

Stow Pump Track survey – December 2019

1. INTRODUCTION

The Stow Pump Track group held a consultation event on Friday 13th December, which was open to everyone. The event was advertised via the Community Newsletter, social media, posters around the area, and a letterbox leaflet drop in both Stow and Fountainhall. On the day, there were two sessions, one in the afternoon and one in the evening. Information about the proposed sites was available at the event, with a short presentation given by Leonie Cairns. Everyone who attended was invited to complete a survey to gain their views. For those who were unable to attend the event the information from the event and a questionnaire were available online. The survey was open until 31st December 2019.

2. RESULTS

2.1 Respondents

75 people completed the survey.

85% were a resident of Stow, with 7% stating they were a resident of Fountainhall (Figure 1).

In terms of age, 48% of those who completed the survey were aged 35-64 years (Figure 2).

There was a fairly even split across gender with 57% male and 41% female (Figure 3).

2.2 Preferred Location

Of the two sites 84% said they preferred site 1 – the land between the park and the bowling club, with 16% stating site 5 – the land in the corner of the park where Stow Sports Tents are located (Figure 4).

2.2.1 Those who preferred Site 1

Of those who selected site 1 (63 respondents in total), 57 residents (90%) are residents of Stow (Figure 5).

33 respondents (52%) were aged 35-44 yrs.

39 respondents (62%) were male with 24 respondents (38%) female

Comments from those who preferred site 1

I think it would be a better site with less impact on the other offering in Stow. It's also a bigger site and I don't think the playing fields are the place for a pump track when this land is available. I think this site would have less impact all round. It also protects football pitch and helps all activities such as play parks etc. flowing together well. The site is safe and easily accessible.

Less of a visual impact from residents on Galashiels rd. Bigger area therefore more flexible space to develop the track. Land at present not in use so a really good initiative for young people in the village

Access, More in line with local land/area.

It's not in the way of any event

<i>The other site might get in the way of stow sports week. And site 1 is bigger so there is more opportunity.</i>
<i>Better use of land</i>
<i>because it is hidden</i>
<i>It is tucked away, a great size and it would blend into the community</i>
<i>Tucked out the way so will not impact on dog walkers and football. For child safety would prefer an addition evidence to be made onto station road = 2 exits in case of bad people so kids cannot get trapped</i>
<i>Appears to be the preferred site from the option appraisal</i>
<i>More space</i>
<i>Not disrupting park or park life</i>
<i>(site 5) This would interfere with the Stow Sports Week, not only the tents but viewing area and fancy dress</i>
<i>Larger site, longer track</i>
<i>It's been unused for years so it would be good to do something with it for everyone in Stow.</i>
<i>because it is wasted land and the school don't even use it</i>
<i>Because we already have a community garden</i>
<i>More space, which would give more options for the track</i>
<i>because there is more space</i>
<i>More space</i>
<i>Because it is hidden</i>
<i>Less impact on sports week, hidden from being eyesore</i>
<i>It's the closest place and probably more accessible with bikes as for the bridge</i>
<i>Too much going in park. I think older kids would appreciate the slight separation from main park (more privacy). Less chance of little ones playing at the park wandering on to it. I think the school needs to look after the ground it has before taking on more. Community garden at mill court is perfect, we don't need 2.</i>
<i>because it is good</i>
<i>It is never used for anything. It's just an empty marsh. The site 5 area, however is used for tents on Stow Sports etc. Also site 1 is bigger</i>
<i>Doesn't interfere with existing park usage</i>
<i>Less used area, as long as track isn't damaged in floods and leaves access for maintaining lade</i>
<i>More secluded and less intrusive for the park. Also larger than site 5 which I think will be shrunk due to the needs of sports week.</i>
<i>There is more 'flow' between it and the playground so it's easier to supervise kids in both locations</i>
<i>I think it would be better for the community</i>
<i>Site is larger and seems to offer better track opportunities. Room for expansion. Doesn't impact upon sports week tents</i>
<i>It's a larger spot, room for expansion, its own space that doesn't impact on the sports playing field. It's also been mostly unused so is a great spot to develop</i>
<i>Larger site and room for expansion</i>
<i>Larger site</i>
<i>More space</i>

