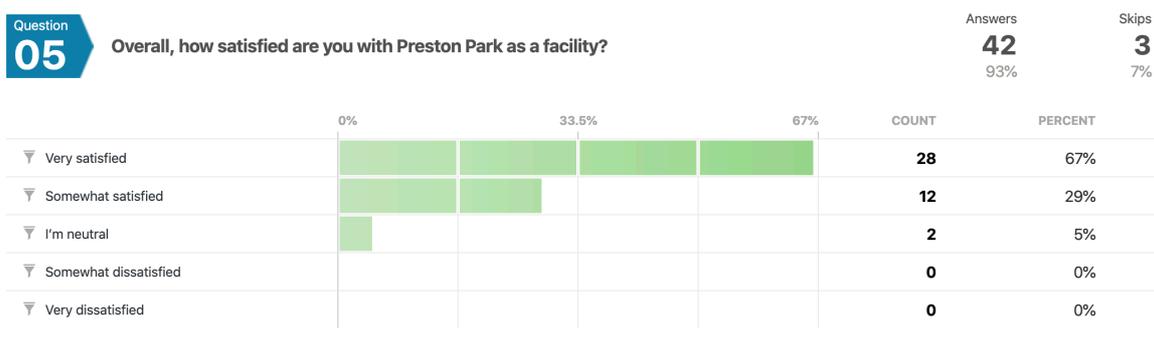
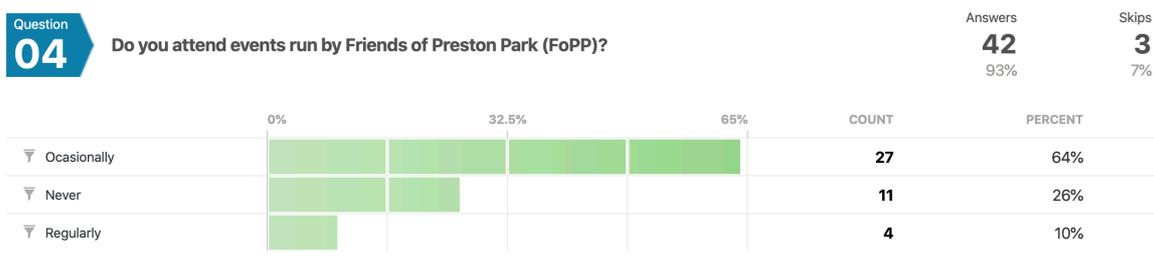
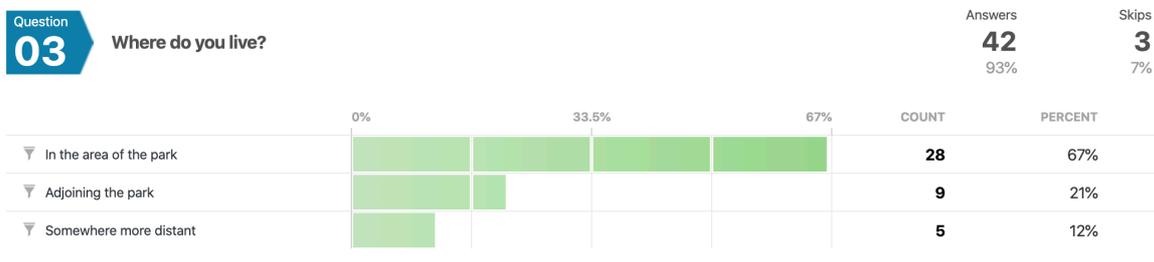


FoPP Survey 2020

Summary of results



Removal of bowling greens.

There's all I need but there are improvements which would make it better

There are walls and fences broken around the park and there are often substantial litter burdens after events. The bins are also often overflowing and there are permanent residents in the car park who do not seem to have to pay for parking.

Its proximity ... its variety ... its scale

I am impressed how free of litter the park is even at 8.00 in the morning

The Park is beautiful with the trees, plants and grassed areas, and with facilities to appeal to everyone. It is also usually very clean. There is a sense that everyone can do what suits them in the park, and well as being able to do this alongside others, who may well be doing something completely different.

I love the park and I know other people love dogs. I, however, am not a fan. I honestly don't think I'm the only person in this category. I would be great if there was a small part of the park which excluded dogs.

Toilets available, upkeep of planted areas, looking-after of trees. Park feels safe.

I like the open space and the variety of facilities on offer.

It's always in use with a diverse range of activities. It's an amazing green space, and one of the best features of the city.

Large, generally well kept, park with multiple facilities. Well used by the public.

