

1st Public Consultation outcomes – 18 October, 2006

Car parking General - Birdshill (Northern end) and Hillshott (Southern end) - many people felt there was enough or too much parking and that it needs to be rationalised. We know that many places are used by North Herts District Council employees.

Northern Car park - Some of the General Public (GP) felt that the car park had eaten away at the Park and should be reclaimed back as Park as it felt severed from the rest of the Park.

Southern Car park - Poorly organised and underused. Some of the GP wanted to see a drop off area close to Mrs Howard Hall.

Toilets - Many people feel that toilet facilities are needed in the Park but that it should be updated/replaced or relocated. Some suggested that it could be incorporated into Mrs Howard Hall.

Mrs Howard Hall - many people were happy to see the Hall being renovated and wanted to know what the hall was going to be used for. They would like to see facilities/activities such as coffee shop/food kiosk, public toilet for park and building users, coffee mornings, youth nights/events e.g.

Surveillance - many people felt that there was a need for better surveillance (especially in the southern section of the Park) either in the form of CCTV or a Park Warden/Ranger.

Lighting - People would like to see more lighting especially around the play area, along primary paths and in Howard Gardens. They want the lights to be kept in good order – hit and miss to which ones are working.

Access - Improved access for wheel chair users more ramps where there are steps e. g Memorial Garden, entrance from Norton Road South and close to the Paddling Pool.

Make the Hillshott crossing safer, pedestrian priority zone with traffic calming measure, rationalise this entrance area.

Pix Brook - clean up the brook and open up sections of it so you can see it and enjoy it.

Paddling Pool - Most people want the paddling pool to stay. The GP had many fond memories of times spent in the paddling pool. They want to see a cleaner and improved paddling pool which is kept open for longer periods of time.

Play Ground - Most people want to see the play area updated with a better mix of equipment for different ages. A number of people said they preferred the play area when it was all sand not bark mulch. Want to see Youth shelter or Multi Use Games Area (MUGA).

Seating - the GP would like to see more benches (and some would like to see more benches with backs for resting).

Trees/ vegetation - many people don't want to see the removal of any trees although they understand that they need to be maintained and some may need to be removed. GP would also like to see more floral displays in the Park.

Keep the southern section for wildlife - people don't want it to lose its individual character.

Park boundary - some members of the GP think that the north western edge of the Park should be marked with barriers.

Vandalism - measures need to be put in place to reduce the vandalism

Audience Provision - The GP would like to see facilities for all ages young and old. There is currently no provision for young people between the ages of 10-18.

Park Activities - people remember when there were more activities in the Park, they would like this to be the case in the future. They would like to see provision for all ages as they feel this is lacking at the moment. They think the activities and events could/should have strong links with Mrs Howard Hall.

Pitch and Put - some people would like to see it promoted more and upgraded whilst others feel it should be removed.

Ebenezer Howard Memorial - people would like to see this revamped to its former glory. GP would like to see Public Art and want Sappho returned/replaced.

Pathways and routes – new path along Rushby Mead where there currently isn't one in Howard Park. New path at Bowling Green – crossing proposed over brook from Rushby Mead.

The potential for cycle ways were mentioned.

GP Norton Way South crossing near bowls club

Biodiversity – improving biodiversity across the whole Park.

The proposals listed below have been drafted following the 'planning for real' consultation exercise carried out during October 2006. During this exercise you told us what you liked and disliked about Howard Park and Gardens and also how you would like to see it in the future. Please complete this feedback form by putting a cross (x) in either the yes or no box for each of the proposals listed. Your comments are important and will help us to apply for grant funding so your plans can become reality.

Listed below are a number of proposals for Howard Park & Gardens. Looking at each proposal please tell us if you agree or disagree with the proposal by putting a cross (x) in either the 'yes' or 'no' box.

Q1

	<i>Yes, I agree with this proposal</i>	<i>No, I do not agree with this proposal</i>
Proposal 1- Demolish Birdshill car park and small sunken planting beds. Demolish existing play area and public conveniences- replace with new (proposals 3 & 16).	75.8%	10.2%
Proposal 2- Improve paddling pool. Create new performance/seating area and interactive water feature.	97.7%	0.8%
Proposal 3- Provide new play areas for younger/older children and teenagers.	91.4%	4.7%
Proposal 4- Reduce, reorganise and resurface Hillshott car park.	81.3%	10.9%
Proposal 5- Resurface and formalize parking at Bowling Club entrance.	89.1%	4.7%
Proposal 6- Refurbish and create new extension to Bowling club.	82.0%	8.6%
Proposal 7- Create damp area at Pix Brook (east-west section) to increase habitat variety.	89.8%	2.3%
Proposal 8- Create new bridges across Pix Brook.	93.0%	1.6%
Proposal 9- Create garden and terrace area at Bowling club.	87.5%	6.3%
Proposal 10- Remove existing sunken Ball Memorial Garden, reinstate the statue of Sappho and add new Ball Memorial and information signage.	77.3%	17.2%
Proposal 11- Introduce Traffic Calming measures along Hillshott.	80.5%	15.6%
Proposal 12- Repair existing paths and construct new paths.	92.2%	5.5%
Proposal 13- Drainage to damp areas.	89.8%	0.8%
Proposal 14- Replace and install new park furniture i.e. bins, benches, gates, signage and lighting.	96.1%	1.6%
Proposal 15- General tree management and new tree/shrub/bulb planting.	93.8%	2.3%
Proposal 16- Provide new public conveniences	96.9%	0.8%
Proposal 17- Provide food kiosk/window counter at Mrs Howard Hall.	92.2%	6.3%

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Proposal 2- Improve paddling pool. Create new performance/seating area and interactive water feature.	125	1
Proposal 3- Provide new play areas for younger/older children and teenagers.	117	6
Proposal 4- Reduce, reorganise and resurface Hillshott car park.	104	14
Proposal 5- Resurface and formalize parking at Bowling Club entrance.	114	6
Proposal 6- Refurbish and create new extension to Bowling club.	105	11
Proposal 7- Create damp area at Pix Brook (east-west section) to increase habitat variety.	115	3
Proposal 8- Create new bridges across Pix Brook.	119	2
Proposal 9- Create garden and terrace area at Bowling club.	112	8
Proposal 10- Remove existing sunken Ball Memorial Garden, reinstate the statue of Sappho and add new Ball Memorial and information signage.	99	22
Proposal 11- Introduce Traffic Calming measures along Hillshott.	103	20
Proposal 12- Repair existing paths and construct new paths.	118	7
Proposal 13- Drainage to damp areas.	115	1
Proposal 14- Replace and install new park furniture i.e. bins, benches, gates, signage and lighting.	123	2
Proposal 15- General tree management and new tree/shrub/bulb planting.	120	3
Proposal 16- Provide new public conveniences	124	1
Proposal 17- Provide food kiosk/window counter at Mrs Howard Hall.	118	8