<i>Don't ask questions</i>
<i>It is bigger</i>
<i>Size, visual appeal, proximity to play equipment</i>
<i>Larger, better access, close to where I drink (Bowling club) better views</i>
<i>Less overlooked, less able for v small people to run away. More greenery, less disruptive to existing events (football club, sports week etc)</i>
<i>More secluded and nicer site</i>
<i>Cos it's more secluded</i>
<i>Larger pump track</i>
<i>Looks ideal for pump track, good access and less impactful on sports week</i>
<i>Essentially redundant - unless Community Garden/school project takes off</i>
<i>more space</i>
<i>Least disruption to the rest of the village in this site. Not really used for much else at the moment</i>
<i>Most suitable</i>
<i>I think this site is most suitable because next to the park and post office and station</i>
<i>Larger area, less visual impact and less impact on other stakeholders (football/Stow sports etc)</i>
<i>Visual impact and no houses overlooking</i>
<i>Site 5 would be more disruptive during sports week. Site 1 feels like it's more contained.</i>
<i>More space, away from football pitch (and football language). Good access. Site 5 preferred site for Sports Week tents</i>
<i>Site area, slightly wider which will allow for a better track design. Less visual impact on residents</i>
<i>Less visual input on residents</i>
<i>Access, compact space and offers more opportunities for layouts</i>
<i>Better use of space, less restricted build wise</i>
<i>Minimise disruption to Stow Sports week & maximise space used in a vacant plot</i>
<i>Quieter/away from road/bigger site</i>
<i>more space for pump track, doesn't interfere with existing park use</i>

2.1.2 Those who preferred Site 5

Of those who selected site 5 (12 respondents in total). Due to the small base size, only the number of respondents are shown.

7 respondents were residents of Stow.

Ages were very even with 3 respondents falling into each of the following age categories - 19-34yrs , 35-64yrs and 65yrs +.

7 respondents were female with 4 respondents male (one did not answer)

Comments from those who preferred site 5

At site 5 there is less risk of the bowling club being flooded. It is easy access from the car park. The one would flood less. Prefer not to use site as this poses a flood risk to the bowling club
Larger site further away from main road
It is bigger than the other one
Car drivers with younger children can park easily and access park
Prefer a bit of distance/separation from small kids play area and the pump track to keep the wee ones safe from the bikes
Because I think there is less risk of causing flooding to Bowling club. I feel site 1 floods more than site 5
Site 1 is an important flood plain with a very low bridge over Mill lade. This is a pinch point for water to exit the village beyond station road
Easy access and an area that already attracts children
More open site and easier access. Does not conflict with other use
Seems like a sensible place to have it as there is plenty of room but also allows activities to continue in the park. It is visible and easy and therefore encourages people to use it
The close proximity of houses in the other location, along with keeping noise to a minimum for Stow Bowling Green. I also feel that the area was gifted to the community and has only recently been developed by the school as an outdoor learning area which has many opportunities and so would be too much of a shame to destroy in order to make into a pump track. By making the track at location 5, this would also avoid the "younger" park which could be hazardous with bikes passing by

2.3 Likelihood to use pump track in Stow

84% said that they and/or members of their family would use the pump track in Stow if it was developed.

