

Orrell Mount Park

Masterplan

Public Consultation Information

People are being asked for their views on the potential major redevelopment of a greenspace in Bootle.

Sefton Council is inviting residents, community groups and stakeholders in South Sefton to take part in a consultation exercise regarding the proposed re-development of Orrell Mount Park, Bootle.

This consultation, which is being run by FMG Consulting on behalf of the Council, is an opportunity for people to ask questions, share feedback on the proposals and gain a better understanding of the design proposals, timescales, and the benefits to the local community that the development could provide.

The consultation runs from **Monday 30th May** to **Friday 22nd July 2022**



HOW TO HAVE YOUR SAY

INFORMATION: Information about the proposal including details of the core elements of the schemes, including design and a masterplan can be found at www.sefton.gov.uk/orrellmount



ONLINE SURVEY: An online survey is available and can be found at www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/OrrellMountPark or by scanning the QR code. This survey provides the opportunity to share your views on the proposals. Hard copies are also available from Litherland Sports Park (address below) and Bootle library, 220 Stanley Road, Bootle, L20 3EN.

BRIEFING MEETINGS: The consultation also includes briefings with key local stakeholders, including local Councillors and resident groups who have particular interest in Orrell Mount Park and the surrounding area.

DROP-IN SESSIONS: A series of public Drop-In Sessions will take place where interested parties can ask questions regarding the proposals and share their feedback.

DATES AND LOCATIONS OF DROP-IN SESSIONS

Date	Time	Location
Thursday 9th June	10am to 12.30pm	Litherland Youth & Community Centre, 41 Sefton Road, Litherland, L21 9HD
Thursday 9th June	2pm to 4.30pm	Litherland Sports Park, Boundary Road, Litherland, L21 7LA
Thursday 9th June	5.30pm to 8pm	Kings Leadership Academy, Fernhill Road, Bootle, L20 6AQ
Monday 11th July	10am to 12.30pm	The Inclusion Network CIC, Northfield Community Centre, King Avenue, Bootle, L20 0BZ
Monday 11th July	2pm to 4.30pm	Litherland Sports Park, Boundary Road, Litherland, L21 7LA
Monday 11th July	5.30pm to 8pm	Litherland Sports Park, Boundary Road, Litherland, L21 7LA

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROJECT

The Orrell Mount Park Masterplan proposes to introduce a new 3G pitch for which funding is available. The overall masterplan and park improvements would form a second phase of development and be subject to the identification of the necessary resources.

VEHICLE ENTRANCE, MOVEMENT, AND PARKING: The masterplan includes the additional carparking would be introduced along the main driveway which will include disabled parking and charging points for electric vehicles by the front of the building.

PEDESTRIAN FLOW: Removing the old bowling green fencing and overgrown hedge would release this area of land for a new use, to include dog exercise/agility area and would also enable a new path/circular route.

EXISTING BUILDING: Attractive renovations to the existing building are to include a balustrade walkway around the first floor. The basements of the building would be used for changing provision with the remaining areas to be open to community and social enterprise use. The wheelchair accessible ramp to the rear of the building would remain with the addition of a new rear garden area, which could accommodate a seating area for a new community café.

PLAY AND RECREATIONAL FEATURES: To remain on site is the outdoor gym, the toddler/junior age play area with older children facilities including the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA). To the side of the new 3G pitch, there remains open green space for recreational use, including goal posts for informal football and school sports days.

OTHER FEATURES: The new design includes a dog exercise/agility area as well as a fenced off area where the original bowling green area was located to enable dogs to be safely let off the lead.

SITE FURNITURE: With the introduction of new features, especially the creation of the circular path, there is opportunity to refresh the existing and provide new furniture and benches where suitable.

TREES AND SHRUB PLANTING: With the proposed plans, there is scope to increase tree and shrub planting on site to shape/shield views, reduce noise and offset carbon benefits. It is proposed that the corner to the west of the play area could be expanded upon to become the 'nature area' for the park.

LIGHTING: The multi-use game area ('MUGA') is currently lit towards the rear of the park. The new 3G pitch will have floodlighting with concentrated technology to illuminate the pitch only, this lighting will be on a strict curfew basis.

FUTURE USE, EVENTS, AND ACTIVITIES: The site will remain a Neighbourhood Scale Park and so the provision of new community based events and activities would be welcomed. These can include simple fun days, sports days, educational activities, nature walks to engage the community and encourage use of the site.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROPOSED 3G PITCH AND NEW CHANGING ROOMS

WHY DO WE NEED 3G PITCHES IN SEFTON? Currently there are 3 full-sized 3G football pitches in Sefton. The Council's Playing Pitch Strategy identified a need for 11 AGPs (artificial grass pitches) to meet demand for football in the area in 2016. A more-recent review has shown that this requirement has increased the need to 12 full-sized pitches. Given the substantial level of need identified, the Orrell Mount Park proposals are important in starting to meet this demand.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF 3G PITCHES? Sport England states that 3G artificial grass pitches are durable, safe, year-round playing surfaces, able to withstand intensive use and all kinds of weather. They mean more people can benefit from all the associated social and health benefits of physical activity.

