

Appendix 1 - Athletics Track Consultation

Analysis of Literals – Sept 2018

Q2 What do you think about the suggestion of building a track and sports pavilion on the Cupid Green Playing Fields?

What do you think about the suggestion of building a track...?	% of respondents who made comment
Positives	
Positive comments general (24)	5
Local schools (21)	4
Increased leisure facilities (13)	3
Good for area (10)	2
Sports Hub (7)	1
Good for health (6)	1

(Base: 513)

Examples of POSITIVE comments made by respondents

Very good excellent idea hope it goes ahead

It will be a great benefit to all local schools and clubs, adults and younger athletes

I think it's a brilliant idea a great addition to the area. In conjunction with the other sporting facilities nearby it will provide the local community with some much needed leisure facilities.

Great for the local community

Sounds like a very good idea for the youth of today to have some new sports equipment and places to keep fit

What do you think about the suggestion of building a track...?	% of respondents
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	who made comment
Negative comments	
Improve existing site/keep existing site (129)	25
Parking concerns (113)	22
Increased transport congestion/disruption (85)	17
Loss of green space/land used by community (47)	9
Transport Links/accessibility (34)	7
Flood lights, pollution, noise disruption (32)	6
Too close to residential housing (32)	6
Financial investment concerns (32)	6
Concerns over housing development/transparency (21)	4
Negative general (15)	3
Other suggested other sites Grovehill Playing Fields, Margaret Lloyd etc (15)	3
Poor design/location (14)	3
Site too small (14)	3
Not close to shops/restaurants etc (9)	2
Reference to Jarman Athletic Track August Newsletter 2018 (8)	2
Infrastructure concerns (6)	1
Impact on property prices (4)	1
	(Base: 513)

Examples of NEGATIVE comments made by respondents

What is wrong with the athletics track at Jarman Park? It must be cheaper to refurbish this than create an entirely new facility.

Do not think it is a good idea or worth the investment when the money could be better spent improving roads and cutting grass and looking after trees etc

I think the site looks too small. Will there be sufficient parking provision? Has the access onto Redbourne Road been considered? This road is already very busy and I would be concerned about volume of traffic.

I think it is a very bad idea. Why do planners not think!!!

I would object because it removes the playing field and a popular area for local dog walkers (myself included).

Q3 What do you think are the key challenges and possible benefits of building a track and sports pavilion on the Cupid Green Playing Fields?

What do you think are the key challenges and possible benefits ...?	% of respondents who made comment
Benefits	
New sports venue (23)	5
Local schools (21)	4
Community facilities (20)	4
Inspiring youth (17)	4
Health benefits (15)	3
Challenges	
Parking concerns (153)	32
Increased transport congestion/disruption (113)	24
Improve existing site/Keep existing site (67)	14
Transport links / Accessibility (60)	13
Noise, floodlights, pollution etc (60)	13
Loss of green space, land used by community (52)	11
Financial investment concerns (48)	10
Too close to residential housing (35)	7
Site too small (30)	6
ASB (27)	6
Alternative location (24)	5
Infrastructure (23)	5
Road safety (16)	3
Concerns over housing development/transparency (7)	1
Want alternative sport facility (6)	1

(Base: 476)

Examples of comments made by respondents on the BENEFITS of new track:

Benefits will be employment and community facilities, local schools will also benefit from having this.

The benefits are for the local schools nearby and the local area in genera

Benefits will be starting from scratch, building a much improved facility.

I believe it will be a welcome addition to the area and provide many residents, young an old a place to increase their physical activity and help to build a stronger, healthier community.

It would keep many youngsters busy and occupied and may lead to a life in sport a very good idea

Examples of comments made by respondents on key CHALLENGES:

Environmental issues and traffic

It is not central to Hemel so fewer people will attend. Transport links are poorer than to Jarman Park and so fewer people could access this facility

I think the main challenge will be to ensure adequate parking.

Reduction in the size of green spaces available for usage. Restricting the type of usage of existing green spaces. Increase in noise and traffic to the area. - roads would need to be improved.

Q6 Do you have any other comments or suggestions you would like to share with us regarding this Athletics Track proposal?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions ...?	% of respondents who made comment
Improve existing site/Keep existing site (80)	21
Financial investment concerns (37)	10
Another location (31)	8
Concerns over housing development/transparency (30)	8
Invest in different project (22)	6
Green spaces (19)	5
Parking/traffic (17)	5
Infrastructure (16)	4
Joint venture with school (6)	2
Invest outside of Hemel (5)	1
Football/Football pitches (5)	1
Road safety (5)	1
Site too small (4)	1

(Base: 379)

Examples of comments and suggestions made by respondents

If I was a decision maker I would put money into upgrading the existing facilities rather than starting from scratch and causing problems for those who are local to that area!

The reason for the move needs to be transparent. It's not about moving the Athletics track so that sport gets a new facility, it's about selling the land for house building

Please stop building on green land that is already in use when we have an athletics track at Jarmans

Just ensure parking and traffic relieving measures are put in place and it will be amazing for the whole community and surrounding areas

I'd be very interested in the cost, time scale of the build, what the future is for the current site of the athletics track. Also how is this development being paid for?