

Appendix E: Kenilworth Leisure – RIBA Stage 1 Statement of Community Engagement



December 2018
Rev Issue

- 1.0 Introduction**
- 2.0 RIBA 1 Design Review**
- 3.0 Aims & Objectives**
- 4.0 Previous Engagement**
- 5.0 Engagement Review**
- 6.0 Kenilworth Overview**
- 7.0 Survey Results & Key Issues**
- 8.0 NGBs**
- 9.0 User Groups**
- 10.0 Local Sports Clubs**
- 11.0 Local Societies, Groups & Clubs**
- 12.0 Other Respondents**
- 14.0 Schools**
- 15.0 Conclusion**

1.1 Purpose of this Document

This Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) is a document which sets out how Warwick District Council (WDC) have engaged the community of Kenilworth during a RIBA Stage 1 public consultation process. This particular statement relates solely to Stage 1 of a 2 Stage planning consultation strategy for refurbishment works at both Castle Farm and Abbey Fields Leisure Centres respectively.

In order to inform development proposals at the earliest opportunity a two phased Consultation and Engagement Strategy has been devised by the Council and the Project Team. The first community engagement activity has been held at RIBA Stage 1 in order to ensure an appropriate facility mix at both Castle Farm and Abbey Fields is progressed by the team, one that reflects the local community's future needs. The consultation activities that have been set out in this document, have sought to collect feedback with regards to the early and indicative design options from various user groups, stakeholders and members of the wider public.

The Project Team are aware that involving communities is an essential element of a responsible and inclusive planning and design process. It has been noted at the outset of the process that effective engagement depends upon communities having access, at the earliest possible opportunity, to as much information about the development proposals and their likely impact as possible.

An important phase of this engagement was to provide opportunities for the community to provide feedback about proposals from the outset. By doing this the community of Kenilworth could help shape the development proposals that affect them.

In addition to the above this document sets out the methodology undertaken for the Consultation and Engagement Strategy, provides a summary of the feedback obtained, and the key issues arising throughout the process. Raw data received from interested parties is set out in the body of the report.

The main body of the Statement presents a summary of the common and popular themes which have arisen throughout a 3 week WDC led consultation process which included nine public events and additional stakeholder meetings where required. Further information regarding the engagement activities can be found in Section 3.0.

1.2 Project Background & Client Brief

Phase 1 of the WDC Leisure Development Programme (LDP) has now been completed. It was agreed at the start of the Programme in 2015 that upon completion of Phase 1 the existing facilities in Kenilworth would form Phase 2 of the LDP once the Local Plan gave more certainty as to the future development of the town.

The Local Plan (2011 – 2029) is now in place and was officially adopted in September 2017. WDC decided it was necessary to get the Local Plan in place before deciding on the future of leisure provision in Kenilworth, as the changes introduced by that Plan would evidently affect demand for sports and leisure facilities.

Now the plan is in place and the Phase 1 programme has been completed WDC believed it time to commence Phase 2 of the LDP. It was important that at the commencement of LDP Phase 2 that the people of Kenilworth understood that they could get the same sort of aspirational, successful and modern facilities as the Council has provided at Newbold Comyn and St Nicholas Park as part of phase 1 and this was the starting point of the eventual Brief.

As part of Phase 2 it is hoped that the community in Kenilworth will be encouraged and get behind the proposals being presented and understand that the Council wants to continue to help local communities adopt a healthy and active lifestyle.

The newly constructed or refurbished facilities will be designed to modern standards, making them more environmentally friendly and cheaper to run. The facilities will also be prepared for use for another 30 years and able to accommodate the growth in the local area.

2.1 RIBA Stage 1 Overview

The project will follow the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) project stages model, in order to manage resources effectively and report back throughout the design process. The professional services and design team have been procured and Mace have been appointed as Project Managers with Darnton B3 as the architects.

As part of the initial works, consideration was given to the constraints and opportunities at each site. After this the project design team developed a set of outline options. In drawing up these options the team have also taken into account the Sport England Facilities Planning Model and revised WDC Indoor Sports Strategy (2018) which both evidence the need for additional sports hall and swimming pool space.

As part of an initial evaluation process the team considered numerous options which were then assessed on design quality, flexibility, customer requirements, operational effectiveness and anticipated value for money.

This led to the short-listed options, which were agreed by the Council's Executive in September. It is these options that were included in the public consultation.

The sites and design options have been discussed in more detail below:

2.2 Castle Farm

The Castle Farm Recreation Centre is located on a wide and expansive piece of land in Kenilworth and currently offers a sports hall, petanque terrain, gym, and grass pitches. The Centre is extremely popular with local users, walkers and dog walkers. Initial consideration was given to the sites' constraints and opportunities, which were identified as being:

Constraints

- *Located near to the Kenilworth Castle Fishponds, which are part of the wider heritage site*
- *A number of important wildlife habitats exist in the wider site*
- *The first floor of the Recreation Centre is occupied by the Kenilworth Scout and Guide Centre*
- *Vehicular access and parking is restricted and sensitive*
- *Residents live relatively close to the site*
- *The current building is not suitable for refurbishment*

Opportunities

- *Option to construct a new building gives the opportunity for a completely new start*
- *The Scouts and Guides can be accommodated in their own new facility*
- *Parking and vehicle movements can be designed appropriately*
- *Kenilworth needs additional sports hall, gym and exercise studio space*

One of the main opportunities identified at Castle Farm was the ability to start again. The site offers a wonderful chance to build a modern facility that is fit for purpose and ready for the future. The Scouts and Guides that currently use the Centre could be more independent. A new gym, studios and sports hall would provide the town with a top quality facility of which it can be justly proud, whilst being flexible and future proof.

Once the team had identified the opportunities and constraints on site the options on the following page were developed:

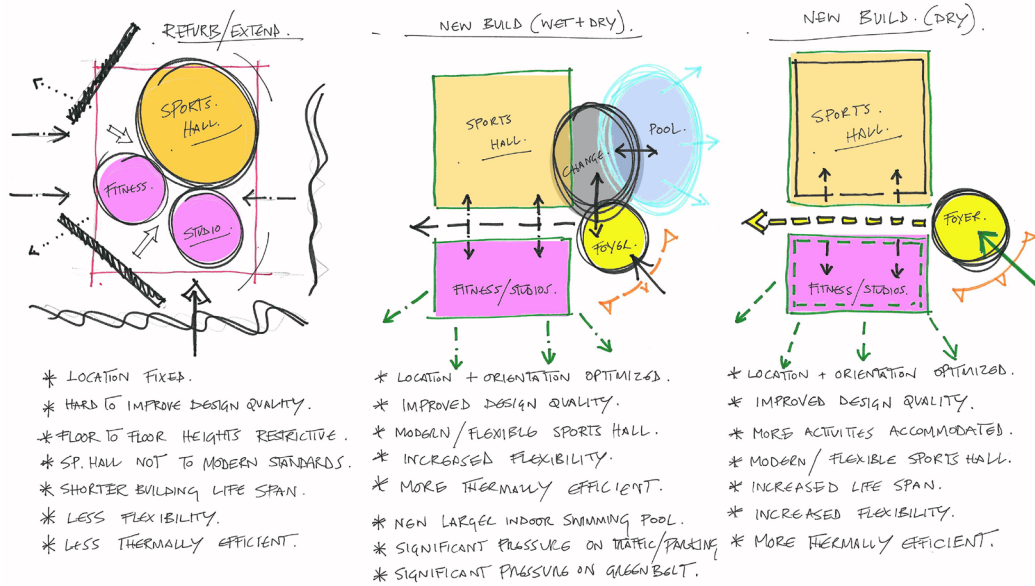


Image: Phase 1: Design Development Castle Farm

The above development options were considered by the team and WDC for Castle Farm. These options included both refurbishment schemes as well as proposals for partial or complete new builds.

Following the completion of the initial design options, a scoring matrix was developed to help assess each of the options, this was based on the set criteria as previously agreed at RIBA1. Following a review of the scores by the project team, the options with the lowest scores were then rejected.

2.2.1 Main Option

After the completion of the matrix analysis it was clear that given the constraints of the original building, there would be one principal proposal for this site. This is to demolish the current Centre and replace it with a brand new “dry side” facility. (A “dry side” facility is a Sports Centre which doesn’t include a swimming pool.)

The facilities included in this option are;

1. a sports hall large enough for 6 badminton courts,
2. a fitness suite (gym) with approximately 80

‘stations’,

3. One/ two fitness studios for group exercise classes/sessions.

This option would increase the size of the current sports hall from 4 to 6 badminton courts and so meets the requirement for additional courts, as identified by the Sport England Facility Planning Model and the District’s revised Indoor Sports Strategy (2018).

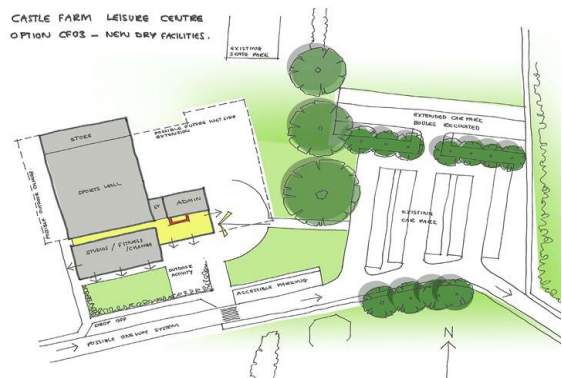


Image: Phase 1: Main Option

A further consideration for this site is the accommodation for the Scouts and Guides groups who use the first floor space in the Centre at present. The potential demolition of the current Centre and the groups’ need for a larger facility would mean that the groups will need to move.

The Council and the Scouts and Guides groups will continue to work together to identify whether this accommodation could be provided on the Castle Farm site or whether an alternative location can be found in Kenilworth. If they stay on the site, the current proposal would be to provide a separate building so that the groups and the Leisure Centre could function independently.

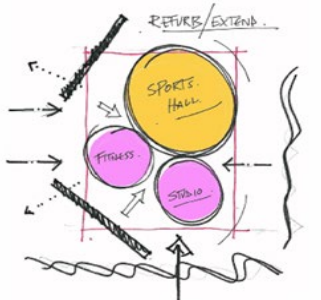
As part of the design process the team noted that Kenilworth Wardens Sports Club have aspirations to relocate their sports facilities to a site next to Castle Farm Recreation Centre. However at the time of both design and consultation their proposals for a move were not yet developed sufficiently to be referenced within either process. The Council have further noted to the community that they have been and will continue to work closely with the Wardens on the connection between the two projects and will ensure that the two projects can work together well if required. This was reaffirmed to all consultees throughout the consultation events, when concerns were raised about the Warden's project.