I am mostly very satisfied but the large exercise wheels in one of the old bowling greens and the additions to the small pavilion are eyesores

A beautiful open space on my doorstep. Use it regularly for walks, coffee and Parkrun.

The variety of the park catering for all ages and pursuits - tennis, football, relaxing, dog walking (too many), croquet, Saturday Run, pétanque, walled gardens, St Peter's Church, and above all wonderful trees.

It's beautiful and well kept especially the walled gardens and croquet lawn. This was done by George the Gardener who is very sadly missed but who always kept it tip top condition. No wonder it has looked so good for years.

Much effort is made to maintain the Park and keep it alive as a valuable community resource. Many good events and fully utilised.

It's beautiful, I like the mixture of wilder areas and areas for leisure activities

I love being out in nature and Preston Park is very close to me. It is a nice size to walk around. I'm concerned about the damage to the tarmac path in the centre of the path. I also appreciate being able to walk in nature without getting all muddy so joining up a few more of the routes with non muddy paths would be nice. I also get concerned for the newts with kids and dogs playing in the pond.

I love the park and despite cuts to funding it looks fairly well maintained and is always well used by the community

How the park is maintained. Events such as Parkrun. The demo garden.

It is a well used park and seems to have something for everyone. Dog walkers, families, sports, events, children's area, football etc etc

Good range of facilities in the park. Good range of events. Usually clean and tidy. However, need to stop people having BBQs on the ground and scorching grass.

Considering the present economic / funding situation I think that the park provides an engaging environment, for all generations. It encourages biodiversity, education and is the home of the National Collection of Elms.

We live in North Laine which makes the park an ideal place to walk to and walk around. The sense of space is wonderful; the park is a tremendous community asset.

Well maintained park and garden areas within the park. Although people using the tennis courts for things other than tennis (skateboarding, cycling, playing with dogs) should be stopped. The bins are always overflowing in the summer.

Trees, flowers and shrubs are well maintained

So enjoy the Park but would like to see some seating restored around the velodrome however basic. This area gets the last of the sun. The picnic tables are grotty in that triangle near what was the sensory garden. No exercise equipment for older people.

The park is very well tended to and is spacious enough so I can walk around the park without feeling it is overcrowded. It does wonders for my well-being.

it is near at hand, very lovely with lots of trees, easy to walk around. An open space with some fresh-ish air in the middle of a city.

The ease of access - good overall cleanliness and upkeep of the park - good facilities in park - pretty good but would be nice to have some gym stuff for public use private overpriced gym in the [park - really annoying people parking in no parking areas and driving around park at weekends mostly - really annoying - please put a stop to this

Caring community, lost going on, nice atmosphere

Too many events shutting of the park. Not enough dog bins or seating.

Question
07

What delights you about the park?

Answers
40
89%

Skips
5
11%

What delights you about the park?

It's just a joy to walk through whatever the weather and at any time of the year,

Friendliness of users, toilets, parking space (although I did oppose charges, choice of cafes

A friendly, free-access greenspace with a variety of features (park, cafe, pond, wooded area, cycling space and paths). I enjoy the fact that there are features for everyone (for instance walkers, dog-walkers, children, cyclists, sports players and the elderly)

its trees, the vistas, the activities one can watch, the fact that in almost all weathers some people have chosen to spend time there

It's spacious

The variety of trees and plants, which are all well-cared for. The Rotunda Café is great, as is the Rose Garden and pond area. It's a wonderful place to take children to run around.

I work weekly at the demo allotment and love the social side as well as the work

Watching the trees become more spring-like, seeing the crocuses and daffodils, the Rose Garden.

The open grassy field areas which are very few and far between in the city residential area.

Walking my dog everyday. It is a fantastic space.

Its space, trees and variety of areas. It's lovely it so widely used but I can always find a quiet space too.

The trees, changing through the seasons. The stunning magnolia tree at the park entrance. The rose garden, being looked after so well by volunteers. The cycle track, being well used. The cafes! The space.

As above

As above

As above

The walled gardens, croquet lawns and Preston manor.

Everything.

The trees are very special

Nature

The space, the ponds, the cafe everything

The trees, the gardens, the cafes and the fact that it is so well used.

The demo garden, rose garden and chalet cafe.

Its buzzy.

Its beauty. The trees, the planting, the rock garden, the Rotunda, the fact that it is a busy, family friendly place to relax.

Large open areas. Interesting planting in area by tennis courts and wildflower meadows. Looking for tadpoles in the pond by the cafe. Playing table tennis. Visiting the community garden.

