girls
- Canasta Club
- Kenilworth Cricket Club

5.9 All local sporting groups who responded stated their support for the proposals. The Cricket Club stated neutrality to the plans as it did not impact upon their use.

5.10 A summary of the comments provided are outlined in **Table 4.4**, overleaf.

**Table 4.4 - Local sporting groups' feedback**

Theme	Summary of comment
Weather protection measures	<p>It was highlighted that the petanque terrain would need to be well drained to avoid flooding.</p> <p>Stakeholders suggested that a canopy and improved lighting would help to make the pitch usable throughout the year.</p>
Secondary petanque playing area	<p>Local groups were supportive of the revised construction plan, which will allow the overspill car park to also be used as a secondary pitch.</p> <p>It was suggested that the secondary playing area could be used for national competitions.</p>
Pitches	<p>The Kenilworth Wardens noted that proposals did not include 'astro turf' and felt this would be a good addition.</p>
Facilities	<p>It was highlighted that the proposed changing rooms and showers were not located very centrally for those using outdoor sporting facilities.</p> <p>The Kenilworth Wardens stated that a pavilion for after sporting games could be incorporated into proposals.</p>
Function room	<p>Janet's Bowling Girls and Canasta Club were concerned by the reduction / removal of a function room for parties and meetings.</p> <p>It was highlighted that a function room was necessary for social meetings and clubs.</p>
Maintenance and management	<p>It was highlighted that there was a need to ensure a robust business plan was in place for the operation of the site in the long term.</p>
Wardens	<p>Questions were asked in regards to the tenure arrangement.</p>

#### **Local recreational groups**

5.11 Kenilworth District Scouts, Girl Guiding and Simply Social stated their support of the development.

5.12 A summary of their comments is outlined in **Table 4.5** below.

**Table 4.5 - Local recreational group feedback**

Theme	Summary of comment
Design	<p>It was highlighted that further consideration could be given to additional storage facilities and windows in the design of the development.</p>
External area	<p>Local recreational groups suggested that the external area would need to be altered to allow for further outdoor activities.</p>

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It was highlighted that the skate-park would need to be renovated.

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Access

The group stated that further consideration could be given to parking, including the drop-off and pick-up provision.

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## 6. Applicant's Response

- 6.1 All of the feedback received as part of the multi-phased consultation has been considered during the evolution of the plans.
- 6.2 Every comment received has been recorded and considered to identify the issues raised. Where respondents raised more than one issue, each has been recorded separately. Through this process we have been able to identify commonalities and attributed issues to topic areas.
- 6.3 Feedback has been separated into two tables – **Table 6.1**, below, refers to the wider Castle Farm proposals and **Table 6.2**, overleaf, refers to proposals for the Wardens.
- 6.4 Wherever possible community comments and suggestions have been fed into the final masterplan. It is important to note that some community concerns will not always be overcome through the consultation exercise and that sometimes people have contradictory views.
- 6.5 In addition some of the comments received raised points of detail which would be addressed as part of the planning conditions rather than at the current application stage.

**Table 6.1 - Applicant response to feedback regarding Castle Farm proposals**

Theme	Applicant response
Sustainability and energy efficiency	<p>The Applicant is working hard to reduce the impact of the facilities in line with the Council's commitment to attaining carbon zero emissions by 2025.</p> <p>Several systems will be included as standard in line with Building Regulations; e.g. LED lighting, energy metering and heat recovery ventilation. Designs are still being developed and sustainable materials will be chosen where feasible and appropriate.</p> <p>The Applicant is also considering energy efficient systems, such as combined heat &amp; power units, grey water harvesting, voltage optimisation and photovoltaic panels, and again, where these technologies are considered appropriate they will be included in the designs. Some technologies are more appropriate for a swimming pool environment and some for a sports hall facility. The Applicant will continue to focus on the options as we develop the final designs that will be included in our planning application. In terms of car parking this will include electric car charging points; the exact number is to be confirmed.</p> <p>In regards to construction, the Applicant will also ensure that our construction methods impact on the environment as little as possible.</p>

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Petanque facilities	The Applicant was supportive of positive comments in relation to improved petanque facilities.
Impact on existing residents	<p>The Applicant has given thought to existing residents throughout the design process. Design features, such as materials chosen, will ensure proposals are sympathetic to their surroundings. Flood lighting has been positioned some distance from residents, and a lighting impact assessment has been undertaken to consider possible impacts of proposals for existing residents. This will be included as part of the planning application.</p> <p>The Applicant will continue to work closely with local residents and provide updates throughout the process when there is further information.</p>
Sustainable travel plan, including cycle and pedestrian facilities	A Green Travel Plan will be prepared for this site and the Wardens' site, working in unison. The Plan will encourage people to travel to the sites on foot or by bicycle where feasible. The percentage of people arriving at this venue on foot is already higher than the national average for sports centres, and the Applicant intends to build on this with a comprehensive plan and some innovative ideas. Both sites will include adequate parking for bikes.
Access	<p>The access arrangements for the new centre will remain the same as for the current centre.</p> <p>The Applicant is working closely with the Wardens to make sure that the access arrangements for the two sites work well together.</p>
Car parking and highways	<p>The Applicant is conscious that the projected increased traffic to Castle Farm and parking in/around the immediate areas is a key issue/concern for local residents. The Applicant will continue to work closely with local residents on this and update them when there is further information.</p> <p>The Applicant is reviewing the current use of Castle Farm car park and kerbside parking in order to assess the impact of the new centre. Our aim is to provide enough parking spaces on site to meet the demand and avoid customers parking elsewhere.</p>
Impact on ecology	The Council have commissioned an Ecological Impact Assessment (EIA). This has confirmed that the scheme has no significant impact on the ecological features. The majority of the proposed site is currently mown grass and, as part of the build, the Applicant will include measures to enhance the ecology. Replacement planting of hedgerows along the overflow parking area and replacement planting of trees to the south of the proposed petanque terrain are included within the proposals.

Size of development and loss of green space	<p>The size of the new centre, including the larger gym, is determined by the sporting facilities that are required for the predicted population growth in Kenilworth, and the District as a whole.</p> <p>The current open space around the leisure centre will remain open to the public for walking, dog exercising and for general games. Users of the open space will be welcome to use the toilets and vending machines within the centre.</p>
Flooding	<p>The proposed new Recreation Centre is located within Flood Zone 1; with the car park in Flood Zone 2, and parts of the overflow car park in Flood Zone 3. The proposed use for a recreation centre and associated facilities falls within the leisure use, which is classed as 'less vulnerable' in terms of flood risk vulnerability. Less vulnerable uses are deemed appropriate within flood zone 1-3, which means that the sequential test is passed and there is no requirement to apply the Exception test to the proposed development. Further detail can be found in the Flood Risk Assessment (FRA), which has been prepared and is submitted in support of this application.</p> <p>A drainage strategy has been developed and plans submitted which provide the detail of this strategy.</p> <p>Foul water drainage associated with the proposed development will discharge into the existing public combined sewer.</p>
Cost and maintenance	<p>The Council is working hard to deliver a high quality building at the lowest possible price. The cost effectiveness of the design will be kept under close control throughout. The new building will create additional income, which will help in providing the capital for the construction.</p> <p>The maintenance of the new building will be the responsibility of Everyone Active, who manage the facility on behalf of the Council. The company has considerable experience of maintaining leisure centres, and currently manage over 150 centres around the country. Everyone Active take an active role in the Design Team for the new facility, and so they are able to ensure that the designs are appropriate for easy maintenance and low running costs.</p>
Design	<p>The proposed materials will include a mix of materials including timber cladding, brickwork and metal cladding.</p> <p>The exact colours and materials will be included as part of the planning application.</p>
Additional gym and fitness classes	<p>The Applicant was supportive of respondent's positive comments in relation to the increased variety and number of</p>

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facilities and classes that proposals would create for the local community.

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**Table 6.2 - Applicant response to feedback regarding proposals for the Scouts and Guides**

Theme	Applicant response
Facilities for Scouts and Guides	Work is ongoing with the Scouts and Guides Groups on the design of the facility and the outdoor area. The comments made on the design and layout of the building are being considered by the design team.

**Table 7.3 - Applicant response to feedback regarding proposals for the Wardens**

Theme	Applicant response
Impact on existing residents	The Applicant has given thought to existing residents throughout the design process. The proposed floodlights are located at a distance from residential properties. The planning application for the Wardens site will include a detailed lighting impact assessment.
Access	As part of the wider Leisure Centre & Wardens projects, routes from the north have been reviewed and considered. However, routes from this direction are not considered viable due to added complications such as ecological impacts, land ownership, impact on archaeological remains, engineering works needed due to the water course and cost.
Drop off points / car parking	The Design team is working closely with their colleagues on the Kenilworth Wardens site to assess and mitigate the impact on traffic and parking of the two sites together.
Public access to facilities	The Wardens have confirmed that the public will have access to the site to watch sport in progress. The proposals include wide footpaths around the outside of the site so that people can still access the countryside and walk their dogs.

## 7. Conclusion

- 7.1 The Applicant has undertaken a comprehensive strategy for pre-application consultation with key stakeholders and the local community. This engagement has enabled the project team to build an understanding of the local context and raise awareness of the proposals.
- 7.2 The engagement programme undertaken for the development has met the requirements of the national planning policies and the general principles set out in Warwick District Council's SCI.
- 7.3 To bring forward development on this site the Applicant has undertaken a comprehensive two phased consultation programme. The Applicant has engaged with the community through a range of methods and techniques including pre-application meetings, distribution of information raising material, hosting a consultation webpage and holding drop-in sessions.
- 7.4 The feedback received as a result of this consultation has been positive, with local stakeholders and residents demonstrating support for the proposed investment. A number of constructive comments have helped in shaping proposals, which are outlined in this report.
8. A number of changes have been made to proposals following the feedback received, including:
- Additional cycle racks have been incorporated into proposals, along with capacity for including more in the future.
  - A travel plan has been developed with Everyone Active, as the centre operator, and local stakeholder input.
- 7.5 In summary, the Applicant considers that the pre-application engagement undertaken with the local community and stakeholders has been timely, meaningful and effective.

**Appendix 1: Stage 1 Statement of Community Engagement (2018)**

## Appendix E: Kenilworth Leisure – RIBA Stage 1 Statement of Community Engagement



December 2018  
Rev Issue

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- 1.0 Introduction**
- 2.0 RIBA 1 Design Review**
- 3.0 Aims & Objectives**
- 4.0 Previous Engagement**
- 5.0 Engagement Review**
- 6.0 Kenilworth Overview**
- 7.0 Survey Results & Key Issues**
- 8.0 NGBs**
- 9.0 User Groups**
- 10.0 Local Sports Clubs**
- 11.0 Local Societies, Groups & Clubs**
- 12.0 Other Respondents**
- 14.0 Schools**
- 15.0 Conclusion**

## 1.1 Purpose of this Document

This Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) is a document which sets out how Warwick District Council (WDC) have engaged the community of Kenilworth during a RIBA Stage 1 public consultation process. This particular statement relates solely to Stage 1 of a 2 Stage planning consultation strategy for refurbishment works at both Castle Farm and Abbey Fields Leisure Centres respectively.

In order to inform development proposals at the earliest opportunity a two phased Consultation and Engagement Strategy has been devised by the Council and the Project Team. The first community engagement activity has been held at RIBA Stage 1 in order to ensure an appropriate facility mix at both Castle Farm and Abbey Fields is progressed by the team, one that reflects the local community's future needs. The consultation activities that have been set out in this document, have sought to collect feedback with regards to the early and indicative design options from various user groups, stakeholders and members of the wider public.

The Project Team are aware that involving communities is an essential element of a responsible and inclusive planning and design process. It has been noted at the outset of the process that effective engagement depends upon communities having access, at the earliest possible opportunity, to as much information about the development proposals and their likely impact as possible.

An important phase of this engagement was to provide opportunities for the community to provide feedback about proposals from the outset. By doing this the community of Kenilworth could help shape the development proposals that affect them.

In addition to the above this document sets out the methodology undertaken for the Consultation and Engagement Strategy, provides a summary of the feedback obtained, and the key issues arising throughout the process. Raw data received from interested parties is set out in the body of the report.

The main body of the Statement presents a summary of the common and popular themes which have arisen throughout a 3 week WDC led consultation process which included nine public events and additional stakeholder meetings where required. Further information regarding the engagement activities can be found in Section 3.0.

## 1.2 Project Background & Client Brief

Phase 1 of the WDC Leisure Development Programme (LDP) has now been completed. It was agreed at the start of the Programme in 2015 that upon completion of Phase 1 the existing facilities in Kenilworth would form Phase 2 of the LDP once the Local Plan gave more certainty as to the future development of the town.

The Local Plan (2011 – 2029) is now in place and was officially adopted in September 2017. WDC decided it was necessary to get the Local Plan in place before deciding on the future of leisure provision in Kenilworth, as the changes introduced by that Plan would evidently affect demand for sports and leisure facilities.

Now the plan is in place and the Phase 1 programme has been completed WDC believed it time to commence Phase 2 of the LDP. It was important that at the commencement of LDP Phase 2 that the people of Kenilworth understood that they could get the same sort of aspirational, successful and modern facilities as the Council has provided at Newbold Comyn and St Nicholas Park as part of phase 1 and this was the starting point of the eventual Brief.

As part of Phase 2 it is hoped that the community in Kenilworth will be encouraged and get behind the proposals being presented and understand that the Council wants to continue to help local communities adopt a healthy and active lifestyle.

The newly constructed or refurbished facilities will be designed to modern standards, making them more environmentally friendly and cheaper to run. The facilities will also be prepared for use for another 30 years and able to accommodate the growth in the local area.

### 2.1 RIBA Stage 1 Overview

The project will follow the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) project stages model, in order to manage resources effectively and report back throughout the design process. The professional services and design team have been procured and Mace have been appointed as Project Managers with Darnton B3 as the architects.

As part of the initial works, consideration was given to the constraints and opportunities at each site. After this the project design team developed a set of outline options. In drawing up these options the team have also taken into account the Sport England Facilities Planning Model and revised WDC Indoor Sports Strategy (2018) which both evidence the need for additional sports hall and swimming pool space.

As part of an initial evaluation process the team considered numerous options which were then assessed on design quality, flexibility, customer requirements, operational effectiveness and anticipated value for money.

This led to the short-listed options, which were agreed by the Council's Executive in September. It is these options that were included in the public consultation.

The sites and design options have been discussed in more detail below:

### 2.2 Castle Farm

The Castle Farm Recreation Centre is located on a wide and expansive piece of land in Kenilworth and currently offers a sports hall, petanque terrain, gym, and grass pitches. The Centre is extremely popular with local users, walkers and dog walkers. Initial consideration was given to the sites' constraints and opportunities, which were identified as being:

#### Constraints

- *Located near to the Kenilworth Castle Fishponds, which are part of the wider heritage site*
- *A number of important wildlife habitats exist in the wider site*
- *The first floor of the Recreation Centre is occupied by the Kenilworth Scout and Guide Centre*
- *Vehicular access and parking is restricted and sensitive*
- *Residents live relatively close to the site*
- *The current building is not suitable for refurbishment*

#### Opportunities

- *Option to construct a new building gives the opportunity for a completely new start*
- *The Scouts and Guides can be accommodated in their own new facility*
- *Parking and vehicle movements can be designed appropriately*
- *Kenilworth needs additional sports hall, gym and exercise studio space*

One of the main opportunities identified at Castle Farm was the ability to start again. The site offers a wonderful chance to build a modern facility that is fit for purpose and ready for the future. The Scouts and Guides that currently use the Centre could be more independent. A new gym, studios and sports hall would provide the town with a top quality facility of which it can be justly proud, whilst being flexible and future proof.

Once the team had identified the opportunities and constraints on site the options on the following page were developed:

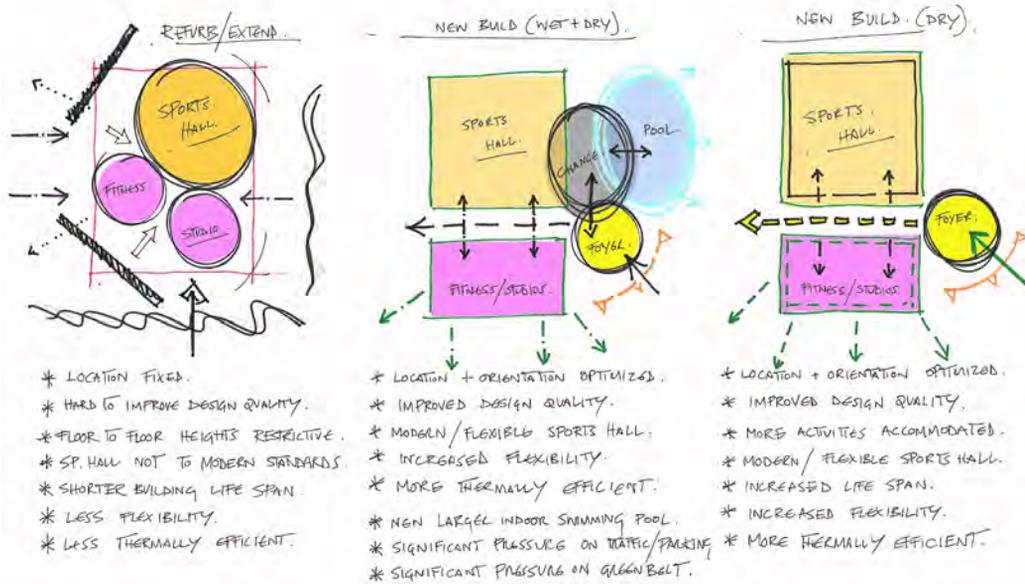


Image: Phase 1: Design Development Castle Farm

The above development options were considered by the team and WDC for Castle Farm. These options included both refurbishment schemes as well as proposals for partial or complete new builds.

Following the completion of the initial design options, a scoring matrix was developed to help assess each of the options, this was based on the set criteria as previously agreed at RIBA1. Following a review of the scores by the project team, the options with the lowest scores were then rejected.

### 2.2.1 Main Option

After the completion of the matrix analysis it was clear that given the constraints of the original building, there would be one principal proposal for this site. This is to demolish the current Centre and replace it with a brand new “dry side” facility. (A “dry side” facility is a Sports Centre which doesn’t include a swimming pool.)