2.3 Abbey Fields

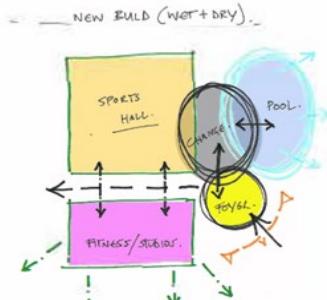
Abbey Fields Swimming Pool is extremely popular with local users and as with Castle Farm initial consideration was given to the site's constraints and opportunities, these were identified as being:

Constraints

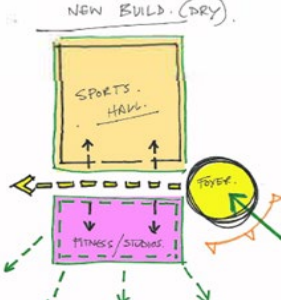
- *Current on-site car parking is distant from the pool and this impacts on accessibility*



- * LOCATION FIXED.
- * HARD TO IMPROVE DESIGN QUALITY.
- * FLOOR TO FLOOR HEIGHTS RESTRICTIVE.
- * SP. HALL NOT TO MODERN STANDARDS.
- * SHORTER BUILDING LIFE SPAN.
- * LESS FLEXIBILITY.
- * LESS THERMALLY EFFICIENT.



- * LOCATION + ORIENTATION OPTIMIZED.
- * IMPROVED DESIGN QUALITY.
- * MODERN/FLEXIBLE SPORTS HALL.
- * INCREASED FLEXIBILITY.
- * MORE THERMALLY EFFICIENT.
- * NEW LARGE INDOOR SWIMMING POOL.
- * SIGNIFICANT PRESSURE ON EXISTING/PARKING
- * SIGNIFICANT PRESSURE ON EXISTING/PARKING



- * LOCATION + ORIENTATION OPTIMIZED.
- * IMPROVED DESIGN QUALITY.
- * MORE ACTIVITIES ACCOMMODATED.
- * MODERN/FLEXIBLE SPORTS HALL.
- * INCREASED LIFE SPAN.
- * INCREASED FLEXIBILITY.
- * MORE THERMALLY EFFICIENT.

- *Car parking is difficult to Increase or move closer to the pool*
- *Sensitive site in planning terms as It is located on a Scheduled Ancient Monument*
- *All development will require additional permission from the Inspector of Ancient Monuments*
- *Significant habitat and ecology value in the surrounding park*

Opportunities

Located in a superb setting within the Abbey Fields the brook and lake border the site on two sides. The new design should relate more to these surroundings.

- *The venue is well-used and known to the majority of Kenilworth residents*
- *The facilities need to be brought up to modern standards*
- *The natural and historic nature of the setting requires a modern but sympathetic building*

It was noted as part of the design process that refurbishing this facility offers the opportunity to make the most of this idyllic setting whilst also providing top-class, modern facilities that reflect the high quality of the town of Kenilworth.

In line with the work undertaken on Castle Farm and once the team identified the opportunities and constraints on site, the following options were developed.

The development options discussed on the previous pages were considered by the Project Team for Abbey Fields following the same process as Castle Farm. These options included both refurbishment schemes as well as proposals for partial or complete new builds.

The main difference between Abbey Fields and Castle Farm with regards to the consultation was that there were two main options identified for the site, both of which would retain the existing indoor 25m pool.

2.3.1 Option 1

This proposal is to refurbish and remodel the existing facilities, and to provide a second indoor pool.

- The facilities included within this option are as follows;
- An additional new indoor teaching pool to replace the current outdoor pool and paddling pool.
- Improved changing facilities
- Improved café for pool and park customers
- Modernisation and visual improvements to the building
- Improved views of the lake from the Centre

The additional indoor pool would provide more flexible water space, including teaching swimming to children and adults, as well as classes and groups such as aqua fit, lifesaving, and providing accessible water for disabled swimming, all year round. This would free up space in the 25m indoor pool for recreational swimming and other water activities, raise the number of people who can learn to swim and increase revenue generated at the site. It would provide formal water space equivalent to more than 1.8 lanes of a 25 metre pool which meets the shortfall identified in the Indoor Sports Strategy (2018).



Image: Phase 1: Option 1

2.3.2 Option 2

This proposal is to refurbish and remodel the existing facilities. It retains the current, existing outdoor pool and paddling pool.

The facilities included within this option are as follows;

- Repair of outdoor pool tank
- Improved changing facilities
- Improved café for pool and park customers
- Modernisation and visual improvements of the building
- Improvements to the outdoor pool and seating area.

Retaining the outdoor pools would allow customers to continue to swim outside during the summer months.

With options 1 and 2 the proposal is to remodel and refurbish existing parts of the building to improve the customer experience, increase usable space, maximise income, and ensure that the building is up to modern standards and ready for another 30 years of use.

There is not enough space to retain the existing outdoor pool and paddling pool and provide a new indoor pool as well. Whilst the outdoor pools would continue to provide a venue for recreational swimming, unfortunately they do not count towards the required additional water space as identified in the Sport England Facilities Planning Model and therefore additional demand would need to be met at other sites and through a different approach to programming of facilities.

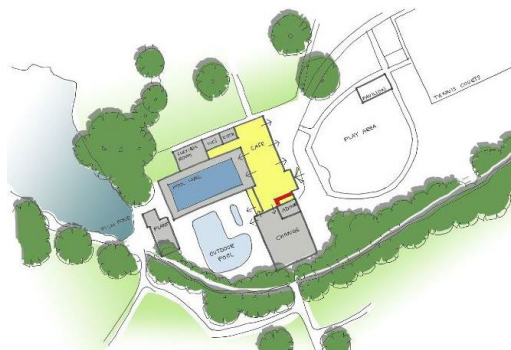


Image: Phase 1: Option 2

In addition to the options described above and as part of the consultation the Council is also seeking to understand the importance of improving the tennis courts and former bowling pavilion at Abbey Fields.

3.1 Consultation & Objectives

Following the appointment of the Design Team in July 2018 and the completion of RIBA Stage 1 works, a Consultation and Engagement Strategy was prepared and presented to the WDC as part of the September Executive Report. The engagement was organised into a single and concurrent work stream: which would focus on engaging as many local groups, residents, users and interested parties as possible.

The Consultation and Engagement Strategy for the Kenilworth Leisure Centre proposals was guided by a set of Key Objectives, which were as follows:

- Identify and engage with a wide range of local people, key individuals and organisations to obtain their views on the opportunities to enhance sport and leisure opportunities within two Centres.
- Confirm those key constraints and opportunities that the development proposals would need to address
- Encourage dialogue between a wide range of stakeholder bodies and local residents
- Facilitate dialogue between the Project Team, the local community and key stakeholders
- Facilitate an informed contribution by participants through the clear presentation of opportunities and constraints

Additionally the engagements also sought to balance the needs and requirements of the local

community whilst making stakeholders aware that any eventual decision would also need to incorporate affordability and technical considerations. Ultimately, the views established and feedback collated through community engagement will then help WDC to determine the best options to be taken forward for further development.

A further phase of engagement will be undertaken prior to the end of RIBA Stage 3 and prior to any submission for planning permission. Stage 3 Engagement will provide further opportunity for stakeholders to comment on the detailed design of the preferred scheme for each site.

4.0 Previous Local Engagement Activities

4.1 Kenilworth Town Council survey

In 2013 Kenilworth Town Council conducted a survey regarding the development plans in the existing Local Plan, as the first step in its development of a Neighbourhood Plan.

One of the questions with the strongest disagreement from respondents was question 13. The statement read - The outdoor pool is only used for short periods in the summer. A sports hall should be built in its place, contained within the current footprint, and replacing that in Castle Farm.

It should be noted that the response to this question is not relevant to the current exercise for a number of reasons. Firstly, the statement suggested that the replacement of the outdoor pool would be a sports hall, which is not suggested at this time. Secondly, it suggested that Castle Farm Recreation Centre should be shut, which is not proposed now. There was no indication of a possible replacement for the outdoor pool which would increase the opportunities for swimming, as is proposed in this case. The reference to 'short periods in the summer' was considered pejorative by many respondents, which may have skewed the result.

4.2 Save Our Outdoor Pool and Restore Kenilworth Lido petition

In 2016, the informal group known then as 'Save Our Outdoor Pool' began a petition to ensure the future of the outdoor fun pool at Abbey Fields was protected. This petition is no longer available. It is believed that it has been subsumed within a more recent petition by the same group, who are now known as 'Restore Kenilworth Lido'.

This latter petition currently has 3,544 electronic signatures. However, the wording of this petition is also not relevant to the current situation as the text of the petition reads "Kenilworth has the only public outdoor pool within a 30 mile radius, including Coventry and Warwickshire, yet the council are considering replacing it with a gym, run along commercial lines, in competition with the 71 other gyms within a 20 mile radius." There are no plans to replace the outdoor pool with a gym, and so the

basis of the petition is flawed for this reason.

4.3 Coventry Evening Telegraph survey

The Coventry Evening Telegraph is currently running a survey in order to gain the views of their readers as to whether they prefer the additional indoor pool or the retention of the outdoor pool. As this consultation is ongoing, it has not been considered further within this report. However WDC acknowledge that it is taking place.

5.1 Public Consultation and Engagement Methodology (2018)

5.1.1 Stakeholder Identification

Prior to establishing a full Engagement Strategy WDC and Mace worked together to identify as many interested parties and local stakeholders as possible.

Stakeholders were separated into the following categories:

- Local community & residents
- Education
- Local Societies & Groups
- National Governing Bodies
- Statutory Authorities
- Local Sports Clubs
- Local Swimming Clubs
- Other interested parties
- WDC internal stakeholders

Each Stakeholder identified was invited to one of the drop in sessions and/ or separate engagement sessions. Further details regarding notification and sessions held can be found in the advance notification and engagement sections of this document.

5.1.2 Consultation Programme

In order to meet the consultation objectives of the District Council, a series of public engagement events and static exhibitions of proposals was undertaken over the course of three weeks between 22nd October and 10th November 2018. The dates, times and venues are presented below:

Week 1:

Session 1: Monday 22nd October 2018. 06:30 – 09:00, Abbey Fields Swimming Pool.

Session 2: Wednesday 24th October 2018. 16:00 – 20:00, Abbey Fields Swimming Pool.

