
STRATHPEFFER COMMUNITY PARK

Appendix C: **FEASIBILITY STUDY:** **Public Consultation Results**

CRAIGNISH DESIGN
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Prepared for Strathpeffer Residents' Association
by
David Graham CMLI
Craignish Design
Chartered Landscape Architects
Barfad Farmhouse, Ardfern,
Lochgilphead, Argyll PA31 8QN t 01852 500576
dg@craignishdesign.co.uk

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Introduction

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The Feasibility Study comprised the Strategic Action Plan supported by the following Appendices

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| B | Phase 1 Habitat Survey |
| C | Public Consultation (this document) |
| D | Design Options |
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Introduction

Strathpeffer Residents' Association (SRA) commissioned Craignish Design to undertake a Feasibility Study into the potential for the community group developing a public park in Strathpeffer. The site under-consideration is approximately 2ha of existing but un-managed open space owned by Highland Council.

This document outlines **public consultation** undertaken in respect to the proposed Community Park in Strathpeffer. The report is in two sections:

- **Section 1:** summarises consultation undertaken by Strathpeffer Residents Association (SRA) in 2014 as an initial lead in to the project and establishes the mandate for SRA to take the project forward to the Feasibility Study;
- **Section 2:** summarises the results of the consultation open days and questionnaire undertaken as part of the **Feasibility Study**.

The project was initially referred to as Strathpeffer Community Garden, changing to **Strathpeffer Community Park** during the study. Scope

This paper is intended to provide background information to support the Feasibility study into the Strathpeffer Community Park Project, containing the background information required by the client's Brief. This report was first circulated to SRA in December 2014, updated in January 2015 and August 2015.

Statutory consultation is described in **Appendix A**.

The public consultation has been thorough and achieved a good response with overwhelming public support for the project and a clear steer on the design content for the Feasibility Study.

The consultation has therefore guided the design development described in the Feasibility Study.

As the project design moves forward the community should continue to be engaged in the development of the design of the park and the component elements; at Feasibility Study stage it is more of a land-use plan, the detailed content has yet to be fleshed out.

Section 1: Initial consultation

Introduction

1. SRA carried **initial consultation** prior to commissioning the Feasibility Study. This has included:
 - Public meetings;
 - Questionnaire to the primary school classes;
 - Questionnaire at a local market;
 - Questionnaire door to door in the local area.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

2. Public meetings, the most recent of which was in September 2014, were well attended with a good level of local interested. We have no formal record of comment.

QUESTIONNAIRES

Primary school

3. The P1 to P7 classes all participated in a questionnaire and discussion about the ground. The questionnaire asked whether they wanted to see: allotments; development of the existing play park; a new play park (for 6-12 yr olds); paths, benches landscaping, improved cycling, skating, walking; or a combination of all these.

Primary School	P1	P5	P7	P?	P?	P?	P?	Total
Allotments								0
Existing <12 year olds play area increased/ redeveloped	12					2		14
New park /facilities for >12 year olds	1	19	28	13		16	11	88
Landscaping, benches, paths, flowers	1					2		3
Improved cycling, skating, walking	2					7	5	14
Combination of all these	2	8		5	All	13	4	32

4. The results cannot be used as a rigorous and statistically accountable survey, but do give a really good insight into young children's ideas: The results suggested:
 - Very high support for a new play park for older children;
 - General support for improvements to the existing play facility, to cycling, skating, walking facilities;
 - Low level support for allotments and landscape improvements.
5. The classroom sessions asked for any other ideas and these raised the following 'wish-list':

Climbing frame	Curly tunnel slide	Outdoor gym
Roundabout	Shelter	Skatepark/roller blading track
Trampoline	Flying Fox	Motorcross track
Rock climbing wall	Toilets	Laser tag
See saw	No loose bark materials	Running track
Family area	No dogs in play area	Pond
Benches, bins, water fountains	Dog walking area	Show ground
Swings	Quad track	

Market questionnaire

6. The questionnaire asked would you like to see: allotments; under 12-play park; over 12-play park; outdoor gym for older children / adults; other ideas. Respondents were asked to rank 'how much you would like this to happen?', and asked to rank 1(not at all) to 5 (very much). Priority grades 2 to 4 are not defined. There were 21-questionnaires returned.

Strathpeffer Market					
Ranking	1 Not at all	2	3	4	5 Very much
Allotments	3	4	3	2	8
<12 year olds play area	5	0	4	2	5
>12 year olds play area	3	3	5	1	4
Outdoor gym for older children & adults	4	1	5	3	1

7. This gives a broad idea of general wishes, but there is lack of clarity over what grade 2, 3, 4 mean.
- **Allotments:** a high level of support with 8 out of 21 (38%) grading it as like to see 'very much'; and overall 13 out of 21 grading support at 3 or above (61%). 3 out of 21 (14%) 'did not want at all';
 - **Under 12 play:** mixed views; with 5 out of 8 (23%) wanting it very much and 5 out of 8 (23%) did not want at all. Overall 11 out of 21 graded support at 3 or above (52%), indicating overall support;
 - **Over 12 play:** mixed views across the ranges, with 4 out of 21 (19%) wanting it strongly and 3 out of 21 (14%) not wanting at all. Overall 10 out of 14 (71%) graded support at 3 or above, indicating overall support;
 - **Outdoor gym:** again mixed views across the range; 4 out of 21 (19%) not wanting at all and only 1 out of 21 most strongly wanted. Overall 9 out of 14 graded support at 3 or above (64%), indicating overall support.
8. The graded ranges do not really help without a definition of what 2-4 means, but the survey indicates a good level of support for 'something to be done' and support for allotments and a range of play areas and activity.
9. Additional ideas on features, include:
- | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Planting and wildlife (2) | Bike / walking track (3) | Allotments near houses (1) |
| Native trees (1) | Benches (2) | Play area for older children (1) |
| Dog fouling is an issue (4) | All age recreational facilities (3) | Trial areas for bikes |
| Litter is a problem (4) | | Safe route to school (1) |

Door to door questionnaire

10. A door to door questionnaire in the local area raised 14-returned questionnaires. The questionnaire asked 'would you like to see': allotments; under 12-play park; over 12-play park; seating and paths; or left as it is. Respondents were asked to rank 'how much you would like this to happen?', and asked to rank 1(not at all) to 5 (very much):

Door to door survey					
Ranking	1 Not at all	2	3	4	5 Very much
Community garden for produce	1	2	2	4	4
<12 year olds play area	0	0	2	2	7
>12 year olds play area	0	1	2	2	9
Seating and paths	0	1	1	5	7
No change	11	2	0	0	1

11. This gives a broad idea of general wishes, as follows:
- **Allotments:** a reasonably high level of support from 4 out of 14 (28%) grading it as like to see 'very much' and overall 10 out of 14 with grade 3 or higher (71%); 1 out of 14 (7%) 'did not want at all'.
 - **Under 12 play:** a high level of support from 7 out of 14 (50%) grading it as like to see 'very much' and 11 out of 14 with grade 3 or higher (78%); there were no respondents who 'did not want it at all'.
 - **Over 12 play:** a very high level of support from 9 out of 14 (64%) grading it as like to see 'very much' and 13 out of 14 with grade 3 or higher (92%); there were no respondents who 'did not want it at all'.
 - **No change:** the majority, 11 out of 14 (78%) wanted to see change in the park.
12. The survey indicates a high level of support for change and support for allotment and a range of activity in the park.
13. Ideas for content of the park included a basket ball park.

