

St George Community Network Survey March 2019 – Comments

This document contains unedited text comments by survey respondents. These have been subjectively grouped into the categories below and some appear in more than one category. Each comment has been given a reference number.

Categories (and the number of comments):

- Buildings (30)
- Toilets (18)
- Use (15)
- Upkeep (14)
- Access (10)
- Lake (9)
- Environment (8)
- Children & Play Areas (4)
- Skate park & activity area (4)
- Youth (3)
- Other (18 including comments not directly related to the survey)

Highlighted comments are those that made or summarised useful points on first read through.

Lighting appears in several comments.

Buildings

- 3 I think it would be nice to **reinstate the bandstand - it's part of the original design of the park** and local music groups could perform there. The community garden could relocate to either the area in front of the 'cowshed' or to an unused bowling green. This could be another CIL project. Also I feel there is scope to reexamine the current CIL lake project. While wildlife conservation is desirable, the primary purpose of parks is to bring city dwellers into close contact with green/blue space. Therefore I think if money is to be spent on fixing the sides of the lake, the walk around the lake by the water should be preserved. Wildfowl already have the island on which to nest undisturbed, and putting in an extra path higher up will mean more of the park is concreted over. For people with reduced mobility, a level path around the lake is desirable, and for these reasons I think it should be reconsidered.
- 8 I don't think that any of the options should involve a reduction of space. If there is to be a new library / community centre it should be great, but I don't think selling off one building and merging them is going to be beneficial. I think having something more centrally in the park and including the cafe and an exhibition space could be great and really encourage use, if designed well. That said, people do use the bowls green and I imagine would be very sad to lose that as part of their local community! Would another one be built for them?
- 12 Library is pretty ugly. That space could be used for parking. Create a disability/family friendly carpark The community centre is bigger. Could be extended and is better location. Merge them in there. You have plans for a cafe with loos I believe?
- 14 I would like to see the current shelter by the bowling green removed as it is a place for anti social behaviour, litter and graffiti. I'd like to see a cafe similar to page park there instead. The children's play park is in dire need of updating. The climbing frame at the back is now covered in bird poo and rotten. Is there a structure that wouldn't be as much of an attraction to birds? Dog poo continues to be a big issue in the park.
- 16 Youth activity - this should be a priority for so many reasons. Thank you for maintaining such a beautiful park by the way. I like the idea of community buildings in the park as long as it doesn't mean removal of many trees or loss of habitat or the general feel of the park and is done ethically and is a real community asset - not commercial enterprise. Why not allow community housing/eco pods near the park on the basis they help maintain the park and community buildings - I hear some houses may be built on the park.
- 17 It would be great to have the library closer to the centre of the park, with the cafe open more often and to have toilets.
- 19 Wildlife walks, wildflower planting, better communication of activities going on, more community building
- 22 Please if at all possible, maintain the library, community centre, AND create a new cafe/social area with the bowling buildings. No selling off anything.
- 30 It's a lovely park and many other facilities already present a wonderful The removal of the toilet has been a disaster and the café has been erratic in its opening so a different larger café where people could sit inside and could be opened regularly. Would be my preference
- 53 Get toilets in place. of a new cafe model is too expensive look at more being more conservative and using more economical buildings.
- 55 If you are replacing/improving the bowling building then it would be nice to see the proposal before it goes ahead and before any buildings get sold as it largely depends on if this option is viable enough to host all the activities proposed in a sensible way which will not result in huge job loss or sacrifice of services to create one hub.

