

# Cotman Close Play Area Consultation

## SUMMARY REPORT

A review of the feedback received to the Cotman Close Play Area consultation.

**SEPTEMBER 2024**

If you require this report in an alternative format (for example large print, Braille, audio, email, Easy Read and alternative languages) please email [jointheconversation@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:jointheconversation@southandvale.gov.uk) or call 01235 422425.



# CONTENTS

METHODOLOGY .....	3
KEY FINDINGS .....	4
SUMMARY DATA.....	5
ENGAGEMENT EVENT FEEDBACK .....	12
ENGAGEMENT POSTER.....	13
HOW WE HAVE USED RESULTS OF THE CONSULTATION.....	14
FURTHER INFORMATION.....	15

**Note:** When stating percentages in the analysis, we are referring to the percentage of respondents that answered the specific question, rather than the total number of responses to the overall survey. Response percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding up over .5 and rounding down under .5. Words that appear in italics are quotes taken from comments received. A late response was received via email to the consultation, but it has not been considered nor forms part of this report.



## METHODOLOGY

### ENGAGEMENT METHODS

- A leaflet was delivered to 83 properties adjacent to the play area.
- Posters were displayed in the park as well as around the play area to inform regular users.
- The survey was shared with 12 key stakeholders, such as the local town council, ward members and Thameside Primary School.
- The council's Equality Officer shared details of the survey with 9 contacts on the council's access database.
- Targeted social media posts were shared on the Nextdoor app to help promote the consultation.
- The council's Arts Officer worked closely with children from Thameside Primary School to get their views on the play area.

1

### BACKGROUND

The Vale of White Horse District Council secured some funding to replace or revamp the play equipment in Cotman Close Play Area. The councils wanted together ideas from residents that use the park or live near it to help shape the future design of the play area.

2



3

### ABOUT THE SURVEY

The consultation ran for a four-week period from Thursday 11 July until 11.59pm on Thursday 8 August. 71 responses were received to the consultation, with 58% being from residents that live in Abingdon and are users of the play area, and a considerable number from residents adjacent to the play area, and a user (27%).

4

### THE REPORT

A summary of the comments to the consultation is included in this report. Any personal information supplied to us within the comments that could identify anyone has been removed. Further information on data protection is available in our general consultation's privacy statement on our [South](#) or [Vale](#) websites.



## KEY FINDINGS

71 residents responded to the Cotman Close Play Area survey.

**58%**

live in  
Abingdon and  
are a user of  
the play area.



**42%**

feel the range of play  
equipment provided is  
poor (28%) and very poor  
(14%).

**80%**

feel the condition of  
the equipment  
provided is  
poor (55%) and very  
poor (25%).



Other pieces of play equipment residents  
would like to see in the play area are...

- ♦ Climbing frame (25%)
- ♦ Equipment for toddlers (21%)
- ♦ Monkey bars (18%)
- ♦ Swings (27%)
- ♦ Trampoline (24%)
- ♦ Zip wire (14%)
- ♦ Slide (15%)

## SUMMARY DATA

This section of the report provides the summary data received to the Cotman Close survey.

### Are you responding as:

100% of respondents answered this question. Over half of respondents (58%) are residents living in Abingdon and are a user of the play area, followed by residents living adjacent to the play area and are a user (27%).

Option	Total	Percent
A resident adjacent to the play area, and a user	19	27%
A resident adjacent to the play area, but not a user	3	4%
A resident living in Abingdon, but not a user of the play area	1	1%
A resident living in Abingdon, and a user of the play area	41	58%
A user of the play area, but not living in Abingdon	3	4%
An interested member of the public/individual outside of Abingdon	3	4%
A district, town/parish council representative	0	0%
A business/organisation representative	0	0%
Other (please specify below)	1	1%
Not Answered	0	0%

#### Other (please specify below):

- *Family live near and take my children to the play area*
- *Both a resident, non user of play area but local town Councillor for the ward*

**To help us understand where you live in relation to the Cotman Close Play Area, please provide your street name and/or the first part of your postcode OX14 4. This question is optional.**

82% of respondents provided the name of their street. The most frequently mentioned streets are Cotman Close (17%) Gainsborough Green (9%), Saxton Road (9%) and Stonehill Walk (5%).