Combined results

14. The survey techniques do not allow more than general trends to be identified, but are nonetheless very useful. The Market and Door to Door surveys combined give 35-respondants. There is no particular reason to think that there would be double counting. The school survey reaches all levels in the school. There has been no specific survey of secondary school children.
15. The clearest message is that there is a 'wish to see change' and the priority is on an active park that includes a range of activities for a range of age groups. Allotments are clearly a popular idea amongst adults, though, not surprisingly so, of little interest to primary school children. Children's play for a range of age groups and activity for teenagers is supported. This is balanced with the inevitable concerns over miss-use and disturbance.
16. The consultation process identifies community interest in the area and support for becoming involved in implementation – hand's on – though less so for administration of a project.
17. The combined 'wish list' is as follows:

Climbing frame	Curly tunnel slide	Outdoor gym
Roundabout	Shelter	Skatepark /roller blading track
Trampoline	Flying Fox	Motorcross track
Rock climbing wall	Toilets	Laser tag
See saw	No loose bark materials	Running track
Family area	No dogs in play area	Pond
Benches, bins, water fountains	Dog walking area	Show ground
Swings	Quad track	Allotments near houses
Planting and wildlife	Bike / walking track	Play area for older children
Native trees	Benches	Trial areas for bikes
Dog fouling is an issue	All age recreational facilities	Safe route to school
Litter is a problem		

OUTCOME

18. From this initial consultation it was clear to SRA that there is a **high degree of interest in and support for the potential of a Community Park** and gave SRA a clear mandate to apply for funding for the Feasibility Study.
19. At commencement of the **Feasibility Study** it was determined that further consultation is needed and that this needs to:
 - Increase the respondent return;
 - Involve teenagers;
 - Provide 'yes'/'no' answers to simplify process.
20. Since the park will potentially provide a resource for the whole town, it was agreed that the catchment should extend beyond the immediate hinterland.

Section 2: Feasibility Study Public Consultation

Introduction

21. This section reviews a second consultation carried out as part of the **Feasibility Study**. The results are extracted from the returned questionnaires and feedback from the Open Day. Method and collation of results is contained within **appendices**:
- Appendix 1: Consultation method is described
 - Appendix 2: Questionnaire Results are collated
 - Appendix 3: Comments from Open Day and Questionnaire are recorded.

Objective

22. The purpose of the consultation was to test and develop the findings of earlier consultation undertaken by SRA and to determine:
- Overall level of support for the project;
 - Overall support for the outline 'land-use' of the proposed community garden;
 - Allow public expression of vision for the land;
 - Allow concerns to be expressed.

Results

23. **Summary of questionnaire responses** is shown below. Full questionnaire responses are in **Appendix 2**. Overall % shows responses that were within the 'must have' and 'nice to have' category in the table below.

Question or feature	Overall	Comment
Support for the project in principle	97% yes	There is overwhelming support.
Should we provide:		
<12 Play	90% yes	Clear majority in favour, with 58% 'must have'
12-16yr old play / activity	89% yes	Clear majority in favour, with 54% 'must have'
Provide for bikes and skateboards	87% yes	Clear majority in favour, with 39% of residents, 60% of secondary children and 84% of primary children selecting 'must have'
Dirt track (in favour of stunt bowl)	57% yes	No clear overriding preference.
Stunt bike bowl (in favour of dirt track)	53% yes	
MUGA	89% yes	Clear majority in favour.
Natural Play	89% yes	Clear majority in favour.
Should natural Play take priority over formal equipped play	37% yes 46% no	Small majority in favour of equipped play over natural play.
Outdoor Gym	87% yes	Clear majority in favour: 'must have' for: 25% adults; 82% of primary children; 59% of secondary pupils.
Ornamental Gardens	71% yes	A majority in favour but, amongst residents, 33% 'no' and only 13% 'must have'.
Sensory Garden	76% yes	A majority in favour but, amongst residents, only 17% 'must have'.

Growing food as part of the Garden?	77% yes 21% no	A majority in favour. Amongst residents 31% must have; 45% nice to have and 20% no. Of secondary pupils 37% 'no', but 61% of primary children 'must-have'.
Individual allotment plots? OR	40% yes 53% no	Small majority in favour of community / shared allotments.
Communal Plots?	59% yes 30% no	
Do you want a plot?		13 residents said 'yes' +38 primary children + 13 secondary pupils
Orchard as part of the Garden?	76% yes	Clear majority in favour, although only 14% residents and 7% of secondary pupils chose 'must have'
Community Shed?	79% yes	Clear majority in favour.
Outdoor meeting area/ events space?	80% yes	Clear majority in favour.
Whole site as Community Woodland?	61% no	Community as a whole is against whole site being wooded, but general support woodland on the sloping ground. Woodland popular amongst <16yr olds.
Sloping hill side as woodland?	62% yes	
Small wildlife area?	56% yes 39% no	Slight majority in favour. Amongst residents 64% in favour; primary children evenly split; secondary 67% in favour.
Path network?	91% yes	
Seating?	94% yes	
Public Toilet?	79% yes	Majority in favour of considering the feasibility of a WC, although amongst residents a significant number (34%) were against it. In discussion this was due to lack of need and / or cost and maintenance.
Public Art?	80% yes	Clear majority in favour.
Safety		
Do you have concerns about your safety at present?	77% no	Generally safety not a concern, although 33% of primary children indicated that they did feel unsafe and comments revealed concern over vandalism.
Do you have concerns about road safety at present?	71% no	Generally road safety not a concern, although 37% of primary children indicated that they did feel unsafe. Comments raised traffic speed on the main road and crossing that road as an issue.
Will you help?	56% yes 37% no	50 residents willing to help. 88% of school children want to be involved in the design. 11 secondary pupils were interested in helping/

Comments

24. Comments (i.e. written statements and verbal discussion) received through the Open Day and on the Questionnaire are recorded in **Appendix 3**. Although these cannot be used as representative of the views of the community, comments in favour of **play** and **activity** for **teenagers** and **all ages** correspond with the quantitative data from the questionnaire in most cases.
25. The children came forward with lively ideas for play, while adults tended to dwell on the practical problems.
26. Concerns over security and disturbance from residents living close to the park edge must be taken into account, as must the consensus of concern over traffic speed adjacent to the park.

Design Development

27. Taking this forward to the **design stage** the scheme should try to include, in general order of priority as expressed through the questionnaire results, the following:
 - Paths and seats
 - <12 year old play
 - 12-15 year old play
 - Natural Play
 - MUGA
 - Provision for bikes / bmx / stunt bikes
 - Outdoor gym
 - Provision for growing food, with preference for communal allotments
 - Community shed
 - Outdoor meeting area
 - Public art
 - Sensory gardens
 - Ornamental gardens
 - Woodland on slope (but not at expense of activity)
 - Small wildlife area(s)

Public Toilet

28. The feasibility of a public toilet will be considered and may be required for some elements (eg allotments).

Safety and security

29. In developing the design account should be taken of:
 - Resident's security at Ord Terrace
 - Road safety at the main road.

Tennis Courts

30. In the course of consultation the idea of relocating the existing tennis courts from the rear of The Pavilion to the Community Garden site has been raised. Space to accommodate the tennis court will be considered in the design development. SRA to consult locally on whether relocation is desirable.

Playing Fields

31. Also arising out of the public and statutory consultation is the future use of the playing fields, which are adjacent to, but out-with the Community Garden Site, and the potential

for all-weather pitches. This is out-with the Community Garden brief, but we should take account of this as a future neighbouring land use.