- 57 I would rather money spent on restoring what is fundamentally a sound and sensible park design and using money for maintenance. The biggest issues facing the park over the next few years will be maintenance and over-use. As more people move into the area the park will be used more heavily. This is a good thing but it will require greater money to keep control of litter and looking after the grass, flowers, drainage and skateboard park. We have been told by the Council that funding for Parks is going to be under pressure. If there is any money floating about I would rather it was reserved to ensure the upkeep of the park. I would discourage a community centre and or library inside the park. I don't believe there is a great demand for these things to be in this location - what is the pressure being exerted to relocate them anyway? Simply funneling more people into the park seems a bit unnecessary. It seems forced. By all means - improve the library where it is. Improve the community centre where it is. Find money to reopen the perfectly serviceable toilets. Improve the cafe a little if necessary - but this has already been reviewed so we don't need to re-consult on this. The area behind the bowling green could be done up a bit and potentially repurposed (sports pavillion/ changing rooms etc to support bowls club and tennis club). Above all I would rather see the Park restored - improved tree planting, restore the pond, fix the drainage, restore the bandstand or give this area over entirely to community gardening, make sure the skate park has funding for repairs and street art, have money reserved for managing dog fouling and litter. Imagine a beautifully restored Victorian style park with as much space given over to green areas and ecology - this could be celebrated throughout Bristol. I fail to see the need to try and shoehorn in development/ buildings. This is a park/ green space - filling areas with buildings/ infrastructure is counterintuitive to the purpose of the park and unnecessary. But thanks for organising the consultation.
- 61 the question about combining the community venues/library etc is confusing. The best option would obviously be the most ergonomic/cost effective solution, whatever that may be. Priority is to bring back toilets - I hope the plan for new toilets is an attractive one - not awful portocabins plonked in the middle of the park, spoiling the view
- 62 Enhance the functions of each facility, rather than lump them together so no provisions are fully developed or meeting the needs of a growing population.
- 65 It seems a shame to lose either the library or the community centre unless absolutely necessary. Both serve different functions in different parts of this area. I understand that both are under-used, but this may have more to do with the extent, accessibility and flexibility of the spaces. If both were managed and promoted together with a common booking system and events programme this may help create more use and revenue for both. So much more could be done with both, particularly if they were both developed to face the park. Both sites have great access to and views of the park that are desirable situations to be in and capitalise on. The library has a great views of the whole park, lake and city from the back windows and there should be a fully open cafe terrace there to attract people to this corner. Could even be a pop-up restaurant in the evenings (there is a great view of the sun set in the summer). The footprint of the library site is significant and the building could even be built up (+1/2 levels?) to accommodate educational space for school groups (many of which have limited access to green space on-site), co-working spaces for local start up businesses and/or people who work from home. Part of the car-park could also be used for temporary structures (such as containers/pods) for local businesses. The community centre site seems like the obvious place for park cafe and toilet facilities (though I think new facilities have been approved elsewhere) as it is closer to the Church Rd shops. The community centre could provide more for the very many young families in this area, such as soft play area for example. The space near the wheels park (where markets were held) would also be a great place for local businesses to have temporary space akin to Wapping Wharf at ground level (shop/food spaces)

and engine shed (work spaces) above. This could bring a focus for re-starting the monthly markets in this area. There was very clearly a high demand for these and again could be managed by a combined park/library/community centre management team. One of the least pleasant things about visiting and using the park is getting to it from Church Road shopping area due to the cross road with Chalk Road. The stationary traffic in this area, leads to a lot of vehicles idling and reducing the air quality, the difficult crossings leave people trapped on the 'islands' between two lanes of fast traffic and the complex junction leads to a lot of aggressive driving and beeping of horns. To help connect the park more to the shopping area (and creating mutually beneficial improvements with increased footfall) would be a huge win for the area. With the vacant site on the corner of Chalks Road I would have thought there are a range of options that could be explored here from mini roundabouts with widened footways, to pedestrian priority and traffic calming. In doing so, creating a greener, calmer, safer and more striking entrance to the park. I'm sure this is outside of the scope of this survey, but could be something this group could campaign for. Thanks! Would like to get more involved in this process, so please keep me posted.

66 Take over the toilet block next to park and rebuild as cafe/toilet

71 Keep building within the park to an absolute minimum. No loud music please- get rid of Redfest it is causing trauma to animals, plants and humans

79 Save the library whatever happens

80 I don't think that you should make the bowling buildings in the park into a library/community space as people might not want to enter the park after dark and they wouldn't get used in the winter. Also, I don't think it would be good for the wildlife. I think combining the library and community centre is a great idea as both are too small and together they would be stronger. I don't know which is better though as again, both feel dark in the winter, and both are small. I think that the library space has more scope for development. Have you consulted the temple next to the community centre? That building would be perfect for a library/community centre/cafe.....

83 The whole library site could be used to great affect. A multi story building could house the library a cafe and community centre quite easily. I understand that it may involve losing or cutting back a few trees to achieve this but I think that is a small price to pay for a much better facility. The library could include planting more trees on the open space to the west of the current building to account for any loss. Also the old school next to the community centre would be even better to use as a community centre. I know that it is a private building but it could unlock so much potential - think of a tobacco factory from north street but here on church road !

86 Why do all the options involve losing what we already have rather than improving what we already have? Why is my marital status relevant to your survey??

88 I am concerned that this survey is very much skewed towards selling off council buildings/land. I worry that in these times of extreme pressure on Council budgets, surveys like this will be used to give legitimacy to selling these assets, with no guarantee that community facilities will be maintained.

90 Please don't put a Perspex column at the entrance to the park. Please focus on clearing broken glass and summer litter. Please put up more dog poo bins and signage. Please don't sell the library to fund a cafe.