Session 3: Thursday 25th October 2018. 18:30 – 20:00, Meadow Community Sports Centre.

Session 4: Friday 26th October 2018. 11:30 – 13:30, Castle Farm Recreation Centre.

Week 2:

Session 5: Monday 29th October 2018. 07:30 – 10:30, Castle Farm Recreation Centre.

Session 6: Wednesday 31st October 2018. 18:00 – 20:00, Castle Farm Recreation Centre.

Session 7: Thursday 1st November 2018, 11:00 – 13:00, Abbey Fields Swimming Pool.

Week 3:

Session 8: Wednesday 7th November 2018, 18:00 – 20:00, Jubilee House, Kenilworth.

Session 9: Saturday 10th November 2018, 13:00 – 16:00, Abbey Fields Swimming Pool.

5.2 Advanced Notification

5.2.1 Letters & Letter Drop

In order to ensure that a wide range of local residents were involved in the Phase 1 engagement process, circa 2800 letters were distributed to local residents in the closest proximity to both of the centres.

In addition, letters were also sent to the following Kenilworth Groups notifying them of the consultation event and inviting them to attend: one of the engagement sessions

- Friends of Abbey Fields
- Kenilworth Archeology Society
- Kenilworth Civic Society
- Kenilworth History and Archeology Society
- Kenilworth Runners
- Kenilworth Scouts and Guides
- Kenilworth Senior Citizens Club
- Kenilworth Town Council
- Kenilworth Wardens
- Khalsa Hockey Club
- Nomads Club de Petanque
- St Nicholas Church
- Other clubs using existing facilities

Letters and feedback forms were also sent to the following National Governing Bodies of Sport inviting them to provide individual feedback:

- Sport England
- Swim England
- Rugby Football Union
- Football Association
- Hockey England
- England Cricket Board (ECB)
- Lawn Tennis Association (LTA)

Finally, letters were also sent to current clubs using the existing facilities inviting them to respond to the consultation as a club rather than an individual.

5.2.2 Press Release

To promote the consultation and engagement to the wider Kenilworth local community WDC released a press release. This was released to the following organisations on the 12th October, well in advance of the first event:

- Free Radio
- Leamington Courier/Kenilworth Weekly News
- Touch Radio
- Coventry Telegraph
- Stratford Herald
- Warwick University (The Boar)
- BBC Coventry and Warwickshire

The consultation also gained coverage in the Kenilworth Weekly News, Courier and Leamington Observer.

The press release focused on all the key details relating to the events and reference links to the exhibition boards, questionnaires and consultation programme and closing date for comments, which could all be found on the Councils' website,

In addition to the key details surrounding the event the PR also featured the following statement from Warwick District Council's Portfolio Holder for Culture, Councillor Michael Coker who commented.

"In line with the huge improvements we have made to the leisure facilities in Leamington and Warwick, we want to offer the same high standards in Kenilworth. We would like as many people as possible to take this opportunity to give their feedback on the options we are proposing."

The PR noted that data gathered at the drop in sessions and through the Council's website will be used to inform a report that will go to the Warwick District Council Executive early in the New Year.

5.2.3 Leaflets & Posters

A leaflet/Poster was produced and displayed at the following locations and events:

- Leisure Centres – Abbey Fields, Castle Farm and Meadow
- Kenilworth Tennis Club
- Wardens Cricket and Football Club
- Kenilworth Sports and Social Club - Montague House,
- Kenilworth Cricket Club
- Senior Citizens Club – Abbey End

The leaflet was also published on the Council's website.



Image: Phase 1: Advanced Notification Leaflet

The leaflet identified three main ways to engage in the consultation process

1. An opportunity to review the exhibition boards and engage with a member of the project team

at one of the various venues and times listed on the leaflet.

2. Leave feedback by filling in either the online questionnaire (using survey monkey platform) which could be accessed on the Council's website or fill in a questionnaire at one of the drop in sessions.
3. In addition to the above, if anyone wished to make separate comments outside the remit of the questionnaire, or wished to supplement the questionnaire response at a later date they could send it to the Leisure Team using the leisurekenilworth@warwickdc.gov.uk email address.

Internal stakeholders were targeted through a WDC internal communications strategy which included:

- Notice to all WDC staff on the Intranet.
- Notice included within the weekly briefing note for Members.
- Leaflet and posters produced as above and put up around the District Council offices.
- Managers' Forum briefing.

The engagement was also picked up in the WDC Green Spaces News Letter that keeps WDC members and the public up-to-date with news about parks, play spaces, nature reserves woodlands and other green spaces.



Item 7 / Appendix A / Page 12

Image: Phase 1: Green Space Leaflet

5.2.4 Social Media

Social Media was used to promote the consultation but has not been used as a platform for consultees to respond to the engagement events. WDC official social media platforms were used to publicise the events and this included a schedule of posts across both Facebook & Twitter.

In total, there were 3 reminder tweets issued during the consultation. In total, these posts gained 3328 impressions, with an impression being counted every time a tweet is seen. i.e. 1 person could see it 5 times and this would count for 5.

On Facebook, the reminders were posted a total of six times and these reached 3076 people. Unlike twitter, a person can only be counted one time, suggesting more people were reached from Facebook compared to Twitter.

An example of the Facebook post is as follows:



5.3 Public Engagements Events / Sessions

Members of the Project Team were in attendance during the various public engagement sessions. In the vast majority of cases, members of the following organisations were present to assist in promoting discussion, answering questions and providing clarification where required.

- **Warwick District Council (Project Team and Councillors)**
- **Mace (Project Managers)**
- **DB3 (Project Architects & Design Lead)**

Those attending the events were given an opportunity to take away a hard copy questionnaire for completion at a time of their choosing which could then be given back by one of the following methods:

- Hand back in at one of the other events
- Leave at one of the event locations (Leisure Centres) for collection by WDC or:
- Send directly back to WDC by post.

The questionnaire included a preamble to the development proposal and mirrored the survey monkey online survey available through the Council's website.

At each event, large presentation boards explained the following:

- Board 1 - Overall Vision and Site/Background Information used to inform the design process.
- Board 2 – Brief design development review explaining many of the options explored.
- Board 3 – Proposals presented for consultation and key next steps.

KENILWORTH LEISURE FACILITIES

Image: Phase 1: Consultation Board 3

Each event had one or two tables to display the boards which allowed the team to speak with individuals and or groups in attendance. This provided the opportunity to discuss the proposals (while standing) with interested parties.

During the 9 staffed events, a number of one to one discussions were held with individual and interested parties in quiet area aside from main events as and when required.

All hard copies of the completed questionnaire received at the event, or subsequently received by WDC and Everyone Active through the post or handed in, were entered into the Smart Survey platform by the Project Team to enable completed surveys to be analysed.

5.4 Other Engagement Activities

A series of stakeholder meetings were held with the following groups:

- Kenilworth Town Council
- Kenilworth District Councillors
- Kenilworth Scouts and Guides
- Café Owner at Abbey Fields
- RKL Group
- Everyone Active Staff
- WDC: Senior Management Group

6.1 Kenilworth Demographic

This section does not form part of the survey results but has been included by Mace to provide some further background to the demographic within the local area of Kenilworth. The information has been taken from a survey conducted by Warwickshire Public Health (2015) and is provided as background demographic information only.

Kenilworth is characterised predominantly by a middle aged population with an unusually large number of young adults. From a population of 25,308, just over 25% are between the ages of 40 and 60.

There are a large number of young adults, which is due to part of the University of Warwick being situated adjacent to Kenilworth. The population density of Kenilworth is 8.6 persons per hectare. The proportion of residents in this locality that are not of a 'White UK' ethnicity is slightly higher, at 12%, than the Warwickshire average. The proportion of the population who come from a Black & Minority ethnic group is in line with the county figure, but the proportion of those who belong to an ethnicity which is classed as being 'Other White not UK' is slightly higher than the Warwickshire average, which could be due to the large number of foreign students at the University of Warwick.

The proportion of households in which all of the residents speak English as their main language is higher, at 96.1%, than the county level and national figures.

The local area is mainly comprised of a fairly even number of detached and semi-detached houses, making up just over two thirds of all households. 16.2% of the households are terraced homes and 13.4% of the households are in purpose built blocks of flats. Just under 80% of the occupied households are either owned outright or mortgaged and 11.6%

of the homes are privately rented. Many of these privately rented households may be rented out to students from the University of Warwick. There are also a large number of residents (1,662 residents) living in communal establishments which are not medical & care establishments. These are likely to be residents living in University halls of residence.

The proportion of the population that is unemployed and the long-term unemployment rate are both lower than the Warwickshire and national figures.

The proportion of individuals who describe their general health as being bad or very bad is lower than the County and National averages.

The top five things highlighted as the factors which make an area a good place to live by residents of the locality, were also highlighted as those which need improving most by the residents. The biggest problem in the area was identified as being residential parking and around 66% of the local population were worried about having their home broken into.

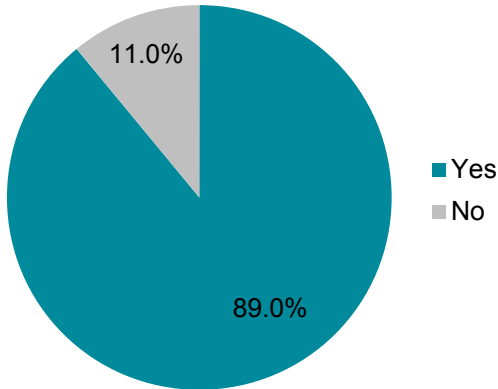
Overall, 95.6% of the residents of Kenilworth are satisfied with the local area as a place to live.

Mace note that the survey results discussed above were undertaken in 2015, however the contents do provide relevant information as to the larger demographic and characteristics of the town that will help to put the following public survey results into some context.

7.1 (About You) Questions

This Section summarises the background questions that accompanied the completed respondent questionnaire responses. Background questions were used to better understand certain characteristic and demographics of the audience that were being engaged throughout the events. Additionally, these questions have allowed the team to better understand where each respondent fits in the general population.