The facilities included in this option are;

1. a sports hall large enough for 6 badminton courts,
2. a fitness suite (gym) with approximately 80

‘stations’,

3. One/ two fitness studios for group exercise classes/sessions.

This option would increase the size of the current sports hall from 4 to 6 badminton courts and so meets the requirement for additional courts, as identified by the Sport England Facility Planning Model and the District’s revised Indoor Sports Strategy (2018).

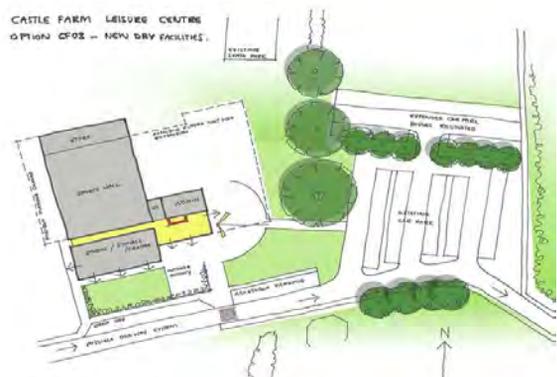


Image: Phase 1: Main Option

A further consideration for this site is the accommodation for the Scouts and Guides groups who use the first floor space in the Centre at present. The potential demolition of the current Centre and the groups’ need for a larger facility would mean that the groups will need to move.

The Council and the Scouts and Guides groups will continue to work together to identify whether this accommodation could be provided on the Castle Farm site or whether an alternative location can be found in Kenilworth. If they stay on the site, the current proposal would be to provide a separate building so that the groups and the Leisure Centre could function independently.

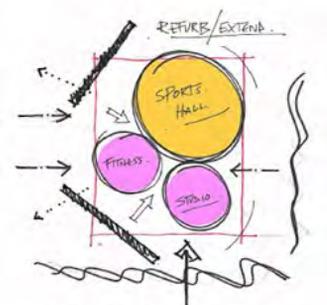
As part of the design process the team noted that Kenilworth Wardens Sports Club have aspirations to relocate their sports facilities to a site next to Castle Farm Recreation Centre. However at the time of both design and consultation their proposals for a move were not yet developed sufficiently to be referenced within either process. The Council have further noted to the community that they have been and will continue to work closely with the Wardens on the connection between the two projects and will ensure that the two projects can work together well if required. This was reaffirmed to all consultees throughout the consultation events, when concerns were raised about the Warden’s project.

**2.3 Abbey Fields**

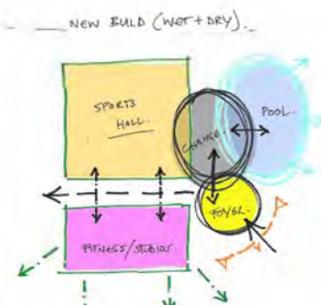
Abbey Fields Swimming Pool is extremely popular with local users and as with Castle Farm initial consideration was given to the site’s constraints and opportunities, these were identified as being:

**Constraints**

- *Current on-site car parking is distant from the pool and this impacts on accessibility*



- \* LOCATION FIXED.
- \* HARD TO IMPROVE DESIGN QUALITY.
- \* FLOOR TO FLOOR HEIGHTS RESPECTIVE
- \* SP. HALL NOT TO MODERN STANDARDS.
- \* SHORTER BUILDING LIFE SPAN
- \* LESS FLEXIBILITY.
- \* LESS THERMALLY EFFICIENT.



- \* LOCATION + ORIENTATION OPTIMIZED.
- \* IMPROVED DESIGN QUALITY.
- \* MODERN/FLEXIBLE SPORTS HALL.
- \* INCREASED FLEXIBILITY.
- \* MORE THERMALLY EFFICIENT.
- \* NEW LARGE INDOOR SWIMMING POOL
- \* SIGNIFICANT PRESSURE ON PATHIC/PARKING
- \* SIGNIFICANT PRESSURE ON ACCESSIBILITY

- *Car parking is difficult to Increase or move closer to the pool*
- *Sensitive site in planning terms as It is located on a Scheduled Ancient Monument*
- *All development will require additional permission from the Inspector of Ancient Monuments*
- *Significant habitat and ecology value in the surrounding park*

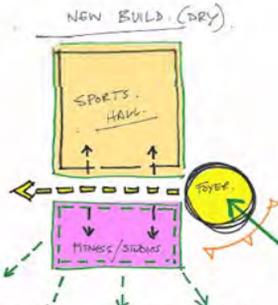
**Opportunities**

Located in a superb setting within the Abbey Fields the brook and lake border the site on two sides. The new design should relate more to these surroundings.

- *The venue is well-used and known to the majority of Kenilworth residents*
- *The facilities need to be brought up to modern standards*
- *The natural and historic nature of the setting requires a modern but sympathetic building*

It was noted as part of the design process that refurbishing this facility offers the opportunity to make the most of this idyllic setting whilst also providing top-class, modern facilities that reflect the high quality of the town of Kenilworth.

In line with the work undertaken on Castle Farm and once the team identified the opportunities and constraints on site, the following options were developed.



- \* LOCATION + ORIENTATION OPTIMIZED.
- \* IMPROVED DESIGN QUALITY.
- \* MORE ACTIVITIES ACCOMMODATED.
- \* MODERN/FLEXIBLE SPORTS HALL.
- \* INCREASED LIFE SPAN.
- \* INCREASED FLEXIBILITY.
- \* MORE THERMALLY EFFICIENT.

The development options discussed on the previous pages were considered by the Project Team for Abbey Fields following the same process as Castle Farm. These options included both refurbishment schemes as well as proposals for partial or complete new builds.

The main difference between Abbey Fields and Castle Farm with regards to the consultation was that there were two main options identified for the site, both of which would retain the existing indoor 25m pool.

**2.3.1 Option 1**

This proposal is to refurbish and remodel the existing facilities, and to provide a second indoor pool.

- The facilities included within this option are as follows;
- An additional new indoor teaching pool to replace the current outdoor pool and paddling pool.
- Improved changing facilities
- Improved café for pool and park customers
- Modernisation and visual improvements to the building
- Improved views of the lake from the Centre

The additional indoor pool would provide more flexible water space, including teaching swimming to children and adults, as well as classes and groups such as aqua fit, lifesaving, and providing accessible water for disabled swimming, all year round. This would free up space in the 25m indoor pool for recreational swimming and other water activities, raise the number of people who can learn to swim and increase revenue generated at the site. It would provide formal water space equivalent to more than 1.8 lanes of a 25 metre pool which meets the shortfall identified in the Indoor Sports Strategy (2018).



Image: Phase 1: Option 1

**2.3.2 Option 2**

This proposal is to refurbish and remodel the existing facilities. It retains the current, existing outdoor pool and paddling pool.

The facilities included within this option are as follows;

- Repair of outdoor pool tank
- Improved changing facilities
- Improved café for pool and park customers
- Modernisation and visual improvements of the building
- Improvements to the outdoor pool and seating area.

Retaining the outdoor pools would allow customers to continue to swim outside during the summer months.

With options 1 and 2 the proposal is to remodel and refurbish existing parts of the building to improve the customer experience, increase usable space, maximise income, and ensure that the building is up to modern standards and ready for another 30 years of use.

There is not enough space to retain the existing outdoor pool and paddling pool and provide a new indoor pool as well. Whilst the outdoor pools would continue to provide a venue for recreational swimming, unfortunately they do not count towards the required additional water space as identified in the Sport England Facilities Planning Model and therefore additional demand would need to be met at other sites and through a different approach to programming of facilities.



Image: Phase 1: Option 2

In addition to the options described above and as part of the consultation the Council is also seeking to understand the importance of improving the tennis courts and former bowling pavilion at Abbey Fields.

### 3.1 Consultation & Objectives

Following the appointment of the Design Team in July 2018 and the completion of RIBA Stage 1 works, a Consultation and Engagement Strategy was prepared and presented to the WDC as part of the September Executive Report. The engagement was organised into a single and concurrent work stream: which would focus on engaging as many local groups, residents, users and interested parties as possible.

The Consultation and Engagement Strategy for the Kenilworth Leisure Centre proposals was guided by a set of Key Objectives, which were as follows:

- Identify and engage with a wide range of local people, key individuals and organisations to obtain their views on the opportunities to enhance sport and leisure opportunities within two Centres.
- Confirm those key constraints and opportunities that the development proposals would need to address
- Encourage dialogue between a wide range of stakeholder bodies and local residents
- Facilitate dialogue between the Project Team, the local community and key stakeholders
- Facilitate an informed contribution by participants through the clear presentation of opportunities and constraints

Additionally the engagements also sought to balance the needs and requirements of the local

community whilst making stakeholders aware that any eventual decision would also need to incorporate affordability and technical considerations. Ultimately, the views established and feedback collated through community engagement will then help WDC to determine the best options to be taken forward for further development.

A further phase of engagement will be undertaken prior to the end of RIBA Stage 3 and prior to any submission for planning permission. Stage 3 Engagement will provide further opportunity for stakeholders to comment on the detailed design of the preferred scheme for each site.

### 4.0 Previous Local Engagement Activities

#### 4.1 Kenilworth Town Council survey

In 2013 Kenilworth Town Council conducted a survey regarding the development plans in the existing Local Plan, as the first step in its development of a Neighbourhood Plan.

One of the questions with the strongest disagreement from respondents was question 13. The statement read - The outdoor pool is only used for short periods in the summer. A sports hall should be built in its place, contained within the current footprint, and replacing that in Castle Farm.

It should be noted that the response to this question is not relevant to the current exercise for a number of reasons. Firstly, the statement suggested that the replacement of the outdoor pool would be a sports hall, which is not suggested at this time. Secondly, it suggested that Castle Farm Recreation Centre should be shut, which is not proposed now. There was no indication of a possible replacement for the outdoor pool which would increase the opportunities for swimming, as is proposed in this case. The reference to 'short periods in the summer' was considered pejorative by many respondents, which may have skewed the result.

#### 4.2 Save Our Outdoor Pool and Restore Kenilworth Lido petition

In 2016, the informal group known then as 'Save Our Outdoor Pool' began a petition to ensure the future of the outdoor fun pool at Abbey Fields was protected. This petition is no longer available. It is believed that it has been subsumed within a more recent petition by the same group, who are now known as 'Restore Kenilworth Lido'.

This latter petition currently has 3,544 electronic signatures. However, the wording of this petition is also not relevant to the current situation as the text of the petition reads "Kenilworth has the only public outdoor pool within a 30 mile radius, including Coventry and Warwickshire, yet the council are considering replacing it with a gym, run along commercial lines, in competition with the 71 other gyms within a 20 mile radius." There are no plans to replace the outdoor pool with a gym, and so the

basis of the petition is flawed for this reason.

#### 4.3 Coventry Evening Telegraph survey

The Coventry Evening Telegraph is currently running a survey in order to gain the views of their readers as to whether they prefer the additional indoor pool or the retention of the outdoor pool. As this consultation is ongoing, it has not been considered further within this report. However WDC acknowledge that it is taking place.

### 5.1 Public Consultation and Engagement Methodology (2018)

#### 5.1.1 Stakeholder Identification

Prior to establishing a full Engagement Strategy WDC and Mace worked together to identify as many interested parties and local stakeholders as possible.

Stakeholders were separated into the following categories:

- Local community & residents
- Education
- Local Societies & Groups
- National Governing Bodies
- Statutory Authorities
- Local Sports Clubs
- Local Swimming Clubs
- Other interested parties
- WDC internal stakeholders

Each Stakeholder identified was invited to one of the drop in sessions and/ or separate engagement sessions. Further details regarding notification and sessions held can be found in the advance notification and engagement sections of this document.

#### 5.1.2 Consultation Programme

In order to meet the consultation objectives of the District Council, a series of public engagement events and static exhibitions of proposals was undertaken over the course of three weeks between 22<sup>nd</sup> October and 10<sup>th</sup> November 2018. The dates, times and venues are presented below:

Week 1:

Session 1: Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2018. 06:30 – 09:00, Abbey Fields Swimming Pool.

Session 2: Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2018. 16:00 – 20:00, Abbey Fields Swimming Pool.

Session 3: Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2018. 18:30 – 20:00, Meadow Community Sports Centre.

Session 4: Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2018. 11:30 – 13:30, Castle Farm Recreation Centre.

Week 2:

Session 5: Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2018. 07:30 – 10:30, Castle Farm Recreation Centre.

Session 6: Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2018. 18:00 – 20:00, Castle Farm Recreation Centre.

Session 7: Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2018, 11:00 – 13:00, Abbey Fields Swimming Pool.

Week 3:

Session 8: Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2018, 18:00 – 20:00, Jubilee House, Kenilworth.

Session 9: Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2018, 13:00 – 16:00, Abbey Fields Swimming Pool.

## 5.2 Advanced Notification

### 5.2.1 Letters & Letter Drop

In order to ensure that a wide range of local residents were involved in the Phase 1 engagement process, circa 2800 letters were distributed to local residents in the closest proximity to both of the centres.

In addition, letters were also sent to the following Kenilworth Groups notifying them of the consultation event and inviting them to attend: one of the engagement sessions

- Friends of Abbey Fields
- Kenilworth Archeology Society
- Kenilworth Civic Society
- Kenilworth History and Archeology Society
- Kenilworth Runners
- Kenilworth Scouts and Guides
- Kenilworth Senior Citizens Club
- Kenilworth Town Council
- Kenilworth Wardens
- Khalsa Hockey Club
- Nomads Club de Petanque
- St Nicholas Church
- Other clubs using existing facilities

Letters and feedback forms were also sent to the following National Governing Bodies of Sport inviting them to provide individual feedback:

- Sport England
- Swim England
- Rugby Football Union
- Football Association
- Hockey England
- England Cricket Board (ECB)
- Lawn Tennis Association (LTA)

Finally, letters were also sent to current clubs using the existing facilities inviting them to respond to the consultation as a club rather than an individual.

### 5.2.2 Press Release

To promote the consultation and engagement to the wider Kenilworth local community WDC released a press release. This was released to the following organisations on the 12<sup>th</sup> October, well in advance of the first event:

- Free Radio
- Leamington Courier/Kenilworth Weekly News
- Touch Radio
- Coventry Telegraph
- Stratford Herald
- Warwick University (The Boar)
- BBC Coventry and Warwickshire

The consultation also gained coverage in the Kenilworth Weekly News, Courier and Leamington Observer.

The press release focused on all the key details relating to the events and reference links to the exhibition boards, questionnaires and consultation programme and closing date for comments, which could all be found on the Councils' website,

In addition to the key details surrounding the event the PR also featured the following statement from Warwick District Council's Portfolio Holder for Culture, Councillor Michael Coker who commented.

*"In line with the huge improvements we have made to the leisure facilities in Leamington and Warwick, we want to offer the same high standards in Kenilworth. We would like as many people as possible to take this opportunity to give their feedback on the options we are proposing."*

The PR noted that data gathered at the drop in sessions and through the Council's website will be used to inform a report that will go to the Warwick District Council Executive early in the New Year.

5.2.3 Leaflets & Posters

A leaflet/Poster was produced and displayed at the following locations and events:

- Leisure Centres – Abbey Fields, Castle Farm and Meadow
- Kenilworth Tennis Club
- Wardens Cricket and Football Club
- Kenilworth Sports and Social Club - Montague House,
- Kenilworth Cricket Club
- Senior Citizens Club – Abbey End

The leaflet was also published on the Council's website.



Image: Phase 1: Advanced Notification Leaflet

The leaflet identified three main ways to engage in the consultation process

1. An opportunity to review the exhibition boards and engage with a member of the project team

at one of the various venues and times listed on the leaflet.

2. Leave feedback by filling in either the online questionnaire (using survey monkey platform) which could be accessed on the Council's website or fill in a questionnaire at one of the drop in sessions.
3. In addition to the above, if anyone wished to make separate comments outside the remit of the questionnaire, or wished to supplement the questionnaire response at a later date they could send it to the Leisure Team using the leisurekenilworth@warwickdc.gov.uk email address.

Internal stakeholders were targeted through a WDC internal communications strategy which included:

- Notice to all WDC staff on the Intranet.
- Notice included within the weekly briefing note for Members.
- Leaflet and posters produced as above and put up around the District Council offices.
- Managers' Forum briefing.

The engagement was also picked up in the WDC Green Spaces News Letter that keeps WDC members and the public up-to-date with news about parks, play spaces, nature reserves woodlands and other green spaces.

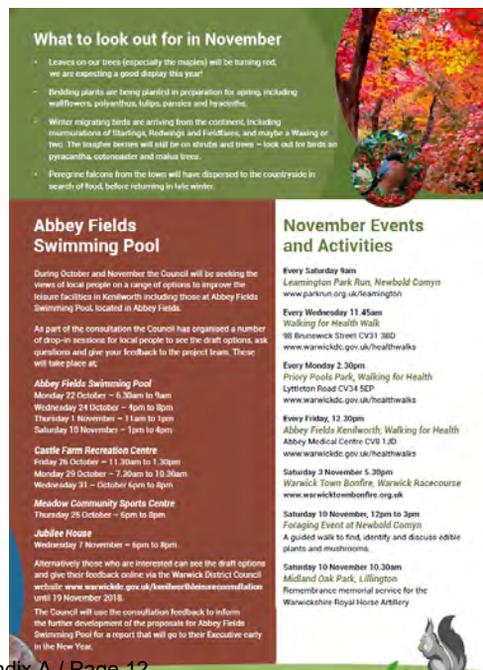


Image: Phase 1: Green Space Leaflet

## 5.2.4 Social Media

Social Media was used to promote the consultation but has not been used as a platform for consultees to respond to the engagement events. WDC official social media platforms were used to publicise the events and this included a schedule of posts across both Facebook & Twitter.

In total, there were 3 reminder tweets issued during the consultation. In total, these posts gained 3328 impressions, with an impression being counted every time a tweet is seen. i.e. 1 person could see it 5 times and this would count for 5.

On Facebook, the reminders were posted a total of six times and these reached 3076 people. Unlike twitter, a person can only be counted one time, suggesting more people were reached from Facebook compared to Twitter.

