

# West Heath Park Improvements Consultation Results from BeHeard - September 2016

Do you support the proposals? YES or NO - Support	If YES what do you like about them? - Write what you like about the proposals here	If NO what don't you like about the proposals?	What other improvements would you like to see incorporated within the proposals? - Write your suggestions here	Do you have any other comments? - Write any other comments relating to this consultation below	What is your Gender?	What age range do you fall into? - What age range do you fall into?	Do you have any disabilities? - Yes or No	Is West Heath Park your local park? - Yes or No	How close do you live to West Heath Park? - How close do you live to West Heath Park?	How often do you visit West Heath Park? - How often do you visit West Heath Park?	If you do visit the park, what is your main reason for visiting? - what is your main reason for visiting?	Would these proposals make you more likely to visit the park? - Would these proposals make you more likely to visit the park?
Yes	The proposal will increase the usage of an already popular park. It has some facilities but the local area would benefit from additional equipment as provided in other parks.	I'm concerned about the additional trees planned by the entrance to the Fordrough road. This area is already over shadowed by large Oak and Poplar trees with little additional lighting. To place trees on the other side of the path would create a tunnel which has the potential to be unsafe/cause concern to people using it for their safety.  I'm also sceptical in regards to the alterations to the brook culvert. This has low flow speed the majority of the time and does not appear to be of the best quality. I'd like to know about the source of the water (surface run off/drain?) and if the flow is sufficient to support reed beds/wetlands? Has flooding been identified as an issue, be it local or attributed to the flow of this brook?	The addition of vandal resistant picnic benches would be nice. There are a number of concrete plinths where these may have once been placed. It would create an area for people (specifically teenagers) to gather away from the childrens play area.  Although they do generally move when asked/children approach to use the areas, to have a separate area could reduce vandalism and potentially dangerous litter which is left.	The addition of gym equipment would be excellent! There are areas which don't drain well so they'd have to be carefully placed so that access is maintained without destroying the area around them.  The plans show that this would all be co-located by the older childrens play area. Is there a reason for this rather than spreading it throughout the park? The Rednal Road end of the park is having little/no improvement carried out which may deter use by residents.	Male	35-49	No	Yes	Within 1/2 Mile	A few times a week	Taking your children/family	More likely
Yes	I like that there opening up the brook and replacing the surfaces of the play area.	I think the vandals will ruin the gym.	I would like to see the caged football area moved as when your in the play area the ball keeps coming over and hitting the kids.		Female	18-25	No	Yes	Within 1/2 Mile	Daily	Taking your children/family	More likely
Yes	The park is very worn, it looks and feels over grown. It's always got vandalism and it deserves to have a re-vamp.		Anything that will deter vandals.		Female	18-25	No	Yes	Within 1/2 Mile	A times a month	Taking your children/family	More likely
Yes	It sound like a great plan to revive a forgotten park, hopefully you can address the vandalism too as there has been many children leaving the park disheartened as they couldn't play on the equipment		A few more rubbish and dog poo bins, it might encourage people to use them if there's one near to them		Male	26-34	No	Yes	Within 1/2 Mile	A few times a week	Taking your children/family	More likely
Yes	As me and my family live close to the park its upsetting to see the park be vandalised in such a way that its not safe for my children so im looking forward to the repairs on the play area which i hope the new materials will make it stronger! Also like the idea of more sitting round the park as i think this is needed				Female	18-25	No	Yes	Within 1/2 Mile	A few times a week	Taking your children/family	More likely
Yes				The only concern is placing gym equipment only because of them being vandalised. The 6 benches that were placed the other year didn't last long as they were set fire too. I think it may be a waste of money	Female	35-49	No	Yes	Within 1/2 Mile	A times a month	Exercising	No difference
Yes	I like the gym equipment and vandal proof flooring both will benefit the children who use the park. Not sure about more trees as unfortunately these are easily damaged by vandals when young.				Female	35-49	No	No	1-2 miles away	A times a month	Exercising	More likely