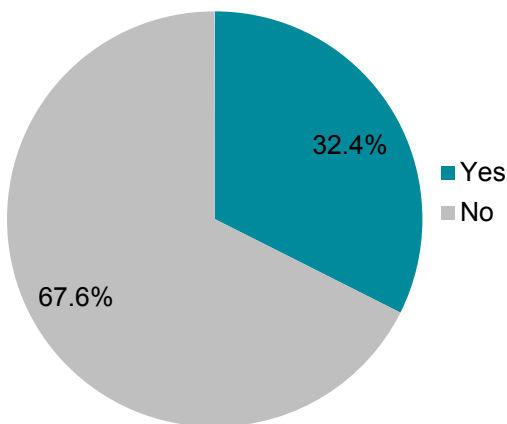
Have you read any of the background notes, accompanying this survey or on our website?



The background information produced by the project team outlined the two sites, Abbey Fields and Castle Farm, as well as each of the options that were being consulted on.

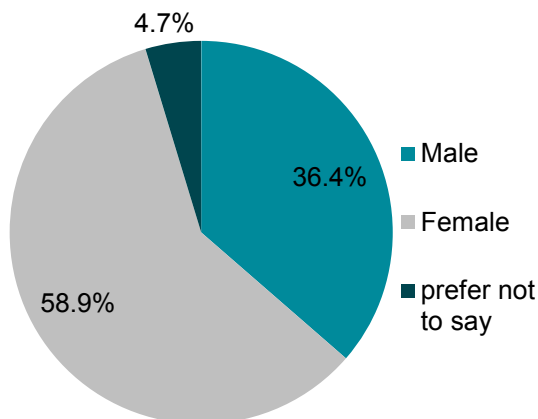
Whilst 11% of people did not read the information available before completing the survey, it should also be considered that there were 3-6 members of the team on hand at each of the consultation event to talk members of the public through the proposals to enhance peoples' understanding before completing the survey.

Have you attended one of our drop-in sessions / consultation meetings?



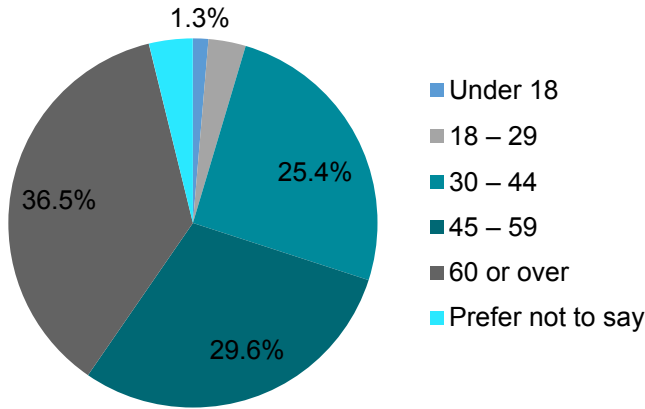
Whilst there was background information available within the surveys, the fact that 67.6% of people did not attend the drop in or consultation sessions suggests that there was a missed opportunity to learn more about the proposed schemes and discuss the requirements with the professional team. This suggests that only 138 people attended an event and then went on to fill out a questionnaire. From data collected at the events it is estimated that a total of approximately 300 people attended an event across the 9 sessions.

What is your gender identity?



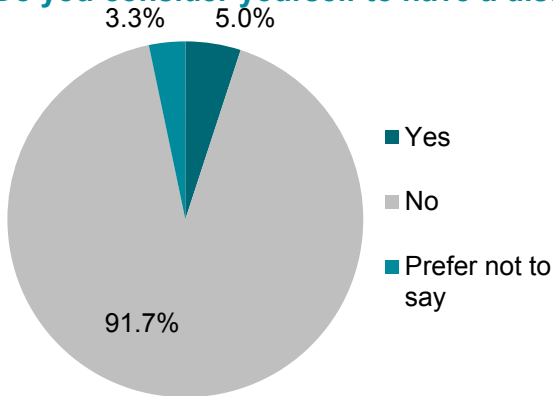
The split between genders that provided a response to the survey is not reflective of the estimated census in 2017, which is based on data from the national census completed in 2011. The 2017 estimate estimated a 51% female proportion to 49% male proportion.

What age category are you in?



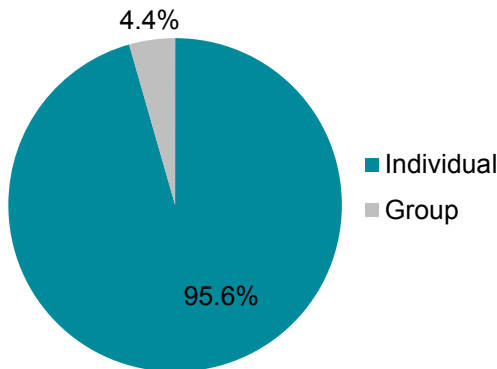
The largest group of respondents was those that noted they are 60 or over, who were responsible for 36.5% of all completed surveys. In addition, there was an even split between 30-44 and 45-59 year olds.

Do you consider yourself to have a disability?



91.7% of all respondents noted that they do not have a disability with, 5.0% consider themselves to have a disability with 3.3% preferring not to say.

Did you complete this survey as an individual or group?

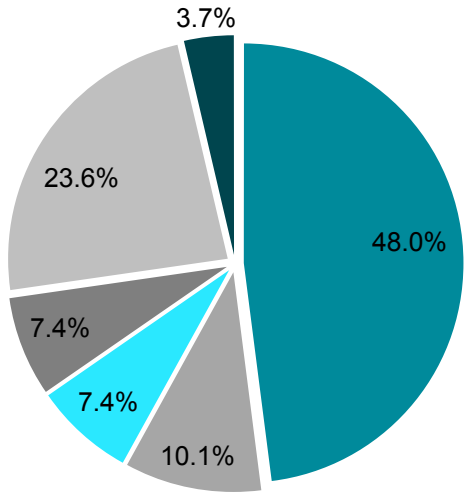


95.6% of respondents completed the survey on behalf of themselves. Any responses that were completed on behalf of a group have been noted and are expanded upon later in this section.

What is your ethnicity?



How often do you currently use the existing facilities at Castle Farm?

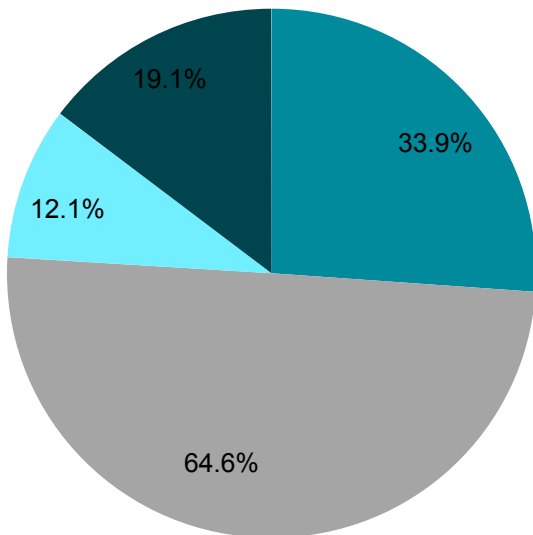


- Never
- Monthly
- Annually
- Weekly
- Quarterly
- Daily

Of the people responding to the survey only 48% of the people never use the facilities, whilst only 34.5% of respondents use the facilities monthly or on a more regular basis. One of the key reasons that people that do not use the facilities are interested in this scheme could be due to the potential increase of traffic, which is a key area of concern for local residents.

In addition to this, the facility mix of the leisure centre on both options was the same, meaning that the key item for discussion was the re-location of the local scout and guide groups, which impacts on the wider community and not just regular leisure centre users.

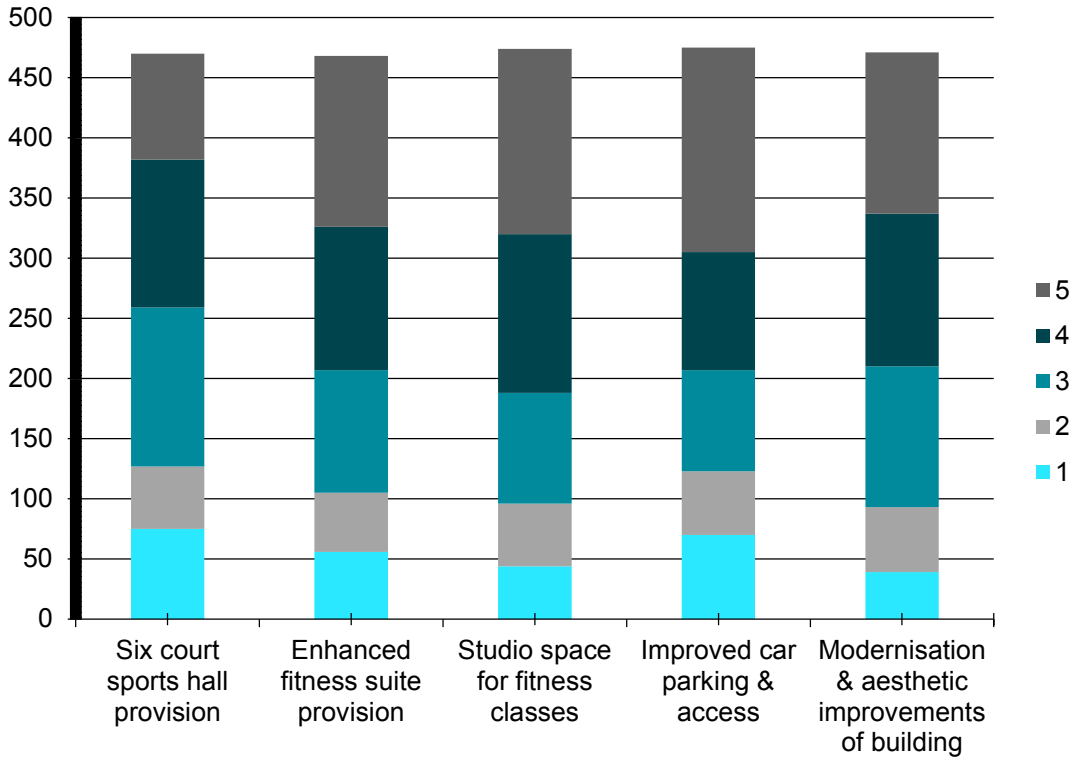
Which of the current facilities do you use (please select as many as necessary)?



- Gym
- Meeting Room
- Sports Hall
- Football pitches

Within the proposed design, the facility includes for an increased sports hall, fitness suite and studio space. The responses provided above are inline with the proposed design, showing that the majority of people that use the facility currently use the sports hall and the gym. By enhancing these facilities, the leisure centre will be able to provide a better facility for their users, in line with the requirements of the local people.

How important are the proposed enhancements to you at Castle Farm Recreation Centre?