Street Name	Total
Cotman Close	10
Gainsborough Green	5
Saxton Road	5
Stonehill Walk	3
Baker Road	2
Metcalfe Close	2
Overmead	2
Palmer Place	2
Peachcroft Road	2
Preston Road	2
Ashgate	1

Andersey Way	1
Cox Way	1
Drayton Road	1
Furrows End	1
Coromandel	1
Cassington Road	1
Bowler Gardens	1
Midget Close	1
Pudsey Close	1
Reynolds Way	1
Townsend	1
Tyrell's Way	1
Willowbrook	1
Woodcote Way	1
Golafre Road	1
Grebe Close	1
Hardcastle Drive	1
Kensington Close	1
King Street	1
Landseer Walk	1
Lucca Drive	1
Medlicott Drive	1

89% of respondents provided their postcode. The most frequently mentioned are OX14 5 (48%), followed by OX14 (11%).

Postcode	Total
OX14 5	30
OX14	7
OX14 5NH	4
OX14 1	2
OX14 2	2
OX14 4	2
OX13 5GS	1
OX14 1SX	1
OX14 4DH	1
OX5 1	1
OX14 5HH	1
OX14 5NG	1
OX14 4GN	1
OX14 G	1
OX14 5QH	1
OX14 5NW	1
OX14 5NQ	1
OX14 5LS	1
OX14 5JL	1



OX14 5JB	1
Ox14 5JA	1
OX14 5GE	1

**If you are responding on behalf of a district, town/parish council, business/organisation or other, what is its name?**

Abingdon Town Council provided the name of their council. No other district, town/parish council and business/organisation provided an answer to this question.

**How often do you use the play area?**

100% of respondents answered this question. 34% of respondents visit the play area 3-4 times per month, followed by 1-2 times per month (20%). 15% of respondents visit the play area daily.

Option	Total	Percent
Daily	11	15%
3-4 times per week	0	0%
1-2 times per week	9	13%
3-4 times per month	24	34%
1-2 times per month	14	20%
Once a month	2	3%
A few times a year	6	8%
Not applicable	5	7%
Not Answered	0	0%

**We want to find out more about your thoughts on the play equipment provided in Cotman Close. What do you think of the:**

**Range of play equipment provided**

100% of respondents answered this question, 42% of which think the play equipment provided is **poor** (28%) and **very poor** (14%). 41% think the equipment is **average**.

Option	Total	Percent
Excellent	0	0%
Good	12	17%
Average	29	41%
Poor	20	28%
Very Poor	10	14%
Not Answered	0	0%

## Condition of the equipment

100% of respondents answered this question. 80% think the condition of the play equipment provided is **poor** (55%) and **very poor** (25%).

Option	Total	Percent
Excellent	0	0%
Good	0	0%
Average	14	20%
Poor	39	55%
Very Poor	18	25%
Not Answered	0	0%

## Are there any other pieces of play equipment you would like to see in the play area?

91% of respondents answered this question. 79% said they would like to see other pieces of equipment in the play area, whilst 13% answered no.

Option	Total	Percent
Yes	56	79%
No	9	13%
Not Answered	6	8%

Of the 79% of respondents that would like to see additional pieces of play equipment in the play area, the most frequently mentioned answers are: swings (27%), climbing frame (25%), trampoline (24%), equipment for toddlers (21%), monkey bars (18%), slide (15%) and a zip wire (14%). You can view the table of frequency below.

Other comments that were received to this question have been summarised below.

Summary of comments	Total	Percent
Swings	19	27%
Climbing frame	18	25%
Trampoline	17	24%
Equipment for toddlers	15	21%
Monkey bars	13	18%
Not answered	12	17%
Slide	11	15%
Zip wire	10	14%
Goal posts	6	8%
Trim trail/balance bar	6	8%
Roundabout	6	8%
Equipment for teenagers	5	7%
Sand box	3	4%
Sensory play equipment	3	4%
Variety of equipment	3	4%



Make use of the space	3	4%
Playhouse	3	4%
Climbing wall	3	4%
Equipment for special needs children	2	3%
Exercise equipment	2	3%
Park is used regularly	2	3%
Public bins	2	3%
skate ramp	2	3%
Spinning cup	2	3%
Steppingstones	2	3%
Seating areas	2	3%
Fireman's pole	1	1%
Flat surface for balance bikes/no stabilisers	1	1%
Multi-play equipment	1	1%
Pirate ship	1	1%
Pleased the area is being improved	1	1%
Seesaw	1	1%
Seating shelters	1	1%
Community noticeboard	1	1%
Accessible for all	1	1%
Additional seating	1	1%
Basketball hoop	1	1%
Bike rack	1	1%
Binoculars	1	1%

6% of the respondents provided an image of the equipment they would like to see in the play area. The images are provided below.



**If you have any other comments you would like to make about the Cotman Close play area, please provide them below:**

39% of respondents provided comments to this question. The most frequently mentioned comments were about the park being used on a regular basis (17%), many say this is due to the park being located adjacent to Thameside Primary School.

