

Funding request from local residents for improvements to Halliwick Road Recreation Ground

14 November 2020

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Introduction

Halliwick Recreation Ground (the "Rec") is a much-loved and popular play and exercise area for local residents. Use of the space has increased massively since the March 2020 lockdown. The equipment and amenities have not been renewed for many years, and the space feels generally run down and neglected. With the redevelopment of Coppetts Hospital into apartments it is likely that the Rec will be more widely used. Barnet Council are asked to consider using the Community Infrastructure Levy and any other suitable funding for the development and renewal of the park.

In November 2020 local residents ran a survey to find out about usage of the park and residents' priorities for improvements. The survey results are attached for Coppetts Ward councillors to consider. Residents are happy to meet with councillors and officers to discuss their ideas further.

Residents would like to suggest that discussions take place between Barnet and Haringey councils about whether the CIL paid to Haringey Council by the developers of Coppetts Hospital could be used to renew the Rec. The Barnet/Haringey borough boundary runs between the hospital redevelopment and the Rec. It would therefore be appropriate for Haringey Council to contribute a portion of funds from the Coppetts Hospital development to fund improvements in the Rec as the new residents of Coppetts will be users of the space.

Aims of survey

- To find out how local people use Halliwick Road Recreation Ground
- To collect views on local people's priorities for improvements

Methodology

A survey was sent to local residents via whatsapp and e-mail. Residents were asked to forward it to others who use the Rec.

Results

150 responses to the survey were received.

The Rec is regularly used by people who answered the survey. Three-quarters of people use the Rec at least once a week. 12% of people use the Rec daily.

Two thirds of respondents said their main reason for going to the Rec was to take their children to the playground. 16% used it for personal exercise. People use the Rec in a variety of other ways, including for dog walking, as a shortcut, for playing football, and playing tennis.

The overwhelming majority (82%) thought that new playground equipment was needed in the Rec. The next highest priorities (in order) were:

- Night time lighting (55%)
- New or repaved tennis courts (55%)
- Better pavements (45%)
- Permanent football goals (33%)
- More benches (31%)
- Dog free enclosed play area (25%)
- Gates at both entrances (22%)

People were asked for additional ideas for improving the Recreation Ground. Some of the ideas are listed below:

- Better pavements: people mentioned the poor condition of the paths and that they are not safe for people who use the Rec for jogging, particularly older people
- Improved drainage as paths gets flooded
- BMX track
- Scooter/cycling area for younger kids
- Better gym equipment
- Inclusive community centre
- Toilet
- Fixed table tennis
- Better play equipment for older children (7+)
- New tennis nets
- Improved planting and trees
- Stop drug dealing
- Stop dog fouling

Conclusions

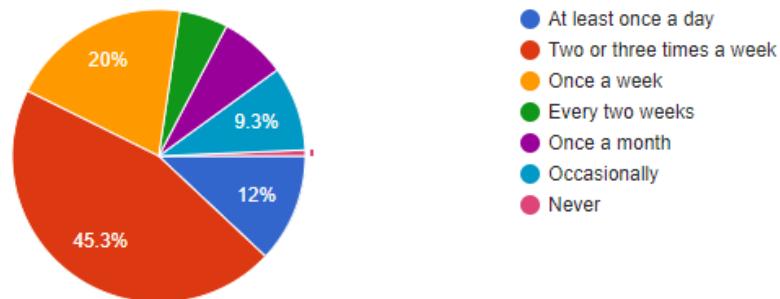
The CIL could be put to excellent use to fund a range of improvements to Halliwick Road Recreation Ground. Residents particularly favour new play and sport equipment and facilities. In addition to the CIL, the Council are also asked to consider how existing funding allocated to parks could be used to better maintain the Rec as people mentioned problems with broken bins, dog fouling and cracked pavements. Drug dealing was also mentioned as a problem and the Council are asked to respond to residents' concern about this.

FULL SURVEY RESULTS

Q1. Roughly how often do you use Halliwick Recreation Ground?