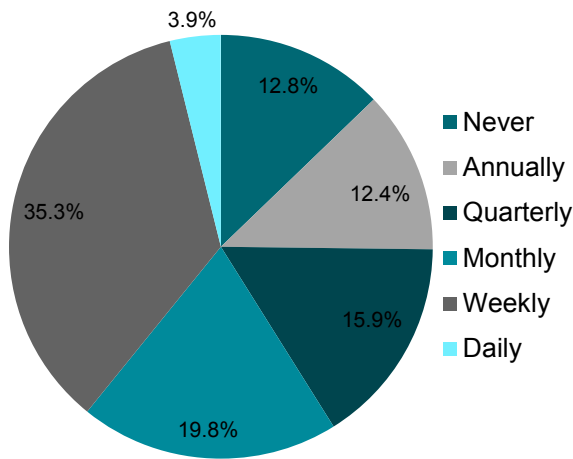


Out of all of the enhancements proposed at the Castle Farm Recreation Centre, both the improved car parking strategy and increased studio spaces were the most important items to consider when progressing the design.

Over 300 respondents noted that all of the proposed enhancements were somewhat important to them and this is reflective of the condition of the current asset, which is widely known to be at the end of its life cycle and not fit-for-purpose in today’s health and fitness market, which benefits from more flexible spaces for fitness suites and classes.

The enhancement of the sports hall from a 4 court to a 6 court sports hall was not considered as important to the respondents, when it was compared to all of the other proposals. Whilst sports halls are used by clubs and squads who are known to book regular slots for training and events, individuals are less likely to use the space, which is reflective of the high number of people that have responded to the survey as an individual opposed to on behalf of the group. The direct response from local clubs can be found in section 10.

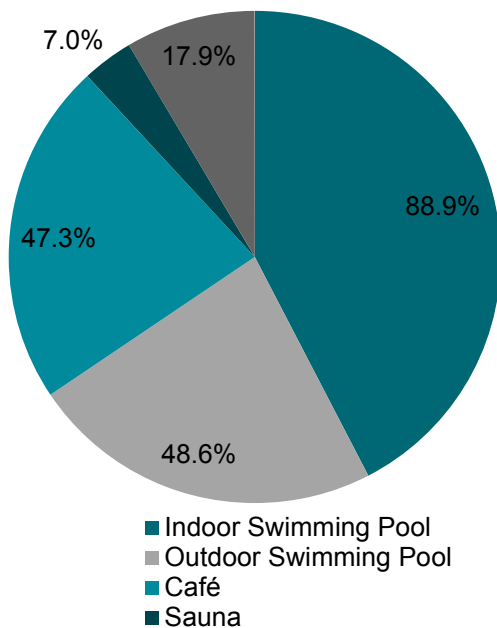
How often do you currently use the existing facilities at Abbey Fields Swimming Pool?



12% of respondents have never used the facilities at Abbey Fields, just 55% of people using the facilities on a monthly basis.

In addition to this, a high number of people use this facility weekly. This suggests that a large proportion of the respondents are regular swimmers or part of a club that benefits from the indoor swimming pool. In addition, there is also an even split with regards to the other frequencies.

Which of the current facilities at the existing Abbey Fields Swimming Pool do you use?

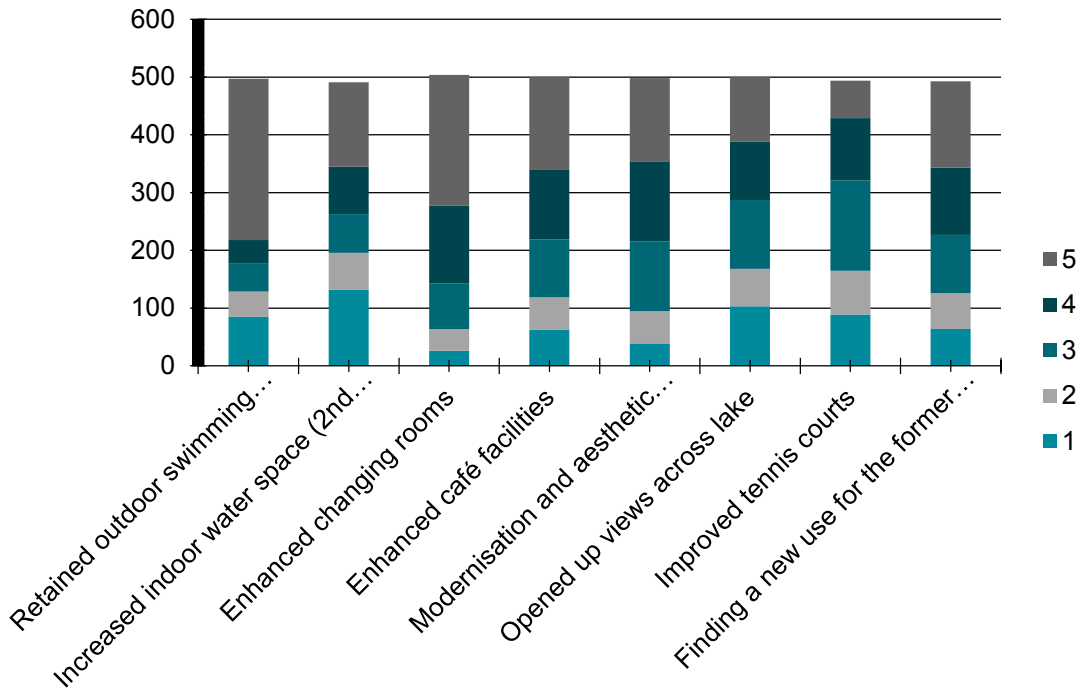


It should be noted that the percentages in this question do not equal 100% due to respondents being able to answer by selecting anything from 0-5 answers. However, the proportion of answers shown is reflective when compared against the total number.

With this in mind, the chart shows that nearly double the number of respondents use the indoor swimming pool, either as well as or instead of using the outdoor pool. In addition, there are a large number of respondents that make use of the café as well as the play/ play facilities available adjacent to the leisure centre. In addition to the raw data provided, one of the key themes that people noted at the consultation events is the current layout of the café and the fact it can be reached either internally or externally is a good feature and one that they would like to keep. Both of the proposed designs allow for an enhanced café provision and the layout and detailed design of this feature will be progressed later in the process.

The least used facility at Abbey Fields is the sauna, with only 7.0% of all respondents noting that they have ever used it.

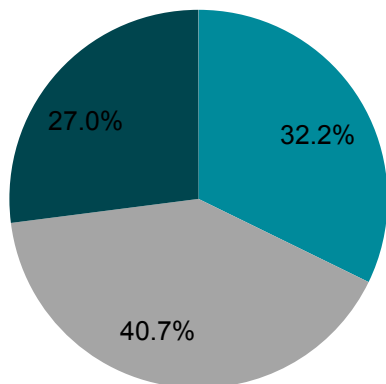
Thinking about the proposed two options for this site, please rate each of the following elements, where 1 is not important at all and 5 is extremely important.



This question shows that the retention of the outdoor pool is an extremely important issue to over 250 people. When presented with the option between the retention of the indoor vs outdoor pool, this is not reflected in later questions.

One of the items to note with this question is that it was possible for a respondent to mark all elements as extremely important, this could be one reason for the discrepancy between the two questions on this page. In addition to the retention of the outdoor pool, enhanced changing provision was the second more important issue for respondents. This is something that the Project Team will aim to resolve, with whatever option is progressed to the next stage of the design.

On balance, which of the two options being presented for Abbey Fields do you prefer?



■ Option 1 ■ Option 2 ■ No preference

A small majority of respondents were in favour of the proposed option 2, which included the retention of the “kidney shaped” outdoor swimming pool. Whilst the majority favoured this option, it should be noted that there is a relatively even split between all of the options available within this question.

In addition to this question, it should also be noted that 125 people noted that they would enhance the current facilities with a new 25-metre, outdoor lido, when questioned later within the report. This represents 25% of all respondents to the survey.

8.1 NGBs Introduction

NGBs are the National Governing Bodies of Sport. The support and feedback from NGBs at this stage in the design process will be critical in ensuring the right facility mix is progressed at the next stage.

8.1.1 Sport England

As a key stakeholder and national leader in terms of leisure provision and physical activity, Sport England were consulted on the Kenilworth proposals.

- ***“As you are aware, Sport England has a good working relationship with Warwick District Council. We supported the strategic planning and development of phase one of the Council’s leisure development programme and invested £2m (£1m each) in the Council’s Leisure Centre’s in Warwick and Leamington Spa through our Strategic Facilities Fund. This investment into refurbishing and providing additional facilities at Newbold Comyn and St Nicholas Park is already proving to be very popular with local residents.***
- ***Sport England supports the Council’s decision to progress phase two of the leisure development programme as this provides an opportunity to develop modern, fit for purpose facilities in Kenilworth which are sustainable and can better deliver the Council’s outcomes esp. improved health and wellbeing for residents.***
- ***While Sport England does not have any specific comments on the proposed options we have a number of headline observations based on our work with over 60 Local Authorities that have successfully invested in their facilities. The Council will be familiar with much of this learning given their investment in Newbold Comyn and St Nicholas Park and I hope they will help inform the Council’s decision making:***
 - ***Customer Focused***
 - ***Customer Experience***
 - ***Strategic Approach***
 - ***Flexible Offer***
 - ***Design and Technical Guidance***

- ***Active Environment***
- ***Sustainable Operations”.***

Whilst Sport England did not provide any specific comments on the proposal they are in full support of the Councils’ decision to progress the Kenilworth developments.

Notably they welcomed the consultation with residents and the local community at the early stages of the design process.

8.1.2 Swim England

Swim England were considered an essential NGB to engage with during the process, specifically with regards to proposals at Abbey Fields. Swim England provided the following comments via email response:

- ***Our view is that design option AF1, which introduces an indoor learner pool to the Abbey Fields Swimming Pool would be the best option as this type of pool provides the best return on investment of any water space and would enhance the swimming experience most profoundly in Kenilworth as identified in your strategy review. Upgrading the café area would also be beneficial considering the park location of the facility.***
- ***Obviously the success of the outdoor pool depends entirely on the weather and it may be that in the future summers may be warmer if global warming enthusiasts prove right? I appreciate that there is always an ardent lobby to build outdoor pools and these swimmers are consistent users; however the level of use does not necessarily provide a sustainable model.***

Clearly from the comments received Swim England understand the desire to keep the outdoor pool from a section of the local community. However, on the whole they are supportive of its removal and replacement with a new indoor pool as it will be both the most viable of the two options and also enhance the overall swim experience in Kenilworth.

