

What is Good and Not so Good about Sun Hill Recreation Ground?

The views of local residents

Introduction

Adverse views on Sun Hill Recreation Ground had been reported in early summer of 2009. It was agreed that the Partnership would conduct a survey to consult and report more widely about this area.

The views were collected by completing paper surveys with residents, distributing slips requesting they give their views on line, and promoting the online questionnaire via local media and school newsletters. Results were collated using Survey Monkey, use of this software was kindly provided by Perins Community Sports College.

Summary

This space is very much valued and appreciated by residents. They have made some constructive suggestions as to how it can be improved.

Nuisance, drugs, alcohol, litter and dog fouling are a problem. Although action has been taken on the nuisance and litter it should continue to be monitored.

Equipment and play facilities could be improved.

Recommendations

Recreation Committee consider provision of more play equipment, particularly for toddlers and disabled children, another set of goal posts and marking out for 5-1-side football., replacing the slide and climbing frame.

Environment Committee consider provision of another dog bin, lighting, and the possibility of a path.

Town Council investigate ownership of fences.

Town Council requests enforcement officers to target this area to implement regulations on dog faeces.

Residents continue to report nuisance, vandalism, substance abuse and litter.

In the longer term consideration should be given to using the natural features of the area to enhancing the usability for parkour, this could incorporate other suggestions such as a look out tower.

What happens next?

All respondents that provided an email address will be sent a copy of this report. If they believe their views have been misrepresented in any way they should contact the partnership.

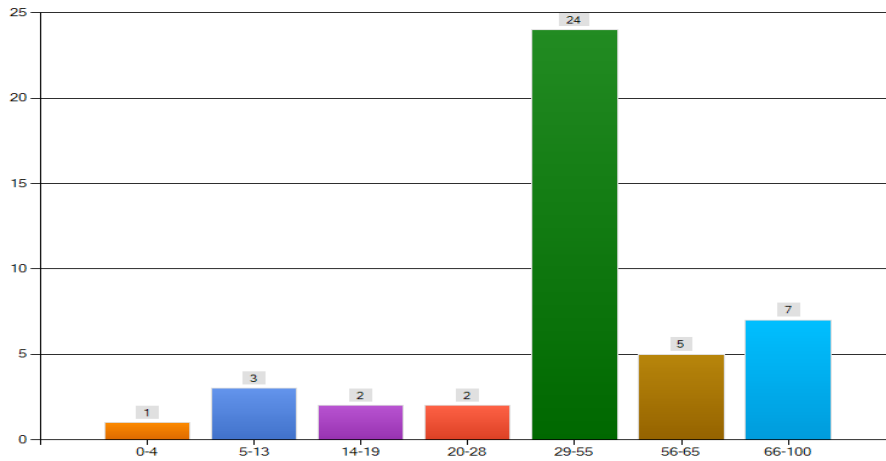
This report will be copied to the Recreation Committee of New Alresford Town Council (NATC). Stuart McCullouch and Margot Power are members of both the Alresford and District Partnership and the Recreation Committee and will make proposals based upon this report.

Stuart McCullouch has contacted those who requested more play equipment to ask if they would make recommendations as to a wider range of equipment.. Those recommendations will be priced and proposed at the Recreation Committee.

What is Good and Not so Good about Sun Hill Recreation Ground? The views of local residents

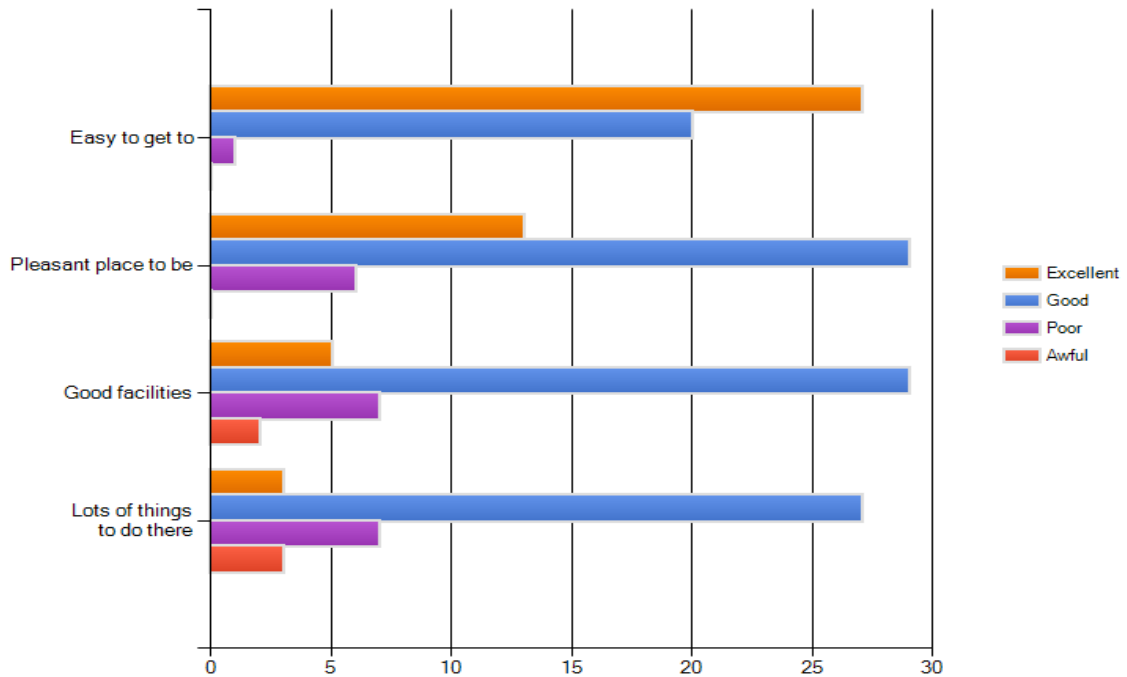
50 responses were received, of those 2 do not use the area but did not record why. 46 respondents completed the survey. 22 people would be glad to get together with others to help decide what changes could be introduced to improve the area.