15% expressed views around the park needing improvements, a revamp and maintenance, comments included:

- *'This park is used regularly by school leavers and children in the surrounding area so would be lovely to see a drastic improvement in facilities.'*
- *'It's a shame the park is so run down and small with it being outside of Thameside school and used daily by the children attending the school you would think it would be more looked after and updated.'*

8% feel it would be beneficial to make use of the space, such as by providing goal posts, areas for painting/hopscotch and providing picnic tables. For instance:

- *'add some things as simple as painting a snake for the children to follow along the floor and paint a hop scotch on the floor.'*
- *'Picnic tables could be added. Many of the children like to play football so could a goal be added'.*

6% would like to see additional seating provided. Comments included:

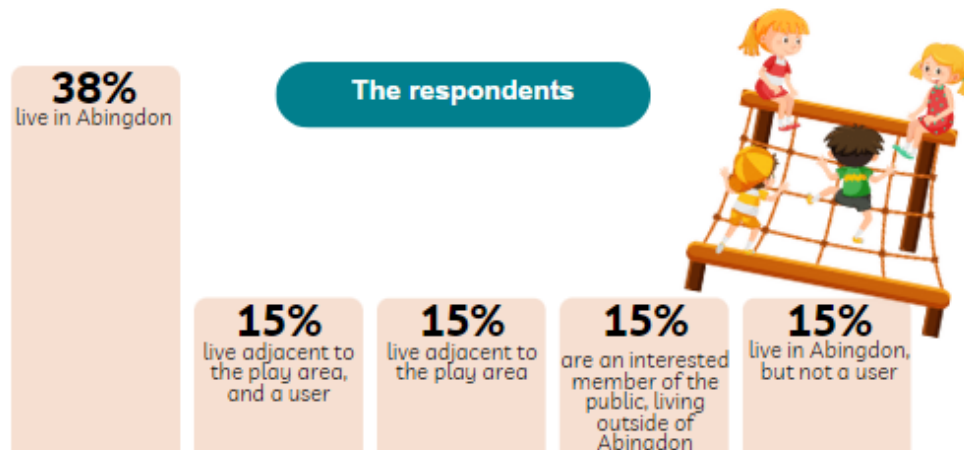
- *'More seating as there is currently only one bench which is not enough, especially when the park is busy after school.'*
- *'Several benches grouped to encourage adults to meet and chat'.*

Other comments that were received to this question have been summarised below.

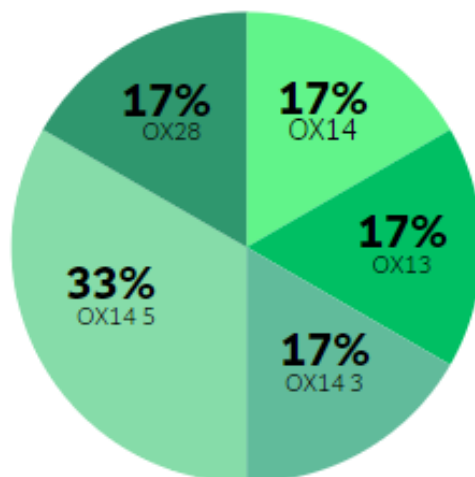
Summary of comments	Total	Percent
Park is used regularly	12	17%
Improvements/revamp/maintenance is required	11	15%
Make use of the space (goal posts, painting/hopscotch, picnic tables)	6	8%
Provide additional seating	4	6%
Provide additional equipment	3	4%
Provide durable/substantial equipment	3	4%
Anti-social behaviour	2	3%
Appeal to teenagers	2	3%
Gates that close to keep children safe	1	1%
More public bins	1	1%
Pleased the area is being improved	1	1%
Pleased with new sculpture	1	1%

## ENGAGEMENT EVENT FEEDBACK

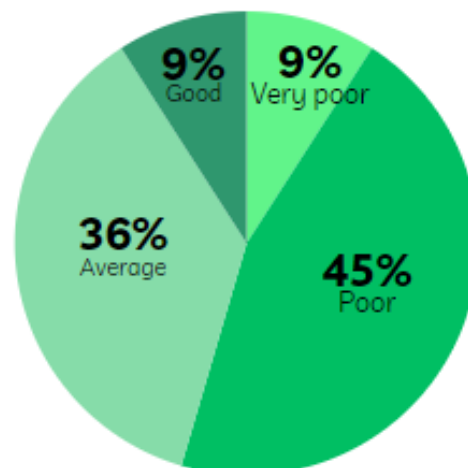
A play day event took place on Saturday 6 July to gather views from residents about the play area. A total of 11 responses were received and a summary of the results are provided below.



