

## 2023 Community Consultation Survey Results

WestPark Levy Trust  
Community Consultation 2023  
99 Responses  
12:47 Average time to complete

1. Would you be supportive of a community facility within West Park Village?

99 Responses

4.28 Average Rating

2. Please tell us more the reason you scored the previous question

79 Responses

### Please tell us more the reason you scored the previous question

- Would be good for somewhere for kids to go instead of hanging around the streets
- Somewhere for the kids to go for activities  
Somewhere for charity activities / community activities / classes, like they have at Cockerton club / Eastbourne / firth moor  
Ideally fitness classes too  
Needs to be a multi use venue
- There currently is no venue other than the pub in west park.
- I would be supportive but the west park levy at the moment is pretty dyer in terms of executing anything that are actually a reflection of what the west park community want, so another sub group doesn't exactly spark any confidence that it would improve the levy.
- Not sure it's needed and parking is already an issue. What would be the purpose, the upkeep if the building?  
The fences and paths could do with sorting.
- It would be nice to see something tangible in the community to justify spending on the levy. So far the impact of the levy is negligible and despite significant rises in home occupancy.
- I think the West Park development lacks community facilities e.g. hall, community cafe, space for booking
- Sorely lacking a
- What would be the purpose of such a facility? It would end up empty and add additional cost. Why not use existing facilities such as the school, pub or cafe?
- A community centre would provide a local space for residents to mix and support the formation of local group social groups

- West park and all the new housing developments are attracting lots of young families to the area, and there is very little in the way of community space for things such as children's classes, playgroups, clubs/ youth clubs and activities for the older children
- We don't need more buildings, we need more green spaces!
- School, cafe and pub on the doorstep. Don't want to have to pay any more levy.
- I think a community facility would be a great addition to west park. It would need to have activities and opportunities for all ages (not just kids groups or knitting groups) for example could it be used for things like music groups, language lessons, fitness/ yoga/Pilates etc Hired out for parties. I think it should have things that are 'free' but also things that make it financially viable like the classes mentioned or hire on an evening. It would need to have a kitchen area and possibly a bar (that could be hired for a fee). It could also be a space used for coffee mornings etc for socialising
- It depends what it is!
- It would be an essential part of bringing the community together.
- I think that a community facility would be ideal for the community to come together. If you look at West park centre it is filled with major super markets, which I think is needed however there is no where for the community. The closest thing to this is the cafe.
- To build a centre for community activities and the opportunity for partner organisations to deliver outreach sessions to the people of West Park in the community they reside in. This would continue the development as a sustainable community.
- A community centre offers space for a community to come together. We can host classes for fitness, education and general well being.
- If it was useful and provided a safe, inviting space for children/teenagers to socialise
- Community is very important.
- I think the area could do with a community facility however, the levy is increasing as it is. I would be concerned at how much extra this would cost residents to fund
- It is missing a community centre / hub
- I would be supportive of a warden/litter picker, because that's what I see (litter) in the children's play area. And when walking through the park in summer I spotted youths trying to set fire to the trees and riding offroad motorcycles!
- Depending on the use and benefits to the West park levy paying residents. How it will be funded, who will manage it and will it be voluntary? What functions will it be used for and will non levy payers be able to hire at a higher rate?
- It would be great to have a space we can all be proud of.
- This would bring a village together in many ways.
- Depending on what is available as to whether it would benefit me personally, but I'm sure it would be of great benefit to many residents.
- I think the cost of this needs to be considered not only for price but time. What will it be used for that other areas couldn't already (such as the park, Scout building in Cockerton etc.), are we going to put another building out of use? If it was built who would open or close it, who would police this or hold this responsibility. It could potentially be good as long as it isn't used by kids to do nothing and then others don't use it due to feeling intimidated and then it eventually gets abandoned, something for the community could be lovely for lots of people to get involved as long as it can be used for the majority of the time (day/ evening) or would it be built then costing the community money to sit empty. Would the levy be used? In that instance would people who contribute towards the levy be prioritised (for example if an activity had too many people subscribe to it and some aren't from the area would it be first come first serve or those in the local area prioritised?). It also depends where it would be, would be lose parkland we are all paying to upkeep? Would this add to the levy cost? Other areas have had small 'sheds' or hubs and we could always

look at that to see how successful it was. I think it should be a premises with nothing valuable such as computers left in if possible unless it has a safe to hold iPads or whatever needed as that would also result in extra CCTV and potentially policing.

- Would love somewhere to host groups and birthday parties etc!
- Might enhance community spirit
- It's a useful project but making use of the school building and hopefully future schools in the area for the community could prove more cost effective.
- It would be a nice place to hold community events
- As the community grows it would be really beneficial for a central hub that groups can access to further develop the community.
- A community centre would be amazing to hold classes, birthday parties, gatherings, clubs etc. Community spirit would be fab.
- Actions that can bring a community together is a positive step.
- 
- My answers depends on where the community will go. In place of the linear park or proposed playing fields? If so, no.

All developers advertise M&S cafe in their brochures and on their websites. There's no cafe at our M&S. Although the cafe that we have is really nice, it's also very small for the population of the area so I never go.

I'd also like a café (many villages don't just have 4 huge supermarkets but a few small cafés and shops too).

Also somewhere for young people where they can go free will probably help with ASB or a gym.

Less money wasted on horrific looking and poorly installed artwork like those three rusty leaves around the park. They don't blend into the surroundings, three huge concrete exposed blocks jutting out of nowhere.