Wetland / water

32. There was no specific question regarding water features on the site. However, the consultation with the primary school showed a good deal of support (through the comments) for some form of water feature. The design development will consider options.

Appendix 1: Consultation

Method

33. The **questionnaire, format and methodology** were agreed jointly between SRA and the consultant. It was agreed to issue one questionnaire per household. The resident population (2011 census, all ages) is c. 1109. It was agreed that 750nr questionnaires would be printed. SRA delivered **+700 questionnaires** to each household in Strathpeffer. In addition, the questionnaire was published on line via **Survey Monkey**. Respondents were given two weeks to return the questionnaire, later extended. The exact number of questionnaires issued is not certain as some were handed out at the Open Day, but was in **excess of 700**.
34. An **Open Day** was held 8.30am to 8.00pm at the Community Centre, attended by 79 members of the public through the day. There was an exhibition that related specifically to the subjects covered by the questionnaire. The exhibition remained up in the Community Centre for a week after Open Day. The Open Day was advertised in local press, on local radio and via posters.
35. **Secondary school** age youngsters, who travel from Strathpeffer to Dingwall Academy were 'canvased' at the school bus queue, handed a flier and invited to complete the questionnaire and come to an Open Day. Few, if any, secondary school pupils attended the Open Day and few completed the questionnaire. To address this The Academy provided opportunity within the school day for pupils from Strathpeffer to complete the questionnaire.
36. **Primary School children**, including Nursery Classes, all visited the **Open Day**, in groups through the day. SRA presented the scheme to each class and there was lively discussion and yellow 'post it' note comments. Thereafter teachers went through the questionnaire in their **classroom** and each child completed a **simplified questionnaire**.

Returns

37. Returns are as follows:
 - **Combined total responses = 348nr**, made up of:
 - **114nr questionnaires** from **residents**, including 10nr completed on line;
 - **167nr responses** from under **12 year olds** (primary school);
 - **67nr responses from 12 to 17 year olds** (secondary school)
 - **Return is c.25%** of the c.700nr questionnaires circulated, not including the <12year olds. Taking into account the <12 year olds, the combined **total response is c.39%**.
 - Of the 1100 **population of Strathpeffer**, all ages included, this is **c.31%**. Discarding the return from <12year olds this is **c.16%** of the all-ages population of Strathpeffer. SRA accepted that the survey was to households, not to the entire population.

Distribution of respondents

38. Postcodes have been used to approximately identify distribution of respondents. Not all respondents to the resident's questionnaire gave a post code, but of those who did (excluding primary school pupils):
 - 33% live within 300m of the site;
 - 12% live between 300-600m of the site;
 - 13% live within between 600-900m of the site
 - A total of 58% live within Strathpeffer village.
39. Of respondents who live out-with the defined built up area of Strathpeffer:

- 6% live around Jamestown;
 - 2.2% live in and around Contin/Achilly;
 - 4% live in rural area between Strathpeffer and Dingwall.
40. There is, therefore, good representation from residents living closest to the site and from people living within Strathpeffer.
41. It is noted that the primary school catchment includes some adjoining villages such as Contin and Jamestown and that these children play in the area and know the site well.

Age distribution

42. Discarding the primary and secondary school pupils, the upper middle age range is well represented, but the 17-35 age group is poorly represented.
43. When primary and secondary age pupils are included, under 17s represent some 65% of the response.

Appendix 2: Questionnaire Responses

Q1: Do you support the proposal to lease or purchase this land for community managed open space?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ not answered
Resident's Questionnaire			
	113	1	0
	99%	1%	0%
Primary School			
	162	4	1
	97%	2%	1%
Secondary School			
	64	3	0
	96%	4%	0%
Combined			
	339	7	2
	97%	2%	1%

Q2: Should we provide a new equipped play area for young children (i.e. under 10 year olds)?

	Must have	Nice to have	No	Don't know/ not answered
Resident's Questionnaire				
	73	36	2	2
	65%	32%	2%	2%
Combined 'yes'		96%	2%	2%
Primary School				
	120	29	16	0
	73%	18%	10%	0%
Combined 'yes'		90%	10%	0%
Secondary School				
	10	46	9	2
	15%	69%	13%	3%
Combined 'yes'		84%	13%	3%
Combined, all respondents				
	203	111	27	7
	58%	32%	8%	2%
Combined 'yes'		90%	8%	2%

Q3: Should we provide a new equipped play area for teenagers (i.e. 10-15 year olds)?

Must have	Nice to have	No	Don't know/ not answered
Resident's Questionnaire			
57	45	7	4
50%	40%	6%	4%
Combined 'yes'	90%	6%	4%
Primary School			
114	35	16	0
69%	21%	10%	0%
Combined 'yes'	90%	10%	0%
Secondary School			
17	42	5	3
25%	63%	7%	4%
Combined 'yes'	88%	7%	4%
Combined, all respondents			
188	122	28	10
54%	35%	8%	3%
Combined 'yes'	89%	8%	3%

Q4: Should we provide an area for bikes and skateboards?

Must have	Nice to have	No	Don't know/ not answered
Resident's Questionnaire			
44	51	15	3
39%	45%	13%	3%
Combined 'yes'	84%	13%	3%
Primary School			
139	13	8	5
84%	8%	5%	3%
Combined 'yes'	92%	5%	3%
Secondary school			
25	30	12	0
37%	45%	18%	0%
Combined 'yes'	82%	18%	0%
Combined, all respondents			
208	94	35	11
60%	27%	10%	3%
Combined 'yes'	87%	10%	3%

Q5: Dirt track

	Yes	No	Don't know/ not answered
Resident's Questionnaire			
	51	34	28
	45%	30%	25%
Primary school			
	105	35	25
	64%	21%	15%
Secondary school			
	42	14	11
	63%	21%	16%
Combined, all respondents			
	198	83	67
	57%	24%	19%

Q6: Stunt bike bowl

	Yes	No	Don't know/ not answered
Resident's Questionnaire			
	50	26	37
	44%	23%	33%
Primary School			
	103	38	24
	62%	23%	15%
Secondary School			
	33	16	18
	49%	24%	27%
Combined, all respondents			
	186	80	82
	53%	23%	24%

Q7: Should we consider a MUGA on the site

Must have	Nice to have	No	Don't know/ not answered
Resident's Questionnaire			
41	57	13	1
36%	50%	12%	1%
Combined 'yes'	87%	12%	1%
Primary School			
117	34	14	0
71%	21%	8%	0%
Combined 'yes'	92%	8%	0%
Secondary School			
20	39	6	2
30%	58%	9%	3%
	88%	9%	3%
Combined, all respondents			
179	130	33	6
51%	37%	9%	2%
	89%	9%	2%

Q8: Should we include an area for 'natural play'?

Must have	Nice to have	No	Don't know/ not answered
Resident's Questionnaire			
40	64	5	4
35%	57%	4%	4%
Combined 'yes'	92%	4%	4%
Primary School			
125	27	12	1
76%	16%	7%	1%
Combined 'yes'	92%	7%	1%
Secondary School			
8	45	11	3
12%	67%	16%	4%
Combined 'yes'	79%	16%	4%
Combined, all respondents			
173	136	28	11
50%	39%	8%	3%
Combined 'yes'	89%	8%	3%

Q9: Should this take priority over more formal, equipped play?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ not answered
Resident's Questionnaire			
	36	65	12
	32%	58%	11%
Primary School			
	63	63	39
	38%	38%	24%
Secondary School			
	29	31	7
	43%	46%	10%
Combined, all respondents			
	128	159	61
	37%	46%	18%

Q10: Should we include an Outdoor Gym?