The colours of the changing seasons. The energy of the people enjoying sports. The joy of the children playing and dogs running.

Everything, especially the walled garden and the elms. The openness of the views uncluttered by railings really take you out of the city.

The view from the north end of the park grass area

The variety - walking through the woods and over the grass. sitting in the 'secret garden' admiring the trees plants and the pond. Taking friends over the Rookery on a sunny day or sitting outside the cafes. Watching other people of all ages enjoying themselves in their own way through sports, gatherings, picnics or just hanging out on way home from school, etc etc

The variety of flora, colours and trees are so well chosen and arranged. It gives me much joy to use the park. I love the rose garden, the wildflowers when they bloom and the Preston Manor garden. The trees are spectacular, and each part of the park gives you a different experience. There are parts of the park where you can smell the flowers in bloom at certain times of the year. This park is extra special.

The trees first, then the flowers and grass; the birds. Watching all sorts of people doing all sorts of things in the space.

lots of space - lots of birds and nature - lovely trees - nice people

Maintenance by an excellent team, love Park run and the Sussex farm truck on Saturday. Love the velodrome

Big open space

Question
08

What would you most like to see changed in the park? Feel free to make as many suggestions as you like.

Answers

39

87%

Skips

6

13%

A ban on Barbecues on the grass. Difficult to monitor I know.

I would like friendly lighting for night-time walks, I won't go after dark. Hot water in toilets. Potholes repaired please!

Less litter, more frequent rubbish collection especially in summer, less closure due to noisy, destructive public events during the summer.

better drainage at several points in the south end - a need not just over the recent past!

Improvement in the Rotunda - environment and menu

Nothing!

As before a no dog area

I don't like to see the park overtaken for about 10 days each year in order to host one weekend of Pride.

More benches and seating. Penalties for those with out of control dogs, so perhaps more signs asking for dogs on leads.

Less litter (more seagull/fox proof bins).

Improvements in the recycling area, which seems to be a constant source of litter.

Differently use the old bowling greens and restore the small pavilion

Dog owners taking responsibility for their dogs.

Many areas of damage that spoil parts of the park e.g. the steps from the internal road to the Rose Garden on the Presto Park Avenue side which for many months have had the bricks supporting the steps themselves creating a hazard that could be dealt very easily.

To stop vandalism in the walled gardens around the pond and to stop teenagers congregating there with loud music, trying to deter people from sitting in the walled gardens, so they can smoke cannabis and wreck the place once high in it.

From my perspective, the more that wildlife can be supported to thrive the better. I don't know if you use pesticides?

Some smaller non muddy paths to extend the routes round the park without spoiling being in nature

Better cafes, less expensive and more choice and open more. Also larger bins particularly in the summer. People will not take their rubbish home. They will always leave it by the bin for the seagulls to spread all over the park.

Money put in to enhance the general surroundings. Despite the many volunteer groups there is work to be done to enhance the overall look of the park. it would be great to have some adult fitness equipment provided.

The Rotunda cafe could be cosier.

Personally I feel the rose garden should be dog free. It's only a small area so the dogs wouldn't miss out but to have a small oasis of calm would be wonderful. My biggest headache is Pride. It has an effect on my travel to and from work. The green steel barrier is intimidating, inconvenient and up for far too long.

More seating. Deducted BBQ areas.

With a finite space and so many activities taking place, in the park, over the year, it's difficult to be specific, as I suspect any suggestion would detract another resource.

Get the clock on the tower working again! Everything else still looks great despite cutbacks.

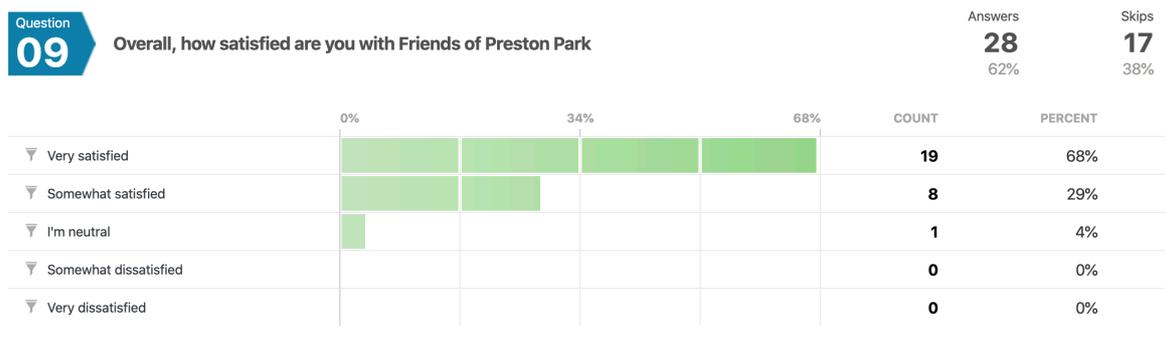
See above

The bit of grass between the communal veg garden and the back of the rotunda is well-trodden and gets rather muddy as the grass has no chance to recover. Something to help that area out might be nice. The cluster of trees next to the Fitness Gym often seem rather uninviting, the path inside leads to nowhere, perhaps this is an area to look into. I like that it can be left wild so you feel like you are walking into a forest, but