An example of the Facebook post is as follows:



## 5.3 Public Engagements Events / Sessions

Members of the Project Team were in attendance during the various public engagement sessions. In the vast majority of cases, members of the following organisations were present to assist in promoting discussion, answering questions and providing clarification where required.

- **Warwick District Council (Project Team and Councillors)**
- **Mace (Project Managers)**
- **DB3 (Project Architects & Design Lead)**

Those attending the events were given an opportunity to take away a hard copy questionnaire for completion at a time of their choosing which could then be given back by one of the following methods:

- Hand back in at one of the other events
- Leave at one of the event locations (Leisure Centres) for collection by WDC or:
- Send directly back to WDC by post.

The questionnaire included a preamble to the development proposal and mirrored the survey monkey online survey available though the Council's website.

At each event, large presentation boards explained the following:

- Board 1 - Overall Vision and Site/Background Information used to inform the design process.
- Board 2 – Brief design development review explaining many of the options explored.
- Board 3 – Proposals presented for consultation and key next steps.

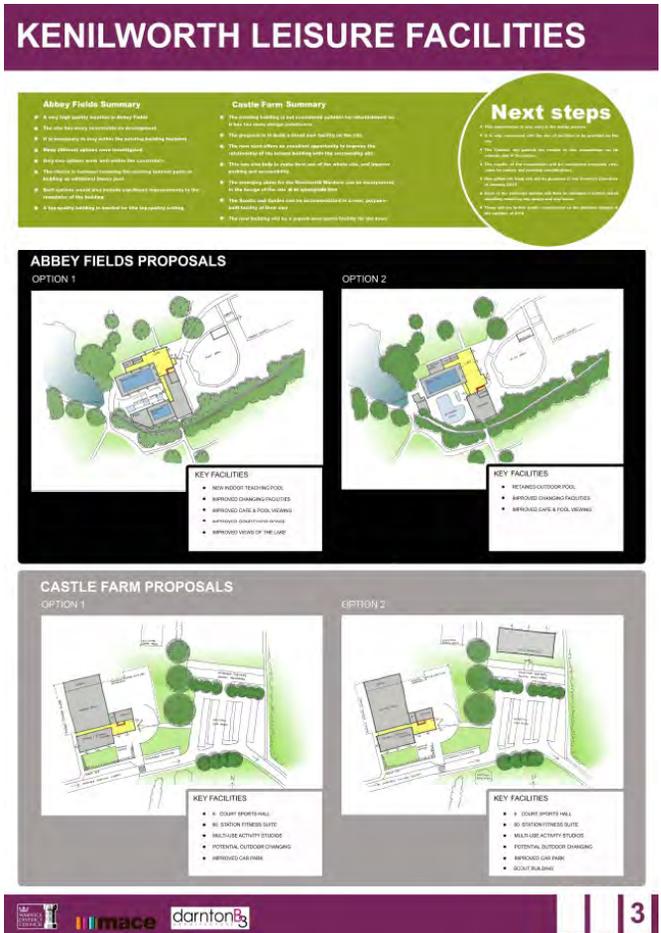


Image: Phase 1: Consultation Board 3

Each event had one or two tables to display the boards which allowed the team to speak with individuals and or groups in attendance. This provided the opportunity to discuss the proposals (while standing) with interested parties.

During the 9 staffed events, a number of one to one discussions were held with individual and interested parties in quiet area aside from main events as and when required.

All hard copies of the completed questionnaire received at the event, or subsequently received by WDC and Everyone Active through the post or handed in, were entered into the Smart Survey platform by the Project Team to enable completed surveys to be analysed.

### 5.4 Other Engagement Activities

A series of stakeholder meetings were held with the following groups:

- Kenilworth Town Council
- Kenilworth District Councillors
- Kenilworth Scouts and Guides
- Café Owner at Abbey Fields
- RKL Group
- Everyone Active Staff
- WDC: Senior Management Group

### 6.1 Kenilworth Demographic

This section does not form part of the survey results but has been included by Mace to provide some further background to the demographic within the local area of Kenilworth. The information has been taken from a survey conducted by Warwickshire Public Health (2015) and is provided as background demographic information only.

Kenilworth is characterised predominantly by a middle aged population with an unusually large number of young adults. From a population of 25,308, just over 25% are between the ages of 40 and 60.

There are a large number of young adults, which is due to part of the University of Warwick being situated adjacent to Kenilworth. The population density of Kenilworth is 8.6 persons per hectare. The proportion of residents in this locality that are not of a 'White UK' ethnicity is slightly higher, at 12%, than the Warwickshire average. The proportion of the population who come from a Black & Minority ethnic group is in line with the county figure, but the proportion of those who belong to an ethnicity which is classed as being 'Other White not UK' is slightly higher than the Warwickshire average, which could be due to the large number of foreign students at the University of Warwick.

The proportion of households in which all of the residents speak English as their main language is higher, at 96.1%, than the county level and national figures.

The local area is mainly comprised of a fairly even number of detached and semi-detached houses, making up just over two thirds of all households. 16.2% of the households are terraced homes and 13.4% of the households are in purpose built blocks of flats. Just under 80% of the occupied households are either owned outright or mortgaged and 11.6%

of the homes are privately rented. Many of these privately rented households may be rented out to students from the University of Warwick. There are also a large number of residents (1,662 residents) living in communal establishments which are not medical & care establishments. These are likely to be residents living in University halls of residence.

The proportion of the population that is unemployed and the long-term unemployment rate are both lower than the Warwickshire and national figures.

The proportion of individuals who describe their general health as being bad or very bad is lower than the County and National averages.

The top five things highlighted as the factors which make an area a good place to live by residents of the locality, were also highlighted as those which need improving most by the residents. The biggest problem in the area was identified as being residential parking and around 66% of the local population were worried about having their home broken into.

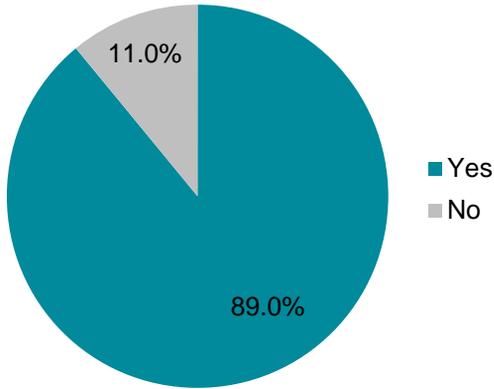
Overall, 95.6% of the residents of Kenilworth are satisfied with the local area as a place to live.

Mace note that the survey results discussed above were undertaken in 2015, however the contents do provide relevant information as to the larger demographic and characteristics of the town that will help to put the following public survey results into some context.

### 7.1 (About You) Questions

This Section summarises the background questions that accompanied the completed respondent questionnaire responses. Background questions were used to better understand certain characteristic and demographics of the audience that were being engaged throughout the events. Additionally, these questions have allowed the team to better understand where each respondent fits in the general population.

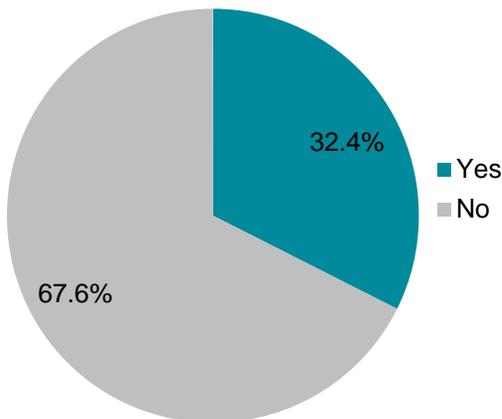
### Have you read any of the background notes, accompanying this survey or on our website?



The background information produced by the project team outlined the two sites, Abbey Fields and Castle Farm, as well as each of the options that were being consulted on.

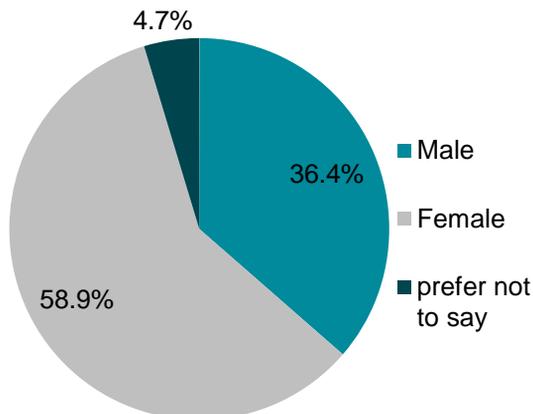
Whilst 11% of people did not read the information available before completing the survey, it should also be considered that there were 3-6 members of the team on hand at each of the consultation event to talk members of the public through the proposals to enhance peoples' understanding before completing the survey.

### Have you attended one of our drop-in sessions / consultation meetings?



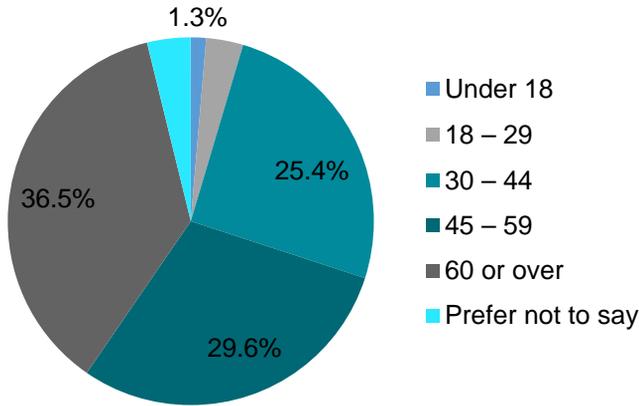
Whilst there was background information available within the surveys, the fact that 67.6% of people did not attend the drop in or consultation sessions suggests that there was a missed opportunity to learn more about the proposed schemes and discuss the requirements with the professional team. This suggests that only 138 people attended an event and then went on to fill out a questionnaire. From data collected at the events it is estimated that a total of approximately 300 people attended an event across the 9 sessions.

### What is your gender identity?



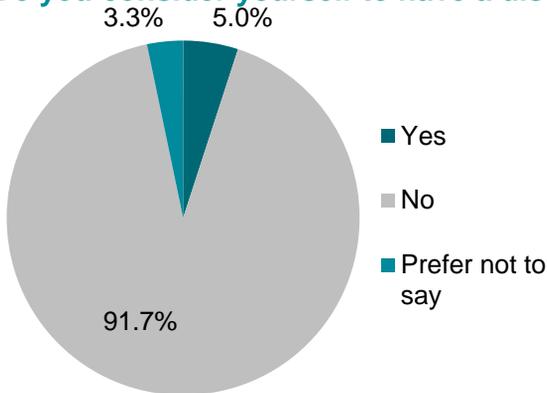
The split between genders that provided a response to the survey is not reflective of the estimated census in 2017, which is based on data from the national census completed in 2011. The 2017 estimate estimated a 51% female proportion to 49% male proportion.

**What age category are you in?**



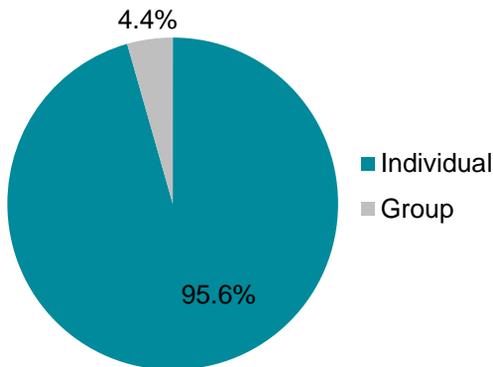
The largest group of respondents was those that noted they are 60 or over, who were responsible for 36.5% of all completed surveys. In addition, there was an even split between 30-44 and 45-59 year olds.

**Do you consider yourself to have a disability?**



91.7% of all respondents noted that they do not have a disability with, 5.0% consider themselves to have a disability with 3.3% preferring not to say.

**Did you complete this survey as an individual or group?**

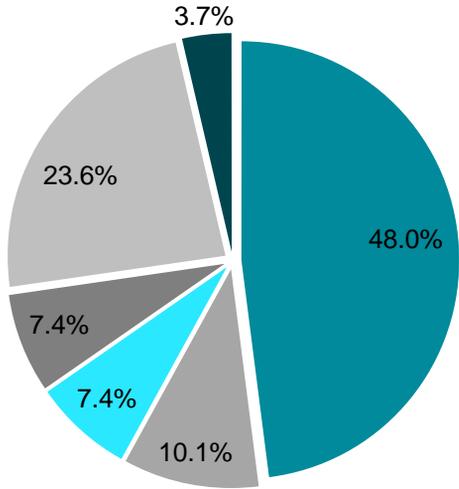


95.6% of respondents completed the survey on behalf of themselves. Any responses that were completed on behalf of a group have been noted and are expanded upon later in this section.

**What is your ethnicity?**



**How often do you currently use the existing facilities at Castle Farm?**

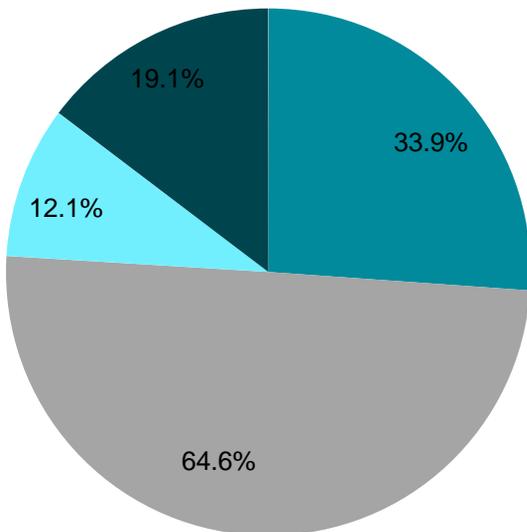


- Never
- Monthly
- Annually
- Weekly
- Quarterly
- Daily

Of the people responding to the survey only 48% of the people never use the facilities, whilst only 34.5% of respondents use the facilities monthly or on a more regular basis. One of the key reasons that people that do not use the facilities are interested in this scheme could be due to the potential increase of traffic, which is a key area of concern for local residents.

In addition to this, the facility mix of the leisure centre on both options was the same, meaning that the key item for discussion was the re-location of the local scout and guide groups, which impacts on the wider community and not just regular leisure centre users.

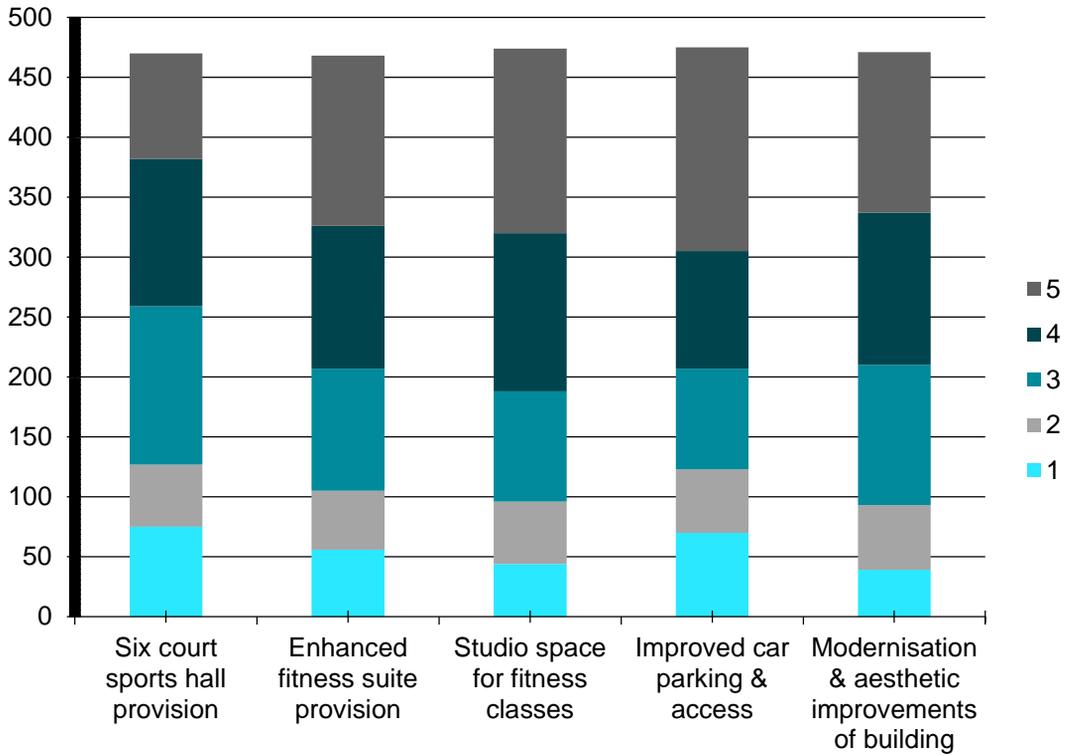
**Which of the current facilities do you use (please select as many as necessary)?**



- Gym
- Meeting Room
- Sports Hall
- Football pitches

Within the proposed design, the facility includes for an increased sports hall, fitness suite and studio space. The responses provided above are inline with the proposed design, showing that the majority of people that use the facility currently use the sports hall and the gym. By enhancing these facilities, the leisure centre will be able to provide a better facility for their users, in line with the requirements of the local people.

How important are the proposed enhancements to you at Castle Farm Recreation Centre?

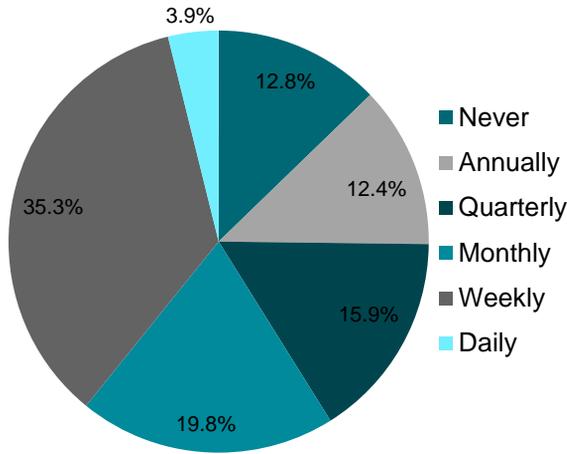


Out of all of the enhancements proposed at the Castle Farm Recreation Centre, both the improved car parking strategy and increased studio spaces were the most important items to consider when progressing the design.