Age of respondents

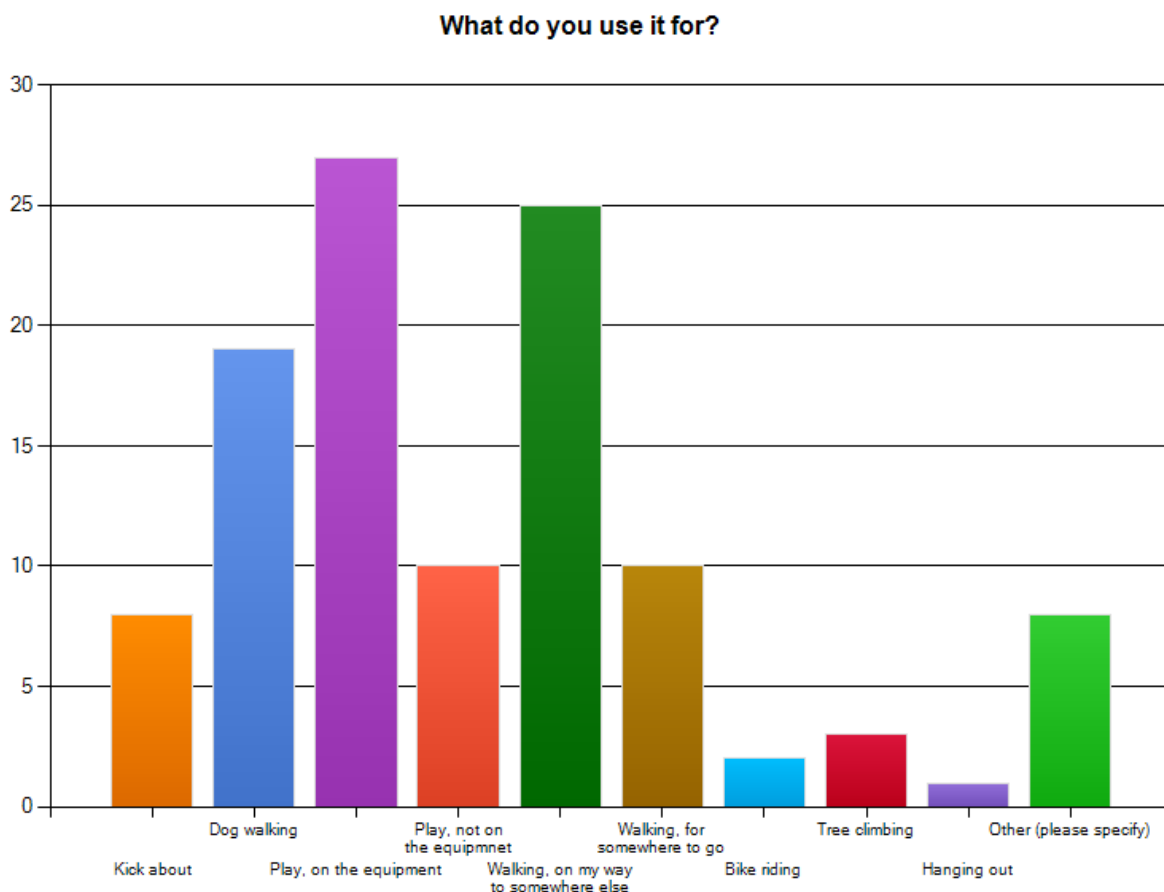


We asked:

How good do you think it is, as a recreation area?



What is Good and Not so Good about Sun Hill Recreation Ground? The views of local residents



Other included: Observing Wildlife (2), It is an essential place to take the grandchildren when they visit us (2), Play football with grandson, picnic in the summer, when my children were young we used it regularly, free running/ Parkour ¹.

