

DRAFT

Meadow Lane Recreation Ground survey results

A survey-monkey online survey was conducted in November 2021 of local residents' and Rec users' views on how they felt about the Rec now and what improvements if any they might like to see. 4 of the 10 questions invited open answers, the rest were multiple choice. The survey was advertised via leafleting the vast majority of Iffley Fields houses, through the IFRA website and Facebook pages, through neighbouring residents' associations, and through posters round the Rec. 157 responses were received.

Summary of Results:

The openness and the multiple and informal uses of the Rec are widely valued, and any changes should not interfere with this. Given this, there is support for more benches, better planting, a few additional sports facilities, and better maintenance of the area.

Thank you to all respondents for taking the time to give your views and suggestions. They were many and varied, and will help with future planning including when to do nothing. A full copy of responses has been retained.

Results in detail:

Q1. What do you particularly like or dislike about the Rec now?

This was an open question to which 131 respondents replied.

Likes: *By far the commonest response in the whole survey and across all open questions was that the Rec is liked for being a wide open space, very flexible, informal and multi-use, not too prescriptive or cluttered, and a good community asset, and that these characteristics should be retained.*

16 people mentioned that they would prefer it kept exactly as it is – no changes.

Dislikes: a wide variety of points were raised. Main ones were:

19 respondents find it too barren / open / boring / lack of landscaping

14 mentioned dog problems (mainly unpicked up dog poo, also dogs off leads).

14 mentioned anti-social behaviour (drugs / noise / lurkers/ feels unsafe)

10 – lack of maintenance (around goal posts, uneven ground)

8 – litter

7 – seating problems (not enough of it, not liking the rotting logs)

8 – lack of shade to sit under and/or by Meadow Lane.

5 – dangers from traffic on Meadow Lane (too fast, no protection from it)

Q2. How do you (and your household) use the Rec now? Tick any that apply.

152 responses:

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Team sports	13.16%	20
individual sport/ keep fit	34.21%	52
Children’s activities / kids after-school kickabout	47.37%	72
Somewhere to sit, meet people and/or picnic outside	52.63%	80
Pass through along Meadow Lane	79.61%	121
Walking and/or exercising dogs	51.97%	79
Other	8.55%	13

Q3 What would improve it for you?

126 responses

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
More benches	67.46%	85
Better planting	62.70%	79
More sports facilities	35.71%	45

Q4 Are there other ways we could improve the Rec?

111 responses

16 respondents commented in one or more open questions that they wanted no changes

28 didn't select either benches, planting or more sports facilities.

Other suggestions: more litter bins (6), picnic tables/area (4), cafe or food/coffee vans (6), better lighting (3), bike locking station (3), nature/bird boxes (3). Sports requests see under sports questions.

And – improving features disliked, such as lack of maintenance.

Questions 5 and 6 referred to 2 suggested planting layouts for 6 trees for which there is grant money for the Council to plant.

Q5 Two clusters of 3 trees (*one by Meadow Lane, one near the back*)

138 responses

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Disagree	30.43% 42
Neither agree nor disagree	26.81% 37
Agree	42.75% 59

Q6 Six trees running along Meadow Lan

140 responses

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Agree	47.14% 66
Neither agree nor disagree	20.00% 28
Disagree	32.86% 46

Q7 Trees but not those locations (please say where you think best)

No trees should be planted – 11

Tree locations should not impinge on space for activities/sports (11)

Shading concerns for Meadow Lane residents (2)

Safety concerns – shadows & lurkers along Meadow Lane– 5

Safety concerns – blocks view to the lane – 2

Safety concerns – need to step off Meadow Lane to avoid traffic - 2

Safety concerns – don't block view from playground (children) – 2

Alternative layouts suggested:

Along Lane but fewer than 6 trees – 2

Along Lane but leaving middle open for max width – 1

Along Lane but well spaced for light / open sight lines etc – 1

No straight lines! - 1

Close to playground / along path to skatepark - 3

Along boundary with scrapyard (in front of rough strip implied)– 3

Several people mentioned adding trees into the back strip

In the corners - 1

Do both suggested layouts – 2

Q8 Please tick all the activities you or your household might use

114 responses

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Table tennis	57.89%	66
improved 5 a side football area, with the option of basketball hoops provision	30.70%	35
Basketball hoops area	30.70%	35
Green gym	50.00%	57
Boules/petanque pitch	34.21%	39
Other	11.40%	13

Other sports suggestions (made under any question)

Cricket pitch/strip/net (4), Basketball court (3), Basketball hoops at 2 heights (child and adult)(2), Boules pitch would have problems with litter and animal poo (2), Table tennis table should be full sized (1), AFL posts (1), specifically no more sports facilities (2).

Q9 Any other comments or suggestions about how we can improve the Rec.

66 responses

Responses mostly incorporated under sections above.

Q10. Please tell us who is in your household. Tick all that apply.

144 households covering all age groups replied:

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Young children	43.75%	63
Teenagers /students	22.22%	32
Working age adults	79.17%	114
Older / retired	31.25%	45