92 If facilities could be improved without selling any of the current sites.

- 93 More facilities are what is needed I feel- not selling what is there to make one combined facility. Who would they be sold to and how would that impact on the park and local area? The changes that took so long to make to the play area were poor- the see-saw bumps down hard onto a hard surface rather than a tyre that would create rebound, there is hardly any sand in the sandpit and the lack of toilets is a big problem- especially in the winter! Events like redfest are fab and it's a great park- lovely green space, the 'lake' would be better if you could get all the way around for walking as well
- 95 I would like to see facilities developed at St George Park without council assets being sold into private hands.
- 96 Keep the library! Prioritise reducing air pollution
- 98 Must have a cafe and toilets in the main area of the park (bowling green). Community Hub and Library best easily accessed from Church Road
- 99 Before all these objectives in future developments two or more years ago the objective was I thought firstly the repair of the lake. Since the screenign went all those years ago then straight away came down with the notices of intent to do the work when BCC could not obviously find the money (Metrobus what else) this repair is now placed with others and on this paper *does not appear at all*. To me the cart (the above questionnaire) before the horse (lake repair). PS Once the lake needed repair. It was imperative but not now. Whenever.
- 100 There is talk of houses being built next to the library - this is a big no-no in my opinion

Toilets

- 6 Please bring back the toilets. Even if there's a known cost per year and its crowdfunded annually. Please!
- 17 It would be great to have the library closer to the centre of the park,with the cafe open more often and to have toilets.
- 25 Hi please put the toilets back. To be open between 0800 and 2130 at least.
- 30 It's a lovely park and many other facilities already present a wonderful The removal of the toilet has been a disaster and the café has been erratic in its opening so a different larger café where people could sit inside and could be opened regularly. Would be my preference
- 35 We need toilets and this needs to be addressed as soon as possible. It affects everyone, but it especially affects those with extra needs. Elderly, disabled etc.
- 39 I am disabled, fortunately I live near the park, if I needed a wee! I was once allowed to use the cafe facilities as they became friends of mine but alas not there anymore
- 45 I work full time in a stressful job and use the park as part of my wellbeing. Unfortunately since the toilets were taken away it really restricted my access and the amount of time that I can spend in the park.
- 50 Toilets. Please let's have decent clean toilets.
- 53 Get toilets in place. of a new cafe model is too expensive look at more being more conservative and using more economical buildings.
- 60 There is nothing in this survey about the toilets

- 61 the question about combing the community venues/library etc is confusing. The best option would obviously be the most ergonomic/cost effective solution, whatever that may be. Priortiy is to bring back toilets - I hope the plan for new toilets is an attractive one - not awful portocabins plonked in themiddle of the park, spoiling the view
- 66 Take over the toilet block next to park and rebuild as cafe/toilet
- 74 Toilets needed in the park
- 84 Toilets are so important. People with disabilities and children are being forced to choose between going to the park and risking accidents or going elsewhere (Or no where) with toilets.
- 89 Toilets! Why does st Andrews have toilets and a pool??!!!
- 91 We NEED toilets in the park. It's revolting that everyone uses the trees instead. Very hard for children and elderly especially.
- 93 More facilities are what is needed I feel- not selling what is there to make one combined facility. Who would they be sold to and how would that impact on the park and local area? The changes that took so long to make to the play area were poor- the see-saw bumps down hard onto a hard surface rather than a tyre that would create rebound, there is hardly any sand in the sandpit and the lack of toilets is a big problem- especially in the winter! Events like redfest are fab and it's a great park- lovely green space, the 'lake' would be better if you could get all the way around for walking as well
- 98 Must have a cafe and toilets in the main area of the park (bowling green). Community Hub and Library best easily accessed from Church Road

Use

- 11 As someone who lives facing the park **I am firmly against having specific areas for specific things** (such as bbqing). All the park should be for everyone to use whichever way they like as long as it's not antisocial. While I don't really agree with building on the park in any way, shape or form, the cafe could be larger so indoor seating & toilets are available as this would benefit everyone. Saying that, we have perfectly good loos which were closed and could be reopened therefore reducing the need for a much larger building footprint within the park. We need better bins at the ends of each of the footpaths and centrally (in the valley of the park) as this is where most litter is generated. I'm surprised nothing is mentioned in regards to the lake. This is, in my opinion, the thing that needs most attention. Drain it, fix it & reintroduce the wildlife. Make it the centrepiece as it used to be. I miss being able to walk round it or sit watching ducklings and cygnets in the spring/summer. And feeding the ducks all year round. Also bigger signs telling people not to feed bread to the ducks!
- 14 I would like to see the current shelter by the bowling green removed as it is a place for anti social behaviour, litter and graffiti. **I'd like to see a cafe similar to page park there instead. The children's play park is in dire need of updating.** The climbing frame at the back is now covered in bird poo and rotten. Is there a structure that wouldn't be as much of an attraction to birds? Dog poo continues to be a big issue in the park.
- 20 Let's make this a gorgeous, thriving community place where people travel all across Bristol to come. Safe and fun for ALL. Make its inclusive for all ages, races, religions and genders.
- 33 Improve and extend the barriers for entry to the park for vehicles because vandals are destroying the park on occasions by causing a huge amount of damage to the surface . Put gates across the main entrances so vehicles cannot get in unless they have a key . Encourage the