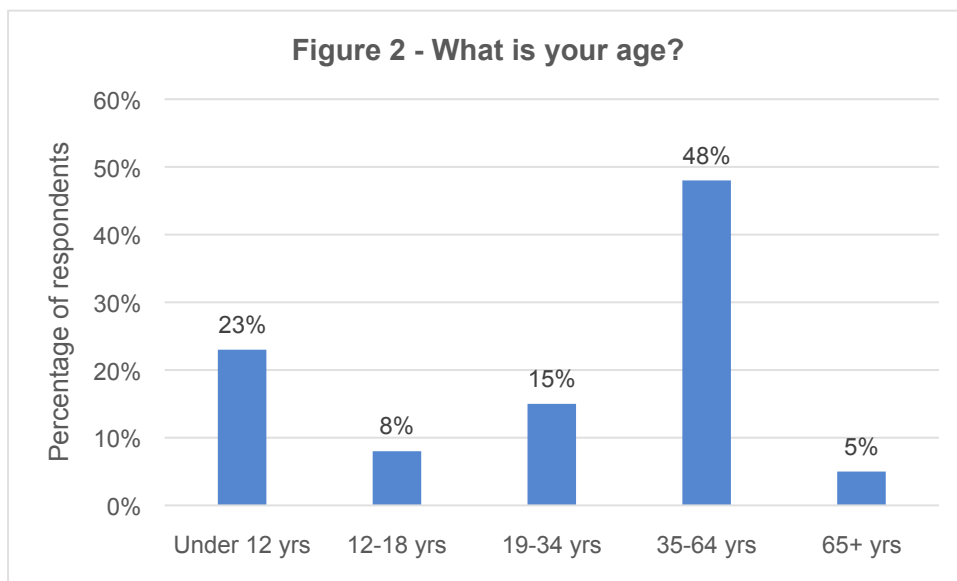
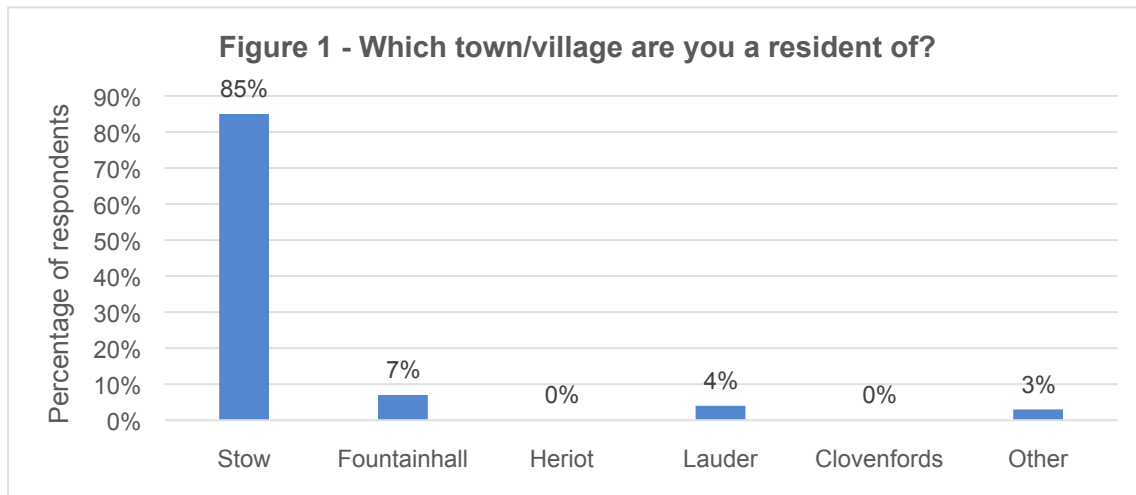
2.4 Other Comments