Over 300 respondents noted that all of the proposed enhancements were somewhat important to them and this is reflective of the condition of the current asset, which is widely known to be at the end of its life cycle and not fit-for-purpose in today’s health and fitness market, which benefits from more flexible spaces for fitness suites and classes.

The enhancement of the sports hall from a 4 court to a 6 court sports hall was not considered as important to the respondents, when it was compared to all of the other proposals. Whilst sports halls are used by clubs and squads who are known to book regular slots for training and events, individuals are less likely to use the space, which is reflective of the high number of people that have responded to the survey as an individual opposed to on behalf of the group. The direct response from local clubs can be found in section 10.

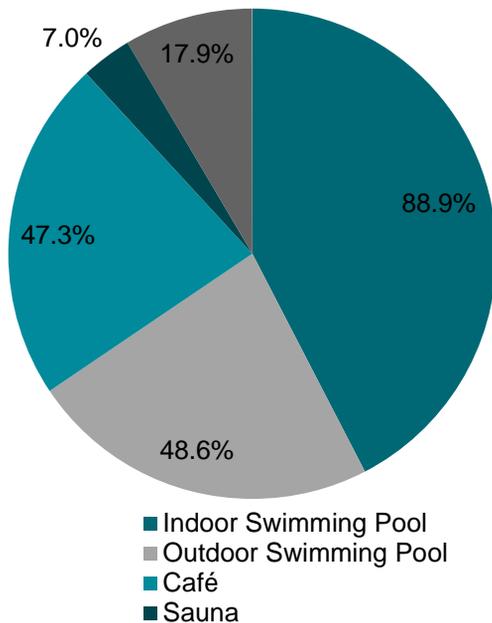
**How often do you currently use the existing facilities at Abbey Fields Swimming Pool?**



12% of respondents have never used the facilities at Abbey Fields, just 55% of people using the facilities on a monthly basis.

In addition to this, a high number of people use this facility weekly. This suggests that a large proportion of the respondents are regular swimmers or part of a club that benefits from the indoor swimming pool. In addition, there is also an even split with regards to the other frequencies.

**Which of the current facilities at the existing Abbey Fields Swimming Pool do you use?**

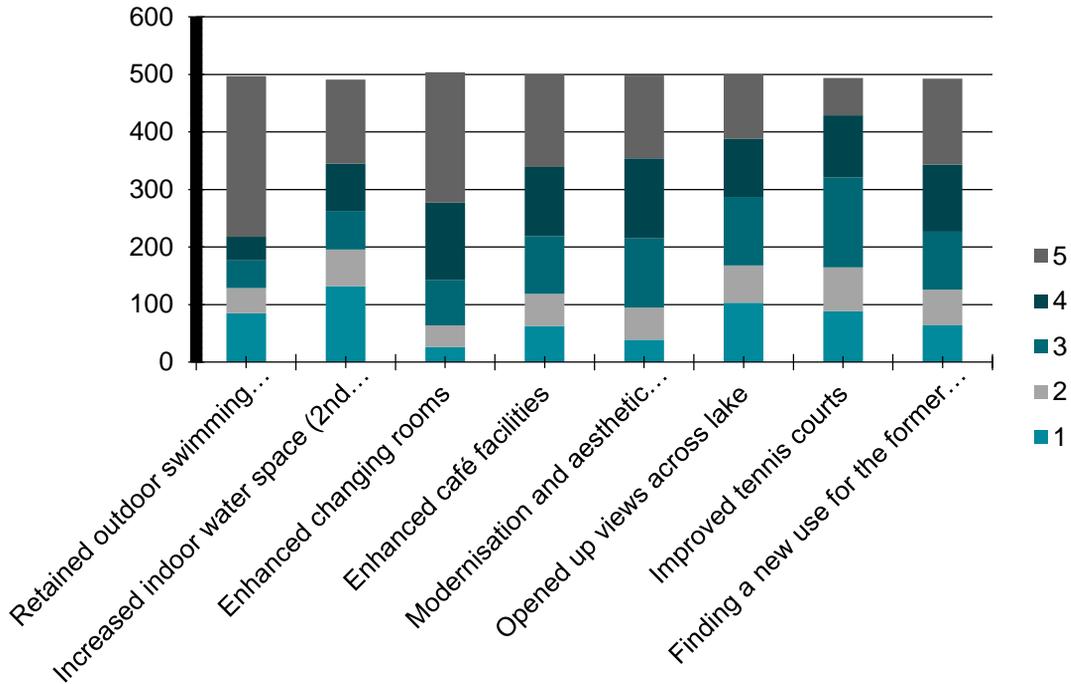


It should be noted that the percentages in this question do not equal 100% due to respondents being able to answer by selecting anything from 0-5 answers. However, the proportion of answers shown is reflective when compared against the total number.

With this in mind, the chart shows that nearly double the number of respondents use the indoor swimming pool, either as well as or instead of using the outdoor pool. In addition, there are a large number of respondents that make use of the café as well as the play/ play facilities available adjacent to the leisure centre. In addition to the raw data provided, one of the key themes that people noted at the consultation events is the current layout of the café and the fact it can be reached either internally or externally is a good feature and one that they would like to keep. Both of the proposed designs allow for an enhanced café provision and the layout and detailed design of this feature will be progressed later in the process.

The least used facility at Abbey Fields is the sauna, with only 7.0% of all respondents noting that they have ever used it.

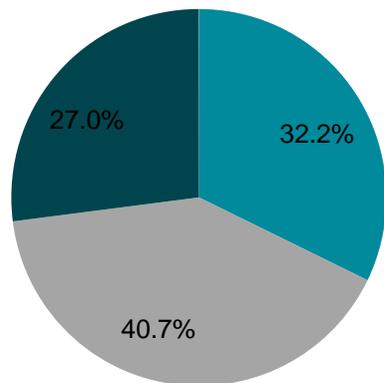
Thinking about the proposed two options for this site, please rate each of the following elements, where 1 is not important at all and 5 is extremely important.



This question shows that the retention of the outdoor pool is an extremely important issue to over 250 people. When presented with the option between the retention of the indoor vs outdoor pool, this is not reflected in later questions.

One of the items to note with this question is that it was possible for a respondent to mark all elements as extremely important, this could be one reason for the discrepancy between the two questions on this page. In addition to the retention of the outdoor pool, enhanced changing provision was the second more important issue for respondents. This is something that the Project Team will aim to resolve, with whatever option is progressed to the next stage of the design.

**On balance, which of the two options being presented for Abbey Fields do you prefer?**



■ Option 1 ■ Option 2 ■ No preference

A small majority of respondents were in favour of the proposed option 2, which included the retention of the “kidney shaped” outdoor swimming pool. Whilst the majority favoured this option, it should be noted that there is a relatively even split between all of the options available within this question.

In addition to this question, it should also be noted that 125 people noted that they would enhance the current facilities with a new 25-metre, outdoor lido, when questioned later within the report. This represents 25% of all respondents to the survey.

### 8.1 NGBs Introduction

NGBs are the National Governing Bodies of Sport. The support and feedback from NGBs at this stage in the design process will be critical in ensuring the right facility mix is progressed at the next stage.

#### 8.1.1 Sport England

As a key stakeholder and national leader in terms of leisure provision and physical activity, Sport England were consulted on the Kenilworth proposals.

- ***“As you are aware, Sport England has a good working relationship with Warwick District Council. We supported the strategic planning and development of phase one of the Council’s leisure development programme and invested £2m (£1m each) in the Council’s Leisure Centre’s in Warwick and Leamington Spa through our Strategic Facilities Fund. This investment into refurbishing and providing additional facilities at Newbold Comyn and St Nicholas Park is already proving to be very popular with local residents.***
- ***Sport England supports the Council’s decision to progress phase two of the leisure development programme as this provides an opportunity to develop modern, fit for purpose facilities in Kenilworth which are sustainable and can better deliver the Council’s outcomes esp. improved health and wellbeing for residents.***
- ***While Sport England does not have any specific comments on the proposed options we have a number of headline observations based on our work with over 60 Local Authorities that have successfully invested in their facilities. The Council will be familiar with much of this learning given their investment in Newbold Comyn and St Nicholas Park and I hope they will help inform the Council’s decision making:***

- ***Customer Focused***
- ***Customer Experience***
- ***Strategic Approach***
- ***Flexible Offer***
- ***Design and Technical Guidance***

- ***Active Environment***
- ***Sustainable Operations”.***

Whilst Sport England did not provide any specific comments on the proposal they are in full support of the Councils’ decision to progress the Kenilworth developments.

Notably they welcomed the consultation with residents and the local community at the early stages of the design process.

#### 8.1.2 Swim England

Swim England were considered an essential NGB to engage with during the process, specifically with regards to proposals at Abbey Fields. Swim England provided the following comments via email response:

- ***Our view is that design option AF1, which introduces an indoor learner pool to the Abbey Fields Swimming Pool would be the best option as this type of pool provides the best return on investment of any water space and would enhance the swimming experience most profoundly in Kenilworth as identified in your strategy review. Upgrading the café area would also be beneficial considering the park location of the facility.***
- ***Obviously the success of the outdoor pool depends entirely on the weather and it may be that in the future summers may be warmer if global warming enthusiasts prove right? I appreciate that there is always an ardent lobby to build outdoor pools and these swimmers are consistent users; however the level of use does not necessarily provide a sustainable model.***

Clearly from the comments received Swim England understand the desire to keep the outdoor pool from a section of the local community. However, on the whole they are supportive of its removal and replacement with a new indoor pool as it will be both the most viable of the two options and also enhance the overall swim experience in Kenilworth.

### 8.1.3 Birmingham County Football Association

The Birmingham County Football Association (BCFA) did not leave any specify feedback or support for the schemes but did raise the following queries:

- ***What markings will be provided in the sports hall? Is there an opportunity for Futsal?***
- ***Will only one point of entry/exit remain? Will this development increase foot fall on the site and in turn disrupt flow in and out?***
- ***What impact will this have on future developments at the site linked to the potential relocation of Kenilworth Wardens?***
- ***Potential outdoor changing, will these service existing football pitches? Where will they be located?***
- ***How many car parking spaces are being provided?***

WDC will respond to these queries at the next stage of the design.

### 8.1.4 English Cricket Board (ECB)

The ECB did not provide any substantial feedback on the schemes but did respond with the following statement:

- ***“Warwickshire Cricket Board is supportive of Kenilworth Wardens CC’s proposal to relocate to Castle Farm and has been fully consulted on the plans so far”.***

### 8.1.5 England Hockey

England Hockey declined to provide any feed back on the proposals and issued the following statement via email:

- ***“As the project will not impact hockey at all we have no comments to make”***

### 8.1.6 Rugby Football Union

To date the RFU have not returned any feedback with regard to the proposed works in Kenilworth.

### 8.1.7 Summary

In summary most of the NGBs were supportive of the proposed works to upgrade the two facilities. Whilst both England Hockey and the BCFA did not provide any specific support they did not provide any negative feedback on the proposals.

Sport England did not provide any specific comments but were extremely supportive of the LDP phase 2 proposals. Swim England were specific in their response and were in favour of the new indoor swimming pool at Abbey Fields.

### 9.1 User Group Introduction

This section summarises the feedback provided by incumbent clubs that use the existing facilities. The information that follows summarises either the response made by questionnaire on behalf of a group and or via direct response to a Council or team member via email.

### 9.2 Petanque

A series of emails were exchanged between the project team and representatives of the Nomads and U3A groups that use the current and existing provisions.

As part of this ongoing dialogue a series of questions were asked by WDC of the clubs regarding their needs and requirements when redeveloping the facility.

Many members of the local clubs also attended the engagement sessions where they were informed about the proposals and reassured that the Council recognises the importance of this facility to the sport, and that the Council would do what they could to preserve and if possible improve the facilities available to them at Castle Farm.

The clubs then provided feedback via the online survey which has been included within the overall statistics. However specific feed back was as follows:

#### **9.2.1 Kenilworth U3A** (Table Tennis and Petanque groups).

Kenilworth U3A's main comment of note was that they would like the creation of the new Petanque terrain before the conversion of the old terrain to a car park, allowing continuity of use for 90 users (120-150 footfalls per week).

In addition to this the proposed extension of the sports hall was of high importance.

#### **9.2.2 Local U3A Groups**

The local U3A's groups main comment included within their submission online was that they wanted to enhance the Petanque terrain but also wanted to keep it near the car park as it is currently used by

senior residents and the location makes the terrain easily accessible for them.

### 9.2.3 Summary

In summary the local Petanque clubs were supportive of the Council's proposals. The clubs did not respond on the specific options at Abbey Fields but were in favour of the Castle Farm redevelopment as long as it included a continued permanent area for Petanque.

Key issues of note moving forward were as follows:

- New Terrain
- New terrain installed prior to the conversion
- Continued to be situated next to parking
- Permanent area

### 9.3 Kenilworth Scouts & Guides

WDC have been in dialogue with the group for many months, as they currently lease the first floor of the existing Castle Farm facility.

After the most recent meeting the group raised the following;

- *One point I do wish to raise is the reference you made to the Preliminary Area schedule issued to you in January this year. This quite clearly states it is NIA not GIA or GEA, whereas you specifically referred to Gross areas, which was incorrect. In addition this area schedule reflects our current needs and does not include the expansion necessary for the additional young people all the new housing in Kenilworth will bring.*

In response to this the group were invited to consult internally on requirements and review the proposed schedule.

In addition to the above, the Scouts & Guides also submitted an online questionnaire. At Castle Farm they were supportive of the proposal and noted that the following was of importance when visiting a leisure centre:-

- Adequate and free parking
- Sufficient and modern equipment
- Clean and inviting

Support was also given in favour of the new indoor pool, with the following comment being provided:

- ***Although I do not use the indoor pool. Given the size of the indoor pool it can become very crowded. I feel that the provision of a second indoor pool will help to alleviate this and encourage more people to enjoy the facilities***

Whilst this responses has been provided in the first person it has been left on behalf of the group and supports the proposal to remove the outdoor pool and replace with new indoor water space.

### 9.4 Janet's Bowling Ladies & Canasta Club

A response was submitted on the online survey, on behalf of Janet's Bowling Ladies & Canasta Club.

Many of the questions were not responded to specifically with regard to Abbey Fields proposals. Additionally and with regards to Castle Farm no specific response was given relating to additional facilities and nothing was noted of high importance regarding the proposed enhancements. Taking the above into account it is therefore hard to analyse the online survey response.

However, in addition to the survey submission discussed above the respondent on behalf of Janet's Bowling Ladies noted that they had been organising a weekly session of short mat bowls at Castle Farm Leisure Centre for well over a quarter of century and has recently taken a block booking to teach canasta sessions.

In the main it was noted that the WI is closing but the club is determined to keep the club going. The clubs concern with the proposal at Castle Farm is the

continuity of their groups if the hall is demolished before a new building is built.

The hope from this direct response was noted as a want to draw the team's attention that there is a need, according to the club to keep continuity of location. There is a further hope from the club that the new building will not be on the same foot print as the existing building.

### 9.5 Aqua Fit Club

The Aqua Fit Club did not leave any specific feed back for proposals at Castle Farm, noting the Centre was never used by members.

The club, as would be expected, also noted that when visiting a leisure centre the availability of aqua classes was of high importance to them. It was also further suggested by the club that members regularly use the existing indoor pool and café.

No specific comments were left with regards to the proposals at Abbey Fields. However, it was noted by the club that increasing indoor water space was important as was the enhancement of the café.

The group preferred the new indoor pool option (AF01).

### 10.1 Kenilworth Runners

Kenilworth Runners were sent a letter inviting them to one of the 9 engagement sessions and to submit a response via the online survey tool.

Their response has been included in the overall survey results but some key feedback from the group has been provided below:

- ***At Castle Farm it was suggested by the group that a running trail around the perimeter, inside the fence, would be of benefit to the club.***

On the whole the group seemed to be supportive of the proposal at Castle Farm.

They also noted that retaining the outdoor pool was of importance for recreational use and that it would benefit from longer opening hours.

The questionnaire has been written in the first person but has been responded to on behalf of a group and is therefore taken as the response from Kenilworth Runners.

### 10.2 Kenilworth Tennis, Squash and Croquet Club

The Kenilworth Tennis, Squash and Croquet Club, responded directly to the invite to comment on the proposal. They collated the views of the General Committee (which is the principal governing body of the Club) and these have been set out below:

- ***KTSCC supports the suggestion of refurbishing the Abbey Fields tennis courts. We are keen to encourage newcomers to the sport, and would be happy to work with WDC to create pathways for those beginning to play on the public courts to continue with lessons or club membership as appropriate. Warwickshire LTA is currently providing part funding to develop three new level two coaches at KTSCC. As part of this coaching initiative, KTSCC has agreed to provide a***

***certain amount of free coaching outreach to beginners at some point during 2019. KTSCC and WLTA believe that Abbey Fields is the ideal location for this coaching to take place. I understand that some discussions have already taken place between our head coach and others - an early view is that some refurbishment of the courts would likely be required for this initiative to go ahead.***

- ***In terms of the proposal for Castle Farm we would support the proposal for the new facility and the large sports hall, but we note that the focus for indoor sport provision appears to be solely on 'sports hall space equivalent', therefore ignoring other indoor sports that are not based in sports halls. We remain keen to work with WDC to optimise the use of our indoor facilities (primarily six well-maintained squash/racquetball courts) in promoting sporting activities in Kenilworth. We have a thriving membership but the facilities remain under-utilised outside of peak times and we would be keen to explore how they might be used as part of a wider initiative with WDC.***
- ***We would also highlight croquet - as a sport it is frequently overlooked in such exercises, but in our view should be considered when attempting to create the most diverse possible range of sporting opportunities. Few other sports cater to as wide an age range.***

As can be seen by the comments, the club don't have any particular views on the swimming pool proposals, but realise that these are likely to be the team's immediate focus of attention – they did however note that they would welcome a follow up on other aspects in due course. The club would be happy to discuss these with in person at the next stage.

### 10.3 Swimming Clubs

#### Introduction

A stakeholder meeting was held with the swimming clubs on the 14<sup>th</sup> November 2018.