building of the walkway across the lake . Regular repairs to the pathways where they get covered in mud . Add more bins and emptying services . Make a double entry gate to the children’s area so dogs cannot get into the play area when people are passing through . Add a very visible sign saying no dogs allowed in . Clear the surface of the lake at the end where all the rubbish floats on a regular basis . When funds allow install more lights along the main parts through the park to make it safer at night . Establish more regular volunteer ‘clean and tidy’ opportunities That double as social activity. This questionnaire seems to point to a lot of angled interest in creating social centres within the park and I cannot see the finance for that appearing . It is better to focus on simply making the park a good park. I believe the only significant structure the park needs within its Boundry are toilets . There are plenty of other places locally which provide facilities for social activities undercover. There is no point in building things that require funding for maintenance because this is unlikely to be forthcoming and maintainable . Thank you very much indeed for organising this research I would have liked to have come to the meeting last week but putting it in the middle of the day at the weekend was not very viable for me a weekday evening would have been easier to attend . We are blessed with a lovely park and we need to treasure what the Victorians and Edwardians gifted us .

- 38 With regards to the park, it would be a far more enjoyable space if all dog owners picked up after their pets. **We could do with a lot more ‘poo bins’ around the park**, maybe along with dispensers for the poo bags for those owners who ‘forget’ to bring them when walking their dogs.
- 40 More people need to love & respect the park. Then it would be clean, tidy & safe. The path around the lake needs reinstating.
- 57 I would rather money spent on restoring what is fundamentally a sound and sensible park design and using money for maintenance. The biggest issues facing the park over the next few years will be maintenance and over--use. As more people move into the area the park will be used more heavily. This is a good thing but it will require greater money to keep control of litter and looking after the grass, flowers, drainage and skateboard park. We have been told by the Council that funding for Parks is going to be under pressure. if there is any money floating about I would rather it was reserved to ensure the upkeep of the park. I would discourage a community centre and or library inside the park. i don't believe there is a great demand for these things to be in this location - what is the pressure being exerted to relocate them anyway? Simply funnelling more people into the park seems a bit unnecessary. It seems forced. By all means - improve the library where it is. improve the community centre where it is. Find money to reopen the perfectly serviceable toilets. Improve the cafe a little if necessary - but this has already been reviewed so we don't need to re-consult on this. The area behind the bowling green could be done up a bit and potentially repurposed (sports pavillion/ changing rooms etc to support bowls club and tennis club). Above all I would rather see the Park restored - improved tree planting, restore the pond, fix the drainage, **restore the bandstand** or give this area over entirely to community gardening, make sure the skate park has funding for repairs and street art, have money reserved for managing dog fowling and litter. Imagine a beautifully restored Victorian style park with as much space given over to green areas and ecology - this could be celebrated throughout Bristol. I fail to see the need to try and shoehorn in development/ buildings. This is a park/ green space - filing areas with buildings/ infrastructure is counterintuitive to the purpose of the park and unnecessary. But thanks for organising the consultation.
- 58 I just ask that whatever decision is made, **that Redfest is consulted** and kept in the loop with ideas and progress so as to optimise the design and location of any new facilities. Unrelated, but this goes for trees and benches too, which occasionally pop up in the middle of where our stages go.

- 59 I would like to explore Plummers hill becoming one way for the top section of the road, after the turning to Oakland rd; the pavement to be widened on the side of the school. With the objective of improving air quality by reducing and diverting traffic flow away from summer hill school. I would like to see a flower/ vegetable plot for each local school in st Georges park which the school can use to plant, to support their curriculum and promote fresh air time as well as a sense of pride and ownership of the park among the children and their parents. Ideally I would like to avoid the selling of any public building or land to fund improvements but create community run businesses or rent the space to the community while seeking alternative funding.
- 69 While it wasn't an option above, better lighting would really help. I pass through the park on the way home from work (on bike, as it's the best way to access the cycle path) and it is hard to see. I'm worried about being caught by a branch, cycling into someone or being attacked. I think the community center is a better candidate for development as it's more accessible. Its be good to see direct access from the park of it is developed. However i think there are issues with combining too many functions into one building. For instance would it limit the ability to rent out the community centre for private events if the café and library need to be accessible to the public? Or if, say, the library is closed, will that affect other functions of the building. Some thought would be needed about letting areas be secured separately. Also, it's really nice having a cafe centrally in the park and near the play area. I'd be in favour of keeping that separate . Spreading usage out may also avoid one area becoming over crowded.
- 75 I love st George park so much. I feel the trees and green spaces need to be maintained more than anything else as well as peoples safety while using the park.
- 76 Safety is paramount. I'm scared to go into the park unless there are other people close by.
- 77 I think lighting after dark could be greatly improved this would really help dog walkers and people using to commute in the winter
- 90 Please don't put a Perspex column at the entrance to the park. Please focus on clearing broken glass and summer litter. Please put up more dog poo bins and signage. Please don't sell the library to fund a cafe.
- 94 -I think the park needs to be lit better, in the winter running around the park even as a group was draughting. -If there was scope to generate life into the pond, ensuring no litter and maybe creating something wildlife cerbères in the middle of it on the little island. Information about joe to hire the Rev is court of bowls area should be more accessible...I've lived in the area my whole life and no idea how to or the cost of renting a court. -community center could be better utliused. Therefore combing this Roth the library makes sebce. But I think it's essential that there should be space to give blood regularly. - is there more we could be doing to utilise the since for our teenagers given the concerns around serious violent crime, knives etc when there is a shortage of youth provision and centres.