- 
- Simply not needed. Another idea on how to waste the Levy Fund
- To provide a sense of community and a meeting place.
- Needed to help build and consolidate our community. Also a shortage of venues on this side of town for events and classes etc.
- I feel that over this side of town there is no community provision for anyone of any age to engage with and if I want to engage with any community activities I have to travel and I rely on public transport and if I want to do something on an evening I am limited what I can do because of this
- Somewhere to host local events, hire out, have meetings.
- A local community facility could be used for a variety of Purposes, create jobs, be a space which could be used by local freelance professionals to run sessions, or used by community and voluntary groups. It could be hired out to raise income, or for free/cheap to charities, and could be used to bring people together, e.g. Young people, isolated people, parents, or could be a space to promote arts e.g. Hosting exhibitions or shows. Could also be used for "pop-up" purposes e.g. polling Station, thrift festival
- I think as the West Park community continues to expand with the building of further new homes, a multi-purpose community facility would be a vital addition to West Park residents.
- More is needed to bring the community together
- A community facility will help to build a sense of togetherness and pride in the location
- would be beneficial to some but not us
- It'll be a good space for adult learning etc
- I feel that there could be somewhere central for children to use and other local groups.

- It's always nice to speak to a person in person.  
Feel a more supportive environment.
- I really think we need this. Hopefully it would mean various clubs etc for our young generation that live here.
- Westpark has become a large estate now and we would all benefit from having a community centre for local people to use, i.e. youth club, hobby clubs, keep fit clubs, arts & craft workshops, etc... The discussion around a community facility in Westpark has been on the agenda for many years, a lot of talking but no firm action.
- My parents were pioneers in community centres and were live in wardens in Carlisle. All sorts of activities drew people in from all over the county. but it was a place where troubles and joys were shared. West Pak can be such a friendless place.
- I think its important for children to grow up around somewhere that offers a variety of facilities such as youth clubs, scout meetings etc
- The community needs an indoor space to meet, play, and learn together to meet their potential. The building should be multi use to become a busy hub of the community not just at weekends and evenings.
- Would be brilliant as it would undoubtedly bring some kids' activities / clubs that people currently travel all around town for. Would also be fab for birthday parties etc.
- This would provide a hub for a range of activities for both leisure and work.
- I think it's a great idea for a community building
- Good idea if followed through to hold events
- I think it would be a good idea to have a community like we did all those years ago when everyone knew each other
- Happy to support the local area
- A focus : no more , no less
- Is great to have spaces to come together and build community
- I just think it would be beneficial to the community!
- We moved to West Park due to the feeling of a mini community being built and I would support anything that strengthens that.
- Community is important to me
- I found having babies in this area so difficult as I don't drive and there's absolutely no baby/preschool classes I can walk to due to no community space to hold them (aside from Hartbeeps at West Park Cafe which is sadly no longer there)
- We would welcome a well maintained and well led community facility to west park.
- I'm not really sure what this is or what the intentions are. I think it needs clarifying.
- It isn't clear what you mean by a 'community facility' - do you mean like a community centre or something like a playground or sports facility?
- Nothing against the idea I just don't feel it's a priority
- Greater community spirit. Inclusion. Great place to meet neighbours for those who are new to the area
- Because it's important to try and reinstate lost community spirit if possible
- If we're to be a community we need a community space. It needs to be well managed and be flexible enough to accommodate lots of different types of groups at different types of day/evenings/weekend
- There is a need for a community facility at WP, but who's paying for it?
- Every community needs a place where they can come together. With the ongoing cost of living crisis a community hall could be the centre of help for those in need
- I believe a community building would support residents and those that work in our area too!  
This building create a firm foundation for stronger community links between residents and also with future group that support, youth, elderly, disabled, families of all shapes and sizes!

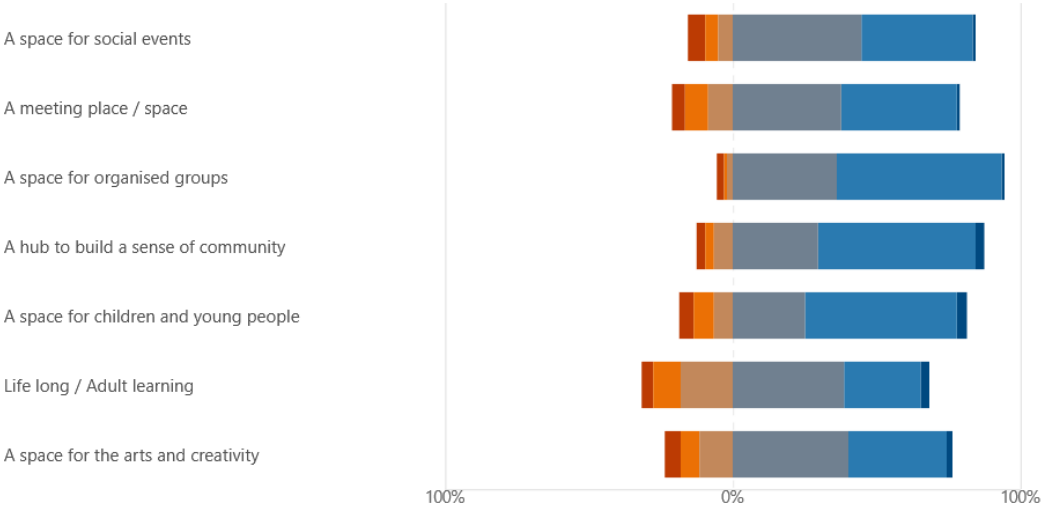
I would be very keen to help get this up and running!!