8.1.3 Birmingham County Football Association

The Birmingham County Football Association (BCFA) did not leave any specify feedback or support for the schemes but did raise the following queries:

- ***What markings will be provided in the sports hall? Is there an opportunity for Futsal?***
- ***Will only one point of entry/exit remain? Will this development increase foot fall on the site and in turn disrupt flow in and out?***
- ***What impact will this have on future developments at the site linked to the potential relocation of Kenilworth Wardens?***
- ***Potential outdoor changing, will these service existing football pitches? Where will they be located?***
- ***How many car parking spaces are being provided?***

WDC will respond to these queries at the next stage of the design.

8.1.4 English Cricket Board (ECB)

The ECB did not provide any substantial feedback on the schemes but did respond with the following statement:

- ***“Warwickshire Cricket Board is supportive of Kenilworth Wardens CC’s proposal to relocate to Castle Farm and has been fully consulted on the plans so far”.***

8.1.5 England Hockey

England Hockey declined to provide any feed back on the proposals and issued the following statement via email:

- ***“As the project will not impact hockey at all we have no comments to make”***

8.1.6 Rugby Football Union

To date the RFU have not returned any feedback with regard to the proposed works in Kenilworth.

8.1.7 Summary

In summary most of the NGBs were supportive of the proposed works to upgrade the two facilities. Whilst both England Hockey and the BCFA did not provide any specific support they did not provide any negative feedback on the proposals.

Sport England did not provide any specific comments but were extremely supportive of the LDP phase 2 proposals. Swim England were specific in their response and were in favour of the new indoor swimming pool at Abbey Fields.

9.1 User Group Introduction

This section summarises the feedback provided by incumbent clubs that use the existing facilities. The information that follows summarises either the response made by questionnaire on behalf of a group and or via direct response to a Council or team member via email.

9.2 Petanque

A series of emails were exchanged between the project team and representatives of the Nomads and U3A groups that use the current and existing provisions.

As part of this ongoing dialogue a series of questions were asked by WDC of the clubs regarding their needs and requirements when redeveloping the facility.

Many members of the local clubs also attended the engagement sessions where they were informed about the proposals and reassured that the Council recognises the importance of this facility to the sport, and that the Council would do what they could to preserve and if possible improve the facilities available to them at Castle Farm.

The clubs then provided feedback via the online survey which has been included within the overall statistics. However specific feed back was as follows:

9.2.1 Kenilworth U3A (Table Tennis and Petanque groups).

Kenilworth U3A's main comment of note was that they would like the creation of the new Petanque terrain before the conversion of the old terrain to a car park, allowing continuity of use for 90 users (120-150 footfalls per week).

In addition to this the proposed extension of the sports hall was of high importance.

9.2.2 Local U3A Groups

The local U3A's groups main comment included within their submission online was that they wanted to enhance the Petanque terrain but also wanted to keep it near the car park as it is currently used by

senior residents and the location makes the terrain easily accessible for them.

9.2.3 Summary

In summary the local Petanque clubs were supportive of the Council's proposals. The clubs did not respond on the specific options at Abbey Fields but were in favour of the Castle Farm redevelopment as long as it included a continued permanent area for Petanque.

Key issues of note moving forward were as follows:

- New Terrain
- New terrain installed prior to the conversion
- Continued to be situated next to parking
- Permanent area

9.3 Kenilworth Scouts & Guides

WDC have been in dialogue with the group for many months, as they currently lease the first floor of the existing Castle Farm facility.

After the most recent meeting the group raised the following;

- *One point I do wish to raise is the reference you made to the Preliminary Area schedule issued to you in January this year. This quite clearly states it is NIA not GIA or GEA, whereas you specifically referred to Gross areas, which was incorrect. In addition this area schedule reflects our current needs and does not include the expansion necessary for the additional young people all the new housing in Kenilworth will bring.*

In response to this the group were invited to consult internally on requirements and review the proposed schedule.

In addition to the above, the Scouts & Guides also submitted an online questionnaire. At Castle Farm they were supportive of the proposal and noted that the following was of importance when visiting a leisure centre:-

- Adequate and free parking
- Sufficient and modern equipment
- Clean and inviting

Support was also given in favour of the new indoor pool, with the following comment being provided:

- ***Although I do not use the indoor pool. Given the size of the indoor pool it can become very crowded. I feel that the provision of a second indoor pool will help to alleviate this and encourage more people to enjoy the facilities***

Whilst this responses has been provided in the first person it has been left on behalf of the group and supports the proposal to remove the outdoor pool and replace with new indoor water space.

9.4 Janet's Bowling Ladies & Canasta Club

A response was submitted on the online survey, on behalf of Janet's Bowling Ladies & Canasta Club.

Many of the questions were not responded to specifically with regard to Abbey Fields proposals. Additionally and with regards to Castle Farm no specific response was given relating to additional facilities and nothing was noted of high importance regarding the proposed enhancements. Taking the above into account it is therefore hard to analyse the online survey response.

However, in addition to the survey submission discussed above the respondent on behalf of Janet's Bowling Ladies noted that they had been organising a weekly session of short mat bowls at Castle Farm Leisure Centre for well over a quarter of century and has recently taken a block booking to teach canasta sessions.

In the main it was noted that the WI is closing but the club is determined to keep the club going. The clubs concern with the proposal at Castle Farm is the

continuity of their groups if the hall is demolished before a new building is built.

The hope from this direct response was noted as a want to draw the team's attention that there is a need, according to the club to keep continuity of location. There is a further hope from the club that the new building will not be on the same foot print as the existing building.

9.5 Aqua Fit Club

The Aqua Fit Club did not leave any specific feed back for proposals at Castle Farm, noting the Centre was never used by members.

The club, as would be expected, also noted that when visiting a leisure centre the availability of aqua classes was of high importance to them. It was also further suggested by the club that members regularly use the existing indoor pool and café.

No specific comments were left with regards to the proposals at Abbey Fields. However, it was noted by the club that increasing indoor water space was important as was the enhancement of the café.

The group preferred the new indoor pool option (AF01).

10.1 Kenilworth Runners

Kenilworth Runners were sent a letter inviting them to one of the 9 engagement sessions and to submit a response via the online survey tool.

Their response has been included in the overall survey results but some key feedback from the group has been provided below:

- ***At Castle Farm it was suggested by the group that a running trail around the perimeter, inside the fence, would be of benefit to the club.***

On the whole the group seemed to be supportive of the proposal at Castle Farm.

They also noted that retaining the outdoor pool was of importance for recreational use and that it would benefit from longer opening hours.

The questionnaire has been written in the first person but has been responded to on behalf of a group and is therefore taken as the response from Kenilworth Runners.

10.2 Kenilworth Tennis, Squash and Croquet Club

The Kenilworth Tennis, Squash and Croquet Club, responded directly to the invite to comment on the proposal. They collated the views of the General Committee (which is the principal governing body of the Club) and these have been set out below:

- ***KTSCC supports the suggestion of refurbishing the Abbey Fields tennis courts. We are keen to encourage newcomers to the sport, and would be happy to work with WDC to create pathways for those beginning to play on the public courts to continue with lessons or club membership as appropriate. Warwickshire LTA is currently providing part funding to develop three new level two coaches at KTSCC. As part of this coaching initiative, KTSCC has agreed to provide a***

certain amount of free coaching outreach to beginners at some point during 2019. KTSCC and WLTA believe that Abbey Fields is the ideal location for this coaching to take place. I understand that some discussions have already taken place between our head coach and others - an early view is that some refurbishment of the courts would likely be required for this initiative to go ahead.

- ***In terms of the proposal for Castle Farm we would support the proposal for the new facility and the large sports hall, but we note that the focus for indoor sport provision appears to be solely on 'sports hall space equivalent', therefore ignoring other indoor sports that are not based in sports halls. We remain keen to work with WDC to optimise the use of our indoor facilities (primarily six well-maintained squash/racquetball courts) in promoting sporting activities in Kenilworth. We have a thriving membership but the facilities remain under-utilised outside of peak times and we would be keen to explore how they might be used as part of a wider initiative with WDC.***
- ***We would also highlight croquet - as a sport it is frequently overlooked in such exercises, but in our view should be considered when attempting to create the most diverse possible range of sporting opportunities. Few other sports cater to as wide an age range.***

As can be seen by the comments, the club don't have any particular views on the swimming pool proposals, but realise that these are likely to be the team's immediate focus of attention – they did however note that they would welcome a follow up on other aspects in due course. The club would be happy to discuss these with in person at the next stage.

10.3 Swimming Clubs

Introduction

A stakeholder meeting was held with the swimming clubs on the 14th November 2018.

Present at the meeting were representatives from the following clubs:

- Kenilworth 30+ Swim Club
- Kenilworth Swimming Club & Kenilworth Masters
- Kenilworth Swimming Club
- Kenilworth Juniors Triathlon

The meeting was also attended by officers from WDC and Everyone Active. WDC took the clubs through the public consultation boards and explained the process undertaken to date and how the team had reached the options being presented.

After the explanation, discussions were held regarding a number of aspects relating to the options, with the clubs raising the following points:

Build Programme

- *Clubs queried what the programme of works would be and what impact these would have on users and facilities.*
- *It was noted by WDC that the programme could not be formed until more detail is available regarding the works, but the Council also noted that the closure of the pool for works would have an impact on the clubs.*

Village Changing Rooms

- *Questions were raised about how a village change would work if implemented.*
- *It was explained by EA that change to village changing at the centres in Warwick and Leamington has been working really well. It was also noted that at these centres there was a group changing room which could offer the “sociable “ changing option for adults when not in use by groups/schools.*

Café

- *Discussion were held with regards to how the café area relates to the pool hall and larger building. It was noted that KSC use this area as additional viewing space at times, and were keen to keep this area or better still include a new viewing space as part of the plan. Ideally this would be along the length of the pool.*

Existing Pool

- *A request was made by all clubs whether a additional lane could be fitted in to the existing tank .*
- *Requested that the team review the need for 4 ladders in the pool tank as it restricts outside lanes.*
- *All clubs were in agreement that retaining natural light into the pool hall should be a priority*
- *Request that the design should look at how the acoustics in the pool could be improved as part of a new design.*
- *Request that the redesign looks to provide an exit from the pool hall that goes direct into the park so that the pool becomes functional for triathlons/ aquathons*

Most notably, support was given by all groups for the new indoor training pool (AF01) as they could all see how this would benefit the greatest number of people and in particular members.

