



Liss Pump Track User Survey

Introduction

Following the awarding of National Lottery funding and the opening of the Liss Pump Track over a year ago, Liss Parish Council (LPC) devised a questionnaire to determine how the track was being used to gain qualitative information to see whether the track had met some of the original outcomes set at the outset of the project and to help measure the impact of the project on the local community.

An online survey went live on 18th October 2024 until 17th November 2024 and was published on the LPC website and on social media. Posters were displayed around Liss village centre, and the Crossover Youth Centre and Liss Infant and Junior School were contacted directly to encourage users to take part. A copy of the survey, with a full breakdown of results is attached as Appendix 1.

Results

75 responses were received, 46 respondents were male and 22 female (with 7 not providing an answer). The majority of those responding were those in the under 12 year old age group (58.7%), followed by the 12-17 year old age group (16%). There were respondents in all age groups up to the 55-64 year old group (with the exception of the 18-24 year old group).

Use of track

Whilst nearly half (46.7%) of respondents stated they only used the track occasionally, a third (33.3%) of respondents reported to using the track on a weekly basis.

Half of respondents (50.7%) reported to spending between 30 minutes to 1 hour on the track, and 29.3% reported that they used it for less than 30 minutes at a time.

All user groups (cyclist/scooter rider/skate boarder/rollerskater/blader) were represented in those taking part in the survey, with the majority being cyclists (72%) or scooter riders (42.7%).

There were a variety of different reasons given by respondents for using the track, with the most common reason given being for fun/enjoyment (80%). 41.3% stated that they used it to learn to ride/scoot/skateboard/skate in a safe environment, 34.7% for recreation/socialising with friends, 33.3% for improving skills, and 22.7% for exercise/fitness purposes.

Annex 1

The majority of respondents (69.3%) thought that the pump track provided a focal point in the community.

Nearly two thirds of respondents (62.7%) thought that the pump track had increased the amount of cycling/scooting/skate boarding/skating they did, and half (50.7%) said that it had encouraged them to be more active.

Conclusion

At the outset of the project it was hoped that the pump track would serve as a gateway to developing a lifelong interest in sports participation, promoting a healthy and active lifestyle and a positive impact on the mental health of individuals and the community more generally.

Results show that the track is used by a variety of wheeled users from the local community, especially those under 18, on bikes or scooters, for up to an hour at a time. Two of the objectives of the project were to encourage the community to become more active and to increase their use of bikes and other wheeled forms. Results suggest that this was the case for many respondents, with a third using the track on a weekly basis, nearly two thirds of respondents saying that it had increased the amount of cycling/scooting/skate boarding/skating they did, and around half saying it had encouraged them to be more active.

Results show that not only does the pump track offer a space to exercise, it provides users a place to go to have fun, socialise, learn to ride in a safe environment, and improve skills. It has provided a focal point in the community for all ages to come together to enjoy, learn and play.

The pump track has formed an integral part in developing an attractive sports and leisure hub to complement the multi-purpose Pavilion, new playground facility, and existing playing field at West Liss which had been an under-utilised green space in Liss.