No		I am in favour of some of the proposals being more seating and bins around the perimeter of the park and vandal proof surface in the play area  Although I don't believe work on the brook is a bad idea I do believe the funds could be spent better elsewhere  I also believe the gym equipment is just likely to be vandalised by youths.	Spot checks in the park to route out offenders that don't pick up their dogs mess.  We actually live just across from the park and although we go to the play area itself, we would never play on the grass area due to the volume of dogs mess (there is a lot!)  Dog mess bins around the park would be useful.  I think removing the shelter next to the play area would help as I have never seen this used by adults, only teenagers which does make some of the mothers using the park slightly threatened.  Increasing the number of apparatus in the playgrounds would also be nice	It would be nice to see more activities available in the park itself. Coton Park and Cannon Hill Park, do boot camps and running clubs etc. It may improve the community as a whole if something like this was available at West Heath Park	Male	35-49	No	Yes	Within 1/2 Mile	Occasionally	Taking your children/family	No difference
Yes					Female	18-25	No	Yes	Within 1/2 Mile	Daily	Walking your Pet(s)	More likely
Yes	I've said Yes, because I do overall, but not in their entirety. The resurfacing is much needed, but should also apply to the younger children's area towards the Rednal Road entrance. I like the idea of making more of a feature of the stream. I like the idea of adding more structure through planting.	I don't think trees are the only way to add structure. How about using things like logs and boulders too? These provide a great natural play environment for kids to explore. You might also think about things like willow tunnels, like they have at Cotteridge Park - a nice feature and great fun to play in.  I am not sure that outdoor gym equipment is well used where it exists in other local parks - have you looked at usage at Victoria Common for example which serves a similar demographic? I never see anyone using it, just mainly teenagers sitting on it, or little ones trying to use it but not being able to reach! I would rather the money was used to add more natural features, or even to install something like a table tennis table.	As above - more use of natural materials to provide features and structure. Some large rocks near to the stream would add interest.  I think that Victoria Common, Kings Norton Park and Cotteridge Park are all examples of local park spaces that work really well - what can we learn from them?	Its great to have some funding, and the park is definitely neglected, but one off investment is only going to take us so far. Some work is needed to understand why this is a vandalism hot-spot and do some work to address the causes. We need to build a sense of pride and ownership in the local community how about establishing a 'friends of' group to help maintain and monitor - and to name and shame the dog owners who don't pick up after their dogs (massive issue in that park, and symptomatic of the lack of ownership and pride generally I think)? And how about engaging local schools to get involved, do litter picks etc to try to instill pride in local green spaces from a young age? A launch event and ongoing community events might help too.	Female	35-49	No	Yes	Within 1/2 Mile	A times a month	Taking your children/family	More likely
Yes	Trying to prevent further vandalism Improving the fitness by installing outdoor gym equipment Improving the look of the brook as I think it is a wasted natural resource		If putting benches they need to be metal and scratch proof as the last ones were wooden and set on fire within about a week of them being there	Something needs to be done to stop motor bikes getting onto the park land as this is a constant problem.  Mature trees need to be planted to try and prevent vandalism of saplings  Much better lighting near entrances as coming from Tompson avenue towards slingfield road there is no light.	Female	35-49	No	Yes	Within 1/2 Mile	A few times a week	Taking your children/family	No difference
Yes	Resurfacing of the playgrounds - good that it will be more vandal proof.  Like the idea of making the stream better - its not pleasant currently	Doesn't seem to be any consideration for resurfacing small playground	Resurface the small playground also.		Male	35-49	No	Yes	Within 1/2 Mile	Daily	Taking your children/family	More likely
Yes	The gym will provide more interest for older children to use. Making more of a feature of the natural assets will improve the overall feel at the park.		Mor activities for toddlers. At the moment aimed at a set children. Different things to other parks to encourage more visitors. Sand pits, water play, willow maze etc	Maybe organised classes to take part I. The park or community events. A cafe wud be nice!	Female	26-34	No	Yes	Within 1/2 Mile	A times a month	Taking your children/family	More likely
Yes					Female	35-49	No	Yes	Within 1/2 Mile	A few times a week	Taking your children/family	More likely
Yes	All of the above		None		Female	26-34	No	Yes	Within 1/2 Mile	A few times a week	Taking your children/family	More likely