Upkeep

- 9 In terms of litter, I think there should be more volunteer-led litter picking (well advertised so more people hear about it) It's pretty sad to see other play parks in Bristol so well-equipped, the stuff available in St. George's is pretty boring in comparison

- 10 Benches are a black spot for litter. Need a bin next to every bench & signs encouraging use. Also good to consider litter wardens. Fixed bbq points won't work unless rigorously enforcer but perhaps provide moveable bases which can be taken to desired spot and used to protect grass. Need more lighting on all paths. Some are unlit and very dark.
- 18 need more **street lighting** in the park so it can be used in the early evening during the winter (maybe 5-9)
- 31 **Repair existing features before creating new ones (path around pond, repair benches etc)**
- 32 The park is incredibly precious & yhe envy of many areas who don't have a park. Please, please find a way to keep oor Park special & improve it for future generations.
- 36 **Would like barriers to stop vehicles driving into the park**
- 37 More **lights** around the whole park not just near main entrance
- 42 Just a little better **lighting** at night and more flowers/plants especially up adjacent to church road. Educational boards identification of trees/plants and wildlife. Do not over expose it as it will lose its charm.
- 46 **Lighting** for the park is important as it does not feel safe to walk through at night. Bat friendly lighting would be beneficial.
- 57 I would rather money spent on restoring what is fundamentally a sound and sensible park design and using money for maintenance. The biggest issues facing the park over the next few years will be maintenance and over--use. As more people move into the area the park will be used more heavily. This is a good thing but it will require greater money to keep control of litter and looking after the grass, flowers, drainage and skateboard park. We have been told by the Council that funding for Parks is going to be under pressure. if there is any money floating about I would rather it was reserved to ensure the upkeep of the park. I would discourage a community centre and or library inside the park. i don't believe there is a great demand for these things to be in this location - what is the pressure being exerted to relocate them anyway? Simply funnelling more people into the park seems a bit unnecessary. It seems forced. By all means - improve the library where it is. improve the community centre where it is. Find money to reopen the perfectly serviceable toilets. Improve the cafe a little if necessary - but this has already been reviewed so we don't need to re-consult on this. The area behind the bowling green could be done up a bit and potentially repurposed (sports pavillion/ changing rooms etc to support bowls club and tennis club). Above all I would rather see the Park restored - improved tree planting, restore the pond, fix the drainage, restore the bandstand or give this area over entirely to community gardening, make sure the skate park has funding for repairs and street art, have money reserved for managing dog fowling and litter. Imagine a beautifully restored Victorian style park with as much space given over to green areas and ecology - this could be celebrated throughout Bristol. I fail to see the need to try and shoehorn in development/ buildings. This is a park/ green space - filing areas with buildings/ infrastructure is counterintuitive to the purpose of the park and unnecessary. But thanks for organising the consultation.
- 63 It's basically lovely park, please maintain it without ruining it!
- 69 While it wasn't an option above, better **lighting** would really help. I pass through the park on the way home from work (on bike, as it's the best way to access the cycle path) and it is hard to see. I'm worried about being caught by a branch, cycling into someone or being attacked. I think the community center is a better candidate for development as it's more accessible. Its be good to see direct access from the park of it is developed. However i think there are issues with combining too many functions into one building. For instance would it limit the ability

to rent out the community centre for private events if the café and library need to be accessible to the public? Or if, say, the library is closed, will that affect other functions of the building. Some thought would be needed about letting areas be secured separately. Also, it's really nice having a cafe centrally in the park and near the play area. I'd be in favour of keeping that separate. Spreading usage out may also avoid one area becoming over crowded.

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Access

- 2 Access to the park needs to be improved/alterd at the top of the park by Howard Road. The lake side path needs fixing.
- 29 Measures to slow cyclists like speed bumps or prevent them using the park as too many treat the park as a road which is unsafe to children and dogs
- 36 Would like barriers to stop vehicles driving into the park
- 43 Accessibility is important. I'm a wheelchair user who lives around the corner but I find it tricky to get to the park in my electric wheelchair. There's no drop kerb on my block (to get off Lyndale Rd into the park) and the side entrance to the park is uneven It would be great to have dog agility classes in the park (I believe it's possible to get lightweight equipment which wouldn't have to be out all the time). Dog walkers are frequent users of the park (usually 2x a day) and it would be good to have other activities for dogs. Also free/cheap obedience training classes in the summer could benefit all users of the park!
- 49 The park, library and community centre provide necessary free space for people. Without them there would be no community. Please conduct s full equality impact assessment on all plans and include impact on poverty and marginalisation and community cohesion. Use evidence from other parts of uk and country to shape design. How could you draw on the beehive centre to make multi generational spaces etc.
- 51 Abolish adults and quad bikes from using park as a short cut
- 65 It seems a shame to loose either the library or the community centre unless absolutely necessary. Both server different functions in different parts of this area. I understand that both are under-used, but this may have more to do with the extent, accessibility and flexibility of the spaces. If both were managed and promoted together with a common booking system and events programme this may help create more use and revenue for both. So much more could be done with both, particularly if they were both developed to face the park. Both sites have great access to and views of the park that are desirable situations to be in and capitalise on. The library has a great views of the whole park, lake and city