- Get kids of the streets and give them something to do
- With the size of the area a central hub is essential for communication in the community.

3. If built, what should the purposes of the community facility be? Please rate the answers below by importance to you

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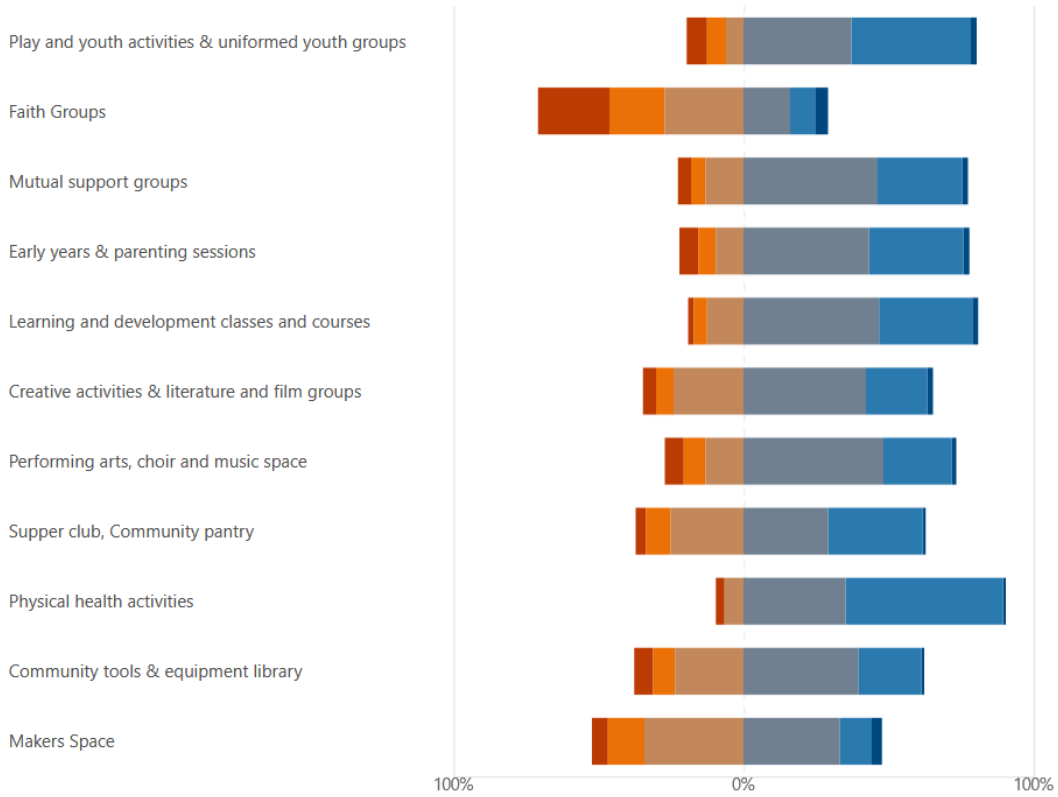
■ Not Very Important ■ Not Important ■ Not Sure ■ Important ■ Very Important ■ N/A



4. Please rank the possible activities or events below which you think should take place in a facility?

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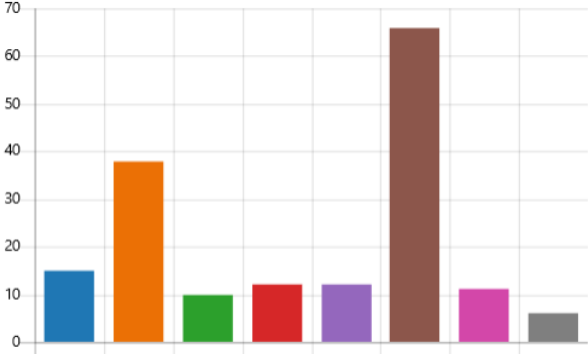
■ Not Very Important 
 ■ Not Important 
 ■ Not Sure 
 ■ Important 
 ■ Very Important 
 ■ N/A