	Must have	Nice to have	No	Don't know/ not answered
Resident's Questionnaire				
	28	54	30	1
	25%	48%	27%	1%
Combined 'yes'		73%	27%	1%
Primary School				
	137	22	4	2
	83%	13%	2%	1%
Combined 'yes'		96%	2%	1%
Secondary School				
	27	34	5	1
	40%	51%	7%	1%
Combined 'yes'		91%	7%	1%
Combined Response				
	192	110	39	7
	55%	32%	11%	2%
Combined 'yes'		87%	11%	2%

Q11: Should we include ornamental gardens and decorative planting?

Note P1 and P2 did not answer Q11 onwards. Total response number is therefore 308 here-on.

	Must have	Nice to have	No	Don't know/ not answered
Resident's Questionnaire				
	15	59	37	2
	13%	52%	33%	2%
	Combined 'yes'	65%	33%	2%
Primary School				
	68	36	21	1
	54%	29%	17%	1%
	Combined 'yes'	83%	17%	1%
Secondary School				
	7	35	18	7
	10%	52%	27%	10%
	Combined 'yes'	63%	27%	10%
Combined Response				
	90	130	76	12
	29%	42%	25%	4%
	Combined 'yes'	71%	25%	4%

Q12: Should we include a sensory garden with plants chosen for scent and form?

	Must have	Nice to have	No	Don't know/ not answered
Resident's Questionnaire				
	19	71	21	2
	17%	63%	19%	2%
	Combined 'yes'	80%	19%	2%
Primary School				
	68	31	20	7
	54%	25%	16%	6%
	Combined 'yes'	79%	16%	6%
Secondary School				
	2	42	16	7
	3%	63%	24%	10%
	Combined 'yes'	66%	24%	10%
Combined, all respondents				
	89	144	57	18
	29%	47%	19%	5%
	Combined 'yes'	76%	19%	5%

Q13: Should we include opportunity for growing food as part of the site proposals?

	Must have	Nice to have	No	Don't know/ not answered
Resident's Questionnaire				
	35	51	23	4
	31%	45%	20%	4%
	Combined 'yes'	76%	20%	4%
Primary School				
	78	31	16	1
	62%	25%	13%	1%
	Combined 'yes'	87%	13%	1%
Secondary School				
	3	39	25	0
	4%	58%	37%	0%
	Combined 'yes'	63%	37%	0%
Combined, all respondents				
	116	121	64	7
	38%	39%	21%	2%
	Combined 'yes'	77%	21%	2%

Q14: Individual allotment plots for lease

	Yes	No	Don't know/ not answered
Resident's Questionnaire			
	44	50	19
	39%	44%	17%
Primary School			
	50	75	1
	40%	60%	1%
Secondary School			
	28	37	2
	42%	55%	3%
Combined, all respondents			
	122	162	24
	40%	53%	8%

Q15: OR, a communal garden with shared plots, raised beds etc

	Yes	No	Don't know/ not answered
Resident's Questionnaire			
	58	32	23
	51%	28%	20%
Primary School			
	91	30	4
	72%	24%	3%
Secondary School			
	33	30	4
	67	67	67
	49%	45%	6%
Combined, all respondents			
	182	92	34
	59%	30%	11%

Q16: Would you want a plot (individual plot):

13 residents said 'yes', plus 38 Primary School children and 13 Secondary School pupils.

Q17: Should we include an orchard as part of a community allotment?

	Must have	Nice to have	No	Don't know/ not answered
Resident's				
	16	64	30	3
	14%	57%	27%	3%
Combined yes		71%	27%	3%
Primary School				
	77	35	12	2
	61%	28%	10%	2%
Combined yes		89%	10%	2%
Secondary School				
	5	38	20	4
	7%	57%	30%	6%
		64%	30%	6%
Combined, all respondents				
	98	137	62	11
	32%	44%	20%	4%
		76%	20%	4%

Q18: Should we include a Community Shed or Shelter as part of the proposal?

	Must have	Nice to have	No	Don't know/ not answered
Resident's				
	34	61	16	2
	30%	54%	14%	2%
Combined 'yes'		84%	14%	2%
Primary School				
	75	30	19	2
	60%	24%	15%	2%
Combined 'yes'		83%	15%	2%
Secondary School				
	8	36	21	2
	12%	54%	31%	3%
Combined 'yes'		66%	31%	3%
Combined, all respondents				
	117	127	56	8
	38%	41%	18%	3%
Combined 'yes'		79%	18%	3%

Q19: Should we include a communal outdoor meeting area for events?

	Must have	Nice to have	No	Don't know/ not answered
Resident's Questionnaire				
	16	70	23	4
	14%	62%	20%	4%
Combined 'yes'		76%	20%	4%
Primary School				
	73	39	13	1
	58%	31%	10%	1%
Combined 'yes'		89%	10%	1%
Secondary School				
	7	42	17	1
	10%	63%	25%	1%
		73%	25%	1%
Combined				
	96	151	53	8
	31%	49%	17%	3%
Combined 'yes'		80%	17%	3%

Q20: Should we develop the whole site as a Community Woodland?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ not answered
Resident's Questionnaire			
	13	90	10
	12%	80%	9%
Primary School			
	59	65	2
	47%	52%	2%
Secondary School			
	33	34	0
	49%	51%	0%
Combined			
	105	189	14
	34%	61%	5%

Q21: Should we develop just the sloping rough ground as a Community Woodland, with the flatter areas retained for other use?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ not answered
Resident's Questionnaire			
	78	22	13
	69%	19%	12%
Primary School			
	79	45	2
	63%	36%	2%
Secondary School			
	33	33	1
	49%	49%	1%
Combined			
	190	100	18
	62%	32%	6%

Q22: Should we include a just small wild area as part of the project?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ not answered
Resident's Questionnaire			
	72	30	11
	64%	27%	10%
Primary School			
	55	69	2
	44%	55%	2%
Secondary School			
	45	21	1
	67%	31%	1%
Combined			
	172	120	16
	56%	39%	5%

Q23: Should we provide easy public access to all the site through a network of paths?

Overall 91% of respondents said a network of paths would be 'must have' or 'nice'.

Q24: Should we provide seating?

Overall 94% of respondents said seats would be 'must have' or 'nice'.

Q25: Should we consider the feasibility of providing a public toilet on the site?

	Must have	Nice to have	No	Don't know/ not answered
Resident's Questionnaire				
	24	48	38	3
	21%	42%	34%	3%
Combined 'yes'		64%	34%	3%
Primary School				
	105	13	7	1
	83%	10%	6%	1%
Combined 'yes'		94%	6%	1%
Secondary School				100%
	11	40	15	1
	16%	60%	22%	1%
Combined 'yes'		76%	22%	1%
Combined				
	141	101	60	6
	46%	33%	19%	2%
Combined 'yes'		79%	19%	2%

Q26: Should we include Public Art as part of the project?

	Must have	Nice to have	No	Don't know/ not answered
Resident's Questionnaire				
	14	71	25	3
	12%	63%	22%	3%
Combined 'yes'		75%	22%	3%
Primary School				
	59	53	11	3
	47%	42%	9%	2%
Combined 'yes'		89%	9%	2%
Secondary School				
	10	38	19	0
	15%	57%	28%	0%
Combined 'yes'		72%	28%	0%
Combined				
	83	162	55	8
	27%	53%	18%	3%
Combined 'yes'		80%	18%	3%

Q27: Do you have any concerns over your own safety on the site at present?

