

Liss Bowl
Public Meeting 12 September 2008



Liss Parish Council

Introduction

- The meeting has been called so that LPC can give a briefing.
 - Review the history of the project
 - Summarise the main points from the previous consultation
 - Give information about the current status
 - Approximate costs
 - Process to be followed
 - Possible sites
 - Answer questions where possible
 - Take notes of questions for later response
 - Explain the consultation process

History

- Why LPC wanted to provide a skatebowl facility
 - Petitions
 - Pressure from the young people of Liss
 - Responses to the Village Plan questionnaire sent to residents.
- Two sites proposed at public meeting in 2006; West Liss & Newman Collard. A period of public consultation followed.
- Many letters of support received.
- Objections received from residents.
- Objections from Newman Collard Trustees.

History

- LPC concluded West Liss was the best site, on the basis of:
 - West Liss gave better visibility from the public highway
 - Newman Collard already heavily used
 - Proximity to housing
 - Visibility for surveillance.
 - LPC decided, subject to the outcome of a second meeting, that the facility should be provided at West Liss.
 - Before second public meeting held, some West Liss residents questioned the legality of siting the facility at West Liss due to its designation as a registered village green & enlisted the help of the Open Space Society (OSS).
 - Project put on hold pending clarification.
-
-

Current Position

- LPC are committed to providing a skatebowl facility and plan to proceed, on the basis of:
 - Extensive consultation regarding the legality of building on a village green revealed no known precedent against a skatebowl.
 - New evidence available regarding acceptable noise levels.
 - LPC now propose 2 sites for consideration, one of which (Newman Collard) is a new site.
 - Period of public consultation 12 September 2008 to 25 October 2008.
 - LPC will vote to agree preferred site after reviewing the consultation outcome.
 - Skatebowl will be built as soon as possible.
-
-

Previous Objections Raised, LPC response 2006 & 2008 (1)

Objection: Cost

- 2006: LPC funds of £15k held in reserves. Majority of funding from Developers Contributions, which can only be used for specific purposes; new projects relating to recreation and open space facilities.
- 2008: Other external funding is being sought so that there is no impact on council tax.

Objection: Loss of open/green space

- 2006: The bowl would occupy one fiftieth of WLR. Design primarily below ground level, not intrusive & very little visual impact.
 - 2008: No evidence from OSS or precedent suggesting a skatebowl should not be built on a registered village green.
-
-

Previous Objections Raised, LPC response 2006 & 2008 (2)

Objection: Road Safety

- 2006: HCC has installed some changes to restrict speed in Station Road. LPC is discussing with HCC a crossing point near to buildings on WLR.
- 2008: Same status.

Objection: Litter

- 2006: Litter is a problem throughout Liss and is managed by EHDC street cleaning and LPC litter picking. This would be added to the areas being cleaned.
 - 2008: The proposed funding includes a contingency to cover the installation of bins.
-
-

Previous Objections Raised, LPC response 2006 & 2008 (3)

Objection: Noise

- 2006: Design is concrete embedded in ground & emission of noise is minimal. “Grind rails” have been developed to reduce further noise. LPC offered to take residents to view & listen to similar design. Excessive noise from individuals can be dealt with under existing legislation for anti-social behaviour.
- 2008: A few residents took up LPC's offer to take them to view a similar site.

A recent Court Judgement has confirmed that it is not reasonable for residents to be subjected to noise levels above 55 decibels. Based on noise levels measured for a similar facility, the skatebowl would be within the 55 decibels limit.

Previous Objections Raised, LPC response 2006 & 2008 (4)

Objection: Toilets

- 2006: We do not believe this is a problem for the existing users of WLR, such as informal football. If this were to become a problem LPC would consider what steps could be taken to remedy situation.

Objection: User Safety

- 2006: All forms of this activity carry some risks, however, LPC's design is a much safer design than the standard ramps/pipes. Very few skateboard facilities are supervised. A code of conduct for wearing protective equipment would be created.
 - 2008: “RoSPA supports the provision of skateboard facilities.” (source: www.rosipa.com).
-
-

Previous Objections Raised, LPC response 2006 & 2008 (5)

Objection: Lighting

- 2006: No lighting. This facility is for daytime use only.
- 2008: LPC will not install lighting at either site.

Objection: Fencing

- 2006: LPC will install a fence similar to the play area fence, but lower in height. This will exclude dogs & toddlers, prevent accidents & reduce the ingress of leaves.
- 2008: The proposed funding includes a contingency for the installation of a fence.

Objection: Drainage

- 2006: LPC have reviewed & believe there will be suitable drainage.
 - 2008: The project will not commence until the contractor has demonstrated a workable drainage system.
-
-

Previous Objections Raised, LPC response 2006 & 2008 (6)

Objection: Supervision

- 2006: Code of conduct to be drawn up. Users will be expected to adhere to rules & it is expected to be self policing. LPC will consider extending village surveillance system. Facility will be added to the Community Safety Officer patrol. Loud music & anti-social actions will not be permitted.
- 2008: LPC have already extended their surveillance system with the view of installing a CCTV camera at extra locations. Users at other sites have successfully formed their own 'Skatepark Buddy Group' to monitor usage, provide technical assistance and liaise with police.