The Triathlon Club did note that they would welcome an additional 25m outdoor pool as presented by the RKL Group but also did not see how this can be financially viable and therefore also put their support behind option 1.

Survey Feedback

In addition to the above meeting and discussions with the clubs a number of them also responded online through the submission of a questionnaire. The below is a brief review of key matters arising from submissions.

10.3.1 Kenilworth Masters

The Kenilworth Masters did not leave any specific feed back with regards to the Castle Farm proposals but did note that the following was important to them

Item 7 / Appendix A / Page 29 when visiting a centre:

- Clean and ample changing facilities, time and space to swim properly

Two surveys were left on behalf of Kenilworth Masters and with regards to Abbey Fields the first survey did note that the club were in favour of replacing the outdoor pool with an additional indoor facility (AF01). No additional comments were raised.

A second survey was raised on behalf of the club that noted the following:

- ***I would actually prefer the outdoor pool to be kept and enhanced so it can actually used for swimming***

The wording of the response suggest that this was left by an individual. Given the previous meeting discussions and the other survey submission it is believed that this does not match the over all views of the club and that the Masters are in the majority in favour of the indoor proposal (AF01). However, the counter comments have been noted.

10.3.2 Kenilworth Swimming Club

Kenilworth Swimming Club did provide some useful feed back relating to the proposals at Castle Farm, noting that that other than the current facilities being offered the team could also think about including children's holiday activities.

The club were also in favour of the indoor option (AF01) at Abbey Fields noting the following:

- ***Although the outdoor pool is very nice it is not used for the majority of the year. When the weather is good enough to use it , it becomes very crowded.***

It was noted in the survey that having increased indoor water space was of high importance to the club.

10.3.3 Kenilworth Juniors Triathlon Club

The KJT club provided some valuable feedback with regards to proposals at Castle Farm, noting that the team could also look to include a cycle track and/or a trail run path.

The club also noted the following was of importance when they visited a centre:

- ***Cleanliness***
- ***Pool Availability***

With regards to the proposals at Abbey Fields the club were supportive of increased indoor water space, noting that this was of high importance.

More specifically the following was requested in any new facility:

- ***More water space for groups like our triathlon club to use for more young people to access sport***
- ***More lanes in the pool, poolside showers, more water space, dedicated storage area for clubs***

10.4 Wardens Cricket and Football Club

To date no response to the consultation has been submitted by Kenilworth Wardens.

10.5 Kenilworth Ruby Club

To date no response to the consultation has been submitted by Kenilworth Rugby Club.

10.6 Kenilworth Town Football Club

To date no response to the consultation has been submitted by Kenilworth Town Football Club

10.7 Khalsa Hockey Club

To date no response to the consultation has been submitted by Khalsa Hockey Club..

11.1 Kenilworth Civic Society (KCS)

The KCS provided feedback through the submission of an online questionnaire. This was submitted by an individual on behalf of the society.

The Society provided the following feedback with regards to the option being presented at Castle Farm:

- *The provision of a six court sports hall, enhanced fitness suite, increased studio space for fitness classes and improved parking were all of high importance.*

The society also responded noting that at Abbey Fields they preferred option (AFO1) and the additional indoor water space. The following comments were left in relation to indoor water space:

- *The increased water space is essential.*
- *Kenilworth Civic Society would prefer a six lane indoor pool, which could be partially opened up in Summer, six lanes are recommended by the Sport England assessment, the training pool does not improve use for competition or gala's.*

The Society were clearly in favour of increased water space but would like the team to rethink how this increased indoor space could be provided.

11.2 Friends of Abbey Fields

The FOAF provided feedback through the submission of an online questionnaire. Their response was as follows:

The Society did not leave any specific feedback in relation to proposals at Castle Farm but noted that clean and modern fit for purpose facilities were of importance when visiting a leisure centre.

At Abbey Fields the following comments were made:

- ***The least worst option is 2; what is clearly needed is a fit for purpose outdoor pool 25***

metres by 4 lanes in order to make the pool commercially viable and a facility which can be used by multi groups e.g. triathlon teams, long distance swimmers, school galas, outdoor lifeguarding skills, kayak skills and much more

- ***Simply improved swimming conditions and changing rooms without 40% broken lockers and one toilet closed for six months.***

In summary the group were in favour of retaining the outdoor pool.

11.2 St Nicholas Church

To date no response to the consultation has been submitted by St Nicholas Church.

11.3 Kenilworth History and Archaeology Society

To date no response to the consultation has been submitted Kenilworth History and Archaeology Society.

11.4 Kenilworth Archaeology Advisory Committee.

A member of the KAAC attended the drop-in session at Abbey Fields on the 1st of November, at which they discussed the future of the former bowling green and the matter of electricity supply to the swimming pool and other buildings in Abbey Fields with a member of the consultation team.

The group did not provide any specific feedback with regards to proposals at either Castle Farm or Abbey Fields proposals. Responses mainly focused on the issues raised above. A member of the group provided the following feedback:

- *The KAAC has always opposed proposals to demolish the Pavilion. We regard it a well designed building of its period (1920s) and an important part of the Fields' history as a public park. Therefore we would be delighted if a suitable new use were to be found for it, provided that alternative accommodation is found for the archaeological artefacts that are currently kept there. (They are mainly broken floor tiles from Kenilworth Abbey, stored in wooden boxes.)*
- *For several years the KAAC, in co-operation with Warwick District Council, has been involved in a project to upgrade the Tantara Gatehouse of Kenilworth Abbey, with a view to displaying various archaeological artefacts properly and allowing public access to the interior. Ideally we would like to install mains electricity to the building. Doing this would also provide an opportunity to increase the power supply to the Abbey Barn Museum. At present there is a low level supply taken from a spur off the cable to the swimming pool.*
- *It is not sufficient to provide heat, which means that the Museum has to be closed to the public during winter. Your proposals for the swimming pool sound as though they might require more power, and you talked about renewing the plant and equipment. You also mentioned new facilities for the Bowling Pavilion. We would be grateful if you would take into account the needs of the Abbey Barn Museum and the Tantara Gatehouse when the detailed plans for the swimming pool*

are finalised and implemented. It would be wonderful if a new cable to the Barn and the Gatehouse could be installed as part of the improvement to culture and leisure provision in Abbey Fields, but perhaps that is too much to expect.

The views of the KAAC have been noted by the Council and will be revived in future design stages.

12.1 Regular Swimmers

A survey was submitted on behalf of regular swimmers at Abbey Fields. Unfortunately they have not been identified as a group or club and it is difficult for the team to validate that this survey has been established on behalf of all regular swimmers at the facility. It is unknown as to how many users the survey covers.

The survey does not leave any specific feedback to proposals at Castle Farm and it is noted that the respondent suggested that Castle Farm is never used by any of the regular swimmers.

At Abbey Fields it has been noted within the survey that the following elements were of little importance to the group:

- ***Retained outdoor swimming provision***
- ***Increased indoor water space (2nd pool)***
- ***Enhanced changing rooms***
- ***Enhanced café facilities***
- ***Modernisation and aesthetic improvements to the building***
- ***Opened up views across lake***
- ***Improved tennis court***
- ***Finding a new use for the former bowling pavilion***

In addition to the above the following was noted:

- ***I think it very important to retain the current changing arrangement So called village style is uncomfortable and unfriendly. It should be possible to use part of the much larger mens changing room to have some larger changing cubicles***
- ***Eccles the outdoor pool and use for young children, especially for learning to swim***

Given the lack of response to the proposals and the fact that the survey has been submitted and written in the first person, the team would question the validity of the submission. However the feedback raised has been noted and has been included within the results as an individual respondent.

12.2 Family Responses

Within the online questionnaire submissions, six were left on behalf of families, the following feedback was provided:

12.2.1 Family 1:

This family were in support of the proposal at Castle Farm noting that the results on the LDP phase 1 were a good example of how a modern leisure centre must look.

On Abbey Fields the following comments were left:

- ***I think Kenilworth has enough cafes and restaurants but doesn't have normal sport centres only Castle Farm***
- ***Spa facilities and aqua classes at evening time for parents, who work full time and cannot attend the pool in mornings or afternoons***

The family preferred the option to remove the outdoor pool and replace with new indoor space (AF01).

12.2.2 Family 2:

This family wanted to keep the outdoor pool at Abbey Fields but also noted that increasing indoor water space was important to them.

At Castle Farm they believed the following could be of benefit:

- Crazy golf
- Cafe/bar
- Tennis courts

12.2.3 Family 3:

This family left the following support in favour of the outdoor pool:

- ***Outdoor pools are rare in this country. We've been having better summer weather over the years and I feel that even people from outside of Kenilworth will come to our town to use it.***

The family left no comments regarding proposals at Castle Farm.

12.2.4 Family 4:

The fourth family that submitted a response on behalf of a household left the following feedback with regards to what was important to them when visiting a leisure center:

- ***I love the fact we can swim outside in Kenilworth; a lido is a rare treat and the children love it. Unfortunately access has been severely restricted this year. Additional changes to the way sessions are run, such as splash, are also very off putting, as the kids have to leave the pool for half an hour and not all of my children are allowed on the oversized inflatable, so we have used the pool less as a result. I like the range of classes at Castle farm, but I find a gym boring and unsociable.***

The family were in favour of keeping an outdoor pool noting that there aren't enough of these facilities and they did not want to lose this historic and important tourist attraction.

12.2.5 Family 5:

This family submitted a response in favour of the new indoor pool proposal noting that retaining the outdoor pool was of little importance to them. They would like the centres to look something similar to that achieved at the Newbold Comyn site and hoped that Castle Farm would include spin classes within the new facility.

12.2.6 Family 6:

This family submitted a response in favour of retaining the outdoor pool and noted the following:

- ***Actually prefer the local idea of developing the outdoor space and pool further. Do not see need for increasing size of indoor pool.***

The family were supportive of the proposals at Castle Farm but provided no specific comments.

12.2.7 Summary

Of the 6 families that submitted responses on behalf of their households 4 were in favour of retaining the pool whilst two preferred the option that increased the indoor water space.

12.3 Restore Kenilworth Lido (RKL)

Restore Kenilworth Lido are a campaign group that want to see the outdoor pool remain as part of the leisure offering at Abbey Fields.

RKL have a significant interest in the proposal at Abbey Fields and have established a separate petition to keep the outdoor pool open which had received 3,300 signatures at the time of writing this document.