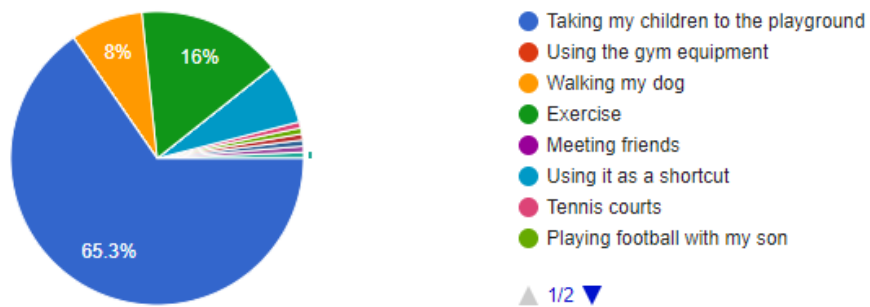
150 responses



Q2. What is your main purpose in going to Halliwick Recreation Ground?



150 responses

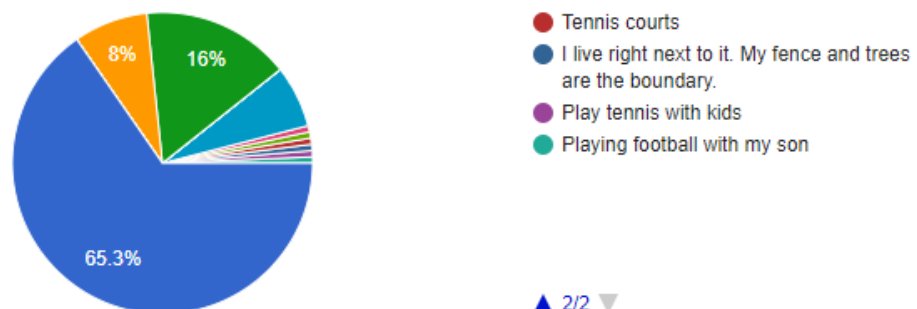


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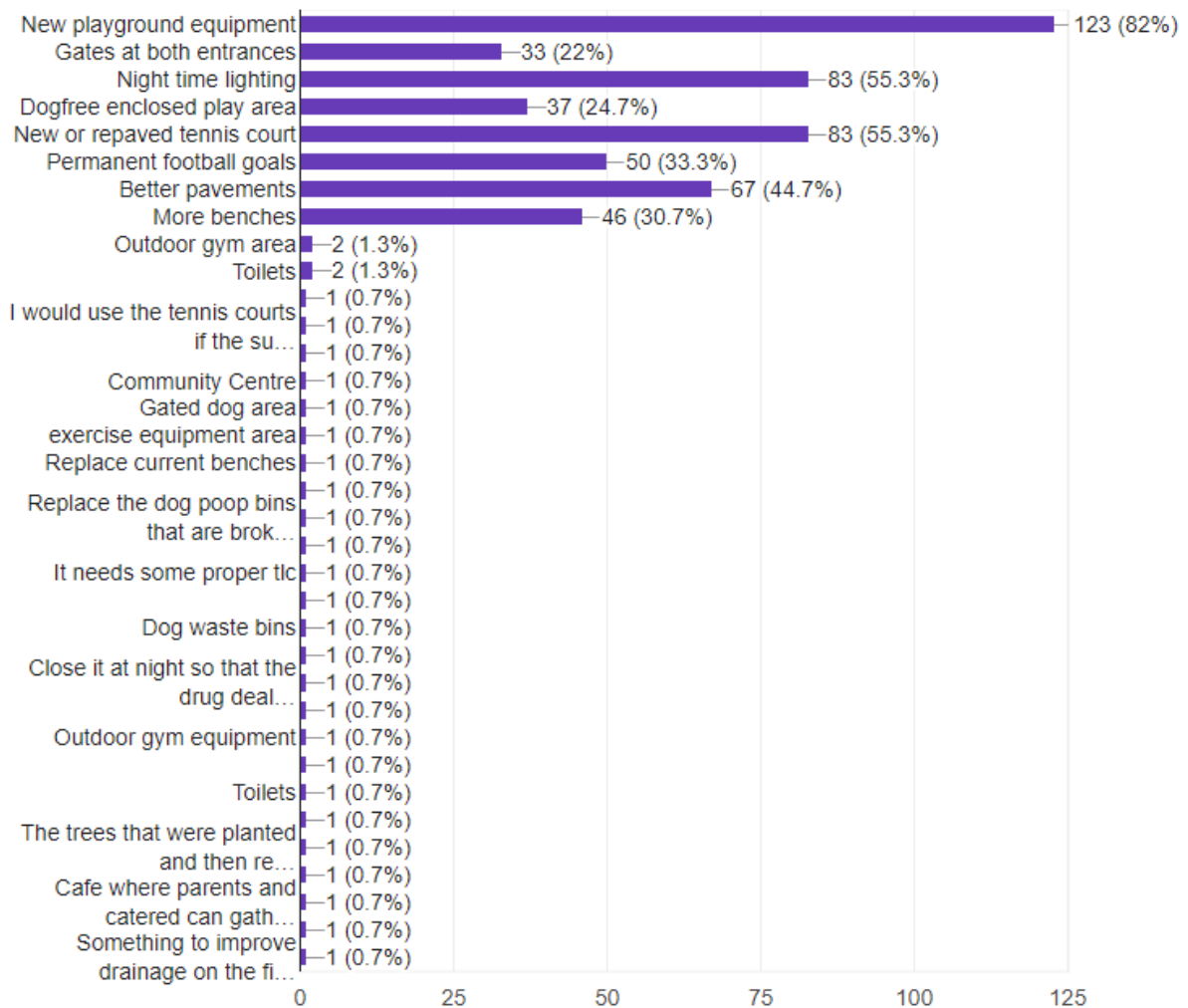


