

EXTERNAL WORKS AND IMPROVED SPORTS FACILITIES

AT

**MILLWORTH RECREATION GROUND,
MILLWORTH LANE, SHINFIELD, READING RG2 9EN**

STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Date: 24th June 2024
Ref: TCG 6890 – *Statement of Community Involvement*

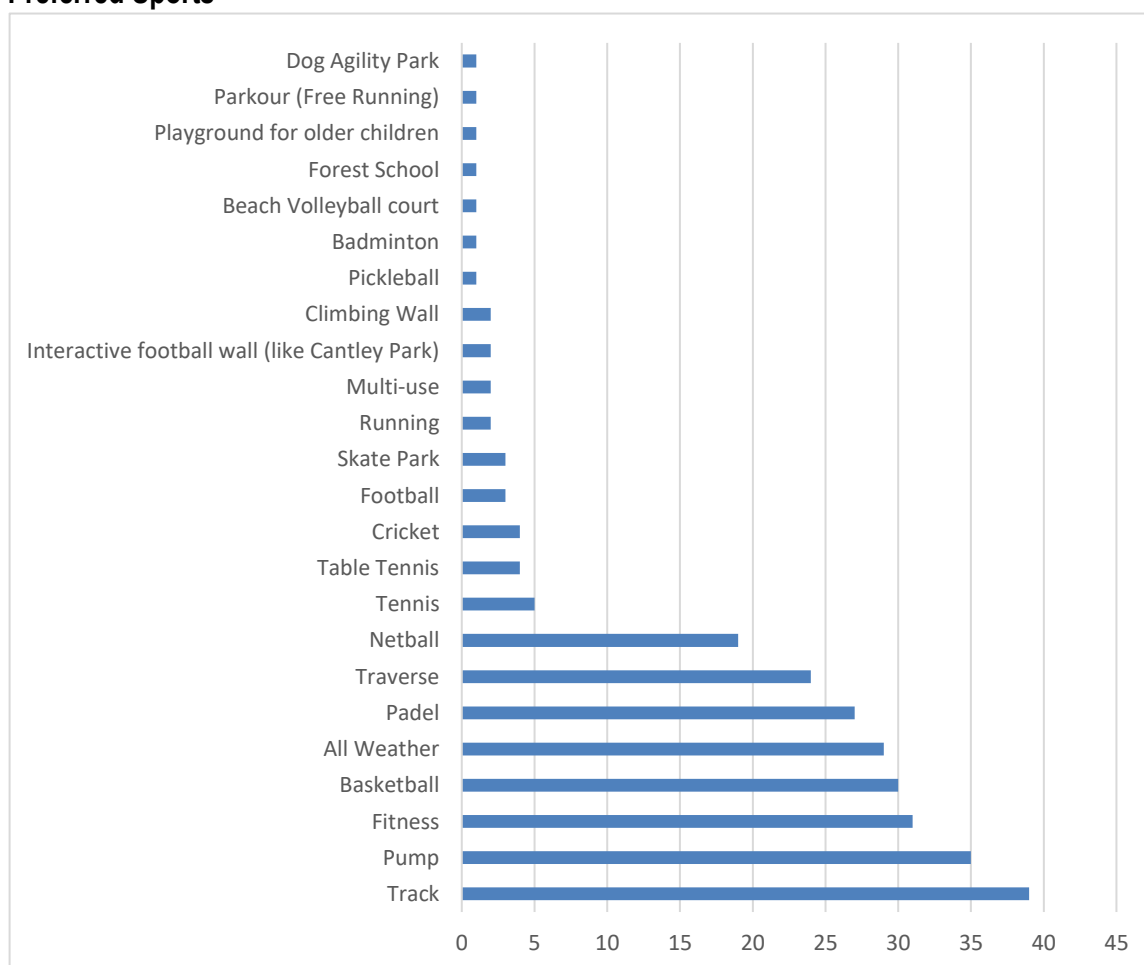
INTRODUCTION

This statement accompanies a planning application submitted to Wokingham Borough Council seeking consent to undertake external works and improvements to the sports facilities at the Millworth Lane recreation ground. It summarises the Community consultation and communication that has been undertaken during the preparation of the application proposals.