from the back windows and there should be a fully open cafe terrace there to attract people to this corner. Could even be a pop-up restaurant in the evenings (there is a great view of the sun set in the summer). The footprint of the library site is significant and the building could even be built up (+1/2 levels?) to accommodate educational space for school groups (many of which have limited access to green space on-site), co-working spaces for local start up businesses and/or people who work from home. Part of the car-park could also be used for temporary structures (such as containers/pods) for local businesses. The community centre site seems like the obvious place for park cafe and toilet facilities (though I think new facilities have been approved elsewhere) as it is closer to the Church Rd shops. The community centre could provide more for the very many young families in this area, such as soft play area for example. The space near the wheels park (where markets were held) would also be a great place for local businesses to have temporary space akin to wapping wharf at ground level (shop/food spaces) and engine shed (work spaces) above. This could bring a focus for re-starting the monthly markets in this area. There was very clearly a high demand for these and again could be managed by a combined park/library/community centre management team. One of the least pleasant things about visiting and using the park is getting to it from Church Road shopping area due to the cross road with Chalk Road. The stationary traffic in this area, leads to a lot of vehicles idling and reducing the air quality, the difficult crossings leave people trapped on the 'islands' between two lanes of fast traffic and the complex junction leads to a lot of aggressive driving and beeping of horns. To help connect the park more to the shopping area (and creating mutually beneficial improvements with increased footfall) would be a huge win for the area. With the vacant site on the corner of Chalks Road I would have thought there are a range of options that could be explored here from mini roundabouts with widened footways, to pedestrian priority and traffic calming. In doing so, creating a greener, calmer, safer and more striking entrance to the park. I'm sure this is outside of the scope of this survey, but could be something this group could campaign for. Thanks! Would like to get more involved in this process, so please keep me posted.

- 80 I don't think that you should make the bowling buildings in the park into a library/community space as people might not want to enter the park after dark and they wouldn't get used in the winter. Also, I don't think it would be good for the wildlife. I think combining the library and community centre is a great idea as both are too small and together they would be stronger. I don't know which is better though as again, both feel dark in the winter, and both are small. I think that the library space has more scope for development. Have you consulted the temple next to the community centre? That building would be perfect for a library/community centre/cafe.....
- 81 Why is there not a disability question ?? Why care about colour but not disabilitydisappointing
- 97 Sort out the crossing at the main entrance. Roundabout and pelican crossing would work well.

Lake

- 2 Access to the park needs to be improved/alterd at the top of the park by Howard Road. The lake side path needs fixing.
- 11 As someone who lives facing the park I am firmly against having specific areas for specific things (such as bbqing). All the park should be for everyone to use whichever way they like as long as it's not antisocial. While I don't really agree with building on the park in any way, shape or form, the cafe could be larger so indoor seating & toilets are available as this would benefit everyone. Saying that, we have perfectly good loos which were closed and could be reopened therefore reducing the need for a much larger building footprint within the park. We

need better bins at the ends of each of the footpaths and centrally (in the valley of the park) as this is where most litter is generated. I'm surprised nothing is mentioned in regards to the lake. This is, in my opinion, the thing that needs most attention. Drain it, fix it & reintroduce the wildlife. Make it the centrepiece as it used to be. I miss being able to walk round it or sit watching ducklings and cygnets in the spring/summer. And feeding the ducks all year round. Also bigger signs telling people not to feed bread to the ducks!

- 31 Repair existing features before creating new ones (path around pond, repair benches etc)
- 40 More people need to love & respect the park. Then it would be clean, tidy & safe. The path around the lake needs reinstating.
- 47 Why is there never any mention of the path around the lake being mended and re-opened? Spending lots of money elsewhere whilst ignoring this mess is disgraceful.
- 52 Would like plans for park to include repairs so that can walk round the lake
- 68 The proposed bridge over the lake will be **dangerous to children** who could get pushed over it into the water by other children as a prank. Then it will be closed and a waste of money. It would be nice to see paddle/row boats back on the lake.
- 70 Please ensure the lake is rebuilt before spending money on other improvements. It was an amazing wildlife spot until the last couple of years
- 93 More facilities are what is needed I feel- not selling what is there to make one combined facility. Who would they be sold to and how would that impact on the park and local area? The changes that took so long to make to the play area were poor- the see-saw bumps down hard onto a hard surface rather than a tyre that would create rebound, there is hardly any sand in the sandpit and the lack of toilets is a big problem- especially in the winter! Events like redfest are fab and it's a great park- lovely green space, the 'lake' would be better if you could get all the way around for walking as well
- 99 Before all these objectives in future developments two or more years ago the objective was I thought firstly the repair of the lake. Since the screenign went all those years ago then straight away came down with the notices of intent to do the work when BCC could not obviously find the money (Metrobus what else) this repair is now placed with others and on this paper *does not appear at all*. To me the cart (the above questionnaire) before the horse (lake repair). PS Once the lake needed repair. It was imperative but not now. Whenever.