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Q3. How could Halliwick Recreation Ground be improved?



150 responses



Q4. What other ideas do you have for improving the Recreation Ground?

89 responses

Cafe

Grown up gym. Improved tennis facilities including a shelter

Would love if somebody with a coffee kiosk went there! Would definitely visit daily! Would also be nice if the 'garden' area (Coppets Road entrance) was better maintained.

Better drainage as paths are often flooded when it has rained.

More seating
Better area for older/ teenagers

This might be wishful thinking but a BMX track would be sooo appreciated!

Improved facilities for everyone

Paddling pool like in priory park

It would be great to have a BMX Pumping track. There are no tracks in this part of London.

Make a nicer path around the field as it's very narrow.

More benches at the playground
Lots of people (including me) especially seniors are using the recreation ground for jogging so designated path for joggers would be ideal or just widened existing one, condition of the existing path around the park was is really bad, not safe for running, lots of holes, needs to be repaved

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Better nets on tennis courts

Even more trees

Larger enclosed playground area, more swings, climbing frame in shape of vehicle or boat

Community fruit trees

1. Proper outdoor gym equipment to encourage local residents a opportunity to get fit. Many parks have this in other boroughs .. but we don't.

2. Improved tennis or basketball court to encourage local children to get active

Garden area with benches

It would be great to have an inclusive community centre which could be used by local community groups. I work with adults with learning disabilities and teach yoga and would be thrilled to have a place to teach and work in my community!

A rotunda/ small stage for community events, eg Christmas carols, diwali music events etc, poetry reading, children's events, community performance/events

Fixed table tennis

table tennis

Tea / coffee stall

Enclosed cycle area - mini cycle track/ mini roads for young children to cycle or use their scooters; sandpit in children's play area;

Better play equipment for 7 plus. And a joint playground so parents can watch both kids at once.

A kiosk with coffee and beverage. Toilet

New improved old kids play area (similar to the muswell field playground) repaved tennis court with a new net

The play equipment in older area is useless.
Younger area needs updating - maybe sand pit, some water play like Arnos Grove park.
Zip wire would be great - like coldfall woods park.
Exercise equipment
There's so much space there which could be used better

The older kid's playground area is a little boring, there's a lot of space, a few extra pieces would be great!

Above all, better lightening.