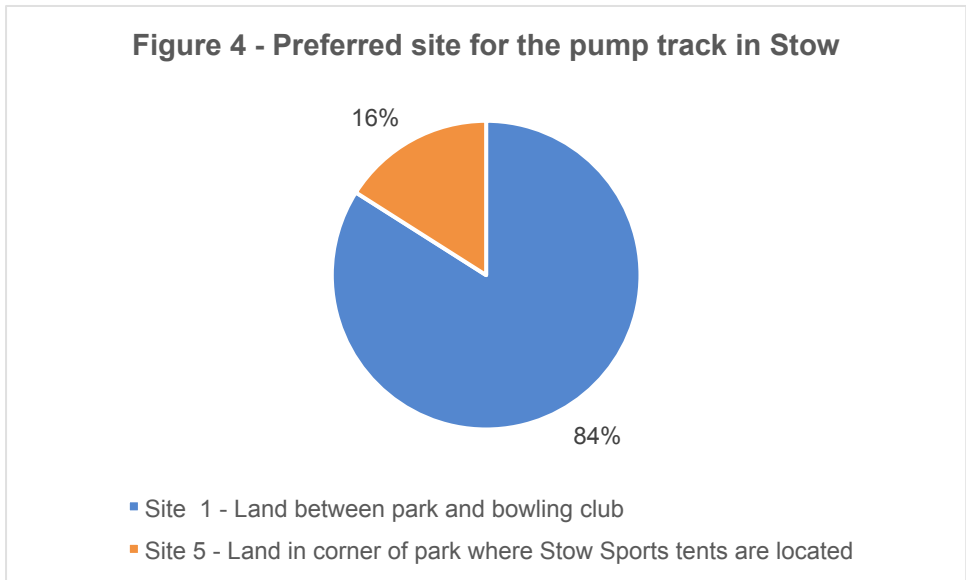
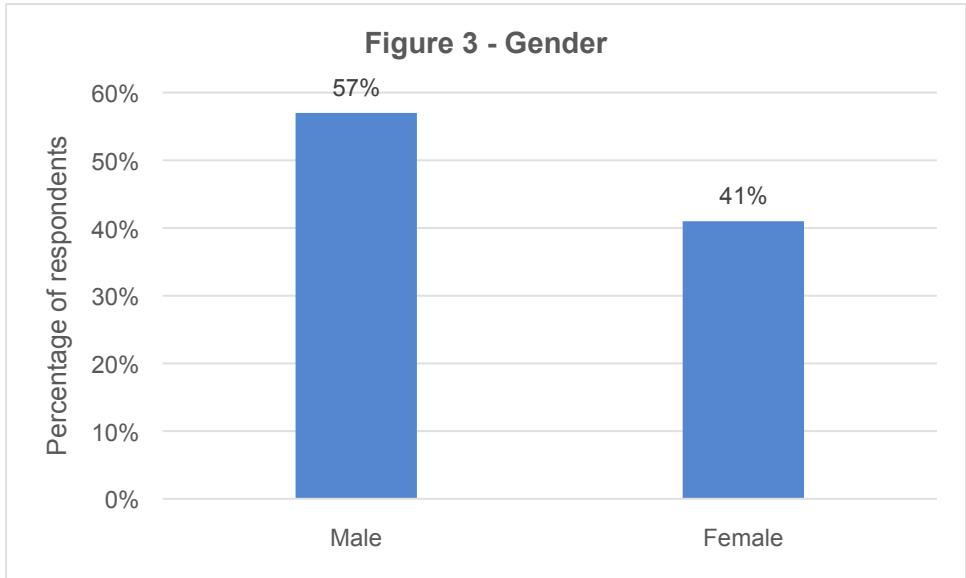
Respondents were given the opportunity to provide any further comments on the proposed pump track. These were as follows:

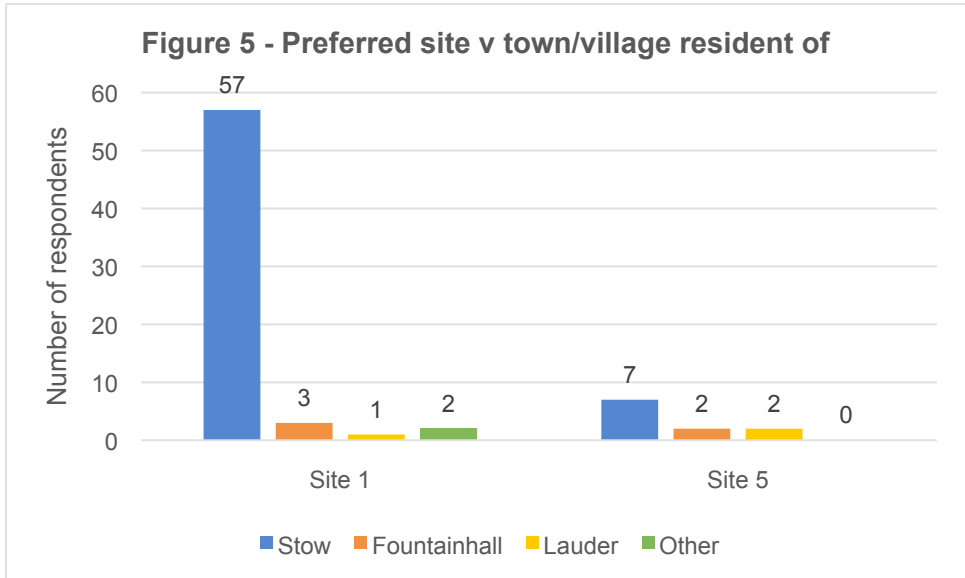
<i>Stow has very few safe areas for cycling. Many children are keen to use their bikes with little opportunity. This would be a fantastic resource for developing their skills and getting them outside -for their future and long-term health and wellbeing</i>
<i>This is a really great plan for our young people to improve fitness in a safe environment</i>
<i>Fantastic idea and hope you can do it</i>
<i>I'm excited</i>
<i>It would be a positive addition to our community encouraging exercise and community</i>
<i>I think it is a great idea, for the people/children of Stow to have. But not at site 1, believe the bowling club will be put at a higher risk of flooding.</i>
<i>I think this would be good for the village - Cardrona has one, why not Stow</i>
<i>We can't wait</i>
<i>This would be great asset for the community including Lauderdale. Very measured as I am also involved in Lauderdale cycling and this would be a great asset for us as a club and XXX use as well</i>
<i>I love my bike#</i>

<i>This will be a fantastic asset for the village</i>
<i>Excited</i>
<i>Very excited. This would be great for Stow.</i>
<i>Good luck going forwards. I can't wait to see it completed.</i>
<i>Very keen - great way to increase activity</i>
<i>Don't have any comments</i>
<i>Very excited by the prospect. I think it will be great for kids and people of all ages, good social aspect too.</i>
<i>Very support of this going ahead, it's a fantastic opportunity for the children and community as a whole - to exercise, socialise and gain another activity in Stow</i>
<i>Any aggregates used in construction from a volume point of view, the equivalent amount of spoil should be removed</i>
<i>I like riding my book]</i>
<i>Because it would be fun</i>
<i>Great idea! Thanks for all your efforts</i>
<i>appreciate the hard work</i>
<i>Pump tracks are good</i>
<i>I think it would be an amazing addition to the village and very well used</i>
<i>A great idea - 100% supportive</i>
<i>I can't wait</i>
<i>Really excited to see this developing, happy to help where I can</i>
<i>Make it a nice one</i>
<i>Fantastic work so far. All the best for success!!</i>
<i>Fully support this very worthwhile project</i>
<i>Great addition to stow will provide a facility for local kids on scooters, skateboards, rollerblades, BMX and mountain bike</i>
<i>Great for all ages in all weathers very social and all different bikes scooters etc</i>
<i>Grew up in Stow riding bikes and never had anything like this. Would be a brilliant addition to the village and community. It would get more kids outdoors/on bikes scooters etc</i>
<i>I have 2 little boys who will be delighted to use the pump track</i>
<i>If the track had been installed when my children were young they would have definitely used it. We know that the children of stow would greatly benefit from it, it would give them something to do and keep them busy whilst also providing lots of fun.</i>
<i>This would be amazing for the young people of Stow though I think it would be used by all ages. In particular it would provide a place to ride a bike in all weathers, will help develop bike skills and support health and wellbeing.</i>

