

Tidenham Parish Council
Community Garden Public Consultation
10am 17th February 2024
Report

Attendees	TPC – J Jenkins, K Strong, M Swambo, C Wall GWT – F Halstead FS&TS – M Lillington S&DLGA – K Randell, R Watts, V Watts Parishioners – M Perrin, J Stead, T Forster, H Forster, N Williams, B Izzard, P Wright, More interest expressed through email and social media from people who could not make Saturday’s meeting
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Scores for preferred utilisation of the community garden (scoring only taken from attendees of the consultation)

Proposed Use of the Garden	Score 1	Score 2	Score 3	Score 4	Score 5	Score 6	Score 7	Score 8	Score 9	Score 10	Score 11	Score 12	Score 13	Score 14	Score Total	Average Score
Outdoor Learning Zone	5	4	1	5	3	5	3	5	3	5	5	5	5	5	59	4.214285714
Wildlife Garden	4	1	3	5	5	5	5	3	1	4	3	5	3	4	51	3.642857143
Undercover Seating Area	2	4	4	3	2	5	1	5	2	5	5	1	5	5	49	3.5
Herb Garden	3	5	3	5	1	1	3	4	1	5	3	5	5	3	47	3.357142857
Vegetable Plots	4	1	2	5	3	1	2	5	5	2	2	5	3	1	41	2.928571429
Orchard	2	3	3	5	2	2	1	3	1	5	2	1	5	4	39	2.785714286
Flower Plots	3	2	4	5	1	1	1	4	1	2	4	5	4	1	38	2.714285714
Pond	2	1	5	1	4	1	4	3	4	2	3	1	2	3	36	2.571428571

Other ideas for utilisation given on feedback forms

Other Ideas for Copmmunity Garden
Residents/family sponsored/adopted veg/flower beds - plant & maintain
Kids wildlife/flower/plant/tree reasure hunt plaques
Current proposed location is extremely boggy
Raised area adjacent to Mercian Way/KA Road - wildflower and bench area
graduate the garden into the whole area - no need for fencing/sectioning off
Secur fencing for tool storage only - fencing is costly
Parking area needs to be enlarged - allotment members use both sides of track in summer
BMX pump track area with natural tree shelter
Raised beds along top of park
Benches, tables, BBQ area, fire pit
Bins
Willow tree shelter and/or maze
workshops for children - gardening, biodiversity, identifying species (poisonous)
Increase biodiversity - raise awareness,
workshops for adults - gardening & growing veg/food/flowers
Holistic project - whole site and environment
Wildlife corridor
Information plaques
mowing approach
Forest Garden - permaculture
Get the kids involved
Shelter area for hot summer and wet winter
BBQ area, good for kids, don't lose skate park, use by all the community
bee and wildlife garden which would include a covered area for people to sit, reflect or meet others for a chat whilst enjoying the garden

Volunteers for Management Committee:

- J Jenkins
- K Strong
- M Perrin
- V Watts
- K Randell - To be confirmed

8 x volunteers for other types of assistance with the project

Summary:

From the scoring system and other comments, the outdoor learning zone is a clear favourite amongst those who attended. Providing activities for the children of the community, as well as an outdoor, undercover meeting space for families was key in most peoples suggestions.

Due to the costs of fencing, barriers and gates, it was felt that developing the whole site in stages could be more beneficial, negating the need to spend so much on cordoning off one specific area.

Frances Halstead gave a wonderful addition to the presentation with her talk on utilisation and accompanying activity sheet. GWT would be able to provide ongoing support, advice and guidance, identification of funding streams, and provision of nature workshops at the site in the future.

Members of S&DLGA are supportive of the project but have concerns about parking and maintenance of a shared boundary. It is important this project is planned holistically with the S&DLGA, taking account of the juxtaposition of the two sites and their respective projects.

Overall, there was a great level of enthusiasm for the project. The general consensus was to look at creating a development project for the whole site, rather than just the 10 x 10 metre square currently identified.

Next Steps

1. TPC to share an update about the consultation on our website and social media
2. I will contact volunteers for the management committee to discuss setting a meeting to agree a proposal
3. A follow up meeting will be scheduled for all those who have expressed their interest so far to discuss the proposal and decide how to move forward with the project