Environment

- 13 More trees! The pollution around the roads surrounding St. George's Park is above legal limits at peak times. There is plenty of space in the park for more trees or perhaps mini forests. **Children from local schools could be involved** in planting and then could use them as mini forest schools.
- 19 Wildlife walks, wildflower planting, **better communication of activities going on**, more community building
- 26 No option given for supporting the idea of interpretation boards (history, wildlife, trees) in the park. This would give people a sense of the value of the park. A "community information hub" has no meaning for me as a phrase. If what is mean is information about facilities and activities in the area then that information should be part of the offering of a library with staff to manage content. Nor am I sure what an environment education hub is. If what is meant is an area where information is on display about environmental topics and training sessions

are made available on environmental topics then some of the facilities needed to achieve that can be used to double up as a space for community activities and meetings.

- 28 Its an amazing place. Please put the ecosystem and childrens education about this first
- 41 Encourage wildlife, nature trails
- 42 Just a little better **lighting** at night and more flowers/plants especially up adjacent to church road. Educational boards identification of trees/plants and wildlife. Do not over expose it as it will lose its charm.
- 70 Please ensure the lake is rebuilt before spending money on other improvements. It was an amazing wildlife spot until the last couple of years
- 75 I love st George park so much. I feel the trees and green spaces need to be maintained more than anything else as well as peoples safety while using the park.

Children & Play Areas

- 5 Paddling water section
- 15 I think the **children's play area needs more maintenance** / cleaning and has so much space within it to add further play equipment for kids. Ideally the flooring should be replaced for the bouncy sort of matting found in a lot of playgrounds. I believe the rest surfacing done after the slide replacement was a waste of money and looks really rough and messy. It's such a well used play area and should be maintained and improved as a priority, with a cafe and toilets nearby
- 23 Please give consideration to increasing the **size of the play and/or dog-free area**. I have no doubt that the community would be willing to contribute funding support to any planned improvements to the park/cafe/library/community centre. Redfest was wonderful.
- 59 I would like to explore Plummers hill becoming one way for the top section of the road, after the turning to Oakland rd; the pavement to be widened on the side of the school. With the objective of improving air quality by reducing and diverting traffic flow away from summer hill school. I would like to see a flower/ vegetable plot for each local school in st Georges park which the school can use to plant, to support their curriculum and promote fresh air time as well as a sense of pride and ownership of the park among the children and their parents. Ideally I would like to avoid the selling of any public building or land to fund improvements but create community run businesses or rent the space to the community while seeking alternative funding.
- 82 More cheap afterschool activities

Skateboard Park & Activity Area

- 21 Could there be **an area for younger skaters and scooter kids in the skate park?** Kids love it and they love watching some of the bigger kids/ adults doing tricks but sometimes the younger ones are not so aware and get in the way, which can sometimes lead to near misses. It's so important that both can enjoy that area and it would be nice to have a small area for the you get kids, not so in the middle of it all. I'd be disappointed if they made any significant buildings in the band stand area. Kids love running about that area and it's a handy place to stand to see where the kids are running. It is a lovely community garden space but it would be an equally lovely place for music too, as long as

community garden spaces still existed somewhere. St George Park is such an amazing asset to the community. It is very heartening to hear plans to make it even better. I think it would be amazing for the library and community centre to be combined. A lot of us use both but the library at present feels so far away and also has such confusing opening times that I don't use it as much as I'd like to. It's future is so important to the community and it, along with the community centre are so essential for a cross section of people. It would be nice to make them even more accessible and inclusive. **I am self employed and have kids so am keen to hear whether plans for co-working desk space or a nursery materialise.**

- 24 New skate park behind basketball court where the big bmx ramps and berms are. **Refurbish existing skatepark.**
- 54 We'd love free outdoor gym equipment in the park
- 67 The skatepark could do with a major overhaul. The cracked concrete makes a lot of it unskateable for skateboarders. Other elements of the skatepark were badly designed. It would be important to **consult with skateboarders** if it was ever redesigned - which I hope it will be!