Objection: Insurance

- 2006: LPC insurer's have confirmed cover can be provided.
-
-

Previous Objections Raised, LPC response 2006 & 2008 (7)

Objection: Trees

- 2006: Measures have been taken indicating there will be no damage to trees or roots.
- 2008: The status is the same at WLR. At NCPF there are no trees.

Objection: Need

- 2006: Requests over several years, several surveys, including Village Plan questionnaire in July 2005 and a councillor, have shown consistent support from a range of age groups.
 - 2008: BMX is now an Olympic sport. Skateboarding will be in 2012 Olympics.
-
-

Previous Objections Raised, LPC response 2006 & 2008 (8)

Objection: Maintenance

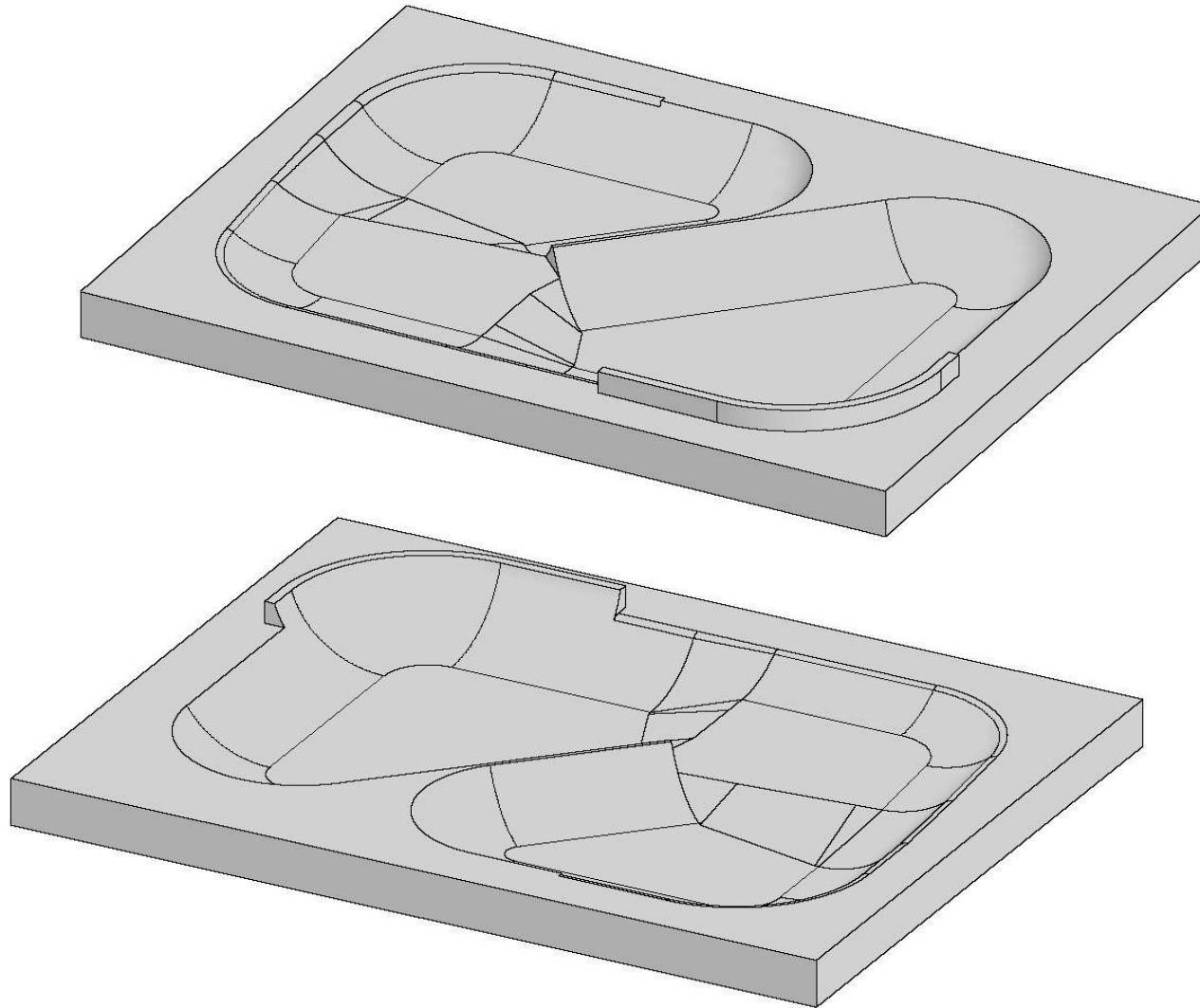
- 2006: A budget item will be provided so that repairs will be funded when necessary. A heavily used skate bowl in Brixton has been resurfaced twice in 30 years.
 - 2008: 15 year guarantee.
-
-

