**Ripples in the Pond at Firth Park Opening Event**

**Monday 7th May 2012**

**Questionnaire Feedback**

17 questionnaires were completed by 19 people.

**About those people**

* 4 males completed questionnaires.
* 11 females completed questionnaires, including one completed by a female and her daughter.
* 1 questionnaire was not completed in this section.
* The 17th questionnaire was completed by a female and male.

In summary, the majority of the questionnaires were completed by females.

Age

Of the 17 completed questionnaires (involving 19 people) there were:

* 3 people under 16.
* 3 people 25-34.
* 6 people 35-44.
* 3 people 45-54.
* 2 people 55-64.
* 2 people 65+.

In summary, the questionnaires were completed by people of a variety of ages. The biggest proportion were completed by people aged 35-44.

What is your country of origin?

* 4 people from UK.
* 4 people from England.
* 1 person from Pakistan.
* 5 people from Britain.
* 1 person from India.
* 2 people did not complete this section.

In summary, the majority of people came from somewhere in the United Kingdom.

**About the space**

How often do you use the Ripples in the Pond spaces?

Of the 17 people questioned:

* 4 people were visiting the Park for the first time.
* Nobody used the park every day.
* 2 people use the park more than once a week.
* 2 people use the park weekly, and
* 9 people use the park less than weekly.

In summary, the majority of people said that they use the park less than weekly.

What do you like about the Ripple in the Pond space in Firth Park?

15 people answered this question and 2 people did not.

Comments are as follows:

* *“A space to relax among the general noise and ‘speed’ of the city.”*
* *“Transformed life back into park, great place for kids to play.”*
* *“It will be a lovely place to sit and dream. I won’t have far to visit.”*
* *“It’s made the park a peaceful place to visit and returned it to a tranquil spot to relax.”*
* *“We like running about and looking at the pond. When it’s nice weather we have picnics, when it’s raining we come to splash in puddles.”*
* *“A lovely open space, hope weather improves so can use it more.”*
* *“A beautiful space to sit back, relax and enjoy nature at its best.”*
* *“Really nice, great design. Good effort.”.*
* *“The pond and the trees and walking around and seeing all the different colours. Lovely especially in the warm weather and the restful environment.”*
* *“Running down the hill bit very fast” (Rhiannon, aged 4)*
* *“I think it’s a good place to get together and have picnics.”*
* *“Willow tunnels, ponds, seating.”*
* *“I think it looks nice but I do not think it is child friendly.”*
* *“Varied, visually interesting".*
* *“Amphitheatre, boulders, trees, shape of it, willow dens, new weeping willow (Joan Barton’s) and pond when it develops”.*
* *“Looks lovely now”.*

In summary, people seem to most like the opportunities to relax in the park, and the restful/tranquil environment that it provides. People think it will be nice in the warm weather, and like the pond, trees, willow dens and opportunity for picnics.

Is there anything you don’t like about the space?

9 people answered this question and 8 people did not.

Comments are as follows:

* *“Not enough rubbish bins”.*
* *“I don’t think it needed the basketball net as there are a huge amount of sports facilities across the road!”.*
* *“Lack of litter bins.”*
* *“Not sure if it needs the basketball net, sort of detracts from the tranquil back to nature feel.”*
* *“Not so far.”*
* *“The floor. I think more money should have been spent to put in the soft floor and more water feature like similar to Millhouses Park where kids can play with water which community thought it was going to be.”*
* *“Less than coherent.”*
* *“Drainage still not good.”*
* *“It gets quite water logged when it rains.”*

In summary, the negative aspects most commented on in the questionnaires are the lack of bins, poor drainage and questioning whether there is a need for the basketball net.

How would you like the space to be used by the local community in the future?

14 people answered this question and 3 people did not.

Comments are as follows:

* *“Events i.e music festivals, ‘green’ issues/events, ‘natural’ events/themes.”*
* *“Festivals. Gardens parties.”*
* *“More community get togethers like today!”*
* *“Could hold music events in the summer evenings.”*
* *“I would like to see green events to help the community look after its green spaces. Maybe a BIG anti littering campaign. Could we make the old library completely run on sustainable energy?”*
* *“Christmas.”*
* *“Wish there had been a paddle pool area for families with young kids to use.”*
* *“Craft fairs including food stalls. Community being reflected in each ‘stall’, a stall for each group. Multicultural events. Plays/concerts. Pond dipping-park ranger events.”*
* *“More community events.”*
* *“By everyone.”*
* *“Appreciatively and regularly.”*
* *“Music events. Festivals. Children’s activities.”*
* *“Schools could put on short plays in summer. Could have story teller for younger children.”*

In summary, most people would like to see the space used for music, community, ‘green’ and children’s events.

Do you agree that the Ripples in the Pond space brings benefits to the wider community?

* 9 people strongly agreed.
* 7 people agreed, and
* 1 person neither agreed nor disagreed.

In summary, the majority of people questioned strongly agreed that the space brings benefits to the wider community.

Is there anything else you’d like to say about the Ripples in the Pond space?

5 people answered this question and 12 people did not.

Comments are as follows:

* *“Congratulations to all who have worked so hard.”*
* *“When events are going to be on, please make your notices a bit larger.”*
* *“Beautiful, thanks for all your hard work* ☺*.”*
* *“It’s a great place to relax in and bring a picnic.”*
* *“Much improved.”*

Have you come far today?

* 16 people had come less than 1 mile.
* Nobody had come 2-5 miles, and
* 1 person had come more than 5 miles.

In summary, the majority of people questioned had come less than a mile to visit the space.

Do you think you will use the Ripples in the Pond space in the future?

* 10 people said yes, definitely.
* 2 people said yes, maybe.
* Nobody said not sure, definitely not or don’t know/no opinion.

In summary, the majority of people questioned said that yes they would definitely uses the space in the future.

**Email addresses for those people wanting to be kept up to date with future Friends of Firth Park news, activities and events**

8 people gave some kind of contact detail, one said they were already involved, and 8 people did not fill in this section.

Contact information:

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