### 5. How would you like or see yourself being involved in this project

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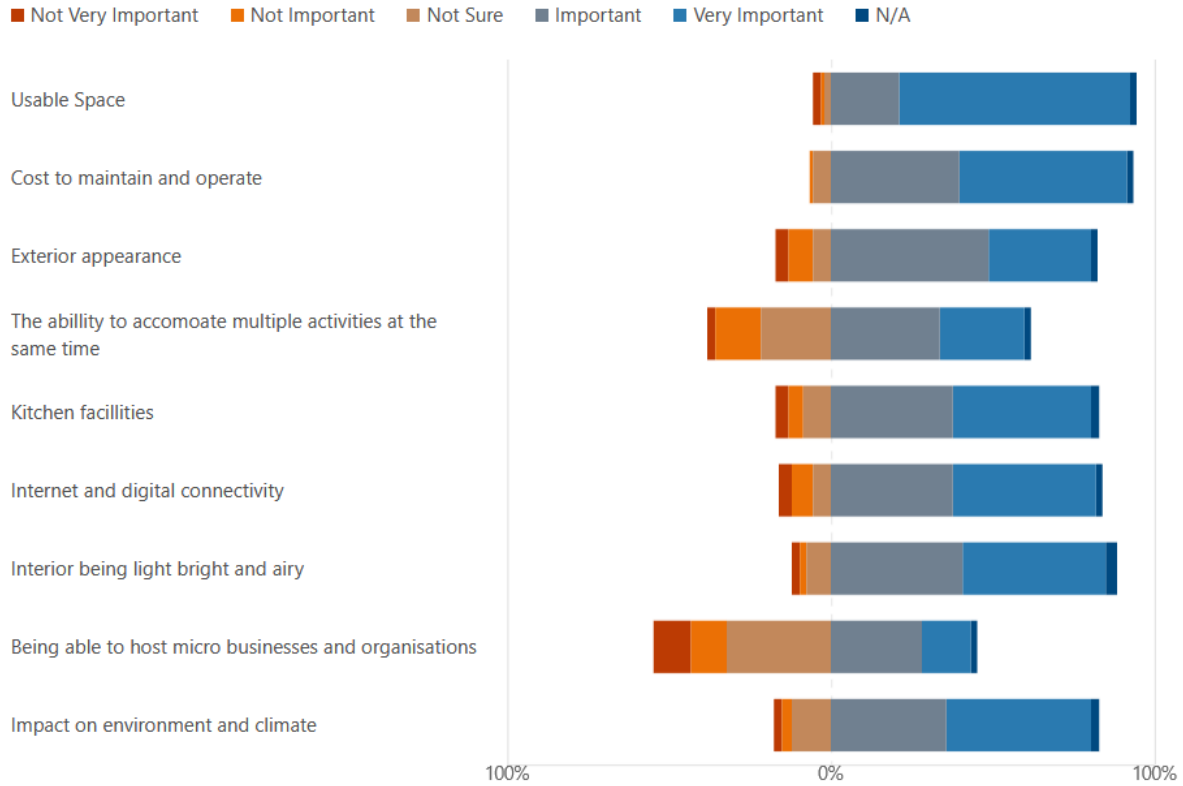
● Not at all	15
● Volunteer	38
● Group organiser or leader	10
● Managment committee mem...	12
● Project member (Project plann...	12
● Community user / participant	66
● Fundraiser	11
● Other	6





## 6. What features and considerations do you think are most important in a new facility?

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7. What would you name the community facility and your reason or thought behind the name choice.

The West Park Hub

West Park Community Hub

Friends of West Park Community Hub

Think it should be a hub or centre as it's generic and recognisable enough

The West Park Hub. Name is simple and describes exactly what it is as a hub accommodates whatever the community needs and then can be shortened and referred to as 'The Hub'

West Park Community Hub

The West Park Hub

West Park Community Hub

West Park Community Hub ....

West park community hub. It would be for West park residents only. Activities for residents only like Houghton do with the archery..

West Park community Hub

West Park Hub

West park Hub

The Waste of Space Community Hub

The hub @west park

The hub @west park

West Park Hub

WPGV Hub

The Hub @ West Park Modern, easy to shorten but maintain the name. Stays away from 'community centre' which for me has very old fashioned feelings and sounds unappealing.

The Hub. This sounds inclusive and open to the community to suggest activities and usage. I would like it to be accessible to all Darlington residents, not just those living at West Park.

West park community hub

Not sure West Park family hub?? Encourages inclusion across all age groups and that everyone is welcome

"The Hub @ Westpark" as it should be a community hub for all and the '@westpark' gives it a modern slant

Hub 4 All

West Park Community Hub

The West Park Hub

West Park Community Hub/Centre

"Westpark Community Hub" - the title is self explanatory, and the term hub represents a central, welcoming place for people in our community to go.

Westpark Community Hub

West Park Community Hub

The West Park Centre

West park community centre

Friends of West Park Centre

West park village community centre

West Park Community Centre

West Park Community Centre. Keep it simple and describe what it does!

West Park Community Centre.

West Park Community Centre - says what it is and is a familiar and obvious term

I would go with something simple like "west park community centre" which says exactly what it is for, west park and it's community to be able to come together in one place

West Park Community Centre, I think keeping the name simple and to the point would be the most beneficial reason.

WestPark Community Centre

West Park Community Space

West Park Community Centre? Does what it says on the tin 😊

West Park Community Hall

West Park Village Hall

West Park Garden Village Hub

West Park Village Hall.

The Grange : local link to faverdale Grange

The Parkway

WestCom

The Huckaback Hub @Westpark This aligns with the flax, linen and wool industry in Darlington's history and a nod to a self sufficiency community.

Cycle of life. Can be described for a multiple generational centre/actives. Also can be applied to environmental schemes.

The West Joint

A multi use centre to provide support and foster community cohesion in the heart of West Park West Park Community - it should link to the local community if made and it should be in keeping with the West Park Village 'theme'

Westpark Together

Arthur Wharton Centre - to celebrate Darlington's claim to Britain's first black footballer and to encourage diversity.

The heart @ west park garden village as I feel that the community centre should be at the heart of the village. purpose of the of the space.

maybe a metaphor that could create a logo from some ideas could include

The Den

The Nest

The Burrow

Chrysalis

Something to do with the heritage of the town to fit in with the road names on the estate already. I'll have a think.

WP2gether

I wouldn't name it anything because I don't think it's needed.

It would depend on the purpose and aims of the facility.

It says what's in the tin

Keep it simple

"Westpark Community Hub" - the title is self explanatory, and the term hub represents a central, welcoming place for people in our community to go.