	Yes	No	Don't know/ not answered
Resident's			
	16	91	6
	14%	81%	5%
Primary School			
	42	81	3
	33%	64%	2%
Secondary			
	4	62	1
	6%	93%	1%
Combined			
	62	238	8
	20%	77%	3%

The question may have been poorly worded; 1/3rd of school children feeling unsafe seems high given the character of the area. It would be interesting to know how the teachers introduced the question and what the youngsters are concerned about.

Adults who expressed concern, tended to live next to the area and have experienced vandalism and threatening behaviour.

Others didn't go there at present, so had no concerns.

Q28: Do you have any concerns over road-safety in this area?

Yes	No	Don't know/ not answered
Residents		
16	84	13
14%	74%	12%
Primary School		
46	75	5
37%	60%	4%
Secondary School		
8	59	0
12%	88%	0%
Combined		
70	218	20
23%	71%	6%

Note: 1/3rd of school children feeling unsafe seems high given the character of the area. Adult concerns were all about proximity to the main road to the south of the site and speed of traffic thereon. This has been followed up HC Community Services Traffic Section, but there are no recorded accident spots or indicators of traffic risk so no likelihood of intervention by HC.

Q29: Are you are willing to help with developing the project?

Residents		
y	n	No response
50	47	16
44%	42%	14%
Secondary School		
11	50	6
16%	75%	9%

Primary School children were asked if they were willing to help with the design of the project.

Primary School		
y	n	No response
111	15	0
88%	12%	0%

Q30: What is your Post Code? (This would identify which part of the village you live in (not your actual address) and help us know whether we have a good coverage of responses)

Locations of Residents who completed the questionnaire are approximately as below. Not all respondents gave a post code or gave a complete post code; some who were illegible or not identifiable. % is shown taking account of 114 residents + 67 secondary pupils = 181 total.

Respondent location			
Distance from site	Post Code	Location	Respondents
Within 300m of site	IV14 9DA	Ord Terrace	14nr
	IV14 9DB	Cromartie Dr	9nr
	IV14 9DD	Blackmuir Wood	4nr
	IV14 9BT	West Park	3nr
	IV14 9BZ	Kinellan Drive	4nr
	IV14 9FT	West Park	5nr
	IV14 9BN	Park Ave	1nr
	IV14 9BY	Park Rd	1nr
	IV14 9BP/BL	Park Terr	9nr
	IV14 9BD	Kinnettas Sq	2nr
	IV14 9AX	Central Strathpeffer	4nr
	IV14 9AQ /AG	Ulladale Crescent	8nr
300-600m of site	IV14 9AP/DL/AL/AJ/AW/AN/BG	Central Strathpeffer	11nr
	IV14 9DJ/DL	Ardival Terrace	3nr
	IV14 9AU/AT/DU	Golf Course Rd	7nr
			21nr/181=12%
600-900m of site	IV14 9 DS/DY/DG/DH/DQ/DX/BF	East side of Strathpeffer	23nr
Jamestown	IV14 9ER/ET	Jamestown	11nr
			11nr/ 181=6%
Contin & surrounds	IV149EL/EU/EG	Contin / Achilly	4nr
			4nr/181=2.2%
Between Strathpeffer/ Dingwall	IV14 9AB/AF/AE/AD/FA		7nr
			7nr/181=4%
Muir of Ord			1nr
			1/181=<1%

Q31: Tick, underline, highlight or circle the age group you fall into:

Residents Questionnaire, excluding primary school and Academy:

<16	17-35	36-60	61+	Declined
10	16	47	33	8
8%	14%	42%	29%	7%

Including the primary school children, age distribution is as below:

<16	17-35	36-60	61+	Declined
177	16	47	33	8
63%	6%	17%	11%	3%

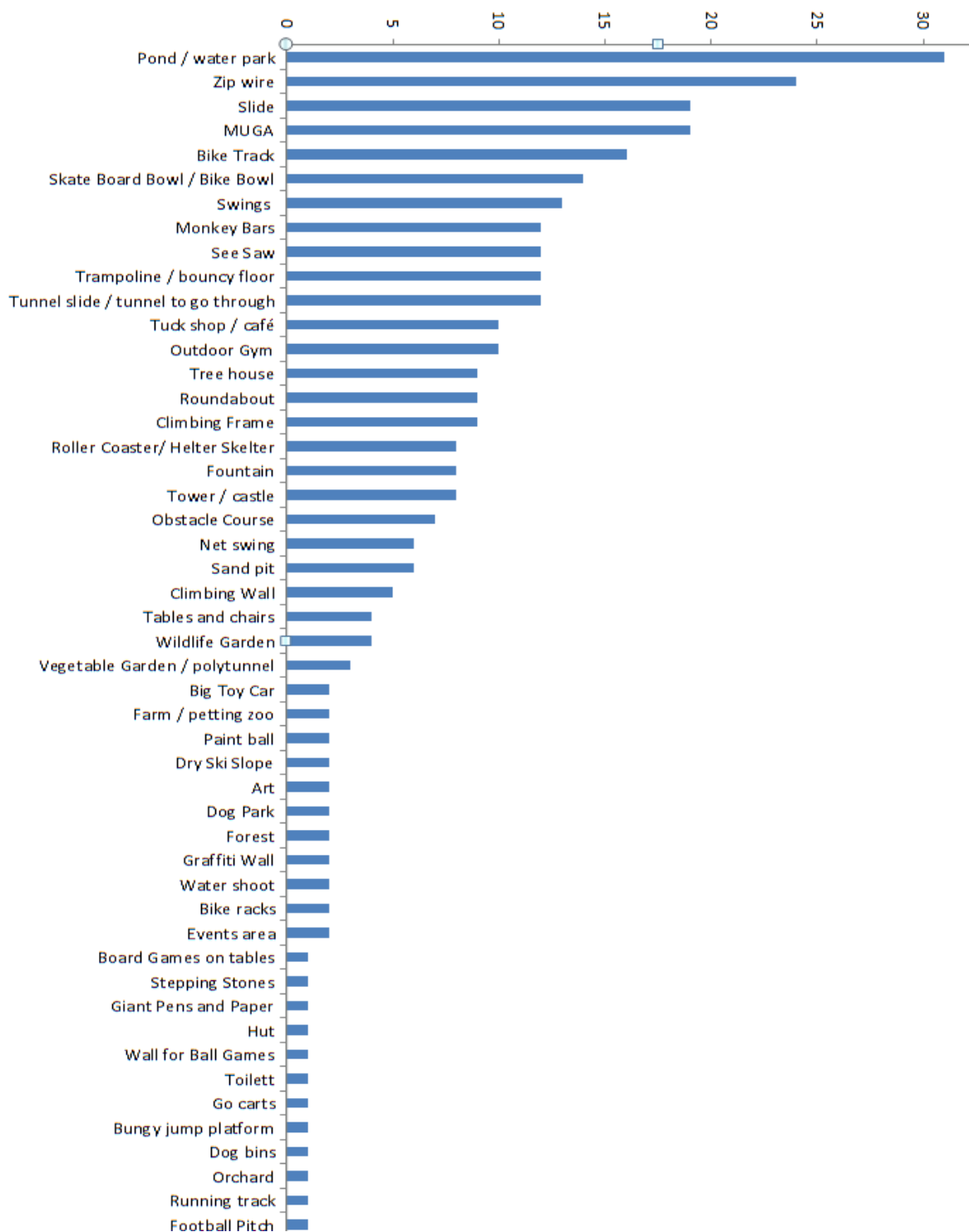
Including the primary and secondary children, age distribution is as below (8nr secondary pupils >16):

<16	17-35	36-60	61+	Declined
227	23	47	33	8
65%	8%	14%	10%	3%

Appendix 3: Public Comments / Suggestions

Primary School Comments / Suggestions

44. Comments were invited at the Open Day through Post-It-Notes and on the Questionnaire completed by the Primary School children. The Post-It-Notes were completed following the presentation by SRA but before the questionnaire was completed. The chart below illustrates the features that were requested and number of times the feature occurred (horizontal axis). Children were encouraged to draw ideas on the Post-It-Notes and on the questionnaire. There were well over a hundred notes completed.