1. Improve planting - add more shrubbery near new trees. Create focal point residents can be proud of
2. Improve playground equipment in the side which has equipment for kids aged 7+. Currently only 2 x items: a broken zip kind of slide and climbing frame with limited usage (and only 1-2 kids can use at time). Replace climbing frame with larger structure that kids can play on for longer.
3. Add big slide for older kids (like Alky Pally).
4. Add swings for older kids
5. Add zip line
6. Replace older kids around surface wood chip with soft land tarmac

Gym equipments

Basketball court

Use the retractable poles or put in more secure entry system at Trott Road entry so each year we don't have the travellers.

Dog fouling seems to be a problem, not sure what the solution is - more bins for poo, a separate enclosed dog area, more penalty notices given?

Dog walkers need to ensure the dog poo
Is cleared up . The park was a mess due to this .

The older kids play area is not great. Only a couple of things to play on and hard to actually use them.

It would be used more if the equipment was more varied and well looked after.

It need a bit of creativity.

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6. Replace older kids ground surface wood chip with soft land tarmac
7. Add recycling bins next to rubbish buildings
8. Add community notice board

You must get better lighting as I have seen at least 2 drug deals happening and on one bench (a dark one near hedges) there's always people on it smoking weed.

Cafe :)

More frequent litter collection

A skateboard ramp or facilities for older kids

Maintaining the open aspect of the grounds improves safety in the park and the addition of new attractive trees improves the positive feeling of the space. This space was a lifeline during lockdown

More bins & benches plus make dog owners keep dogs on leads and clean up dog mess

Not all dog walkers collect the poop. Especially on rainy evenings cars drive up to the gate and just let the dogs out to run in the park unsupervised. The poop is on the same field where the boys have football practice.

Wooden playground equipment

I think there is enough space to create ramps so kids can play with scooters.

Equipment for ages between toddler and 8 years. Also net in toddler area is too big and smaller children often fall through

Certainly we'd use it more if it had more to offer!

N/A

night time lighting

Skateboarding ramp! Very popular

Community Garden space, adventure playground equipment on grassed area, outdoor gym equipment, basketball court.

More trees please. I know you planted some but most of them died/ were taken out. Possibly even a statue? At the moment it still is a empty space with no character.

Spending some money in Muswell Hill playing fields to create a footpath linking the woods to the playground behind the gardens of Barrenger Road as it gets very muddy. Maybe a full perimeter path. There must be money from the developers of the new flats forming the final phase of the Coppetts Wood hospital site.

Zip wire; cafe and toilets

I love how it is slightly over grown and very green which is great for the wild life so I don't think too much should change.

New play area for older children

There were some trees planted in the summer which were great but they suddenly disappeared which was a shame, it would be great if the tennis courts could be resurfaced as they're sadly getting worse and worse and harder to play on

Better playground equipment for 5-11 year olds and for older kids as well.

More secure access so travellers can't get access Every year

Cafe and other amenities that could be set up - maybe exercise equipment. Also we could have a themed Christmas stalls every few months as the space is huge or even use it like for food trucks or a market

Cafe with toilets, picnic benches, covered area, bouncy castle

Community garden

New Equipment for kids

A table tennis table would be good. A small amount of outdoor gym equipment might be popular. The playground for little children is nice but the one for older children is barely used so making that more of an adult gym area would be great. The tennis courts are used by one or more dog owners as an exercise yard for dogs that they do not trust off the lead in the Park. They poo there constantly. It might be better to remove some of the fencing so that it is no longer an enclosed space.

The Park is much nicer and feels safer now more people are using it.

More signs telling people to clear up after their dogs! And bins.

Provide a spot for coffee vans or food stands on weekends. Use the money made to reinvest in the park

A bit more play equipment for older children. Also it would be really great to have a toilet!!!

Sail covered area for shade in the summer

Trees and shrubs for shade possibly a small natural play area with small hills and log challenges I suppose it would be a natural adventure playground to encourage play, physical activity and imagination.

Out door gym equipment metal or wooden work stations

More trees and interesting plants

More bins!