INITIAL CONSULTATION

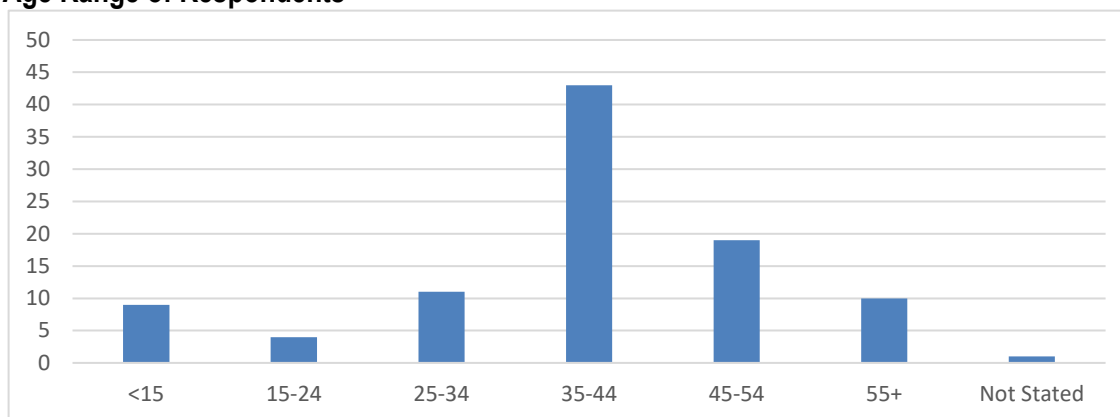
An initial public consultation was held at the School Green Centre on Saturday 28th January 2024 between 10.00 and 16.00. The meeting was held in conjunction with the University of Reading and also traffic proposals in another room to help boost attendance and public engagement in the event. The event was publicised locally and on the parish council newsletter. 46 questionnaires were completed on the day of the consultation and a further 51 were submitted in the month long period of consultation giving a total of 97 responses. The findings were as follows:

Preferred Sports

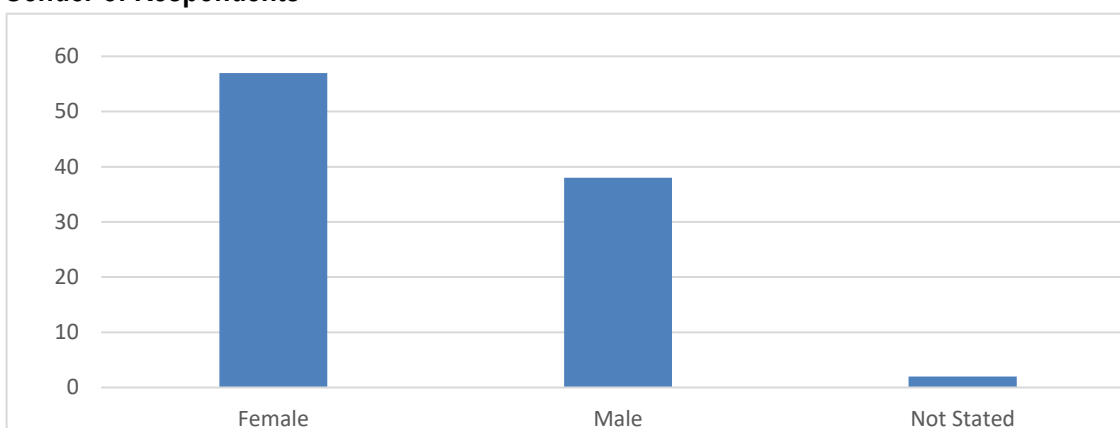


Respondents were asked to indicate which sports they would like to see at Millworth Lane including those not specifically listed. It was possible to request to see multiple sports. This chart shows the total number of responses in favour of each sport. Track means a running track while Running refers to better facilities for runners in general

Age Range of Respondents



Gender of Respondents



These findings were then used to refine the overall plan for Millworth Lane. All elements scoring more than 5 responses are represented in the proposed redevelopment.

It was felt that football and cricket were well provided for within the parish and additional football pitches were planned for Hyde End Lane and a new pavilion at Manor Ground would add a new cricket square and junior football pitches. Longer term the Shinfield West Pavilion (now referred to as High Copse Pavilion) would be in development.

While additional 3G facilities were identified as a pressing need in the parish, it was felt that a full sized pitch at Millworth Lane was not a suitable option.

CONSULTATION ON CURRENT PLANS

When the plans were developed to the current proposals an open meeting was arranged and all residents of Millworth Lane itself had an invitation hand delivered to their homes. The meeting was held on Saturday 15th June 2024 at 10.00 in the School Green Centre. Eight residents of Millworth Lane attended and discussed the proposals.

The main concern of residents was car parking at Millworth Lane. The proposals show that the number of car parking spaces will more than double from the current ineffective arrangement.