Resident's Comments

45. Some Post-It-Notes were added by adults at the Open Day and comments were made during informal discussion. These are summarised below:
- "Frost pocket; prone to plant disease; don't do allotments; stick to **bikes and play**"
 - "An **orchard** along the steep slopes below the house (give privacy to the houses)"
 - "Provide a **tranquil garden**"
 - "Provide an **events area**"
 - "Use the change in levels to **create an arena**"
 - "It (the Play Park) is all graffiti at present"
 - "The swing is outside the play park; needs to be one area"
 - "**Sledging run**"
 - "**All ages play**"
 - "**Boulders** would be good (obstacle course); last forever"
 - "Provide **natural play**; den making"
 - "Drainage was worsened by recent housing"
 - "Do a **communal garden**; shared effort; meet people; wouldn't want one of my own"
 - "Car parking is not enough as it is. This will make it worse"
 - "I have a garden. Why would I want an allotment?"
 - "**Footpath** to the **school** would be good. There'd be a path all the way to the town"
 - "We drive to Dingwall for the play park at present; this would be **great**"

Further comments from residents following the sketch schemes

"Dear Val, **Brilliant job**. We shall look at the **excellent plans** carefully and let you know what we think is the best one. **Sustainability** is the keyword.

... I can show DG where the drains come down from Kinellan and open a few manholes for them. All the run off from the lochans beside us comes through our garden, then through Jemmy's garden next door then down the side of Kinellan Drive, through between the houses and then as shown on the plans. That drain takes an awful lot of water. Where the big culvert that takes the burn from Kinellan Loch is buried looks like a mystery but it must have been laid new when all the public housing went in - whenever that was. There must be a plan showing it somewhere. When we had the problems with the culvert under Kinellan Drive 12 years ago Highland Council had a chap who's job it was to be in charge of all surface water drainage in Easter Ross. Something that will have to be taken into account is the surface run off from new houses below us when they get built in the future.

John"

"Thanks Val,

It was a shame the consultation evening was the one evening I was on one of the few evenings I was away in Edinburgh for work and my wife Fiona had to stay in with the kids. So, no lack of interest on our part.....

By the way, although I think change is needed and the **plans are very positive**, I wouldn't personally say anything would be better than what we have now. The poorly drained upper playing field is now colonised by pink ragged robin, cuckoo flowers etc and associated butterflies in the summer. The rosebay willow herb looks stunning in full bloom and the birds enjoy the scrub. It could be much much worse, its just that overall it's not the best option for that location and our community.

I'll look forward to seeing the proposals.

Best wishes,

David"

*“Hi, Sorry I couldn't make the meeting but your efforts are to be **commended**. It all looks very exciting. If asked to choose I would have to say that **concept 1** appeals most to me.*

Keep us posted.

Regards

Vivienne”

*“Hi Val. Sorry I couldn't get to the recent meetings. I was away. I'm still interested to stay involved. I've looked through the proposals and agree with the collective that **proposal 2** is the most appropriate for that site. Specific comments I'd make are:*

- 1. I would shy away from proposed **outdoor gym** equipment within the site. The products out there are generally expensive and can be difficult and costly to maintain. The focus of any moneys for play equipment should be on providing robust products that have little ongoing maintenance costs. Rustic timber structures with cargo nets and alike tend to be relatively low maintenance due to the lack of moving parts.*
- 2. The **shelter** within the toddler play area needs to be set so that people using it are shielded from the most common direction of prevailing winds.*
- 3. I think that **allotments** could be a good revenue generator for the ongoing future maintenance of the area, provided there is a demand. Prior to ruling out private allotments, it might be worth getting views from residents to gauge the likely demand (ideally with some guidelines on the likely annual rental costs).*
- 4. If there is interest from local hotels and restaurants, there could be a focus for the **communal gardens** to grow produce for sale, again to raise some kind of revenue.*
- 5. A **communal composting** facility should be shown **instead of a WC**. This could also be promoted as a facility for local residents to discard their own waste vegetable peelings from home, demonstrating how the facility could serve the local community. Such a thing might also open up other funding streams (eg any recycling grants).*
- 6. The **MUGA** is likely to need some form of fencing to avoid balls ending up in the communal gardens.*
- 7. Could some form of **public art** be shown in the area, possibly along the paths to create an art trail? The school and local artists could be asked to contribute, to demonstrate a strong local commitment and participation in the project.*
- 8. Discussions will be needed with Highland Council on the appropriateness of the proposed **vehicle access** off Ulladale Crescent. I suspect they may support an infrequent need for vehicles to access to maintain the facilities, but I'd be surprised if they'd support the proposed additional car parking behind the school. I'd recommend removing this from the plans altogether for now, to avoid people getting caught up in an issue that won't be forming part of the garden project. If there's a need to demonstrate local parking provision for the garden project, it should be relatively easy to show that there is sufficient already in the area.*

I hope that this is useful.

Kindest regards

Mark Clough

“Response to Strathpeffer Community Garden proposals from John Wombell, Nether Kinellan, Strathpeffer. 02/02/2015

*I think all the plans are very well drawn and presented. I think that **Proposal 1** is the best for several reasons but first a few general comments in no particular order.*

- 1. A **WC** is **essential** as the new community garden will attract events from time to time. Single door entrance – gents left, ladies right. They can remain locked for most of the time and opened when there is something special on. Cleaning by the promoters of whatever event is taking place with a ‘to be left as found’ sort of agreement.*
- 2. The **artificial pitch** (out-with the SRA site) might be a good idea as the poor drainage and poor soil on this site should be not underestimated but there are other considerations. Artificial pitches are very high cost to construct and need ongoing maintenance. They are not very flexible when it comes to events. Will there be a requirement for floodlighting? Will there be a requirement for a high fence if shinty is to be encouraged? High fences are unsightly but one will be essential alongside any new car park whatever the use of the pitch. Who will administrate the pitch – keep the bookings, take the cash etc? Proposal 1 puts the pitch in the best position for all round spectating. This facility will be **noisy** with the potential to create nuisance in the evenings so there will have to be a mid evening cut off point. Sound carries a long way up and away from a hollow. We hear the children clearly at play time and there are many houses much closer to the pitch than we are at Kinellan from the school.*
- 3. **Additional car parking** will be essential if the **artificial pitch** goes ahead.*
- 4. **Outdoor gyms** or ‘trim tracks’ as they were known in the 1970s and 80s are I would suggest an **outdated concept**. Adults do not like exhibiting themselves on outdoor gyms and they end up being ‘mucked about on’ by children in ways for which they were not designed. That’s OK but what if there is an accident?*
- 5. The two main downhill paths on the sloping bank and the Meadow will make great **tobogganing** and **ski practice** runs so safe run outs at the ends of both paths and the Meadow will be essential. Proposal 1 provides this adequately but on Proposals 2 and 3 the south path is off-set in the middle. The north side path on all three plans has an unsafe run out – straight into outdoor gym equipment etc. This path on whatever plan is chosen will need the out run turned and banked to head sledgers and skiers in the direction of the playing field and away from danger.*
- 6. **Small allotments** as drawn in Proposal 2 will struggle to be sustainable. The soil at Kinellan and the top end of Strathpeffer is classified as ‘stagno gley’ being derived from the underlying boulder clay. The water table perches on the impervious boulder clay. There is little lateral movement of water in the boulder clay. Below the boulder clay the rock is bituminous shale as can be seen outcropping in Ord Wood. The area is riddled with springs that are particularly active in the winter. This is why we have the lochans at Kinellan. Decent soil free from disease would have to be imported for allotments and the formation layers under the allotments would have to be free draining with close spaced land drains. The allotments will need sheet piling on 3 sides or roots from the trees as shown in Proposal 2 will quickly migrate into the allotments. A standard allotment is 250 square meters. As drawn these allotments are only 80 square meters. Hardly big enough to get a crop rotation going. It is impossible to control individual behaviour on allotments.*