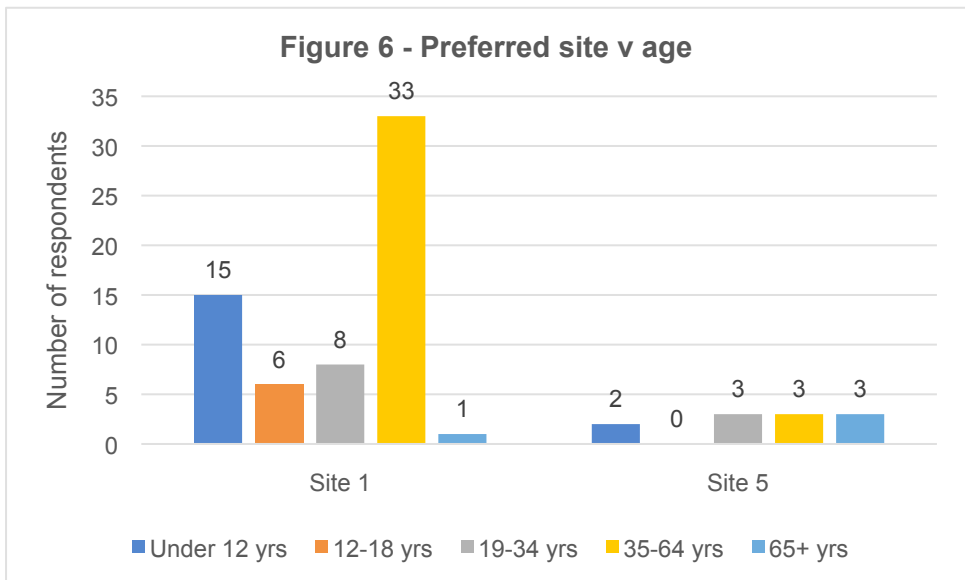
3. APPENDIX



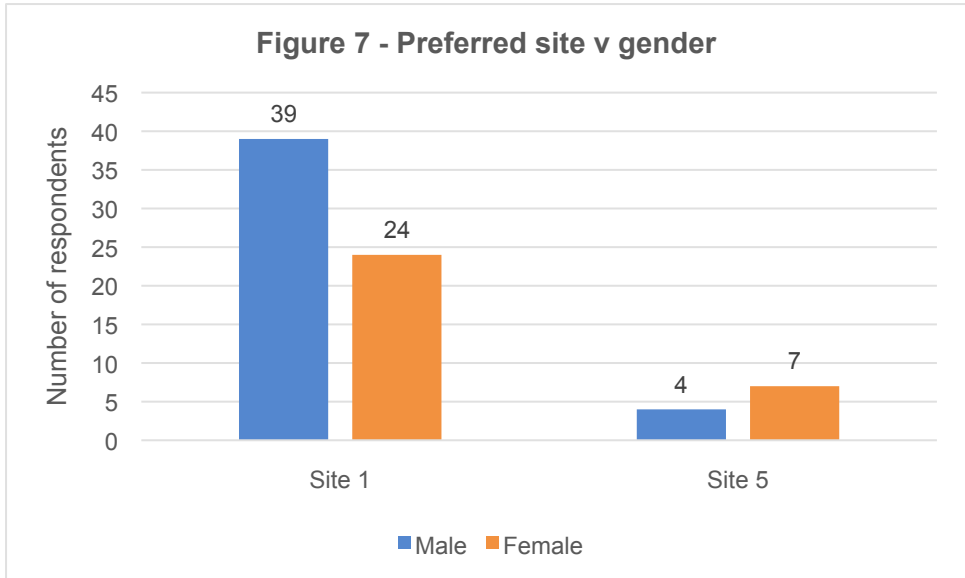




Caution should be taken due to small sample size for Site 5



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