Design Concept

- Original design was drawn up by a Liss youth working group and subsequently modified by professional designers to facilitate construction. All of the elements in the working groups original design are incorporated into the new one.
 - The design is aimed to encourage beginners as well as being a challenge to more experienced riders.
 - The original design has been reduced from 20x26m to 15x20m = reduction of 209m²
-
-

The Proposed Skatebowl Design

A2 ORIGINAL SIZE



Dimensions:
15.4 x 20.2m
= 311.08m²

A	FIRST ISSUE		
Rev			Date
Job	Proposed Skatopark Liss Bowl		
Sheet	PLAN AND ISOMETRICS	Drawing No	08545 W1_1
Drawn	Adam Bailey	Date	01/07/2008
		Scale	AS STATED
BENDCRETE			
BENDCRETE LEISURE LTD			
Bridge View Business Centre, Bridge St., Abingdon, Oxfordshire, OX14 3HJ			
Telephone: 01235 554359 Fax: 01235 530278 e-mail: ranso@bendcrete.com			

Example of similar design

Angmering Skatebowl – July 2008



Angmering Skatebowl under construction



Two Proposed Sites

1. West Liss Recreation Ground
2. Newman Collard Recreation Ground

Note:

- Both sites are owned and maintained by LPC.
 - Both sites are subject to satisfactory soil condition surveys.
-
-

West Liss Recreation Ground



Size is
approximate.
Location is
approximate

Newman Collard Recreation Ground



Location is approximate

Contractors

- Quotes received from 4 major skatepark builders:
 - Bendcrete 62k
 - Premier Gunitite 60k (plus 30k groundworks costs)
 - Fearless Ramps 60k (company no longer constructs)
 - Gravity Engineering 70k
- Conclusion
 - **Bendcrete** is currently LPC preferred bidder.
 - An invitation to tender will be issued.

Proposed Funding

Liss Parish Council	£15k
Developers Contributions	£40k
Community Initiative Fund	£15k
Playing Fields Association	£2k
Police Authority	£1k
Youth Opportunity Fund	£5k
Liss Young People	<u>£1k</u>
Expected Funding	£79k

Constructing a Skatebowl Facility

- No planning permission required. Skatebowl covered under Local Authority Permitted Development Rights.
 - LPC preferred bidder, Bendcrete, estimate construction will take 6 weeks.
 - Earliest date work can commence November 2008.
-
-

Further evidence to support project (1)

Village Design Plan & Design Partnership

- Questionnaire sent to 2,500 households.
- The returns totalled 220, 10% of households.

General and other statements:

122 responses raised 172 comments.

40 comments raised the need for a skateboard
BMX facility.

Further evidence to support project (2)

Sport England report

“Sport – a positive activity. Guidance for local authorities children’s services working through their children’s trust partnership arrangements”

- New section 507B of the Education Act – January 2007 - “New duty on county and unitary local authorities to secure young people’s access to leisure time activities and facilities, referred to collectively as ‘positive activities’. The new duty also requires local authorities to “ascertain from young people in their area their views on existing provision of positive activities and facilities including the need for additional provisions and any access issues.”
 - “Informal sports provision such as skate parks, BMX tracks and outdoor courts for football or basketball. These provide a broad range of young people with access to positive activities and a place to meet socially.”
-
-

Further evidence to support project (3)

Department for Education and Skills report 2005

“Youth Matters”

- “Teenagers, their parents and communities all want more positive things to do and better places to go for young people. And when young people are involved in activities and are busy they are less likely to drift into trouble, cause a nuisance or commit crime.”
 - “Local Authorities, working through children’s trusts, have a key role to play in commissioning and providing activities and facilities for young people.”
-
-

Further evidence to support project (5)

Play England report November 2006

“The Good Childhood Inquiry”

- “Giving children and young people opportunities to play, challenge themselves and take personal risks, in their own time and at their own pace, gives them the skills and knowledge to build their confidence and contribute to their own personal safety as they grow up.”
 - “In some parts of Britain there is a tendency to regard children and young people in and around the public spaces as suspect, even criminal. Society needs to stop demonising young people and allow them the time, space and opportunity for free play and recreation.”
-
-

Further evidence to support project (6)

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA)

- “RoSPA supports the provision of skateboard facilities.”



Consultation process

- We will take written questions and comments. Please send or deliver to the parish council office.
 - The comments will be reviewed and our conclusions presented at a second public meeting at the end of October.
 - A selection of relevant paperwork will be added to our web site. Cannot do all because of the size.
-
-

Questions ?

- We will try to answer any questions.
- If answer is not known we will record it for investigation during the consultation period.



End of meeting

Thank you for coming.