Historically the Council are aware that the outdoor pool has been open for a significant number of years and this was just one reason why the local community were being consulted at this stage in the design process. It should be noted that WDC have not yet made a decision to remove the outdoor pool and that the option for it to remain is very much a possibility.

12.3.1 RKL Proposal

The group do not want to keep the current outdoor pool in its current configuration but would rather WDC enhance the offering by building a new 25m outdoor facility, as proposed by the group in the below image,

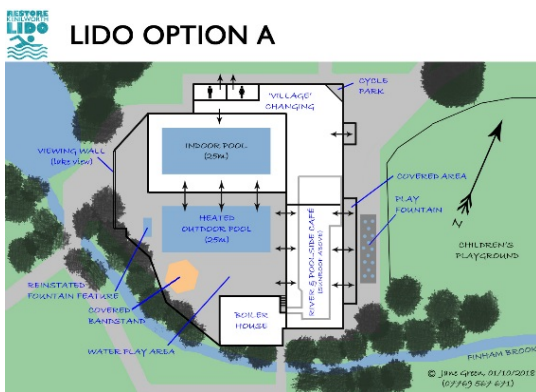


Image: Phase 1: RKL proposal

The plan created by the group also includes other features such as a covered band stand, viewing area, and wet play, amongst others. The group were able to promote this option throughout most of the consultation process. They have also been invited by the Council to submit their supporting evidence for the above design in writing as part of a submission in response to a breakout meeting held with the Council in November 2018.

The group believe that in order to achieve the best outcome for future generations and in order to enhance Kenilworth's tourism offer it is vital that consideration be given to their proposal. Within their supporting evidence RKL submitted an outline study that they consider shows the deliverability and need for their proposal.

12.3.2 Engagement

RKL attended 8 of the Council's engagement sessions and were accommodated within the same consultation space. Additionally they were invited to hand out their own information and discuss their views with those in attendance.

The group engaged with and spoke to many of the same consultees as the Council throughout the three week process. Due to their significant interest in the proposals the RKL Group were also met by the Council at a separate and standalone meeting.

12.3.4 RKL Meeting Summary

A meeting was held separately to the main consultation events to better understand the group's views and feedback on the proposals developed by WDC. The meeting was attended by representatives of the group, Council, Councillors and project's lead architect.

To begin the meeting the group were invited to provide feedback from RKL on the 2 options for Abbey Fields that are included in the Council's consultation process. The following comments were raised:

- *Neither option gives a "swimmable" outdoor pool – hence RKL proposal*
- *Neither option meets the needs of the people that RKL represent i.e. those wishing to swim outdoors*
- *Neither option is considered financially viable by RKL*
- *Neither option gives the people of Kenilworth what they want going forward*

- *Neither option is aspirational*
- *Both options should be taken off the table for the above reasons*
- *RKL can see the AF1 is the easier to operate but it is only for 1 or 2 user groups*
- *The “water features” shown in the outdoor area in AF1 are not suitable and in the wrong place to make them enjoyable*
- *The training pool in AF1 is only really for parents of young children who can afford to pay for swimming lessons*
- *Children should have the opportunity to learn to swim in an outdoor pool and have fun at the same time*
- *The current outdoor pool is not suitable for swimming, it is too shallow and curved walls are not appropriate.*

In addition to the above the group were asked to also expand on their own option and why they considered it to be viable. The group raised the following in responses amongst others:

- *The reputation of the town is significantly impacted by the outdoor pool*
- *A day out at an outdoor pool is irreplaceable and creates a sense of civic pride*
- *There is a need for an outdoor pool that is suitable for swimming not just playing*
- *Minimum requirements for a new outdoor pool – 25m x 10m and depth of deep end 1.8m and shallow end of min of 1m*
- *Could be used for triathlons, galas, splash sessions, open water training.*
- *Could be used for “wetsuit swimming” in the colder months.*
- *May not need to heat all year round..*
- *Outdoor pools have been successful where subsidised by a 2nd source of income i.e. café, car parking*

A number of other items were discussed in the meeting. The meeting notes were issued to attendees on 31st October 2018.

12.3.5 Summary

In summary, the RKL group do not believe that either option being tabled by the Council provides a swimmable outdoor pool and therefore would like their proposal to be taken forward.

Whilst WDC have not been consulting on the option prepared by RKL they have commissioned an independent feasibility study into the options presented by both parties. This is not being undertaken by Mace or by any other members of the design team. It is being undertaken by an independent and experienced leisure organisation. All supporting evidence provided by the RKL group has been passed on for assessment as part of this study.

13.1 Introduction:

In addition to all the consultation responses online and the submissions from various user groups, clubs and governing bodies the team also received 21 direct responses providing either feedback on the consultation information or a submission of support for the RKL group's proposal.

13.2 Pro-Forma Submissions

Nine members of the public submitted RKL pro-formas via email and post. The following comments were made on the documents in favour of the RKL design:

- ***Great option. It would make it a more useful space. Also, the current café area looks like a prison! It's a 'first impression' - type area for many visitors to the town and it could be done in a much nicer way, whilst still being secure.***
- ***This proposal would provide a real enhancement to the town, attracting visitors and increased revenue as well as a valued asset to residents.***
- ***Concept design of an enhanced facility at Abbey Fields, included outdoor 25m pool at a 90 degree angle to the current pool, kids water play, indoor learner pool***
- ***This is such an amazing resource in the middle of beautiful Abbey Fields. It would be a huge benefit to the area and like the newly(ish) renovated playground would be enjoyed by lots of people***

Clearly the direct submission of the pro-formas to the Council support the RKL design. However, whilst the team have taken note of these responses we have not been consulting on this option. As discussed on the previous page the Council is reviewing the viability and feasibility of such a proposal.

13.3 Direct Emails

In addition to the directly submitted pro-formas the Council also received a number of emails that have again been captured in the direct response tracker. The email responses received were in the main

either in support of retaining the outdoor pool or that they would like the RKL option to be explored further. One respondent left the following comment in support of retaining the outdoor pool:

- ***For Abbey Fields I choose Option AF2. For Castle farm, the options proposed raises questions, first where would the scouts be re-located to if option CF1 is chosen?...Please can i recommend that the exercise studios (and scouts provision if created from new) follow The UK Industry Body One Dance UK, Fit To Dance Space charter.***

The respondent that left the above feedback also sent WDC a design specification for dance studios. The team have noted this response and will review at the commencement of further design. All of the 21 direct responses raised were by those that wanted to see the retention/ enhancement of outdoor swimming facilities at Abbey Fields.

14.1 Engagement

The Council wrote to each primary and secondary school in Kenilworth, giving details of the proposals and inviting them to a stakeholder's workshop. The Council received one response to this letter saying that they would attend the workshop, and one response saying that they were unavailable for the workshop but that senior staff would try to attend one of the public consultation events.

The Council sent two follow up emails to all the schools involved, cancelling the stakeholder's workshop and offering to visit schools individually to explain the project. One school responded and offered a visit to the school. This visit subsequently took place.

14.2 Responses

One school responded to one of the emails to say that they were particularly keen to see an improvement in the arrangements for school's changing facilities. They approved of the new proposals made.

St John's Primary School took up the offer of a meeting at the school, and the project was discussed with the PE Co-ordinator and the Business Manager of the School.

The school was heavily in favour of the indoor swimming pool. They could see a number of advantages with this proposal. Firstly, by putting beginners in the new indoor pool the main pool would now be free for their better swimmers to swim lengths. They cannot normally do that due to the beginners in the shallow end of the main pool during lessons and so they have stopped taking older groups swimming. They could restore these lessons with the new indoor pool.

They also acknowledged that either their lessons could be taken out of the main pool, freeing this up for other users, or they could double the number of children undertaking lessons at the same time, which would give them much greater flexibility with programming swimming into the school curriculum.

The school was also strongly in favour of the new arrangements for schools changing. The provision of two changing rooms for the sole use of each school having swimming lessons had a number of benefits, including greater protection of children from outside influence, greater control over the children's clothes and property, and better supervision arrangements, regardless of the gender of the teacher or supervisor.

Contact with other schools is being continued, and it is hoped that it will be possible to meet with other schools to discuss the proposed changes in the next few months, so that any comments received can be included within subsequent design work.

14.3 Future demand

It is known anecdotally that a number of schools that currently use the Abbey Fields Swimming Pool are interested in more bookings in order to get a greater number of children to learn to swim. This would be greatly facilitated by the indoor pool option. It is proving difficult to programme these extra sessions into the current programme, due to the lack of appropriate water space.

Furthermore, a number of schools that do not currently use the Pool have been enquiring about starting bookings. It is also difficult to fit these new schools into the existing programme, and this problem will grow as more young people move to the area and increase the rolls in new and existing schools. Meeting this new demand would be facilitated by the provision of the proposed indoor pool.

14.4 Continuing work

The design team will stay in touch with schools to assist with both the design of the new facilities and the programming of these activities to get more school children learning to swim at Abbey Fields Swimming Pool.

15.1 Conclusion

In conclusion, this report has set out the variety of responses that have been provided to the recent consultation process. Mace have captured all of the information provided and aimed to provide a factual review of this data. The report shows that there is support for the enhancement of facilities at both Castle Farm Recreation Centre and Abbey Fields Swimming Pool.

At Castle Farm, there was a clear consensus that the local community are in support of the proposed new-build facility, comprising a new 6 court sports hall, fitness suite (gym) and studio space; with the local Scouts and Guides groups being relocated elsewhere on site in new, purpose-built accommodation. However, the results show that two areas of concern and consideration are the impacts that this will have on the local infrastructure, especially when the project is considered alongside the widely known Wardens relocation to the rest of the proposed Castle Farm site.

At Abbey Fields there was a relatively even split between the proposed facility mixes, with approximately a third of people being in support of an additional indoor pool, retention of the outdoor pool and the final third not having a preference. In addition to this, when studying the qualitative data submitted within the surveys, approximately 114 respondents noted support for the 25metre outdoor lido that Restore Kenilworth Lido group have most recently proposed for consideration.

Whilst this consultation was specifically about the re-development of the two facilities, the project team have noted a large number of responses that refer to wider operational issues and/ or ideas for the wider area. These ideas and suggestions have been extracted and will be passed onto the relevant departments or operator to ensure that all comments are considered and not lost through the process.

Finally, this report is intended to be part of a wider body of work being completed by WDC regarding the facilities at Castle Farm and Abbey Fields, to inform the Council's recommendation for the facility mix of the two centres which will be progressed through to the next stage of design.