Present at the meeting were representatives from the following clubs:

- Kenilworth 30+ Swim Club
- Kenilworth Swimming Club & Kenilworth Masters
- Kenilworth Swimming Club
- Kenilworth Juniors Triathlon

The meeting was also attended by officers from WDC and Everyone Active. WDC took the clubs through the public consultation boards and explained the process undertaken to date and how the team had reached the options being presented.

After the explanation, discussions were held regarding a number of aspects relating to the options, with the clubs raising the following points:

#### Build Programme

- *Clubs queried what the programme of works would be and what impact these would have on users and facilities.*
- *It was noted by WDC that the programme could not be formed until more detail is available regarding the works, but the Council also noted that the closure of the pool for works would have an impact on the clubs.*

#### Village Changing Rooms

- *Questions were raised about how a village change would work if implemented.*
- *It was explained by EA that change to village changing at the centres in Warwick and Leamington has been working really well. It was also noted that at these centres there was a group changing room which could offer the “sociable “ changing option for adults when not in use by groups/schools.*

#### Café

- *Discussion were held with regards to how the café area relates to the pool hall and larger building. It was noted that KSC use this area as additional viewing space at times, and were keen to keep this area or better still include a new viewing space as part of the plan. Ideally this would be along the length of the pool.*

#### Existing Pool

- *A request was made by all clubs whether a additional lane could be fitted in to the existing tank .*
- *Requested that the team review the need for 4 ladders in the pool tank as it restricts outside lanes.*
- *All clubs were in agreement that retaining natural light into the pool hall should be a priority*
- *Request that the design should look at how the acoustics in the pool could be improved as part of a new design.*
- *Request that the redesign looks to provide an exit from the pool hall that goes direct into the park so that the pool becomes functional for triathlons/ aquathons*

Most notably, support was given by all groups for the new indoor training pool (AF01) as they could all see how this would benefit the greatest number of people and in particular members.

The Triathlon Club did note that they would welcome an additional 25m outdoor pool as presented by the RKL Group but also did not see how this can be financially viable and therefore also put their support behind option 1.

#### Survey Feedback

In addition to the above meeting and discussions with the clubs a number of them also responded online through the submission of a questionnaire. The below is a brief review of key matters arising from submissions.

#### 10.3.1 Kenilworth Masters

The Kenilworth Masters did not leave any specific feed back with regards to the Castle Farm proposals but did note that the following was important to them

Item 7 / Appendix A / Page 29 when visiting a centre:

- Clean and ample changing facilities, time and space to swim properly

Two surveys were left on behalf of Kenilworth Masters and with regards to Abbey Fields the first survey did note that the club were in favour of replacing the outdoor pool with an additional indoor facility (AF01). No additional comments were raised.

A second survey was raised on behalf of the club that noted the following:

- ***I would actually prefer the outdoor pool to be kept and enhanced so it can actually used for swimming***

The wording of the response suggest that this was left by an individual. Given the previous meeting discussions and the other survey submission it is believed that this does not match the over all views of the club and that the Masters are in the majority in favour of the indoor proposal (AF01). However, the counter comments have been noted.

### 10.3.2 Kenilworth Swimming Club

Kenilworth Swimming Club did provide some useful feed back relating to the proposals at Castle Farm, noting that that other than the current facilities being offered the team could also think about including children's holiday activities.

The club were also in favour of the indoor option (AF01) at Abbey Fields noting the following:

- ***Although the outdoor pool is very nice it is not used for the majority of the year. When the weather is good enough to use it , it becomes very crowded.***

It was noted in the survey that having increased indoor water space was of high importance to the club.

### 10.3.3 Kenilworth Juniors Triathlon Club

The KJT club provided some valuable feedback with regards to proposals at Castle Farm, noting that the team could also look to include a cycle track and/or a trail run path.

The club also noted the following was of importance when they visited a centre:

- ***Cleanliness***
- ***Pool Availability***

With regards to the proposals at Abbey Fields the club were supportive of increased indoor water space, noting that this was of high importance.

More specifically the following was requested in any new facility:

- ***More water space for groups like our triathlon club to use for more young people to access sport***
- ***More lanes in the pool, poolside showers, more water space, dedicated storage area for clubs***

### 10.4 Wardens Cricket and Football Club

To date no response to the consultation has been submitted by Kenilworth Wardens.

### 10.5 Kenilworth Ruby Club

To date no response to the consultation has been submitted by Kenilworth Rugby Club.

### 10.6 Kenilworth Town Football Club

To date no response to the consultation has been submitted by Kenilworth Town Football Club

### 10.7 Khalsa Hockey Club

To date no response to the consultation has been submitted by Khalsa Hockey Club..

### 11.1 Kenilworth Civic Society (KCS)

The KCS provided feedback through the submission of an online questionnaire. This was submitted by an individual on behalf of the society.

The Society provided the following feedback with regards to the option being presented at Castle Farm:

- *The provision of a six court sports hall, enhanced fitness suite, increased studio space for fitness classes and improved parking were all of high importance.*

The society also responded noting that at Abbey Fields they preferred option (AFO1) and the additional indoor water space. The following comments were left in relation to indoor water space:

- *The increased water space is essential.*
- *Kenilworth Civic Society would prefer a six lane indoor pool, which could be partially opened up in Summer, six lanes are recommended by the Sport England assessment, the training pool does not improve use for competition or gala's.*

The Society were clearly in favour of increased water space but would like the team to rethink how this increased indoor space could be provided.

### 11.2 Friends of Abbey Fields

The FOAF provided feedback through the submission of an online questionnaire. Their response was as follows:

The Society did not leave any specific feedback in relation to proposals at Castle Farm but noted that clean and modern fit for purpose facilities were of importance when visiting a leisure centre.

At Abbey Fields the following comments were made:

- ***The least worst option is 2; what is clearly needed is a fit for purpose outdoor pool 25***

***metres by 4 lanes in order to make the pool commercially viable and a facility which can be used by multi groups e.g. triathlon teams, long distance swimmers, school galas, outdoor lifeguarding skills, kayak skills and much more***

- ***Simply improved swimming conditions and changing rooms without 40% broken lockers and one toilet closed for six months.***

In summary the group were in favour of retaining the outdoor pool.

### 11.2 St Nicholas Church

To date no response to the consultation has been submitted by St Nicholas Church.

### 11.3 Kenilworth History and Archaeology Society

To date no response to the consultation has been submitted Kenilworth History and Archaeology Society.

### 11.4 Kenilworth Archaeology Advisory Committee.

A member of the KAAC attended the drop-in session at Abbey Fields on the 1st of November, at which they discussed the future of the former bowling green and the matter of electricity supply to the swimming pool and other buildings in Abbey Fields with a member of the consultation team.

The group did not provide any specific feedback with regards to proposals at either Castle Farm or Abbey Fields proposals. Responses mainly focused on the issues raised above. A member of the group provided the following feedback:

- *The KAAC has always opposed proposals to demolish the Pavilion. We regard it a well designed building of its period (1920s) and an important part of the Fields' history as a public park. Therefore we would be delighted if a suitable new use were to be found for it, provided that alternative accommodation is found for the archaeological artefacts that are currently kept there. (They are mainly broken floor tiles from Kenilworth Abbey, stored in wooden boxes.)*
- *For several years the KAAC, in co-operation with Warwick District Council, has been involved in a project to upgrade the Tantara Gatehouse of Kenilworth Abbey, with a view to displaying various archaeological artefacts properly and allowing public access to the interior. Ideally we would like to install mains electricity to the building. Doing this would also provide an opportunity to increase the power supply to the Abbey Barn Museum. At present there is a low level supply taken from a spur off the cable to the swimming pool.*
- *It is not sufficient to provide heat, which means that the Museum has to be closed to the public during winter. Your proposals for the swimming pool sound as though they might require more power, and you talked about renewing the plant and equipment. You also mentioned new facilities for the Bowling Pavilion. We would be grateful if you would take into account the needs of the Abbey Barn Museum and the Tantara Gatehouse when the detailed plans for the swimming pool*

*are finalised and implemented. It would be wonderful if a new cable to the Barn and the Gatehouse could be installed as part of the improvement to culture and leisure provision in Abbey Fields, but perhaps that is too much to expect.*

The views of the KAAC have been noted by the Council and will be revived in future design stages.

### 12.1 Regular Swimmers

A survey was submitted on behalf of regular swimmers at Abbey Fields. Unfortunately they have not been identified as a group or club and it is difficult for the team to validate that this survey has been established on behalf of all regular swimmers at the facility. It is unknown as to how many users the survey covers.

The survey does not leave any specific feedback to proposals at Castle Farm and it is noted that the respondent suggested that Castle Farm is never used by any of the regular swimmers.

At Abbey Fields it has been noted within the survey that the following elements were of little importance to the group:

- ***Retained outdoor swimming provision***
- ***Increased indoor water space (2nd pool)***
- ***Enhanced changing rooms***
- ***Enhanced café facilities***
- ***Modernisation and aesthetic improvements to the building***
- ***Opened up views across lake***
- ***Improved tennis court***
- ***Finding a new use for the former bowling pavilion***

In addition to the above the following was noted:

- ***I think it very important to retain the current changing arrangement So called village style is uncomfortable and unfriendly. It should be possible to use part of the much larger mens changing room to have some larger changing cubicles***
- ***Eccles the outdoor pool and use for young children, especially for learning to swim***

Given the lack of response to the proposals and the fact that the survey has been submitted and written in the first person, the team would question the validity of the submission. However the feedback raised has been noted and has been included within the results as an individual respondent.

### 12.2 Family Responses

Within the online questionnaire submissions, six were left on behalf of families, the following feedback was provided:

#### 12.2.1 Family 1:

This family were in support of the proposal at Castle Farm noting that the results on the LDP phase 1 were a good example of how a modern leisure centre must look.

On Abbey Fields the following comments were left:

- ***I think Kenilworth has enough cafes and restaurants but doesn't have normal sport centres only Castle Farm***
- ***Spa facilities and aqua classes at evening time for parents, who work full time and cannot attend the pool in mornings or afternoons***

The family preferred the option to remove the outdoor pool and replace with new indoor space (AF01).

#### 12.2.2 Family 2:

This family wanted to keep the outdoor pool at Abbey Fields but also noted that increasing indoor water space was important to them.

At Castle Farm they believed the following could be of benefit:

- Crazy golf
- Cafe/bar
- Tennis courts

#### 12.2.3 Family 3:

This family left the following support in favour of the outdoor pool:

- ***Outdoor pools are rare in this country. We've been having better summer weather over the years and I feel that even people from outside of Kenilworth will come to our town to use it.***

The family left no comments regarding proposals at Castle Farm.

### 12.2.4 Family 4:

The fourth family that submitted a response on behalf of a household left the following feedback with regards to what was important to them when visiting a leisure center:

- ***I love the fact we can swim outside in Kenilworth; a lido is a rare treat and the children love it. Unfortunately access has been severely restricted this year. Additional changes to the way sessions are run, such as splash, are also very off putting, as the kids have to leave the pool for half an hour and not all of my children are allowed on the oversized inflatable, so we have used the pool less as a result. I like the range of classes at Castle farm, but I find a gym boring and unsociable.***

The family were in favour of keeping an outdoor pool noting that there aren't enough of these facilities and they did not want to lose this historic and important tourist attraction.

### 12.2.5 Family 5:

This family submitted a response in favour of the new indoor pool proposal noting that retaining the outdoor pool was of little importance to them. They would like the centres to look something similar to that achieved at the Newbold Comyn site and hoped that Castle Farm would include spin classes within the new facility.

### 12.2.6 Family 6:

This family submitted a response in favour of retaining the outdoor pool and noted the following:

- ***Actually prefer the local idea of developing the outdoor space and pool further. Do not see need for increasing size of indoor pool.***

The family were supportive of the proposals at Castle Farm but provided no specific comments.

### 12.2.7 Summary

Of the 6 families that submitted responses on behalf of their households 4 were in favour of retaining the pool whilst two preferred the option that increased the indoor water space.

### 12.3 Restore Kenilworth Lido (RKL)

Restore Kenilworth Lido are a campaign group that want to see the outdoor pool remain as part of the leisure offering at Abbey Fields.

RKL have a significant interest in the proposal at Abbey Fields and have established a separate petition to keep the outdoor pool open which had received 3,300 signatures at the time of writing this document.

Historically the Council are aware that the outdoor pool has been open for a significant number of years and this was just one reason why the local community were being consulted at this stage in the design process. It should be noted that WDC have not yet made a decision to remove the outdoor pool and that the option for it to remain is very much a possibility.

#### 12.3.1 RKL Proposal

The group do not want to keep the current outdoor pool in its current configuration but would rather WDC enhance the offering by building a new 25m outdoor facility, as proposed by the group in the below image,



Image: Phase 1: RKL proposal

The plan created by the group also includes other features such as a covered band stand, viewing area, and wet play, amongst others. The group were able to promote this option throughout most of the consultation process. They have also been invited by the Council to submit their supporting evidence for the above design in writing as part of a submission in response to a breakout meeting held with the Council in November 2018.

The group believe that in order to achieve the best outcome for future generations and in order to enhance Kenilworth's tourism offer it is vital that consideration be given to their proposal. Within their supporting evidence RKL submitted an outline study that they consider shows the deliverability and need for their proposal.

#### 12.3.2 Engagement

RKL attended 8 of the Council's engagement sessions and were accommodated within the same consultation space. Additionally they were invited to hand out their own information and discuss their views with those in attendance.

The group engaged with and spoke to many of the same consultees as the Council throughout the three week process. Due to their significant interest in the proposals the RKL Group were also met by the Council at a separate and standalone meeting.

#### 12.3.4 RKL Meeting Summary

A meeting was held separately to the main consultation events to better understand the group's views and feedback on the proposals developed by WDC. The meeting was attended by representatives of the group, Council, Councillors and project's lead architect.

To begin the meeting the group were invited to provide feedback from RKL on the 2 options for Abbey Fields that are included in the Council's consultation process. The following comments were raised:

- *Neither option gives a "swimmable" outdoor pool – hence RKL proposal*
- *Neither option meets the needs of the people that RKL represent i.e. those wishing to swim outdoors*
- *Neither option is considered financially viable by RKL*
- *Neither option gives the people of Kenilworth what they want going forward*

- *Neither option is aspirational*
- *Both options should be taken off the table for the above reasons*
- *RKL can see the AF1 is the easier to operate but it is only for 1 or 2 user groups*
- *The “water features” shown in the outdoor area in AF1 are not suitable and in the wrong place to make them enjoyable*
- *The training pool in AF1 is only really for parents of young children who can afford to pay for swimming lessons*
- *Children should have the opportunity to learn to swim in an outdoor pool and have fun at the same time*
- *The current outdoor pool is not suitable for swimming, it is too shallow and curved walls are not appropriate.*

In addition to the above the group were asked to also expand on their own option and why they considered it to be viable. The group raised the following in responses amongst others:

- *The reputation of the town is significantly impacted by the outdoor pool*
- *A day out at an outdoor pool is irreplaceable and creates a sense of civic pride*
- *There is a need for an outdoor pool that is suitable for swimming not just playing*
- *Minimum requirements for a new outdoor pool – 25m x 10m and depth of deep end 1.8m and shallow end of min of 1m*
- *Could be used for triathlons, galas, splash sessions, open water training.*
- *Could be used for “wetsuit swimming” in the colder months.*
- *May not need to heat all year round..*
- *Outdoor pools have been successful where subsidised by a 2nd source of income i.e. café, car parking*

A number of other items were discussed in the meeting. The meeting notes were issued to attendees on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2018.

### 12.3.5 Summary

In summary, the RKL group do not believe that either option being tabled by the Council provides a swimmable outdoor pool and therefore would like their proposal to be taken forward.

Whilst WDC have not been consulting on the option prepared by RKL they have commissioned an independent feasibility study into the options presented by both parties. This is not being undertaken by Mace or by any other members of the design team. It is being undertaken by an independent and experienced leisure organisation. All supporting evidence provided by the RKL group has been passed on for assessment as part of this study.

### 13.1 Introduction:

In addition to all the consultation responses online and the submissions from various user groups, clubs and governing bodies the team also received 21 direct responses providing either feedback on the consultation information or a submission of support for the RKL group's proposal.

### 13.2 Pro-Forma Submissions

Nine members of the public submitted RKL pro-formas via email and post. The following comments were made on the documents in favour of the RKL design:

- ***Great option. It would make it a more useful space. Also, the current café area looks like a prison! It's a 'first impression' - type area for many visitors to the town and it could be done in a much nicer way, whilst still being secure.***
- ***This proposal would provide a real enhancement to the town, attracting visitors and increased revenue as well as a valued asset to residents.***
- ***Concept design of an enhanced facility at Abbey Fields, included outdoor 25m pool at a 90 degree angle to the current pool, kids water play, indoor learner pool***
- ***This is such an amazing resource in the middle of beautiful Abbey Fields. It would be a huge benefit to the area and like the newly(ish) renovated playground would be enjoyed by lots of people***

Clearly the direct submission of the pro-formas to the Council support the RKL design. However, whilst the team have taken note of these responses we have not been consulting on this option. As discussed on the previous page the Council is reviewing the viability and feasibility of such a proposal.

### 13.3 Direct Emails

In addition to the directly submitted pro-formas the Council also received a number of emails that have again been captured in the direct response tracker. The email responses received were in the main

either in support of retaining the outdoor pool or that they would like the RKL option to be explored further. One respondent left the following comment in support of retaining the outdoor pool:

- ***For Abbey Fields I choose Option AF2. For Castle farm, the options proposed raises questions, first where would the scouts be re-located to if option CF1 is chosen?...Please can i recommend that the exercise studios (and scouts provision if created from new) follow The UK Industry Body One Dance UK, Fit To Dance Space charter.***

The respondent that left the above feedback also sent WDC a design specification for dance studios. The team have noted this response and will review at the commencement of further design. All of the 21 direct responses raised were by those that wanted to see the retention/ enhancement of outdoor swimming facilities at Abbey Fields.

### 14.1 Engagement

The Council wrote to each primary and secondary school in Kenilworth, giving details of the proposals and inviting them to a stakeholder's workshop. The Council received one response to this letter saying that they would attend the workshop, and one response saying that they were unavailable for the workshop but that senior staff would try to attend one of the public consultation events.