Yes	Good opportunities to create good community environments			Just how can we ensure local schools work further in citizenship and vandalism. Truly appalling what people have done to the park	Female	35-49	No	Yes	1-2 miles away	Occasionally	Taking your children/family	More likely
Yes					Female	26-34	No	Yes	Within 1/2 Mile	A few times a week	Taking your children/family	More likely
Yes	I love the idea of the park looking more naturally interesting, at the moment it looks a very boring park, just grass from side to side. I regularly run through he park and would make good use of the gym equipment en route		I would like to see a longer circular path to run around, perhaps around the perimeter of the large square area at the Rednal Road end of th park	I am disgusted about the amount of dog faeces that doesn't get picked up from the paths and grassed areas.  Maybe free poo bags and more bins and signs reminding dog owners of the hazards where children are playing associated with this.	Male	50-64	No	Yes	Within 1/2 Mile	A few times a week	Exercising	More likely
Yes	The new planting of trees is very good idea		Baby/ toddlers playground near the playground. Instead of going the other side of the park which the park isn't that good.	Baby / toddlers playground	Female	26-34	No	Yes	Within 1/2 Mile	Daily	Taking your children/family	Less likely
Yes					Female	50-64	No	No	6+ miles away	Rarely	Taking your children/family	More likely
Yes	I like the idea of the outdoor gym area as these are very few in the Birmingham area and myself and children have enjoyed hours of fun when visiting other parks with these particular apparatus but we have only ever used them when on a holiday as there are none near by.		I would like to see a larger caged area with marked surfaces to enable the children to play there sports such as, football, basketball, netball etc the area is has a low fence at the moment and this causes problems whilst the children are trying to play there sports with people passing by disrupting there activities.  Maybe a small skate area would be good too as there are many different varieties of interest with all ages children.  I feel that west Heath park has the capacity to accommodate many different things to keep the children happy for hours whilst the parents can enjoy a picnic knowing there children are safe and happy .		Female	35-49	Yes	Yes	1-2 miles away	A few times a week	Taking your children/family	More likely
Yes	The idea of increased space for the dilapidated brook in an attempt to boost biodiversity is fantastic.  Durable flooring for parks is also something that would benefit the community.		I would like to see more lighting on the park path routes, at night time these dimly lit areas make for a scary walk/run. I know a lot of people add extra time and distance to commutes due to the lack of lighting and fear of those who may take advantage of this.		Male	18-25	No	Yes	Within 1/2 Mile	A few times a week	Walking your Pet(s)	More likely
Yes	Making the park more than a football field. Plus tackling the ongoing vandalism.	I'm a bit concerned clumps of trees might be a safety issue at night, it could increase crime.	Better lighting. I run through the park and in the winter it's pitch black.		Female	35-49	No	Yes	Within 1/2 Mile	A few times a week	Exercising	No difference
Yes	It would be great idea to do n have cameras on the park to come who is doing it now it would be an idea for floodline lights on the football pitch n the on the cage football n basketball court				Male	26-34	No	Yes	1-2 miles away	A few times a week	Playing Sports	More likely
No		Good money after bad.	Security guards and cctv.		Male	50-64	Yes	No	1-2 miles away	Never	Not applicable	No difference
Yes	I support all aspects of the proposals I use the park daily to walk and has real potential. I particularly like about the stream/ river improvements to help with flood defence. Also more trees around the park would be ideal.		None. All have been considered		Male	26-34	No	Yes	Within 1/2 Mile	Daily	Walking your Pet(s)	More likely
Yes	I really like the idea for the brook as its a mess presently, cleaned out and widened would add interest and a source of habitat for wildlife . I would be in favour of all that has been suggested .		I would like to see more poop bins so there is no excuse for the lay not to stoop and scoop dog mess. its becoming a real eye sore.  We walk our dog in the park and I would like to see a few more lights around, as in the winter months tea time walk its very dark and out of bounds for me. More lighting might be beneficial to dissuade the vandals.  Don't take away the daffodils they are great in the spring .	some blossom trees more bulbs or wild flowers	Female	50-64	No	Yes	Within 1/2 Mile	Daily	Walking your Pet(s)	No difference
Yes	I walk my dog here daily, the vandalism gets me so mad, so the replacement will be great. See how long it lasts. More dog bins also	Would love a gate on the front entrance by the main road. Just for safety due to the fast cars down there	As above!		Female	35-49	No	Yes	Within 1/2 Mile	Daily	Walking your Pet(s)	No difference
Total YES: 26												
Total NO: 2												
Total responses: 28												