Youth

- 16 Youth activity - this should be a priority for so many reasons. Thank you for maintaining such a beautiful park by the way. I like the idea of community buildings in the park as long as it doesn't mean removal of many trees or loss of habitat or the general feel of the park and is done ethically and is a real community asset - not commercial enterprise. Why not allow community housing/eco pods near the park on the basis they help maintain the park and community buildings - I hear some houses may be built on the park.
- 85 We need to provide facilities for young people and teen-agers
- 94 -I think the park needs to be lit better, in the winter running around the park even as a group was draughting. -If there was scope to generate life into the pond, ensuring no litter and maybe creating something wildlife cerbères in the middle of it on the little island. Information about joe to hire the Rev is court of bowls area should be more accessible...I've lived in the area my whole life and no idea how to or the cost of renting a court. -community center could be better utliused. Therefore combing this Roth the library makes sebce. But I think it's essential that there should be space to give blood regularly. - is there more we could be doing to utilise the since for our teenagers given the concerns around serious violent crime, knives etc when there is a shortage of youth provision and centres.

Other (and comments not directly related to the survey)

- 1 Please bring back our **stolen bench** as promised
- 7 Please address the fly tipping and the cigarette butts chucked out by the cafes (actually mainly the Somalian cafes in Lawrence hill but still Church Road). Plus when properties (old shops) are turned into flats they should not only meet building regulations but look attractive. The flats for example in the old post office opposite Summerhill school look dreadful and give the area and incredibly run down feel but it's landlords not caring about the community and trying to do as cheap a job as possible

- 27 Stricter regulation of estate agent control of pricing of rent and mortgages in line with affordability. More council housing. Ensure Church Road remains a balance of corporate companies and independents. More charity shops fine with me. Something needs to improve traffic flow on Beaufort road which gets very congested - maybe widen the road but also install traffic calming measures.
- 29 **Measures to slow cyclists** like speed bumps or prevent them using the park as too many treat the park as a road which is unsafe to children and dogs
- 34 The new scheme for housing is brilliant
- 44 Such an amazing space! A great opportunity for us to seize the moment and make it a true reflection of our community and its needs. Can't wait! Is there going to **be regular meetings** about it all as I missed the one on 17th Feb?
- 48 I am currently working with Friends of Page Park in Staple Hill, they have created a beautiful community space in the park. They have a donations based yoga class every Sunday which pulls 100 plus people in the Summer. We could learn a lot.
- 56 Have the **police patrol** regularly to deter the drug dealing
- 59 I would like to explore Plummers hill becoming one way for the top section of the road, after the turning to Oakland rd; the pavement to be widened on the side of the school. With the objective of improving air quality by reducing and diverting traffic flow away from summer hill school. I would like to see a flower/ vegetable plot for each local school in St Georges park which the school can use to plant, to support their curriculum and promote fresh air time as well as a sense of pride and ownership of the park among the children and their parents. Ideally I would like to avoid the selling of any public building or land to fund improvements but create community run businesses or rent the space to the community while seeking alternative funding.
- 64 Am worried about the new flats being built as people will just use my road adjacent! But I am disabled and need a space for my support workers to park
- 71 Keep building within the park to an absolute minimum. No loud music please- **get rid of Redfest it is causing trauma to animals, plants and humans**
- 72 There has been considerable building work in and around St. George over the past couple of years, all of which has been focused on providing housing. Whilst this is, of course, extremely important, very little, if anything, appears to have been done about providing amenities for the current and future residents of the area. Over the past 34 years living in the area I have seen all the banks and financial institutions, various post offices, and a good number of local shops being closed down and turned into flats, this means a lack of variety of shops, etc., in the area, which means people have to go further afield to find what they need. This causes the shops that remain to struggle - a vicious, and ever decreasing circle for the area. The area is filling up with young families, new life is being breathed into the streets and I feel that if the amenities we have here are cut even further by combining the library and community centre we will reduce the appeal of the area. We should look at expanding the appeal, not minimising it - instead of taking away facilities, give greater importance to local endeavours and local businesses, otherwise the area will become, in effect, a hotel, where people eat and sleep, but go elsewhere to live.
- 73 We need a greengrocers - somewhere you can buy veg not in plastic
- 78 Is there a group for Church Road? I think Church Road needs some development.

- 86 Why do all the options involve losing what we already have rather than improving what we already have? Why is my marital status relevant to your survey??
- 87 over the years church rd has changed from having multiple shops of choice to a dismal shopping street that has many professional beggars around Aldi and Tesco, untidy shop fronts, old buildings that need doing up, bus stops in the wrong place, no visual beauty (flowers, clean streets, empty bins) getting rid of caravans on the streets around Whitehall school and Devon rd where drugs are being dealt, cleaning off the graffiti from the lovely stone work on Devon rd bridge, getting better bus times for the no.6/7 route . there is much more.
- 93 More facilities are what is needed I feel- not selling what is there to make one combined facility. Who would they be sold to and how would that impact on the park and local area? The changes that took so long to make to the play area were poor- the see-saw bumps down hard onto a hard surface rather than a tyre that would create rebound, there is hardly any sand in the sandpit and the lack of toilets is a big problem- especially in the winter! Events like redfest are fab and it's a great park- lovely green space, the 'lake' would be better if you could get all the way around for walking as well
- 96 Keep the library! Prioritise reducing air pollution