The Council sent two follow up emails to all the schools involved, cancelling the stakeholder's workshop and offering to visit schools individually to explain the project. One school responded and offered a visit to the school. This visit subsequently took place.

### 14.2 Responses

One school responded to one of the emails to say that they were particularly keen to see an improvement in the arrangements for school's changing facilities. They approved of the new proposals made.

St John's Primary School took up the offer of a meeting at the school, and the project was discussed with the PE Co-ordinator and the Business Manager of the School. The school was heavily in favour of the indoor swimming pool. They could see a number of advantages with this proposal. Firstly, by putting beginners in the new indoor pool the main pool would now be free for their better swimmers to swim lengths. They cannot normally do that due to the beginners in the shallow end of the main pool during lessons and so they have stopped taking older groups swimming. They could restore these lessons with the new indoor pool.

They also acknowledged that either their lessons could be taken out of the main pool, freeing this up for other users, or they could double the number of children undertaking lessons at the same time, which would give them much greater flexibility with programming swimming into the school curriculum.

The school was also strongly in favour of the new arrangements for schools changing. The provision of two changing rooms for the sole use of each school having swimming lessons had a number of benefits, including greater protection of children from outside influence, greater control over the children's clothes and property, and better supervision arrangements, regardless of the gender of the teacher or supervisor.

Contact with other schools is being continued, and it is hoped that it will be possible to meet with other schools to discuss the proposed changes in the next few months, so that any comments received can be included within subsequent design work.

### 14.3 Future demand

It is known anecdotally that a number of schools that currently use the Abbey Fields Swimming Pool are interested in more bookings in order to get a greater number of children to learn to swim. This would be greatly facilitated by the indoor pool option. It is proving difficult to programme these extra sessions into the current programme, due to the lack of appropriate water space.

Furthermore, a number of schools that do not currently use the Pool have been enquiring about starting bookings. It is also difficult to fit these new schools into the existing programme, and this problem will grow as more young people move to the area and increase the rolls in new and existing schools. Meeting this new demand would be facilitated by the provision of the proposed indoor pool.

### 14.4 Continuing work

The design team will stay in touch with schools to assist with both the design of the new facilities and the programming of these activities to get more school children learning to swim at Abbey Fields Swimming Pool.

### 15.1 Conclusion

In conclusion, this report has set out the variety of responses that have been provided to the recent consultation process. Mace have captured all of the information provided and aimed to provide a factual review of this data. The report shows that there is support for the enhancement of facilities at both Castle Farm Recreation Centre and Abbey Fields Swimming Pool.

At Castle Farm, there was a clear consensus that the local community are in support of the proposed new-build facility, comprising a new 6 court sports hall, fitness suite (gym) and studio space; with the local Scouts and Guides groups being relocated elsewhere on site in new, purpose-built accommodation. However, the results show that two areas of concern and consideration are the impacts that this will have on the local infrastructure, especially when the project is considered alongside the widely known Wardens relocation to the rest of the proposed Castle Farm site.

At Abbey Fields there was a relatively even split between the proposed facility mixes, with approximately a third of people being in support of an additional indoor pool, retention of the outdoor pool and the final third not having a preference. In addition to this, when studying the qualitative data submitted within the surveys, approximately 114 respondents noted support for the 25metre outdoor lido that Restore Kenilworth Lido group have most recently proposed for consideration.

Whilst this consultation was specifically about the re-development of the two facilities, the project team have noted a large number of responses that refer to wider operational issues and/ or ideas for the wider area. These ideas and suggestions have been extracted and will be passed onto the relevant departments or operator to ensure that all comments are considered and not lost through the process.

Finally, this report is intended to be part of a wider body of work being completed by WDC regarding the facilities at Castle Farm and Abbey Fields, to inform the Council's recommendation for the facility mix of the two centres which will be progressed through to the next stage of design.

## Appendix 2: Stakeholder letters – October 2019



Dear

### Consultation on design proposals for improve and modernise Castle Farm Recreation Centre and Abbey Fields Swimming Pool

As you may be aware, Warwick District Council has been progressing design proposals to improve its leisure centres in Kenilworth.

Following approval by the Council's Executive in August 2019 of the type of facilities at each site, we have been progressing the proposals and we would now like to seek the views from your organisation on the more detailed designs. Your views will be used to shape the final design of the developments in time for a planning application during Spring 2020.

Please complete the form below and return to:

Email: [leisurekenilworth@warwickdc.gov.uk](mailto:leisurekenilworth@warwickdc.gov.uk)

We will be displaying the designs at a series of drop-in sessions during November 2019. You are more than welcome to attend any of the following sessions or get in touch for a discussion if that is more appropriate for you (01926 456228/456205).

Saturday 9 November	10am to 3pm	Abbey Fields Swimming Pool
Tuesday 12 November	4pm to 8pm	Abbey Fields Swimming Pool
Wednesday 20 November	10.30am to 1.30pm	Castle Farm Recreation Centre
Thursday 21 November	7pm to 9pm	Castle Farm Recreation Centre
Saturday 23 November	11am to 4pm	Holiday Inn
Thurs 28 November	10.30am to 1.30pm	Kenilworth Centre
Saturday 30 November	11am to 4pm	Holiday Inn

Alternatively, you can view the design proposals online from Monday 4th November at [www.forourfuture.co.uk](http://www.forourfuture.co.uk) and email us your comments at [leisurekenilworth@warwickdc.gov.uk](mailto:leisurekenilworth@warwickdc.gov.uk). The consultation period will end on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

Please note that the drop-in sessions and the website also provide information about two other consultations also taking place. The first is the Council's consultation on the Management Plan for Abbey Fields playing fields and the second is the Kenilworth Wardens consultation on its outline proposals for new football and cricket facilities on the Castle Farm site.

Leisure Project Team



### **Consultation on design proposals for improve and modernise Castle Farm Recreation Centre and Abbey Fields Swimming Pool**

I am writing to you as a local organisation or stakeholder who may have a view on how the Warwick District Council leisure facilities in Kenilworth are developed.

As you may be aware, Warwick District Council has been progressing design proposals to improve its leisure centres in Kenilworth.

Following approval by the Council's Executive in August 2019 of the type of facilities at each site, we have been progressing the proposals and we would now like to seek the views from your organisation on the more detailed designs. Your views will be used to shape the final designs of the developments in time for a planning application during Spring 2020.

We will be displaying the proposed designs at a series of drop-in sessions during November 2019. The table below gives the details of where and when you can attend a session. Council staff and members of the design team will be on hand to explain the proposals, listen to your feedback and answer any questions you may have.

Saturday 9 November	10am to 3pm	Abbey Fields Swimming Pool
Tuesday 12 November	4pm to 8pm	Abbey Fields Swimming Pool
Wednesday 20 November	10.30am to 1.30pm	Castle Farm Recreation Centre
Thursday 21 November	7pm to 9pm	Castle Farm Recreation Centre
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Alternatively, you can view the design proposals online from Monday 4th November at [www.forourfuture.co.uk](http://www.forourfuture.co.uk) and give us your feedback online. The consultation period will end on Monday 9th December 2019.

There is no need to reply to this invitation, simply come along between the times above or visit the website. We look forward to meeting you and discussing the proposed designs for improving these leisure facilities.

Please note that the drop-in sessions and the website also provide information about two other consultations also taking place. The first is the Council's consultation on the Management Plan for Abbey Field's playing fields and the second is the Kenilworth Wardens consultation on its outline proposals for new football and cricket facilities on the Castle Farm site.

Leisure Project Team



Dear

**Consultation on design proposals for improve and modernise Castle Farm Recreation Centre and Abbey Fields Swimming Pool**

We are writing to you as a club or organisation who currently use one of the above centres in Kenilworth.

As you may be aware, Warwick District Council has been progressing design proposals to improve its leisure centres in Kenilworth.

Following approval by the Council's Executive in August 2019 of the type of facilities at each site, we have been progressing the proposals and we would now like to seek the views from your organisation on the more detailed designs. Your views will be used to shape the final designs of the developments in time for a planning application during Spring 2020.

We will be displaying the proposed designs at a series of drop-in sessions during November 2019. The table below gives the details of where and when you can attend a session. Council staff and members of the design team will be on hand to explain the proposals, listen to your feedback and answer any questions you may have.

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There is no need to reply to this invitation, simply come along between the times above or visit the website. We look forward to meeting you and discussing the proposed designs for improving these leisure facilities.

Please note that the drop-in sessions and the website also provide information about two other consultations also taking place. The first is the Council's consultation on the Management Plan for Abbey Field's playing fields and the second is the Kenilworth Wardens consultation on its outline proposals for new football and cricket facilities on the Castle Farm site.

We would also like to take this opportunity to explain that as current user of the facility that Everyone Active and ourselves will be in touch with you again in the new year to start discussions about the estimated timescales for the work and how we can assist your club with finding alternative facilities whilst the construction work is taking place.

Leisure Project Team

## Appendix 3: Awareness raising material

Informative Bin Tags



# PUBLIC CONSULTATION

## on Abbey Fields and Castle Farm

4th November to  
9th December 2019



You're invited to give feedback on new plans for Abbey Fields Swimming Pool, Castle Farm Recreation Centre and the proposed new home for Kenilworth Wardens Cricket Club.

At the same time you have the chance to tell us how and when you use the wider parkland at Abbey Fields.

**WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU - WHY NOT GET INVOLVED?**

The drop in events will take place on:

Saturday 9 November	10am to 3pm	Abbey Fields Swimming Pool
Tuesday 12 November	4pm to 8pm	Abbey Fields Swimming Pool
Wednesday 20 November	10.30am to 1.30pm	Castle Farm Recreation Centre
Thursday 21 November	7pm to 9pm	Castle Farm Recreation Centre
Saturday 23 November	11am to 4pm	Holiday Inn, Kenilworth
Thursday 28 November	10.30am to 1.30pm	The Kenilworth Centre
Saturday 30 November	11am to 4pm	Holiday Inn, Kenilworth

Consultation surveys can also be completed online from  
4 November until 9 December 2019 at [www.forourfuture.co.uk](http://www.forourfuture.co.uk).



# HAVE YOUR SAY!

on the new plans and  
designs for Abbey Fields  
and Castle Farm

**Visit [www.forourfuture.co.uk](http://www.forourfuture.co.uk)**

for dates of our drop in sessions or to complete our survey





# HAVE YOUR SAY!

on the future management of  
Abbey Fields, Kenilworth

**Visit [www.forourfuture.co.uk](http://www.forourfuture.co.uk)**

for dates of our drop in sessions or to complete our survey





# HAVE YOUR SAY!

on the new sports and leisure  
designs for Castle Farm

**Visit [www.forourfuture.co.uk](http://www.forourfuture.co.uk)**

for dates of our drop in sessions or to complete our survey



Postcard

# HAVE YOUR SAY!

Public Consultation on Abbey Fields and Castle Farm



Please take one

**You're invited to give feedback on new plans for Abbey Fields Swimming Pool, Castle Farm Recreation Centre and the proposed new home for Kenilworth Wardens Cricket Club.**

At the same time you have the chance to tell us how and when you use the wider parkland at Abbey Fields.

**WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU - WHY NOT GET INVOLVED?**

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Saturday 9 November	10am to 3pm	Abbey Fields Swimming Pool
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Saturday 30 November	11am to 4pm	Holiday Inn, Kenilworth



Consultation surveys can also be completed online from 4 November until 9 December 2019 at [www.fourfuture.co.uk](http://www.fourfuture.co.uk)

# Appendix 4: Project webpage



## FOR OUR FUTURE

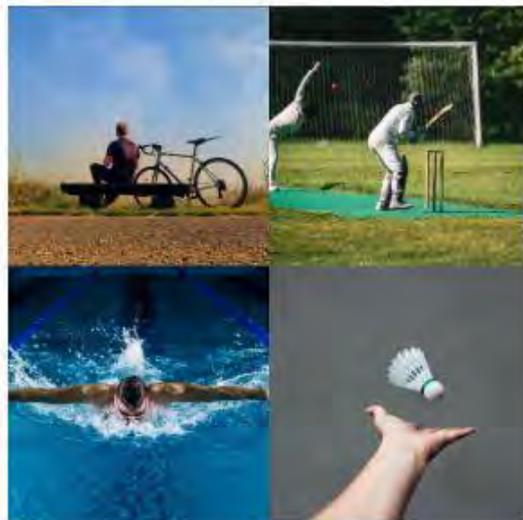
The consultation about Abbey Fields Swimming Pool and Castle Farm Recreation Centre has now closed. Thank you to everybody who took part. The feedback and consultation results will be available on this website by early February 2020.

### WHY IS THERE A PUBLIC CONSULTATION?

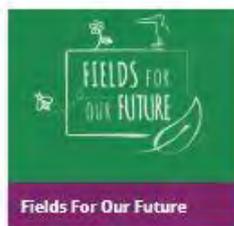
Abbey Fields, the pools and surrounding sports facilities are an integral, well-used and important part of the Kenilworth community and beyond. In order to protect and future proof these facilities, plans are in place to update and rejuvenate them - and now we need your feedback!

This consultation aims to engage with as many Kenilworth residents and visitors as possible, to ensure that those using the facilities have their say.

- About the consultation
- 'Have your say' drop in sessions



### HAVE YOUR SAY



For the latest update, please follow us on:

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# SPORTS FOR OUR FUTURE

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In August, draft plans for a completely new and improved leisure centre at Castle Farm Recreation Centre were approved and we're set to have some of the very best facilities in the country right here in Kenilworth. In addition, the Kenilworth Wardens are looking to create a new home for their club in the fields next to the Recreation Centre. We want this new centre and the new home for Kenilworth Wardens to be well used sports facilities that the entire community can enjoy. Of course, different people will be looking for different things from these two facilities and so before the build begins we'd like to share our plans with you and get your views, so that we can make these projects a success for everyone. [View the plans further down the page.](#)



## Castle Farm Recreation Centre will boast the following new facilities:

- 80 station gym
- Two exercise studios - offering a range of group fitness classes, including spin bikes
- Six court sports hall
- Stylish changing facilities and lockers
- Light and bright reception area and foyer making the most of the parkland setting
- New outdoor changing rooms for customers using football pitches
- A new petanque terrain for our local enthusiasts
- Exciting 'interactive' room using virtual reality technology
- Greatly increased parking facilities

## The new home for Kenilworth Wardens will include:

- Space for up to 13 football pitches of various sizes
- 3 high quality cricket pitches
- A full-size artificial turf pitch
- A multi-use games area for sports such as netball
- All-weather cricket practice nets
- A clubhouse with social areas and changing rooms
- A large car parking area
- Good access for the public around the outside of the site

More about the [Kenilworth Wardens proposal](#).

## Kenilworth Scouts and Guides:

Kenilworth Scouts and Guides have their headquarters on the first floor of the current Castle Farm Recreation Centre. They have been there for around 30 years. Warwick District Council is very aware that any redevelopment of the Centre will have to provide a suitable new home for the Scouts and Guides, who are an invaluable addition to the town.

The new design proposals include a 'semi-detached' section of the new building for the Scouts and Guides. This can be seen [to the right of the sports hall and store in this image](#). The Council is working closely with the Scouts and Guides to ensure that this brand new construction will give the two organisations the facility they need for the next 30 years.

## TRAFFIC, ACCESS AND PARKING

[View information about traffic, access and parking](#)

## GALLERY



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## KENILWORTH WARDENS CRICKET CLUB

Kenilworth Wardens Cricket Club (KW) is currently located at Glasshouse Lane on the east of Kenilworth. The club grounds form part of a wider site which has been allocated as a strategic site for comprehensive redevelopment within the 2017 Warwick Local Plan. To release this land for development, KW will need to relocate to the playing fields to the west of Castle Farm Recreation Centre. This area has been allocated within the Local Plan for outdoor sports and recreation space. As part of this move, a new clubhouse will be built to replace their Glasshouse Lane facilities bringing it in line with current standards. The existing playing fields will be redeveloped and extended, providing much needed quality sporting facilities to the Town. Provision will be made for three cricket squares at Castle Farm. The football provisions at Glasshouse Lane will be replicated at Castle Farm and combined with the existing football provisions, which will be upgraded. Alongside this will be a new all-weather football pitch to the north of the fields. A multi-use games area will enhance the offering to potential new sports teams with a new Netball team already keen to establish a base in Kenilworth. Kenilworth Running Club will be provided with purpose-built tracks around the perimeter of the fields, connecting to public footpaths in the locality. Along with the new clubhouse and bar/café with flexible bookable function and meeting room spaces this enhanced and extended site will be able to deliver a quality centre for Cricket, Football, Running, and other sports to Kenilworth and the wider local community.

Field 1 immediately adjacent to Castle Farm Recreation Centre will remain largely unchanged with unrestricted access. The main clubhouse, associated parking and the largest of the three cricket pitches will occupy the current playing fields area known as field 2, along with the new all-weather pitch and multi-use games area and cricket nets. A 10m wide perimeter area with a dog walkers path will be provided around this field, with a low ball fence and planting to maintain views across the site. This dog walkers path will connect to the diverted and enhanced bridleway that will run around the bottom edge of the new Field 3 playing fields extension.

## DOCUMENTS

[Kenilworth Wardens proposal documents](#)

[Previous page](#)

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# FIELDS FOR OUR FUTURE

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Pools For Our Future >



Sports For Our Future >



Abbey Fields is a much-loved and well-used open space in Kenilworth, with sweeping views across the Finham Brook valley, teeming with wildlife, and home to magnificent archaeological ruins. However, the Fields mean different things to different visitors. Some visit for informal play, to keep fit, have family picnics or to walk their dogs. Others go to watch wildlife, spend time with nature and unwind. Many are drawn by the history of the Abbey, and some simply like to stroll through to the town centre.



In the next 10 years, all open spaces within the District will come under pressure from an increasing population and the rapid pace of climate change. The Council has declared a Climate Emergency, and all Council policies from now on must consider how we can reduce emissions of greenhouse gases and become much more sustainable. This includes making sure green spaces help us cope with flooding and overheating, as well as encouraging more sustainable means of transport.

Your Council wants to draw up a 10-year management plan for Abbey Fields so that these beautiful grounds can be protected and enhanced for years to come. We want to gather as much feedback as possible from our communities. We want to know what you think, and what you value the most.