Just the obvious but should a competition be held?

You want people to know what it is? No confusion, no questions

I think it would have to have West Park in the name somehow just to solidify where it is to the further community.

It where it is aimed to support, it's for the community and Hub links in youth opportunities.

As it's going to be central to the area it should be neutral i.e. a combination for Old Westpark, Faverdale, High Grange and West Park.

8.

Please tell us how the strategic Green Space and its amenities makes you feel?

99 Responses

4.26 Average Rating

9.

Please tell us more about your answer to the previous question

- Happy to be outside, proud of where I live 😊
- Just love living near to green space, it's great to walk the dog, it's fairly well maintained, friendly etc. Would love to see the green spaces used more e.g. for music events like in the past / a Christmas event e.g. craft stalls / Christmas tree on Winding Way / Easter egg hunt
- Under managed.
- Sounds great to connect them but the current paths are barely maintained or tidied as it is and end up where you can't even walk down there without walking through flooding caused by stagnant leaves left on the pathways. Also they're barely lit and not very safe.
- Love to walk out and improves my mental health.
- Some of the green spaces are in a bad state of repair particularly on some of the areas outside homes. The central section that leads down to the Aldi is fine (despite some poor drainage) - but other areas are poor. What is happening to the play area?
- West Park is of such great value to Darlington. A fairly wild park and large outdoor space on the edge of the town. I didn't really factor in the park when buying my house here but it has honestly made a massive difference to my life and I use it most days of the week - dog walks, a lunchtime stroll, as a cut through to Cockerton. It's great. I would love to be involved with the community orchard. It would be great to organise massive picnics there
- Important to have such spaces
- Enjoy the green spaces and park.
- The nature reserve was a lifeline to many during the pandemic and continues to enable local residents to enjoy the outdoors on their doorstep
- The green space and park was one of the main reasons we moved here 11 years ago. Having a park on our doorstep is fantastic
- It important for fitness and well being.
- We moved into West park in August 2022, I haven't received and information on green spaces and or planned amenities. It may be good idea to share information more freely with new and existing residents
- It improves your wellbeing living in a lovely area with a good outlook. Would have scored 5 if Invention Way had been kept nice last year but the area has far too many weeds.
- Lovely to look at and walk through
- Makes it a lovely place to be
- They break up the building landscape so you don't feel like you're on yet another new build estate. They were invaluable in lockdown also as they gave residents a green space on their doorstep, despite not being in the countryside
- Could definitely be better. Not enough in newer parts of estate. Also dogs off lead - my dog has been bitten three times since we moved here 18 months ago
- Nature really knows it all. Trees and woodland = tranquillity; rubbish and disregard = some locals
- The clock and dagger approach by the west park levy! How money is spent and the impression made by the ranger was extremely disappointing rather lethargic and disinterested in her comments and answers! The current green space is poorly managed and unless you like mountain biking you don't Benefit. Excessive

amounts of levy money wasted on failed jobs (path & drainage ditches) hideous metal notice boards. Anytime you ask or comment it's always the councils job!

- We're really looking forward to the green corridor being completed and the linear park being created. It will be lovely to walk along. I hope more work will be done on the green corridor soon.
- Great place to have to walk the dog on our doorstep.
- I feel the need tidying up, dog poo bins are often overflowing, the park has been redone (children's play area) and it's still not clean, there is always water overflow in the park (on the path) which in winter is dangerous and charges for bulbs which we need more of or a better planting schedule
- Love having the park on our doorstep.
- In the summer it looks great with the wild flowers and tree in bloom. However, during the autumn and winter it is drab, waterlogged and flooded. The park pond in the park area is disgraceful. It used to be a calm reflective spot but now it is a dirty dumping ground.  
The green corridor is flooded during the rain and parts of the path are impassable. During the summer it looks great but few as though these standards need to be more consistent year round.
- We need lots of green space to stop the estate becoming a concrete jungle.
- The green space is wonderful but I don't feel safe walking there alone and there are many irresponsible dog walkers.

I also feel that the community would benefit from a restaurant that remains opens early evening, maybe with some AI fresco seating in the summer for a nibble and a drink. Although the pub is great I'd be encouraged to eat out more if there was an additional option from 5.30pm onwards.

It's a huge wish but a gym would be amazing too. Many of us work from home and the benefit of having one to walk to and attend quickly on a lunch break would be worth a premium membership fee (in my opinion) it should be accessible to all age groups but particularly be welcoming to those who may feel intimidated by a stereotypical weights gym and memberships be open to west park residents.

I often feel as though there isn't much for our retired neighbours and community members to get involved in directly here, they often head to Cockerton for more activities and groups which align with their preferences where other age groups can get involved too would be amazing.