¹ **Parkour** (sometimes also abbreviated to **PK**) or *l'art du déplacement* ^[1] (English: *the art of moving*) is the physical discipline of training to overcome any obstacle within one's path by adapting one's movements to the environment. ^[2] It is a non-competitive, physical discipline of French origin in which participants run along a route, attempting to negotiate obstacles in the most efficient way possible, as if moving in an emergency situation. Skills such as jumping and climbing, or the more specific parkour moves are employed. The object of parkour is to get from one place to another using only the human body and the objects in the environment. The obstacles can be anything in one's environment, but parkour is often seen practiced in urban areas because of the many suitable public structures available such as buildings and rails.

**What is Good and Not so Good about Sun Hill Recreation Ground?
The views of local residents**

How could we make it better?

For Playing	For Walking	For Hanging Out	For Somewhere to go	For Walking through on the way to somewhere else	For Dog walking
UPDATE [AND MORE] EQUIPMENT AND SURFACE, SEPARATE AREAS FOR DIFFERENT AGES OF CHILDREN	police it to remove yobs/alcohol/drugs	police it to remove yobs/alcohol/drugs	Teenagers like to hang out in groups	Street light opposite Derwent on path midway between Dickenson Walk and Benenden Green	Repair fences as dogs can get into private gardens
Clean out spiders from climbing frame, rubberised path across, mark out football pitch for 5 a side	No opinion	picnic benches	Steps are steep and overgrown	police it to remove yobs/alcohol/drugs	remove play equipment
Some signposts to the park, hard to find if new to area	No Change. It is the only open space near here.	Perhaps a pavilion type area.	Stairs are a bit steep	perhaps a tarmac path across to avoid mud in winter	Release rabbits into the area
slide and climbing frame very old and needs updating	Keep it as it is	No opinion	Somewhere to sit	No Change. Improve signs perhaps	Put a path around the edge so that you don't have to get wet feet.
safer area, less teenagers	Improve footpath access from the west	more shady areas	police it to remove yobs/alcohol/drugs	Needs a path only needs to be line through the park clear of grass	perhaps another dog poop bin
Provide a small adventure playground for pre teens	Frequent litter picking of rubbish left by teen age children	More benches	No opinion	more surveillance to discourage large groups of teenagers	No opinion
police it to remove yobs/alcohol/drugs	as above	Little change reqd. More seats and tables for the youngsters picnics.	No change: I do not want to have allotments here.	LIGHTING, PAVED ACCESS	No Change - Many people use this area for exercising their dogs.
Perhaps some more young-toddler-friendly equipment?		A few more benches around edge of park	More seating around the park	Keep it as it is	More dog bins and dogs kept out of fenced area

**What is Good and Not so Good about Sun Hill Recreation Ground?
The views of local residents**

For Playing	For Walking	For Hanging Out	For Somewhere to go	For Walking through on the way to somewhere else	For Dog walking
Patrol to monitor over age children using the play equipment area		a couple of more benches	More policing	Its fine just the way it is -it doesn't need changing	Enforce dog clean-up by owners. Supply additional bin.
One or two more items for older kids (like the large swing)			more play equipment	Good cut through to the schools	dog poo bins
more variety of play equipment			more benches to sit on around green or picnic benches	Do more to encourage dog owners to clean up	Another poop bin on the opposite entrance by the footpath
More toddler equipment			Grown up swings, landscaping, fit trail	Broken bins should have been cleared away when new ones installed, rubbish a nuisance	Another dog bin on the other side of the park.
more kids play equipment.			Fit Trail	better street lights	
More equipment			Build a look out tower!	as above	
more apparatus / basketball court - junior & senior			Bins emptied more often		
Less Vandalism, Litter			AREAS TO SIT		
Improve goal area yearly as it used to be done. Level out soil and reseed					
goal posts could be moved occasionally as in the past					

What is Good and Not so Good about Sun Hill Recreation Ground? The views of local residents

For Playing	For Walking	For Hanging Out	For Somewhere to go	For Walking through on the way to somewhere else	For Dog walking
Fill in holes that have been made in the grass area.					
Equipment for children in wheelchairs & toddlers. Less empties & broken glass.					
Another set of goal posts					
Another goal post					
Address Damage & intimidation by older youth					
A few more things					

NATC have taken action to improve the litter problem, and the Police report that they have had fewer reports of nuisance from Sun Hill Recreation Ground. Users should continue to report any problems such as litter, and if the bins have not been emptied to NATC on 732079. Problems with anti-social behaviour, drugs or alcohol to the police, 999 if there is a crime in progress, 101 at other times. Mike Dowsett is working on better mapping of footpaths.

Would you like there to be some form of Structured play provided at Sun Hill? We cannot promise to be able to do this, but if enough people would like it we can try.