## GALLERY



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## TRAFFIC, ACCESS AND PARKING

It is recognised that it will be vitally important to get the issues of traffic, access and parking right for the new developments at Abbey Fields Swimming Pool, Castle Farm Recreation Centre and the Kenilworth Wardens.

### TRAFFIC

Warwick District Council and Wardens have already commissioned research into the existing patterns of vehicle movements on the current sites. The new designs have also been compared to similar examples elsewhere in the country.

This preliminary work suggests that the road network will be able to cope well with the increased amount of traffic to be expected from the new developments.

Further work will be done to investigate traffic issues more closely before the planning application is submitted. Councillors are being kept fully informed of the work being undertaken.

A Green Travel Plan will be developed to encourage as many people as possible to come to the facilities on foot or by bike. This Plan will also be influenced by the Management Plan for Abbey Fields, and whether cycling should be allowed in Abbey Fields.

### ACCESS

Vehicular access to the Castle Farm Recreation Centre and to Kenilworth Wardens has been examined closely. 5 possible routes were originally identified. Further research has eliminated 3 of these routes on the grounds of ecological impact, impact on the sensitive archaeological remains, impact on the Green Belt and prohibitive cost.

The two remaining options are as follows:

- 1 Kenilworth Wardens enter and leave their site via the stub road at the end of John o'Gaunt Road. Customers for the Recreation Centre and Scouts and Guides enter and leave from the current entrance in Fishponds Road. There is a footpath and cycle path only to link the two sites across the playing fields.
- 2 All customers for both sites enter and leave via the current entrance in Fishponds Road. Kenilworth Wardens will then access their site from a newly-formed driveway.

### PARKING

There are few opportunities to improve car parking at Abbey Fields Swimming Pool. During busy periods in the summer it would be possible to encourage people to park at Castle Farm to use the swimming pool. However, it is not anticipated that people will use this route in the dark in winter. It is anticipated that the best way to improve access to the Pool is to encourage more green travel.

The Design Team will continue to investigate the best solutions for parking for the Swimming Pool.

At Castle Farm it is planned to significantly increase the parking available on site. In addition, an overflow car park will be provided for busy periods. The car park will include new security features to discourage misuse. The car park will include a drop-off area to improve flows for parents dropping younger people for activities.

The amount of parking to be provided will be re-assessed in accordance with planning standards, to make sure we are providing enough.

Kenilworth Wardens will also be providing a significant car park. The spaces provided will also be assessed against planning standards to ensure there is sufficient provision.

The Council and Wardens will be working closely with local residents to try to prevent kerbside parking outside homes in the area by customers of these facilities.

A successful Green Travel Plan will also reduce the need for parking.

## Appendix 5: Resident letter

Dear Resident,

I have been asked to contact you by Councillor Moira-Ann Grainger of Warwick District Council.

You have received this letter as your property is immediately adjacent to either the current access to Castle Farm Recreation Centre off Fishponds Road or the short spur road at the end of John O'Gaunt Road.

Councillor Grainger would like to invite you to a meeting on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> October at 6pm at Jubilee House, Kenilworth with regard to the issue of traffic and access in connection with the proposals for the re-building of Castle Farm Recreation Centre and Scout and Guide Headquarters and the proposed construction of a new home for Wardens Cricket Club on the fields adjacent to the Recreation Centre.

Also attending the meeting will be Members of the Leisure Development Programme Members' Working Group including 3 local Kenilworth Councillors, Malcolm Whitehall from Kenilworth Wardens and the District Council's transport consultant. Jeremy Wright MP has been informed that the meeting is taking place.

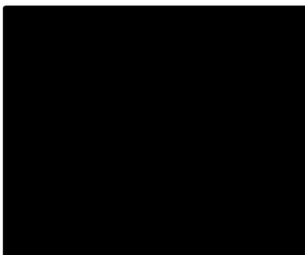
The purpose of the meeting is for us to share with Councillors and a few invited members of the public our current thinking with regard to the traffic, access and parking for the new leisure centre at Castle Farm and the Wardens new site. We will tell you of our initial thinking, and of the research and surveys that we have undertaken and those we intend to undertake.

We will not be in a position to provide you with our completed report on these matters. This work has not yet been completed. One of the main reasons for organising this meeting is to seek input from those assembled into the nature and scope of the work that we are undertaking. Councillors were keen that we did not present them with a fait accompli but sought their input, and the input from concerned local residents, as the work was progressing.

Please note that this is a working meeting, and so invitations have been strictly limited. **Admission will be by invitation only.** The meeting is deliberately timed just ahead of a much wider public consultation on the proposals, which will run from 4<sup>th</sup> November to 9<sup>th</sup> December. Any other members of the public, who have not been invited to the meeting, are very welcome to attend one of the public consultation sessions that will be advertised widely throughout November.

We hope that you will be able to attend, and we look forward to meeting you on the 30<sup>th</sup>.

Yours sincerely,



## **Appendix 6: Drop-in display information**



Castle Farm Recreation Centre



Abbey Fields Swimming Pool

## Appendix 7: FAQ

## Frequently-asked questions on the Castle Farm Recreation Centre Transport Assessment and Travel Plan

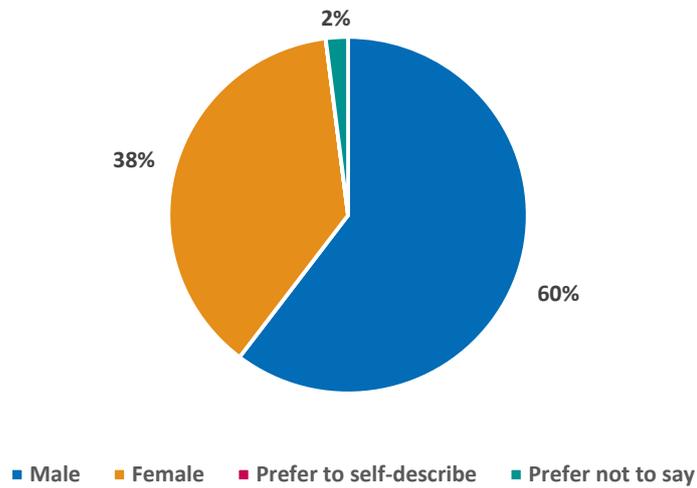
	Question	Answer
1	The previous Transport Assessment and Travel Plan had a number of factual errors. Have these been corrected?	<b>The consultants and the Council have worked hard on the documents, and we now believe that all the factual errors have been corrected in the new documents. We would welcome any comments where this may not be the case.</b>
2	There were question marks over the surveys and analysis in the previous report. Have these been addressed?	<b>All surveys and analysis have been reviewed and we firmly believe that the surveys and analysis in the previous report are sound and based on the best available information.</b>
3	The previous trip surveys were completed in January and February 2019. How can we be sure that this represents peak demand for the site?	<b>Everyone Active are able to produce figures to demonstrate that, in keeping with the pattern identified at most sports centres on a national basis, January and February are peak periods of usage, following the Christmas holidays. This is why these months were selected for the trip surveys. The methodology used to appraise these surveys is in accordance with the national recommendations for such work, and is considered sound.</b>
4	The previous report did not consider the potential impact of the new site for the Kenilworth Wardens. Has this been addressed?	<b>The design of the new site for the Wardens has not been completed. However, the transport consultant for Castle Farm has worked with all available data, to incorporate the potential impact of the Wardens on Castle Farm into the documents. His calculations have shown that the proposed car park and access at Castle Farm will be sufficient if the Wardens does NOT go ahead, but also that the car parking and access will remain sufficient if the Wardens DOES go ahead, provided that the Wardens provide the amount of parking that they are currently proposing.</b>
5	The previous documents did not include reference to the Kenilworth Neighbourhood Plan. This is an important document – has this omission been addressed?	<b>The Kenilworth Neighbourhood Plan has now been fully referenced within the documents.</b>
6	The Travel Plan is not so much a Travel Plan as a report on how a Travel Plan will be developed. Why is this?	<b>The format of the Travel Plan is largely dictated by the relevant Government guidance. The Travel Plan will remain a dynamic document, used by the Council and Everyone Active to encourage the move away from single-occupancy car use. Initiatives will be tried, changed and kept or closed over time. However, anything specific included in the Travel Plan before the Planning Application is then an implied condition of any Planning Permission. It is therefore usual to only provide limited specific examples in a pre-planning Travel Plan and to develop it much further once any Planning Permission has been obtained.</b>
7	There is much repetition between the Transport Assessment and the Travel Plan. Why is this?	<b>The format of both documents is largely dictated by the relevant Government guidance. The Travel Plan remains a dynamic document for much longer than the Transport Assessment, so information is repeated in here for future reference.</b>
8	The previous report said that the area is suitable for cycle journeys, but local cyclists disagree. Why have you not consulted with local cyclists about the local infrastructure?	<b>The statement that the area is suitable for cycling was in comparison to remote rural areas and high traffic urban roads, both of which are less conducive to cycling than the area under consideration. However, the consultant has now consulted with local cyclists</b>

		and the documents now make it clear that local cyclists feel vulnerable at a number of locations. It is not within the scope of this project to improve the wider infrastructure for cycling in the town, but there are now initiatives shown for 'quiet routes' and 'cycle buses' as proposed by local cyclists.
9	There were a number of evenings and weekends in September when parking at the current Castle Farm was completely unacceptable. This was not referred to in the previous report. Has this been addressed?	<b>Yes. Council officers and the consultant came to observe at least one such evening each and met with Councillors to discuss the issues. The documents now state that in future seasons it will be necessary to implement a booking system for training sessions at Castle Farm, in order to manage demand. With this system in place it is predicted that this problem can be alleviated in future years.</b>
10	Parking for Castle Farm regularly spills out into surrounding roads at present, when demand for parking exceeds the current car park. How has this been addressed?	<b>It is acknowledged that parking currently spills out of the site on occasion at present and the modelling shown in the report demonstrates this clearly. The modelling for the new car park, which is twice the size of the current car park, shows that all parking for the Centre will be contained within the site, with no spilling out into surrounding roads. There is no intention to rely on parking on local roads to deal with excess demand from this site.</b>
11	The current proposals do not comply with the Council's own Parking Standards. How has this been addressed?	<b>The Supplementary Planning Guidance for parking makes it clear that there are a number of circumstances in which the figures produced by the Guidance are not an appropriate figure for the number of parking spaces. The Transport Statement makes it clear why the Guidance is not appropriate in the case of Castle Farm, and explains the alternative calculations made. The Transport Assessment has been changed to highlight still further these points.</b>
12	The previous document had no recommendation to include double yellow lines on the Fishponds Road spur towards the site entrance. Has this been addressed?	<b>Yes, the document now proposes double yellow lines on the whole of the Fishponds Road spur towards the site entrance. The County Council is willing to accept an application for such lines, as the decision is theirs. The District Council is also willing to consider a Traffic Order in the sections of the car park that are not adopted highway in order to continue those lines, in a legally enforceable manner, from the highway and into the site.</b>
13	Where is the evidence that the Transport Assessment takes account of the Scouts and Guides and other users of this popular green space?	<b>The Scouts and Guides and ancillary users of the green space are already contained within the figures, as demonstrated by the methodology. However, it has been acknowledged that the traffic demand generated by the Scouts and Guides has certain specific characteristics, with many parents dropping off and picking up children, whilst older Scouts and Guides represent a good audience for modal shift, so the Assessment has been amended to include more description of these specific characteristics.</b>
14	In discussions on the previous draft of the report, local people expressed a wish to see more off-site mitigation at nearby junctions, residential roads and such like. Why has this not been included again this time?	<b>The document recommends double yellow lines along the Fishponds Road spur towards the entrance of the site. The County Council has indicated a willingness to consider this proposal favourably. The problem with proposing any other off-site mitigation in the local area is that most proposals would need to be implemented by the County Council. With limited resources available to the County for such works, they will prioritise work at dangerous locations, and the statistical evidence says that this is not a dangerous area, even when increases in usage are modelled in the analysis.</b>

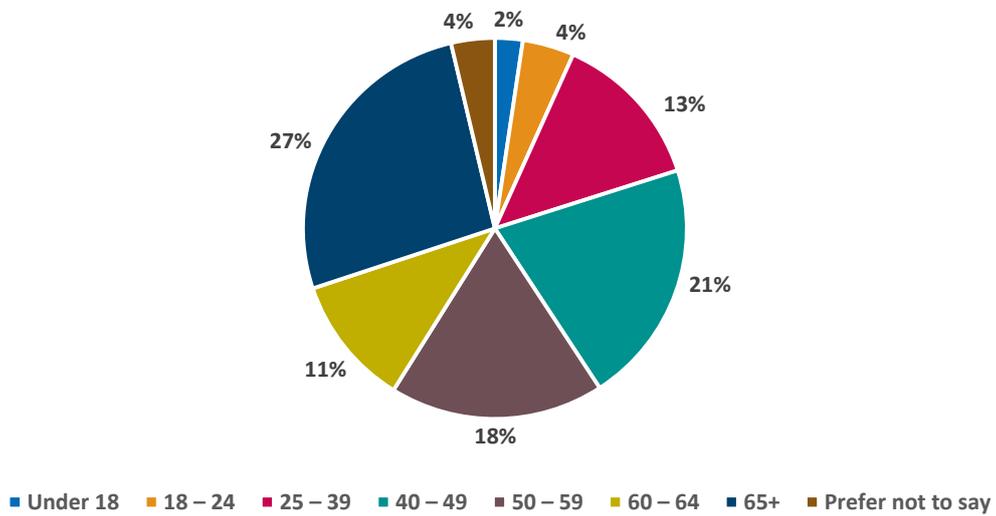
15	The previous document notes that the January traffic survey was not complete as some football matches were cancelled. Do you therefore think that these figures are therefore incomplete?	<b>No. The traffic that would have been generated by the cancelled matches was put back into the figures on the basis of Sport England’s assessment of the traffic and parking generated by local football matches. We therefore consider that the figures used in the analysis are robust and relevant.</b>
16	Is there any intention to carry out any more survey work at the site?	<b>No. It is believed that the existing surveys are robust and relevant and that the subsequent analysis complies with industry standards and the conclusions reached are appropriate to the planning application to be submitted.</b>
17	Why does the discussion on cycling not propose the idea of allowing cycling in Abbey Fields? This would assist cyclists in accessing Castle Farm from this direction and has the support of the majority of local people.	<b>The current Transport Assessment has to reflect the existing situation. The decision on cycling in Abbey Fields is not part of this project. It is more important that the decision on cycling in Abbey Fields is fully integrated into the wider Management Plan work for the site. Flexibility has been built into the designs for both buildings in the event that cycling is subsequently permitted in Abbey Fields.</b>

## Appendix 8: Demographics of respondents

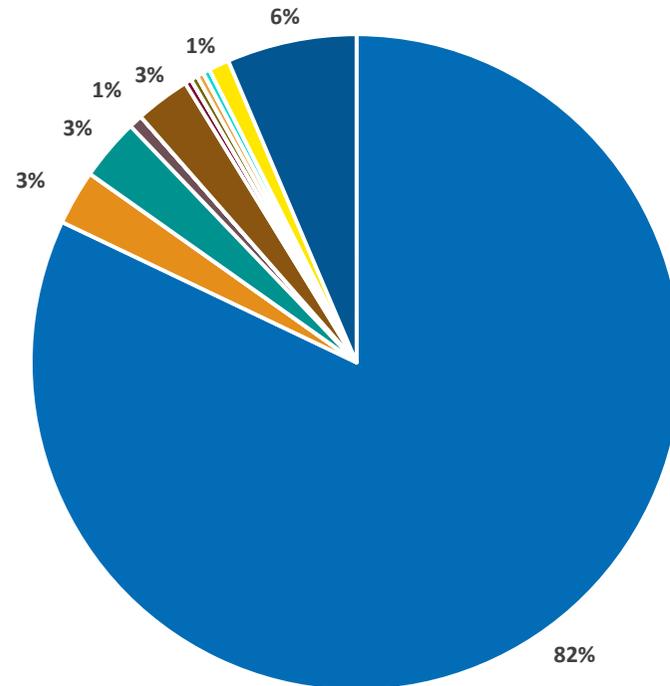
Question 17: What is your gender?



Question 18: What is your age range?

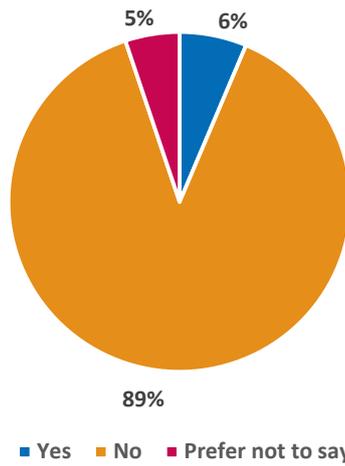


Question 19: Choose one option that best describes your ethnic group or background

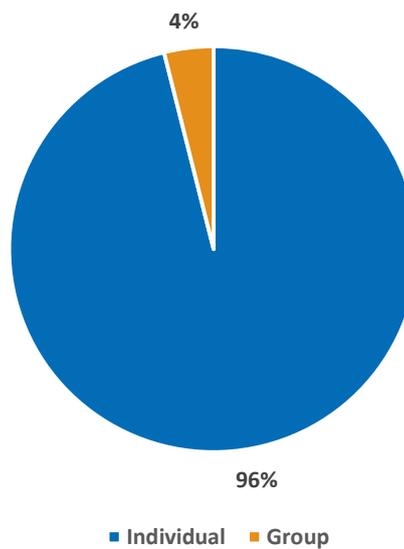


- White British
- Other White background
- Other Black background
- Asian or Asian British – Bangladeshi
- Mixed – White and Black Caribbean
- Other mixed background
- Prefer not to say
- White Irish
- Black or Black British – Caribbean
- Asian or Asian British – Indian
- Chinese
- Mixed – White and Black African
- Arab
- Gypsy or Traveller
- Black or Black British – African
- Asian or Asian British – Pakistani
- Other Asian Background
- Mixed – White and Asian
- Other ethnic background

Question 20: Do you have an impairment, health condition or learning difference that has a substantial or long term impact on your ability to carry out day-to-day activities?



Question 21: Have you responded as an individual or as part of a group?