- The green spaces are vital to the well-being of the community but they're potential isn't maximised, litter and dog waste is a huge problem and the play park could be far better.
- I've been provided with no attached plans or further information. This is very disappointing. How can I make an informed decision?  
If its about the park, since Kingston took over, it hasn't been maintained as well. There's a lot of dog poop everywhere too.
- Frustrated, due to the amount of dog dirt, total lack of proper maintenance and the apathetic attitude and poorly thought out ideas of those in charge.
- We came to live here because of the whole concept of the garden village and the park and the village green.
- I love seeing the wild flowers come out every year and think that they brighten up the park every year.
- One of the main reasons we moved here was the green spaces - it's so much more spacious and open the other new estates.  
As a keen bird watcher I'm looking forward to seeing more trees etc being om
- Planted to encourage the wildlife

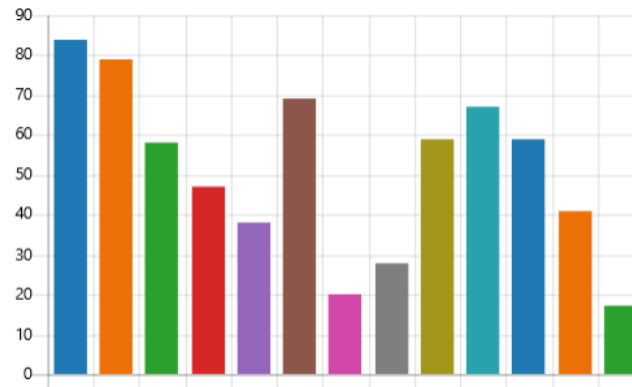
- Green spaces benefit mental health, provide easy access to places to walk and enjoy nature, and I appreciate them as a mum as spaces I can walk with the pram and take kids to play
- Having the green space so close to home is fantastic, and inspires you to get outside and be active.
- Live having this green space on our doorstep. Wish all residents would take more care of it and take their rubbish and clean up after their dogs
- Great to have car free green space so close to home
- we bought our house on the basis of having a nice amount of green area
- Helps the environment
- It is lovely to have this green space on the doorstep.
- So good for environment to have space for mental health.
- Amazing to have the area on our doorstep
- Well looked after green spaces are a must in an urban environment, they provide an open space, connecting people with nature, which improves wellbeing.
- This space makes me feel fortunate,
- Calmer, more relaxed, fitter, reflective & inspired.
- its great to have an outdoor space that feels bigger than it is where you can get lost in nature.
- Nice to have on the doorstep
- I really appreciate the existing park as an open green space, as space to walk, exercise our dog and observe the ever changing views.
- Weeds need delt with. More bins and rubbish picked up. Path quality is poor down need repaired.
- Minimal green space. Cannot do much on it, kids can't play football properly, or other sport, and the newer builds are paying more because 'they have more green space' and they certainly have less than the busses estate has. There needs to be more green space in the area, rather than just building on top of it constantly
- It's nice to have natural areas throughout the development and within easy access
- A manage green space contributes to our well-being
- I love having the huge West Park green space on my doorstep but I don't like all the dog walkers letting their dogs off the lead everywhere as it puts me off walking there more as I'm fed up of dogs bounding over to me.
- It's important that's it there but it doesn't affect me personally, I would be sad if it was gone
- Love having West Park on my doorstep, lovely for walking dogs/kids and everyone is so friendly!
- It's refreshing to walk around the nature reserve and appreciate the views. It helps to take your mind off the demands of life and appreciate the natural beauty.
- West Park is incredible and I'm looking forward to the nature corridor being complete.
- I love the green spaces. They make the area extremely appealing and a stand out area of Darlington.
- Important space for ecosystems, walking and enjoying the area
- It's vital to retain / develop these things going forward, but I have concerns about professional dog walkers taking advantage and believe these should be prevented from driving their van loads of dogs there to then walk them enmass. They are rarely local and overused and overtake such spaces.

- I love the space but it's feeling a little shabby in areas (poss to do with it being towards the end of winter) but there's a lot of litter and dog dirt about at times
- just love walking round the park with the dogs 🐕
- I feel privileged to live in a community where walking only 2 minutes brings us into nature
- This is a reason we have settled in West park Garden village to be part of Westpark and it's amazing beauty!
- I green space helps people feel areas are not to built up and is good for walking and mental health
- An outside space is essential for wellbeing, socialising and to offer the community a sense of pride.

## 10. What do you think improves these shared green spaces?

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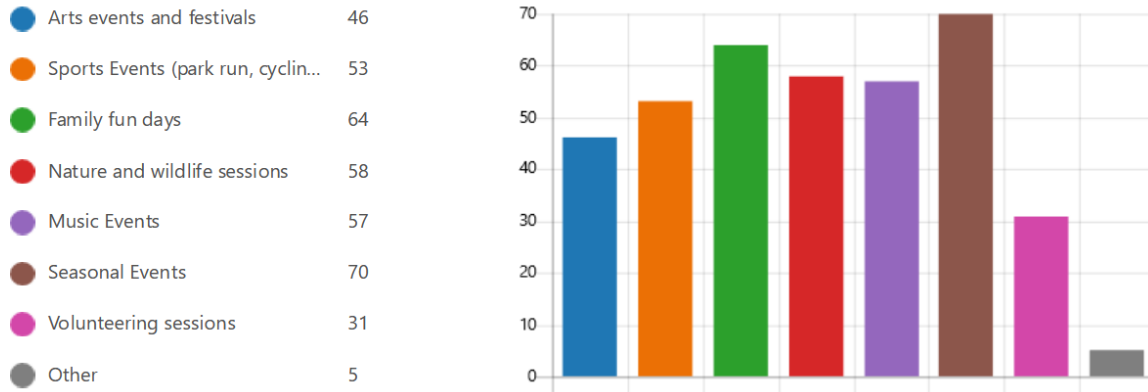
Wild flowers, bulbs	84
Litter reduction	79
Quiet reflective spaces	58
Space for physical activity suc...	47
Refreshment kiosk / toilet facil...	38
Seating areas	69
Location interpretation / signa...	20
Art	28
Safe dog / pet areas	59
Nature Trails	67
CCTV, safety	59
Community orchard / foragin...	41
Other	17





# 11. What events or regular activities would you like to see developed and supported ?

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12. Please let us know about events and activities you think could be supported by the West Park Levy and the WestPark Levy Trust.