More trees, and please just enforce the parking rules and no entry rules to drivers. This is mainly a problem at weekends. Add some nice free gym equipment for use by the public and get rid of that nasty private gym which excludes much of the public because it's so expensive

New signs say, pedestrians and cyclist, the new signs should have said: no cars unless disabled. the signs will not work, they are to wishy-washy. Shame. Too many cars in the park, it's become a car park and PP Avenue is not used. Trucks are still in the park. Dog users still on grass, this area is important to be dog free as PT training sessions can be held here.

More bins...more seating...



Seems to be a well organised group that really care for the Park.

Nothing

I Think they put a lot of effort in to support the park. Which I for one are grateful for.

This question isn't displaying properly! I'm going to guess it's about the Friends - I think the organisation is very good and keeps me informed about the park.

Not sure what is meant by Option 1 and Option 2. Box below this has no question. Is survey created properly?

Not sure what the different options are for the question above?

Unfortunately the design of the survey is poor - I tried to add more things that could be changed but after only one the survey closed leaving me unable to comment on FOPP

They are always good. I was a bit disappointed in the calendar this year because the actual photos on display were quite small, whereas if more room was given to the photos, it would have been more outstanding.

Get the council to provide larger bins

I am not very involved, but find the newsletters interesting and useful. All information is greatly received and I feel there is room for improvement on the frequency of the newsletters and social media postings.

The park is very important to me so I like to know what is going on with it. FOPP are fantastic keeping me informed. A bit disappointed with the influence they have with the council though. For example, the brick pathway that Pride damaged has still not been repaired. It's coming up for 2 years now.

It's great that volunteers provide such an effective programme of activities and engagement between the local people and the park.

The regular newsletters and emails keep us up to date and explain what's happening in the park. Although we tend not to go to formal FoPP events we are really pleased to be kept informed.

Very proactive in ensuring park is well looked after by the Council, we enjoy the photo completion

i am just very pleased to know there is a community organisation protecting and defending the Park. i enjoy receiving your e mails. i enjoyed the AGM with talk about open spaces under threat. I am sorry you didn't object to the 15 storey Anston House development going up on the border of the Park as (if it ever gets built) it will overshadow the Park and be a blot on its perimeter.

FoPP has not done anything to influence my opinion but it is great to see that my concerns and love for the park are shared by a local community group.

Current updates/ information, friendly approach

Question
11

What could FoPP do that would enhance your enjoyment of the park? Feel free to make as many suggestions as you like.

Answers

11

24%

Skips

34

76%

Get better bins.

.. organised litter picking sessions on a regular (monthly??) basis would help not only with the appearance of the park but allow local people to contribute to the upkeep of a space they love!

Keep doing what you are already doing. It is very much appreciated. Thank you.

As a volunteer myself, (Sussex Wildlife Trust), I find it really difficult to suggest anything. You are all doing a great job. Thank you very much.

There are still some issues which you are well aware of, particularly the large puddles that form after heavy rain as you approach the cafe and at the end of the rose garden - but these are minor quibbles. We see constant improvements and feel that the FoPP and volunteers are doing a terrific job. Many thanks!

Lobby that large areas of the park are not closed off to the public when Pride is on

Restore some bench seating round the velodrome where they are repairing the walls at the moment.

Have the bins emptied more often/provide more bins Also, perhaps have the recycling bins looked at more often, though most of the time they are not much of a problem. More attractive toilets would be a boon. In general, we are very lucky to have the park as a resource and hope the council won't have to close it (how would it do that?) I personally hate the noisy events that occasionally take place in PP, but recognise that some people do seem to enjoy them! Please not too many, though. The noise from traffic is bad enough. The space and relative peacefulness is wonderful.

1) Put pressure on the council to make the no access signs better. 2) Put pressure for the parking IN the park to be more expensive than on Preston park; liaise with council for a new Park and Ride. 3) Put pressure to enforce penalties for dogs on velodrome.