## Appendix 9: Qualitative community feedback

Table 8.1 - Response to Question 6

Theme	Number of references	Summary
Support	29	<p>There was support for the proposals and recognition that improvement was required.</p> <p>One respondent suggested that the proposed improvements would also increase demand and use of the facilities.</p> <p>It was suggested that proposals would allow facilities to be used all year round, which was identified to be beneficial for elderly members of the community.</p>
Scale	11	<p>A number of respondents suggested that the proposals were too large in scale and not in keeping with the surrounding residential area.</p> <p>There was a concern that there were too many pitches proposed that could lead to light and noise pollution for site neighbours.</p>
Lack of demand	10	<p>It was suggested that the town was growing and demand would be increasing for improved facilities.</p> <p>There was a concern that there was not enough demand for an increase in facilities, with some respondents suggesting that it was ok as it was.</p> <p>One respondent felt that the proposed investment could be better used elsewhere.</p> <p>Respondents suggested that the proposals do not reflect the character of the local area or fit community demands.</p>
Facilities	9	<p>Whilst there was support for proposals, it was requested that the existing children's park and skate park remain.</p> <p>One respondent suggested that cricket nets could be separated from the main hall rather than integrated.</p> <p>It was suggested that further outside sport facilities should be included for sports clubs, including the amount of covered outdoor spaces.</p> <p>Respondents requested segregated sex changing facilities.</p> <p>It was highlighted that facilities and classes should be suitable for all ages to support the whole community.</p>
Highways	7	<p>Respondents were concerned that there would be an increase in congestion and noise for neighbours.</p> <p>Some respondents suggested that the proposed access was not suitable.</p>

		<p>One respondent suggested that a separate access road should be included rather than as currently proposed.</p> <p>It was highlighted that further provisions should be included for cyclists, including bike racks and cycle paths.</p>
Existing trees and open space	6	<p>Some respondents raised concerns for the loss of green space proposals could result in.</p> <p>It was suggested that there would be a loss of existing trees to accommodate the proposed car parking area.</p>
Petanque	4	<p>Respondents were supportive of proposed improvements to the Petanque Piste.</p> <p>It was suggested that accessible outdoor toilets could be included for piste users and those using the skate park.</p> <p>One respondent highlighted that the terrain would need to be covered in order to maintain surface quality.</p>
Scouts and Guides	4	<p>Some respondents supported proposals for improved scout and guide facilities, noting that there was an increased demand locally.</p> <p>It was suggested that there was a need for more recreational space with storage and windows.</p> <p>One respondent requested further information and clarity on provisions that would be available for Scouts.</p>
Consultation	2	<p>One respondent suggested that there was not enough advertisement regarding consultation events.</p> <p>Some respondents requested that further detail be made available in regards to online consultation plans.</p>

**Table 8.2 - Response to Question 7**

Theme	Number of references	Summary
Facilities	37	<p>It was suggested that additional facilities could be included in proposals, including space for elderly groups to meet that includes windows.</p> <p>One respondent suggested facilities for younger members of the community could be included for both children and toddlers. Ideas included a soft play, climbing wall, indoor tennis and netball courts, along with floodlit outdoor pitches.</p> <p>Respondents hoped additional facilities for running could be incorporated, such as a running trail or track around the grounds. It was also suggested that provision could be made to store parkrun equipment that would enable Kenilworth to get its own parkrun.</p>

		<p>One respondent suggested that a café could be included in proposals along with outdoor seating for spectators to have food and drink.</p> <p>Respondents hoped to see specific provision for Kenilworth Town Football Club and Rugby Union teams.</p> <p>One respondent hoped facilities could be made available for 24 hour use.</p>
Petanque	31	<p>Respondents hoped to see a canopy and floodlights over the Petanque piste to make it suitable for year-round use.</p>
Highways	19	<p>There were concerns regarding proposed car parking, with some respondents suggesting that there would not be enough capacity.</p> <p>Respondents suggested that proposals would increase congestion in the town, as those who currently walk to existing facilities will consider driving to Castle Farm instead.</p> <p>Some respondents were concerned the proposed access would not be sufficient.</p> <p>It was highlighted that additional parking could be provided for those using Abbey Fields swimming pool, the outdoor bowls or scouts/guides facilities.</p> <p>One respondent suggested that the entrances and exits from John O Gaunt and Fishponds Road could be closed at night to prevent antisocial behaviour.</p> <p>It was suggested that pick up and drop off provisions could be included in proposals.</p>
Ecology and environment	8	<p>Respondents were interested to know more about environmental considerations and the possible impact on the local environment.</p> <p>One respondent hoped to see more sustainable features included in the design of the proposed development. It was highlighted that the proposals should be designed to the Passivhaus Plus standard to deliver net zero carbon and low operating costs.</p> <p>It was suggested that flooding should be taken into account.</p>
Pedestrian / cycle facilities	7	<p>Respondents highlighted that further provisions for cyclists could be incorporated into designs, such as segregated lanes and secure cycle storage.</p> <p>It was suggested that an outdoor cycle track for mountain bikers could be included in proposals.</p>
Scale	4	<p>There were concerns that the existing proposals were too large in scale.</p>

Existing trees and open space	3	<p>One respondent suggested that residents currently used the fields to walk, and were concerned by the impact proposals could have on existing open space.</p> <p>It was requested that a commitment be made to retain all existing trees and to plant additional trees as part of this development.</p>
Management and cost	3	<p>One respondent was concerned about the costs of proposals.</p> <p>There were questions in regards to how facilities would be managed and the cost of using these spaces would be in the long term.</p>
Site neighbours	2	<p>One respondent was concerned that proposals could impact upon existing residents who live locally to the site.</p> <p>It was suggested that proposals could have an impact in terms of light and noise pollution.</p>

**Table 8.3 - Response to Question 8**

Theme	Number of references	Summary
Highways	26	<p>There were concerns that additional car parking would be required, along with traffic calming mitigation measures on surrounding residential streets.</p> <p>Respondents suggested improvements were required for the proposed access to ensure it was appropriate and safe.</p> <p>One respondent suggested that improved lighting should be included in the car park.</p> <p>It was suggested that parking could be made chargeable, along with introduction of resident permit parking / public 2 hour max parking on neighbouring residential roads.</p> <p>One respondent was concerned that the number of car parking spaces would encourage visitors to drive to the centre, and that there should be fewer spaces on site.</p>
Gym and fitness classes	25	<p>Respondents suggested that the current gym was too small, and that further classes should be provided such as spinning.</p> <p>One respondent highlighted a need for a squat rack and additional free weights in the gym.</p>

		<p>Respondents hoped that additional classes would be offered to the community, providing more variety and better timing of classes.</p> <p>It was highlighted that existing equipment needed to be upgraded.</p> <p>Respondents suggested that improved air conditioning could be incorporated into the upgrades to facilities.</p>
Petanque	13	<p>Respondents reinforced hopes for improved petanque facilities, including a cover for the terrain.</p>
Scale	9	<p>Some respondents stated a preference for smaller scale proposals and further retention of existing open space.</p> <p>One respondent suggested that there were enough facilities on offer at the existing site.</p> <p>It was highlighted that, whilst facilities needed improving, they should remain small in scale and primary function as a community facility.</p>
Changing facilities and toilets	8	<p>It was requested that improvements be made to changing facilities and toilets.</p> <p>One respondent suggested that the changing rooms were too far away from the pitches.</p> <p>It was requested that outdoor toilets be included to improve access for those using outside facilities.</p>
Support	7	<p>Respondents showed support for the plans.</p> <p>It was identified that facilities needed to be upgraded to ensure they would support the growing community.</p>
Community room	5	<p>Respondents highlighted a need for a room like the existing party room that community members can hire for use.</p>
Pedestrian / cycle facilities	3	<p>It was highlighted that cycle access would need to be secure and safe, with storage facilities for bikes on site.</p> <p>One respondent suggested that pedestrian paths could be improved around the facility to improve the safety of visitors.</p>
Existing trees and open space	3	<p>Respondents were concerned that proposals would impact upon existing trees and open space.</p> <p>It was highlighted that the remaining open fields should remain open and accessible to everyone.</p>
Environment and ecology	3	<p>Respondents were interested in seeing further sustainable principles incorporated in the design and long term management of facilities.</p> <p>Flooding was raised to be an issue locally that should be taken into account in the design process.</p>

Outdoor facilities	3	Respondents highlighted a need to improve outdoor facilities that could be flexible for all weathers and varying uses.
Anti-social behaviour	3	Respondents hoped proposals would improve the safety of the facility. One respondent suggested that the skate park could be relocated to improve overlooking and discourage anti-social behaviour.
Management and cost	3	One respondent believed the facility would be best managed locally. It was suggested that more information should be made available in regards to the cost of using the facility. One respondent highlighted that the maintenance of facilities would need to be improved in the long term.

**Table 8.4 - Response to Question 9**

Theme	Number of references	Summary
Proposed access	47	It was suggested that a separate access was required to minimise impact on existing residents. Respondents were concerned that the existing access would not be wide enough. It was highlighted that neighbouring residential roads are already busy, and narrow, and concerns were raised as to whether this would become worse following development. Respondents suggested that access from Castle car park could prevent congestion on Fishponds. One respondent stated that there should be no parking on the access road.
Congestion	28	It was suggested that traffic calming measures could be introduced to reduce the impact of congestion. Respondents were interested to see traffic modelling and possible mitigation measures that could be taken. It was highlighted that Rounds Hill and Fishponds Avenue did not have the capacity to support an increased number of vehicles. There were concerns that congestion would be bad at peak times of day, including on match days.
Pedestrian / cycle facilities	18	Respondents suggested that sustainable travel routes could be created to encourage walking and cycling.

		<p>It was highlighted that safe cycle access would need to be incorporated into designs.</p> <p>One respondent suggested that cycle storage be relocated to ensure they are overlooked.</p> <p>Respondents were concerned that congestion may have an impact on safety.</p> <p>It was highlighted that covered bike storage could be incorporated into designs.</p>
Car parking	12	<p>Respondents highlighted that there would be limited parking.</p> <p>It was suggested that the pick-up and drop off provisions were limited.</p> <p>Respondents were concerned that existing trouble with parking on neighbouring residential roads would continue. It was suggested that parking controls would need to be introduced.</p>
Warden's entrance	8	<p>One respondent suggested that an additional access could be created to the new warden's site.</p>
Public transport	4	<p>It was highlighted that public transport would need to be improved to reduce the number of cars travelling to and from the site.</p>
Accessibility	1	<p>One respondent highlighted that facilities had been made accessible for elderly and less mobile individuals.</p>
Management and cost	1	<p>Respondents were concerned that proposals were too</p>

**Table 8.5 - Response to Question 10**

Theme	Number of references	Summary
Car parking facilities and mitigation	45	<p>Respondents were concerned that there was not sufficient car parking proposed.</p> <p>It was suggested that provision would need to be put in place to prevent individuals parking on neighbouring residential roads.</p> <p>Respondents felt that overflow parking should be considered for match days.</p> <p>There were concerns that the car park is currently used by those walking to town. Some respondents suggested that the car park should be policed in some way. One of these ideas included car park charges.</p>

		<p>Some respondents suggested that parking charges or restrictions could encourage more informal parking on neighbouring residential roads.</p> <p>It was highlighted that improvements could be made to the drop off and pick up points.</p> <p>One respondent suggested that the existing car park at Abbey End could be used to prevent everyone parking on site.</p>
Scale	32	<p>One respondent suggested that the proposed parking seemed too large and that sustainable travel should be encouraged instead.</p> <p>Some respondents identified that, whilst the scale of the parking provision seemed adequate for now, the parking would need to be enough to support the long term use of the site.</p>
Pedestrian / cycle facilities	13	<p>Respondents highlighted that cycle and pedestrian facilities could be improved to encourage sustainable travel.</p> <p>It was suggested that improvements needed to be made to link existing cycle paths to make a safe route.</p> <p>One respondent suggested that improvements to cycle and pedestrian access would not encourage people to walk or cycle over drive to access the site.</p>
Warden's parking	3	<p>Respondents suggested that the Warden's car park and pavilion should be relocated to be closer to the John O Gaunt entrance.</p>
Congestion	3	<p>There were concerns that there would be an impact on congestion in the local residential area.</p>
Coach / bus access	2	<p>One respondent was concerned that there would be difficulty for coaches or buses accessing the site which may impact upon congestion.</p> <p>Respondents were interested to know more about coach parking provision.</p>
Security	2	<p>It was suggested that good lighting should be provided around the car park to improve security.</p>
Public transport	2	<p>Respondents suggested that they would be more likely to use public transport if it was improved.</p> <p>It was highlighted that a sustainable travel plan could be introduced to encourage use of public transport.</p>
Existing trees and open space	2	<p>It was highlighted that there should be a commitment to the retention of significant trees as the car park is developed.</p> <p>One respondent was concerned that open space would be reduced by car parking.</p>

Ecology and environment	1	One respondent suggested that electronic vehicular charging points should be incorporated in the car park.
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**Table 8.6 - Response to Question 11**

Theme	Number of references	Summary
Design	24	<p>Respondents were concerned that the design and scale of proposals would impact on the character of the town.</p> <p>It was suggested that local materials should be used in the design of the building, such as sandstone. One respondent suggested that wood and glass should be used.</p>
Existing trees and open space	7	Respondents were concerned that proposals would impact upon the open space available to the community.
Car parking	6	<p>It was suggested that there was too much car parking proposed and that pedestrian features should be more central in the design.</p> <p>Respondents were concerned that there was not adequate parking provision on site.</p>
Support	5	Respondents suggested that the proposals were a big improvement on what was currently there.
Environmental Impact	5	<p>One respondent suggested that this could be an opportunity to use sustainable design initiatives.</p> <p>Respondents were interested to know what measures had been taken in light of the Council's declaration of a climate emergency.</p> <p>It was suggested that bird boxes could be included on trees.</p>
Consultation	5	It was suggested that further details could be provided, including that of materials proposed.
Pedestrian / cycle facilities	2	Respondents were interested to see further provision in place for cyclists.
Construction and management	1	Respondents were interested to know more about the planned construction on site, and whether this would impact upon sporting seasons.

**Table 8.7 - Response to Question 14**

Theme	Number of references	Summary
Support	52	<p>There was support for the dedicated facility and the community benefit it would bring.</p> <p>One respondent stated that the location of the facility should remain the same.</p> <p>Whilst there was general support for these facilities, it was identified that scout and guide leaders and organisations, as well as the children who take part, should be consulted.</p>
Design	9	<p>Some respondents felt the building appeared too separate and that it should be integrated with the wider development.</p> <p>Other respondents suggested that the building should be detached to prevent noise disturbance from those using the gym.</p> <p>One respondent highlighted that these facilities would require car access.</p>
Scale	7	<p>Respondents were concerned that proposals were too large in scale.</p> <p>It was suggested that the room needed to be bigger than what was existing.</p> <p>Respondents highlighted that further outside space would be required.</p>
Consultation	7	<p>Some respondents felt there could be more detail in proposals to encourage further comment.</p>
Long term maintenance	4	<p>Respondents hoped that the facilities would be large enough for all groups and be good quality to ensure long term use.</p> <p>It was suggested that the rooms should be versatile to suit all groups who use it.</p>
Environmental impact	3	<p>Respondents were interested to see more measures taken in terms of sustainable design.</p>
Existing facilities	2	<p>Some respondents suggested that the existing facilities were good enough and that no changes were required.</p> <p>It was suggested that more storage would be required than there was presently.</p>

Open space	1	It was requested that open space remain accessible and available for all to use.
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**Table 8.8 - Response to Question 15**

Theme	Number of references	Summary
Support	69	<p>Respondents were supportive of the benefits new facilities would bring to the community.</p> <p>It was identified that proposals would diversify the offering of the facility and encourage wider use.</p>
Access and highways	34	<p>It was suggested that proposals should only be progressed if an alternative access arrangement could be put in place.</p> <p>Respondents highlighted a need for traffic mitigation measures.</p> <p>There were concerns that proposals would increase congestion on wider residential roads.</p>
Neighbouring residents	19	<p>Concerns were made in relation to existing site neighbours and the possible light and noise pollution that could be created following the development.</p> <p>It was suggested that measures be put in place to monitor and restrict activity to minimise impact on residents.</p> <p>It was highlighted that access to facilities and open space must remain following any development, specifically for neighbouring residents.</p> <p>One respondent questioned whether the proposals would benefit local residents and the community.</p>
Design	14	<p>Respondents highlighted that proposals should be sensitively designed to take into account the local character of the town.</p> <p>It was highlighted that sustainable principles should be taken into account to ensure an environmentally friendly design.</p>
Scale	12	<p>There were concerns that proposals were too large in scale, with one respondent doubting that there was enough demand to support new facilities.</p> <p>One respondent suggested that the Warden's Club House were too large and would impact on the community at its proposed location.</p>

		<p>It was suggested that, in the context of adjacent redevelopment of existing Castle Farm centre, that these proposals are too large in scale and possible impact.</p>
Environment and ecology	11	<p>There were some comments made in relation to flooding concerns and requirements for additional drainage on site.</p> <p>Respondents were interested to see proposals progress in line with the Climate Emergency pledges.</p>
Car parking	10	<p>Respondents felt parking provision would not be adequate enough to support the users of the facility.</p>
Facilities	10	<p>Some respondents felt that additional facilities would be required to ensure all members of the community would access and use them.</p> <p>It was suggested the indoor cricket net should be retained to encourage use and training all year round.</p> <p>It was requested that provision be included for existing dog walkers, such as an outdoor café or wooden agility equipment.</p> <p>One respondent suggested that a project worker could be appointed to explore options that ensured the Warden facilities could be used by the whole community rather than just paying Wardens.</p> <p>It was highlighted that all sports should be prioritised in proposals, with facilities to support a variety of activities and interests.</p>
Pedestrian / cycle provision	8	<p>Respondents highlighted a need to ensure there was adequate cycle and pedestrian provision into and around the site.</p>
Existing trees and open space	6	<p>Respondents were keen for access to open and green spaces to be maintained.</p> <p>It was suggested that additional trees should be planted on site to add ecological value and also protect existing residents from noise and visual disturbance.</p> <p>It was suggested that the proposed fencing will impact upon existing access to open space.</p>
Cost and maintenance	3	<p>Respondents raised concerns that the development would be expensive.</p>