- Things for little ones to do, nature related and fun days for families and dogs
- Park Run (the official one) - the one in South Park is too far away and a hassle to park etc  
Cycling for beginners, using the park route  
Seasonal events - Easter, Christmas, a summer fayre  
Music events / family fun days - Cockerton do well with these  
Local businesses could even sponsor some events?  
Volunteering - e.g. putting together food parcels (I'm sure there's a north east charity that does this), litter picking - new community centre with kitchen could be 'pick and pie and peas'  
Paid-for days out, like the ones organised by the community centre at Firth Moor - I went on a coach trip organised by them to the Edinburgh Christmas Markets a few years ago and it was great. Monies per head could pay for the cost of the bus and driver plus a small bit extra for the charitable angle of the levy trust  
Councillor monthly meetings could be held at the hub (sorry this should have been mentioned in the first page)

I think there is so much potential in all of this, especially with a community centre to physically pull everything together and feel more tangible!

- Help people become green fingered. Get people out doors. Have something on our door step to do with kids
- More exercise groups
- Community food day  
Sustainable fashion show ie clothes sale and swap  
Community book space/library  
Orchard activities  
Learning sessions about nature, local wildlife, local apples
- Markets and street food
- It's just a nice place to walk and for peace and quiet. Spend the levy on upkeep and maintenance.
- Any of the above list would be welcomed
- We really enjoyed the music festival on the hill. Some of the other events have been very 'child focused' which doesn't really appeal to everyone.
- All of the above
- Regular opportunities for local people to volunteer their time to help the local area, litter pick, bulb planting and so on. Followed by a coffee and cake would help bring the community together.

Another idea maybe to speak with local probation service as they are always looking for areas to help improve and allow people to repay there community service hours. This has help dramatically as I local I work atm

- Family days on the hill
- Garden party, outdoor concerts / picnics. Fun team sports for adults. Community pub / quizzes

- Any events to try and get people involved, a lot of events seem to be geared towards children and parents which is lovely but also leaves a large proportion of the local community out (young professionals/ adults without children). More of a variety of activities needs to be included - this might be something like a 90s music event/ treasure trail for all ages (and abilities)
- Park run  
Nature talks/ walks
- Promotions of volunteering to develop the area further. The park needs to be kept as a nature spot and encourage the activities available as it is- the current orienteering, potential for measured running routes around the park, developing the pond areas at both sides of the park to encourage wildlife to settle there.

There may be potential for:

Art classes on the park- nature drawing/painting

Forest school activities for a range of ages

Nature walks to look at the flora and fauna

Star gazing evenings

Fundraising for local charities and communities

- Open air theatre, music festivals, community picnics, collaborations with the school, doctors surgery, a take away, open air cinema, community groups, yellow lines to restricted parking on Edward please way, something to help the parking situation at the school.  
We desperately need a new secondary school. Parents move here to nice houses, then find out the secondary school choices and move away into a better catchment area. The primary schools are good, but dismal secondary choices. I plan to leave the area before my children turn 12, and most other parents I know do too. It's a lovely estate to have young children, but terrible once they reach 12 as no provisions at all.
- Our home gardens could be so wonderfully reflective of the surroundings if there was the ability to have some form of lessons/workshops on why certain species were planted, when and where we could plant similar species at home to maintain the integrity of the West Park feel.

It could go so far as gardens being judged (mine is so plain as I don't even know where to start but would love some community advice, learn some skills and a competition never goes amiss)

Movie in the park night may be fun in the summer.

A walking group for all abilities outside of usual 9-5 hours.

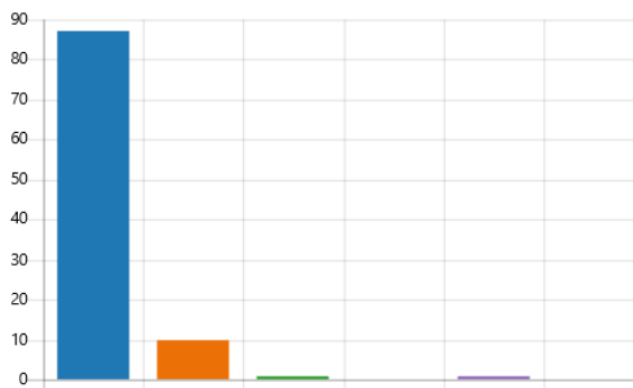
Seasonal Wreath making workshops from foraged items.

- Bonfire night celebration, summer family music events, more flowers year round,
- Any activity should be solely for payers of the Levy.
- Arts Festival also what about reclaiming the Darlington Green Festival or a localised 'Festival of Thrift'
- Music in the park
- Having something like an annual summer gala would be a great community event, or even a Christmas themed event.