Some plots will go weedy and there is the potential for conflict between those who want to grow traditionally and those who want to grow organically.

7. **Fruit trees.** *We experience considerable problems on the ridge at Kinellan with late frosts and I think it will be much worse down in the frost hollow of the community garden site. The only thing I can think of (which all the proposals lend to) and if the urge to grow fruit trees is strong, is to build a substantial wall on the north and east sides of the raised beds and grow trained fruit trees against these walls. It may then be possible to give them some protection at blossom time with fleece. You will need to think about security if fruit trees are grown and if they succeed in producing fruit. Little boys and scrumping!*
8. **Public Art.** *I don't see any. For a prestigious project like this it is usual to consider at least 1% of the total cost for public art.*
9. *A more sustainable alternative to an artificial pitch (out-with the SRA site). Close drain at say 2m centres the whole of the playing field area using precision laser guided equipment ignoring but tying in existing drains. De stone if there is a high stone content and ameliorate the top soil with a substantial amount (several thousand tonnes) of horticultural sand. Re grade the entire area with a gentle slope NW to SE. Re seed with a quality playing field mixture. The resulting free draining grass field would have many advantages over an artificial pitch in that it would attract new events such as car boot sales, athletics, rallies, galas as well as all year kick about games. Easy to erect marquees for instance which you cannot do on an artificial pitch.*
10. *You will need to have a plan for **dog exclusion**. Maybe it is too early in the process to be showing how this will be achieved.*
11. **Existing services.** *At an early stage now the main surface water culvert will need to be identified. A GIS overlay of the early OS maps onto the current OS may help. The exact position and depth of all other services will need to be identified.*
12. **The roadside hedge.** *Who will maintain this? The back hasn't been cut for years.*

Comments on the individual proposals.

1. *Proposal 2 offers the least opportunity for amenity planting and the area for biking, scootering etc is much reduced.*
2. *Proposal 3 wastes a lot of space due to the curved block of raised beds.*
3. *Proposal 3 has the most imaginative bike track area and cleverly combines this with new woodland planting. I would lift this part of Proposal 3 into Proposal 1.*
4. *As drawn the MUGA in Proposal 2 is considerably made up on 3 sides. This will be at additional cost with an increased risk of settlement over time.*
5. *The zip wire in Proposal 2 is either running much steeper than in the other 2 proposals or the upper end is considerably dug into the sloping bank. There is no hatching shown so it is not clear what is being proposed. If the intention is to dig into the bank will it not expose the major sewer that runs through here?"*

"Hi Val,

*I've also had a look at the plans for the community garden and think they look **fantastic** – plan 2 would be my favoured one also.*

Let me know what the score is and if there's anything that I can do?

Regards,

Tracy."

*“Thank you for your reply, appreciate you taking the time to respond. Really impressed with the designs for the Community Garden, **love** the concept of a **woodland area** with **cycle track** for the small kids, and a **playpark** is very very required in the village. We will be a part of as much of it as we can be as we have a 1.5 year old boy. Kate is a keen and knowledgeable gardener. Thanks very much Val.*

Mac”

Strathpeffer Community Garden.

General remarks.

I was involved in helping to clear the area between the current play area and under the road. The children told us how much they had enjoyed and played in the area under the road, before it became too overgrown.

I have a large garden just up the road growing vegetables and fruit. It is not easy in this area. I help out in the Garden group, that weeds and plants many areas in the village.

*No one plan is an outright 'winner'

*I suggest that the main path from the school to the houses must be 'wide' enough to allow for 2 way 'traffic' i.e. cyclists can pass walkers/prams etc without anyone feeling threatened. This route could be signed as the preferred route for 'walkers' to access Kinellan/ view point etc. and avoid walking up the side of the main road.

* Improving all the path surfaces and a new drainage system would benefit a wide range of local people of all ages, and their children. It would also give local residence a better hard/dry surface when accessing the local shops /doctors etc.

* In my view, as a gardener, the allotments would be a 'disappointment' and end up neglected and weedy. The day to day management of them would be a burden on any one responsible for them. It would need a really enthusiastic gardening group that could be relied on to grow and manage the beds. The 'risk' is too great to allocate funds on the 'beds.

If the 'raised bed' element is removed from all the plans there would be space for other play areas (outdoor chess?) I suggest a bird aviary with budgies etc could be an attraction and more easily managed. Birds are hardy and can live outdoors if given a sheltered roost.

* I note plan 2 is preferred but feel the more extensive 'stunt bike and dirt area' in plan 1 should be incorporated in to plan 2.

From Trina Wombell, Nether Kinellan, Strathpeffer.

Questionnaire Comments

46. The Questionnaire contained a 'comments' section. These comments are reproduced below:

Support for the project

- *"Well done for all your efforts so far"*
- *"Great idea"*
- *"... big thanks to SRA. Its great action you are taking for this eyesore land"*
- *"As chair of Strathpeffer Primary PTA ... I would like to be involved..."*
- *".....yes, but at the right price"*

Priorities

- *"Keep it simple. Focus on **children's needs**"*
- *"It's difficult to prioritise without knowing the budget and cost of the possible components ... I would like an outdoor gym having seen one in Harrogate, but it may be very expensive, so things for **kids** would probably be priority – it could be added later."*
- *"...feel it should be developed as an area for **everyone to use**, whether they are young or old"*
- *"... things for **kids** would probably be priority..."*
- *"It would be nice to see the whole area cleared up and tidied up, with improved play facilities, access paths, as well as gardens and seating if possible. This makes the area enjoyable for a **broad range of residents**"*
- *"... important to ensure the site is made useful for **all ages**"*
- *"**Children** (including teenager) **play area** should be the priority as badly needed in Strathpeffer especially as located near a large residential area where many children live"*
- *"... transform (it) into a good **community facility**"*
- *"Don't **over complicate** it!"*
- *"Whatever is done, it needs to be done **tastefully**. This is a tourist village..."*
- *".... any plans should accommodate **all sections within society**, including visitors... create a **cohesive community**"*
- *"A nice landscaped park area with benches and play areas for kids of **all ages** is much needed"*
- *"(ensure...) priority (is) given to **active /healthy pursuits** for 0-18 age group"*