WHO WOULD BE MANAGING THE SITE AND WHO WOULD HAVE ACCESS TO THE FACILITIES? It is proposed that the site would be managed by the Jamie Carragher Foundation, a not-for-profit social enterprise which aims to provide a safe place for young and disadvantaged people and other members of the community to play and learn. Some priorities of the foundation with regards to Orrell Mount Park are to provide opportunities for underrepresented groups such as creating new women and girls football teams, walking football, veteran football, affordable holiday camps for local children, sessions for disabled people, crime prevention schemes and providing facilities for local schools' use.

HOW ELSE WOULD CLUBS AND PLAYERS BENEFIT? Use of a Sefton-owned facility would work out cheaper for clubs than alternatives. A full-sized 3G pitch is larger, allowing more teams to train at the same time and will also allow teams to train more frequently in times of bad weather.

HOW MUCH WOULD IT COST TO USE THE PITCH? The pitch would have an affordable pricing policy to ensure it is accessible to all users. It would also be benchmarked against similar facilities.

WHAT ABOUT LOCAL SCHOOLS? St Robert Bellarmine's School have been contacted and offered free use of the pitch. Other local schools already have access to pitches for their sports days, but should they wish to use the 3G pitch this can be discussed. The School Games Organiser for South Sefton is a committed community partner and will be working with other local primary schools so they can also have access to the proposed site.

WHAT ABOUT OTHER LOCAL CLUBS? The groups currently using the site on an informal basis have been offered the use of the 3G pitch and the development is wholly supported by Silcox Villa FC and Northfield FC as well as other local football groups.

IS IT GOING TO BE NOISY? A Noise Impact Assessment has been completed. In line with this, and comments from the Environmental Health Officer, an acoustic barrier would be installed along the southern and part of the eastern elevation of the proposed pitch. This will significantly reduce the impact of any noise from the proposed development.

WHAT TIME WILL THE FLOODLIGHTS BE IN USE UNTIL? The lighting system would be fitted with a smart control unit which automatically changes with summer/winter times and allows switching of individual pitches to ensure over lighting is minimised. This system would ensure that the curfew time of 08:00-22:00 (Monday to Friday) and 08:00-20:00 hours (weekends and Bank Holidays) is adhered to.

WILL ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR BE AN ISSUE? More frequent use, combined with the new floodlighting, would result in a natural increase in surveillance. By allowing funding to maintain and secure the site properly, the proposed facility should provide a long-term solution to issues of antisocial behaviour.

CAN 3G PITCHES BE A HEALTH CONCERN? There is no scientific evidence to support claims that 3G pitches pose any health risks. Sport England recognise that concerns have been raised about the safety of 3G pitches, but numerous independent scientific studies have reported an extremely low level of concern for human health.

WHAT IS THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF THE PROJECT? The modular building would be constructed with renewable timber cladding and four electric charging points would be added to the carparks to facilitate the use of electric vehicles. 3G pitches do not require watering or fertilisation and the 3G pitch itself is comprised of sustainable materials such as the sand/rubber infill which is made from recycled rubber tyres. Significant additional planting of trees would form part of the scheme.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROPOSED OVERALL LANDSCAPE AND PARK IMPROVEMENTS

WOULD THE COUNCIL DO ANYTHING TO THE PAVILION? Refurbishment of the pavilion is a future aspiration for the site but is not part of the current proposals. The proposed development would provide significant investment in the area which would, in turn, aid the refurbishment of the pavilion for the benefit of the local community.

WOULD LOCAL PARKING BE AFFECTED? Highways officers have assessed the proposals and say that they would not result in negative impact on the local road network. They would not cause a significant increase in traffic during peak hours and there are no issues relating to junction capacity. To deal with some car parking issues which already exist, a new carpark along the main driveway is proposed.

WHY HAS PLANNING PERMISSION ALREADY BEEN APPROVED AND DOES THIS MEAN THAT THE DECISION HAS ALREADY BEEN TAKEN TO PROCEED? Planning permission is a condition of grant funding from the Football Foundation, who have made available £750,000 to support the proposed development. A planning application was made in October 2020 and followed the full normal planning process. Residents in the immediate vicinity of the proposed site were consulted, along with other key stakeholders, and the application was open for public comment and objection. Feedback was received in relation to possible noise, parking and traffic issues and anti-social behaviour, and plans were adapted accordingly. Councillors on the planning committee consider all views expressed and in making decisions take care to balance local and national interests. Full details of the planning application document, and decision reports can be found on the planning portal at www.sefton.gov.uk/planning. You will need to enter reference numbers DC/2020/02027 for the main application and DC/2021/01276 for a supplementary one.