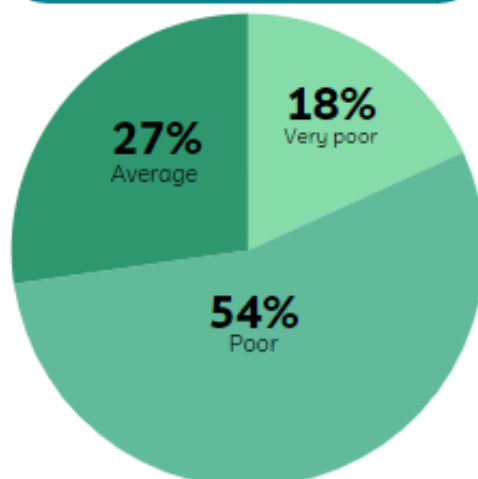
### Respondents postcode



### What respondents think of the range of equipment



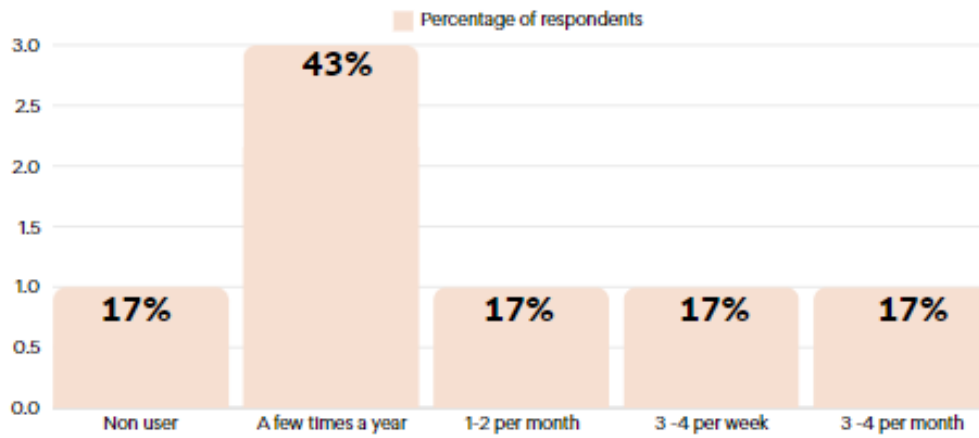
### What respondents think of the condition of the equipment



### Other pieces of equipment respondents would like to see

- Dislike the spring rockers - **2 comments**
- Zip wire - **2 comments**
- Climbing frame/exploring equipment - **2 comments**
- Other comments included: gates on the fence, no cattle grid, adapted swing, sensory play, picnic bench, safe and well maintained equipment etc)

### How often the respondents use the play area





## ENGAGEMENT POSTER

The following poster was displayed in Cotman Play Area to inform regular users about the survey. Additionally, copies of the poster were delivered to all residents that live adjacent to the play area.

**South Oxfordshire**  
District Council

**Vale of White Horse**  
District Council



# Join the Conversation

## Cotman Close Play Area

### 11 July until 8 August 2024



We want to hear from residents that use the play area or live near the area.

Find out more and have your say by:

**Scanning the QR** code to go straight to the online survey

**Viewing the online survey** at  
[southandvale.gov.uk/cotman-close-play-area](https://southandvale.gov.uk/cotman-close-play-area)

If you would like a paper copy of the survey, have any questions or require the survey in an alternative format (for example large print, Braille, audio, email, Easy Read and alternative languages), please email [parks@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:parks@southandvale.gov.uk) or calling **01235 422404**.





## HOW WE HAVE USED RESULTS OF THE CONSULTATION

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Cotman Close Play Area consultation. Your feedback will guide our decisions on the new play equipment to be installed in the park. a report on the final decisions for the play area will be available to you in due course, either directly or on our website: [Vale of White Horse Webpage](#).

Once the installation is complete, and if you provided your contact information in the survey, we will reach out to gather your thoughts on the new equipment.



## FURTHER INFORMATION

If you would like more information about this consultation and the results presented in this report, or you require this report in an alternative format (for example large print, Braille, audio, Easy Read and alternative languages) please contact:

### **Consultation and Community Engagement Team**

South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils

01235 422 425

[jointheconversation@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:jointheconversation@southandvale.gov.uk)

To enquire about the council's work on Cotman Close Play Area, please contact:

### **Technical Services Team**

South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils

01235 422 404

[parks@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:parks@southandvale.gov.uk)