Children's Play

- *"... would like to see a playground for **children of all ages**;*
- *"Use the **natural slope** to best advantage for a zip wire and winter sledge run"*
- *"I would like a zip wire; roundabout"*
- *"(Use) ... wooden play park (equipment?); astro turf..."*
- *"(We need) ... Carnoustie play area – its super"*
- *"(Provide)... **adventure play**"*
- *" For the size of Strathpeffer there are **no proper children's play parks** compared with other smaller villages – eg Marybank"*
- *" ... could not natural play areas be developed with FCS in adjoining woods nearby?" (rather than here)*
- *"How about a maize?"*
- *" If it is agreed to have fixed equipment, make it of timber, sturdy and suitable for **all ages**, e.g. wooden stepping stones and parallel bars"*

- *“Rumbustious activity shouldn’t be near under 10s. One or the other”*
- *“Difficult to see how Q3-6 (bike tracks) mixes with Q2-3 (play)”*
- *“Zip-wire; treehouse; big slide; swings; roundabout; bike shelter; dog park; dog bins; climbing frames; monkey bars; fireman’s pole; ice skating; fountain”.*
- *“Big slide; fountain; dog bins; pool; shelter; ice rink; stalls; treehouse; zip wire; obstacle course.”*
- *“(We need a).... play area for children, 1-16 yr old. A **small play area** for baby and **toddler separated** from older children ... for safety”*

Bikes and Skateboards

- *“(Provide a)... bike trail...”*
- *“...BMX bike etc ... essential ...”*
- *“... bike park / skate park – been done so often in past. As soon as children (of the people who) wanted it grow up, it is forgotten and becomes overgrown, as (on this site) now”*
- *“BMX track (here) fell into dis-use”*
- *“...used to be a bike track in this area but it wasn’t a success”*
- *“As site is small, bikes and skateboards would be better in the woods behind the village.”*
- *“Love ideas of skateboard / bike area” (17 yr old secondary pupil)*

Outdoor gym

- *“(Provide an)...outdoor gym; adventure course...”*
- *“(Provide)... adult gym equipment ...”*
- *“Outdoor gym would cover teens and older people, instead of trying to keep people separated”*
- *“Outdoor gym... white elephant.... Big waste of money”*

MUGA

- *“The village already has a MUGA” (not sure what this refers to – tennis court or school?)*
- *“If you build it they (people) will come”*
- *How about “400m running track; ½ mile trail” (secondary pupil)*

Allotments

- *“Need a shed for gardening and general maintenance equipment”*
- *“(We should provide)...a sensory garden; and allotments for self-sufficiency”*
- *“(Need) ... allotments...”*
- *“The erection of sheds and creation of allotments would spoil this part of the village..”*
- *“(Make) community plots, as not enough space for individual plots”*
- *“... everyone has a garden ... no need for allotments”*
- *“... a cold, wet frost hole – gardens of any kind will fail”*

Orchard

- *“... use the community orchard as a screen for the houses”*

Gardens

- *“Ornamental gardens? Nice of course, but need maintaining. Perhaps a wild garden would be better.”*
- *“ ... hard to find enough people willing to maintain”*
- *“ ... rather see investment in existing garden areas than creating a new one...”*

- *"The Garden should attract bees and birds, also butterflies"*
- *"No, due to vandalism"*

Woodland & nature

- *"... tree hut; natural park look..."*
- *"Creation of woodland with paths etc is much more preferable (than allotments). Look at Invergordon – example of how things can be done"*
- *As (for) natural play and community woodland, look (to create) at other sites locally"*

Site furniture & facilities

- *"There should be litter bins – very important"*
- *"... toilet would be good";*
- *"(provide) ... some low level lighting ..."*
- *"Seating, picnic benches. Flat area for street dancing, skipping etc"*
- *"Picnic tables, small table, but also plenty of rubbish bins"*
- *"... no need for toilets. There are toilets in the Square and as this is for the local community they will only be a few minutes' walk from their own"*

Existing site & safety

- *"My concerns are vandalism. As a pensioner living on my own, (I) have had snowballs thrown at windows. And it can be quite scary. I turn off all the lights because this ground is right in front of my house" (elderly resident, Ord Terrace)*
- *"My concerns are vandalism. I am a pensioner living on my own and in the past have had snowballs thrown at my windows, door kicked, mud thrown. I am scared when this happens. I sit in the dark to see if its stops" (elderly resident, Ord Terrace)*
- *"(Park is)...directly in front of our house past people throwing snowballs and mud at mud etc at windows" (elderly resident, Ord Terrace)*
- *" ... a bit concerned ... might lead to vandalism like we had in the past"*
- *"Can't be properly seen from surroundings"*
- *"(Need a)... community police officer"*
- *"(Existing site is)...uneven ground with deep holes. High weeds and fallen branches"*
- *"The site has become much more overgrown / unkempt in the last 10-years, such that the current play park is lost in it."*
- *"(Existing has...) no bins... rubbish lying..."*
- *"(There is an)...un-ruly element, especially for disabled persons"*
- *"(My concern is) ... teenagers wrecking the place"*
- *"... mild concern that school children may be vulnerable"*
- *"Ground is saturated (flat area). Waste ground (is) very thick with debris scattered around ... (and) dog poo..."*
- *"Rubbish, broken glass ... wouldn't... (let)... my youngest daughter go unattended"*
- *"Play area is NOT child friendly. Rubbish lying about. Glass"*
- *" ...majority of ideas sound fantastic, however my concern is with safety 'outwith normal hour and the unruly element destroying, vandalising... as we have seen in the past in Strathpeffer."*
- *"It will get vandalised"(secondary pupil – reason for not supporting project)*

Traffic & roads

- *"... the road is too close to the park"*
- *"Need more speed restrictions"*
- *"Children from the park will need to cross the main road – some form of special crossing will be required"*

- *“Area at the top of Strath, where bus stop is, is a dangerous bend for children especially”*
- *“Cars and lorries etc still drive too fast through the village”*
- *“(Concerned about)... road safety and traffic speed”*
- *“(Concerned about)... speed and ignorance of speed limit”*
- *“(Re road safety) ... good fencing (is) essential”*
- *“Cars go too fast. No zebra or pelican crossing”*
- *“Very fast road in spite of 30mph limit”*
- *“... don’t want any (additional) parking around the park...”*
- *“Main road: stupid drivers!” (secondary pupil)*
- *“Pavement to pitch – narrow” (secondary pupil)*

Access

- *“(Need) ... **disabled access** to paths from **school car park**”*
- *“(Need a) ... **bus stop** in front of school. For Route 27”*
- *“ I have a disabled son. **Wheelchair access** I hope will be a must in any development”*
- *“So long as it is accessible for **disabled people** – elderly as well as prams and buggies”*
- *“... take a section of the area to make a bus bay (from the main road) so that there is a bus stop for the surgery... not serviced well ... particularly for non-drivers who are elderly”*
- *“It would be nice to be able to **walk to the village** without having to use pavement along the road”*
- *“**Car parking in the school community centre** is already an issue and would need to be addressed”*

Maintenance & management

- *“Remember that if you take on the strip of ground below the road.. you take on the hedge...”*
- *“Exclude dogs”*
- *“Motorbikes – on the site” (ie how will you stop them mis-using the site?)*
- *“(will need to) ... inspect once per week to check for litter etc etc”*
- *“(will need)... a named person... available for any comments / problems as they arise. This could be on a rota”*
- *“Concern over vandalism and lack of maintenance, including regular maintenance and adequate insurance”*