- I think the great thing about the green space is its a calm space which anyone can use at any time
- Not sure
- dog walking..  
community events music picnics etc
- Festivals bringing the community together at tough times.  
Food & music.
- Family fun days, open air music events, astronomy & photography, seasonal events including Christmas lights / tree in and around the shops / Westpark Community Hub, support for local small businesses
- Jazz in the park, Art/ Craft Exhibitions, there's lots of talent here. Open Air Theatre perhaps with a link to the theatre in town or amateur dramatics in the area
- would be nice to have a mixed programme for both families with children, adult only events. A way to bring nature into peoples daily lives.
- Sports events, seasonal family day events and volunteering.
- Anything that will bring the west park community together
- Trips to other green flag parks
- I think picnic days would be lovely & also craft fairs too.
- Festivals  
Family events
- Local business events, advertising the local services and businesses within the area?
- Xmas fayre, community picnic, maybe big tv/sporting events to watch
- Seasonal events would be great - like a Christmas market, summer market etc. Some kind of music events somewhere would be great too. An opportunity for the community to come together, local goods and produce to be sold, local and more wider known talent be shown..
- Fitness/dance classes for adults and children. Language lessons. Bank holiday festivals. Christmas Market. Food festival.
- Maybe seasonal events such as on bank holidays, and at Christmas so that people can enjoy communal events that aren't highly priced.
- Parkrun would be an amazing addition, can't believe there isn't one on this side of town. Organised activities for kids in school holidays
- Family friendly events, light displays instead of fireworks,

#### 14. I am

<span style="color: blue;">●</span> A local resident / Levy Payer	87
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> A local resident / non Levy Pa...	10
<span style="color: green;">●</span> Vistor to WestPark	1
<span style="color: red;">●</span> Organisation interested in We...	0
<span style="color: purple;">●</span> West Park Levy Paying business	1
<span style="color: brown;">●</span> Other	0



#### 15. Age

<span style="color: blue;">●</span> Under 18 years	0
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> 18-29 Years	5
<span style="color: green;">●</span> 30-45 Years	63
<span style="color: red;">●</span> 46-60 years	20
<span style="color: purple;">●</span> 60 years and older	11



## 16. Gender

● Non-binary	1
● Female	61
● Male	33
● Prefer not to say	1
● Other	3



## 17. Accessibility

● None / Not applicable	87
● Physical Disability / Condition	7
● Mental Health Condition	4
● Other	0



18. Please let us know how accessibility and usability could be improved for you

- Some additional seating but not so that it impacts the look of the park
  - None
  - Just needs to be inviting
  - The paths through the park aren't brilliant for prams/strollers when there's been lots of rain. All well and good putting sand/gravel paths down but they're hazardous during the winter months. Also due to the park having next to no lighting it's useless to use as a walkway to the estates as it just breeds antisocial behaviour. The children's park itself is also an accident waiting to happen as the 'improvements' that were done to it still make the park dangerous and a hub of antisocial behaviour.
  - Paths sorted,
  
  - Gated for levy payers only, Improved security to reduce asb
  - Areas to sit and admire the view. Picnic areas with tables, stone ones like in the playground so they can't be vandalised or damaged. Spend money on maintenance so it remains a nice place. We don't need any additional facilities which would dramatically increase overheads.
  
  - Seating/benches
  - N/a
  
  - A few of the paths could be resurfaced as show some fairly severe wear and tear.
  
  - Lights (solar panels) around the park to encourage night usage
  
  - Paths which are easy to walk on and dry. The path maintenance over recent years has used a very clay like golden gravel. Very claggy when wet, comes up in clumps on the bottom of your shoes, and holds water/stays wet for days on end. When we first moved here the paths were very 'gravelly' and much easier to walk on. Maybe a better quality golden gravel could be used?
  
  - I have no accessibility needs
  - Overly boggy/wet/muddy areas improved
  - Wheelchair access smoother paths it's really hard pushing a wheelchair up a rocky sandy path
  
  - Easy Access for prams is essential
  - Smoother pathways off the black path, the water has caused ditches to form across some of the pathways
  - Improved drainage on the green corridor.
  
  - A few more seats or resting spots to have a little rest and carry on a walk would be amazing.
  
  - Maintain the non-slip paths, they were in pretty poor condition at times last year.
- I'm not sure if this is related or something different but it provides access to the park...the leaves off the cycle/walking path in autumn make the area unusable. My Dad had a stroke recently and couldn't walk there. There were leaves all over the path and he kept slipping. Just get machine and move them all...like other areas do.
- Na

- More seating areas to rest
- n/a
- Ensure paths are maintained to a high standard and repaired quickly after washouts. Also seating areas should be maintained
- More green space, have them in several areas in between the new builds not just one isolated park. There is land near cussins development that would be perfect for a playing field/meeting area, outdoor gym or PT sessions/boot camps, perfect as a play area for kids, you could even install park equipment there and still have a huge area for all other activities. Dogs could play happily there and it would be conserving nature, it's a huge community opportunity to have an additional green space closer to the newer builds so engaging can occur
- Quiet times for neurodivergent to enjoy
- I think there needs to be a dog area and non dog area as I don't like dogs & I am also allergic to them & all the dog walkers letting the dogs off the lead and letting them run about puts me off walking there more. I'm sick of dogs running up to me all the time.
- The traffic lights entering west park are not appropriately set up. There should be a filter lane when turning right when approaching from the motorway. The lights change too quickly to allow the pedestrians across and this has caused multiple close calls at school times.  
Also the traffic going in and out of the 'co-op' car park can cause congestion. Maybe Turing that in to a one way system could help.  
By sorting out the traffic issues it would be safer and more accessible to all
- Paths clear, and well maintained.

WestPark Levy Trust