

Suggestions for Improvement to the Sports Centre Received at Drop Ins

The following are the suggestions transcribed from the comments made by visitors to the drop in sessions, these comments do not necessarily reflect the views of Southampton City Council, Active Nation or the Friends of Southampton Sports Centre. The suggestions have been categorised into high, medium and low in relation to the number of people that supported the ideas. There may be some duplication if people have described their ideas differently.

Level of support	Description of idea	Timeframe?	Priority?
High	Café and ice cream facilities – there was a general aspiration for more refreshment facilities around the site to serve casual users but also sports users – there was an enthusiasm for reopening the kiosk at the bottom of the sports centre		
High	Improved changing facilities - redevelop block 2 -the athletics block and kiosks in to a high quality club house/café with a shared covered outside seating area		
High	Toilets – All toilets need refurbishment		
High	Keep the Open Space as Open Space – residents commented that the open space is a valuable asset of the sport centre and that these should be retained for enjoyment of all for years to come .Comments are the venue is used for recreational use ie walking, picnics and kick around by local families and children.		
High	Boating Lake with proper boats for people to use - kayaking and canoeing etc – people feel this is an original feature that should be retained		
High	Skate Park /Multi wheeled sports venue - suitable for roller skates, skate boards, scooters and BMX – people have also suggested a roller rink, roller skating and roller hockey		
High	“Club Hub” create a club hub for sports clubs to have meeting and events rooms for areas to have trophy cabinets and notice boards with toilets too – not exclusive to any club		
High	Lighting – improved to the Astro turf and key routes to the car parks and facilities		
High	Transport – improve bus access to the Sports Centre		
High	Less cars driving through the site		
High	Splashpool or water park feature somewhere – possibly on the site of the old boating lake – (good example in Christchurch)		
High	Better Publicity – for events, clubs and activities		
High	Jogging/running route marked out with distances		
High	Pond Area for wildlife – frogs/newts/flowers etc		
High	Litter Bins – more bins		
High	Nature trail , nature watch and bird boxes		
High	More Events - both sporting events but also charity runs/ walks, flower shows and dog shows, concerts, fireworks, theatre, farmers market, car boot sales etc		
High	No New Car parks -in the grass boundaries of the current Sports Centre		
High	Woodland Routes - Make More Use of the Woodland Areas Paths		
High	Revamp the Pleasure Park		
High	Play Area – Improve the Play Area at the boating lake end and generally for all ages like at St James Park ie zip wire		

Medium	Outdoor Gym Equipment		
Medium	Dog free areas		
Medium	A cluster of Picnic Benches		
Medium	Signage – signage at the entrance of the sports centre saying what events are planned		
Medium	Spectator stand - Improve and increase the size at the track		
Medium	Safe cycling circuit around the perimeter		
Medium	Benches – mend the benches on the route to the sporting view going up the hill		
Medium	Taster weeks – all sports based at the Sports Centre should have a taster week to encourage new members		
Medium	Zip Wire for the play area by the play park by the boating lake		
Medium	Lower the cost of sport – ie tennis, and use of track		
Medium	Improved opportunities for children		
Medium	Improved Maintenance by those on Community Service		
Medium	Replacement Cycle track to replace to one lost when the athletics track was increased from 6 to 8 lanes		
Medium	Cycle Access – improve Cycle Access to the Sports Centre		
Medium	Disabled Access - Improved facilities and access for disabled people		
Medium	Encourage more use of woodland paths that already exist – ensure that they are enjoyed and kept		
Medium	Crazy Golf – revamp		
Medium	Holly Hill Cut way – cut back the vegetation and improve the lighting		
Medium	Empty the bottle bank - in Dunkirk Road so that people feel happier parking there		
Medium	Basketball Nets		
Medium	Interpretation – information on display about the Sports Centre – about it and why it is here		
Medium	Better Access for Cyclists – remove the pot holes		
Medium	Keep the putting green open – by making it more obvious that it is open and an honesty box or a way of paying and getting a putter or a ball		
Medium	Car Parking – more car parking – review all the parking areas including Dunkirk Road, explore using the depot at weekends and improved signage to car parks		
Medium	New Ponds – so that the amphibians can be relocated from boating lake site		
Medium	Ecology Plan - Clarification of the ecology on the site		
Medium	Path Repairs Needed –		
Medium	Trainee cycle route – mini roads with junctions etc for children to learn to cycle on the site of the old paddling pool		
Medium	Dog Fouling - People to clear up after their dogs – some people feel that people do clear up, others don't		
Low	A tree policy		
Low	Velodrome for Road Cyclists around the Centre		
Low	Geocache – promote this opportunity		
Low	Petanque terrain – advertise and promote		
Low	Promotion – better promote the bowling green to encourage more members and players – a better way of paying is also needed rather than ask people to go to the block at the bottom of the hill		

Low	Multi Use Games Area – for street hockey, roller hockey, basketball, speed skating, cycle proficiency (also suitable for car parking for big events.)		
Low	Covered tennis court to make all weather season		
Low	Shelters on Netball courts – for equipment and also for belongings on each court for when it is raining		
Low	More Opportunities for People with Additional Needs		
Low	Threat to the use of Vermont close -to access the ski centre car park as there is a planning application for student accommodation which will result in cars parking on the access to the nursery and the car park		
Low	Dog Agility Course		
Low	BMX Area – improve and expand the area to include a wider range of skill opportunities and landscaping and planting in between so it is more aesthetic		
Low	Cricket Nets – (nat west funding ?)		
Low	Water features to sit by		
Low	Improve the Road to the Ski Centre Car Park – via Vermont close		
Low	Staffing Issues - There should be a manager with responsibility for maintenance for the whole complex		
Low	Increase school and young peoples use - Contact local schools to promote taster sessions		
Low	Sports Storage – running clubs need storage for road signs and equipment		
Low	Indoor 60m Athletics track with facilities for shot, discuss and jumps		
Low	Get a park run		
Low	Reorientation of Athletics Track – move the end of the 100 metre straight (reverse)		
Low	Clear Drains at bottom of Pitch Terracing – and rebuild them		
Low	Discount at the View - Negotiate a discount with club members at the View		
Low	Perimeter track for wheelchair users, people with buggies, cycles, walkers, jogger, runners, etc		
Low	3g football pitch		
Low	Refurbish the changing facilities and incorporate a spectator pavilion overlooking the astro pitches		
Low	Go Ape Style Attraction		
Low	Remote control car track		
Low	Internal Roadway - tarmac the whole roadway once the Environment Agency have finished		
Low	Grass running track – to relieve the pressure on the all weather track – perhaps around the outside of a cricket pitch		
Low	On line Pitch cancellation service		
Low	Floodlight a cricket pitch for runners - so it is usable for running in winter		
Low	Lighting – improved around the site including a dog walking area for safe evening use		
Low	Play Areas - Turn the boating lake into a really big play area as per St James Park		
Low	Indoor 200m athletics track convertible to multi use sports centre accessible for all users including gym, weights facilities and also changing		
Low	No loss of plain open space without consultation – there is concern that there was no consultation about the introduction of the BMX track		
Low	Resurface the 2nd Astro Turf pitch		
Low	Bowls club house -where the putting green is,as there is insufficient room to host visiting clubs in the locker room		

Low	Better publicity for bowls for those who turn up to bowl where to get equipment from		
Low	Advertise the opening hours of the bowling green and ensure staff are on duty to cover this		
Low	Use boating lake for Model boats - Model sailing boats, model steam boats and possible club house at the boating lake		
Low	Cricket pavilion to serve top two pitches		
Low	Indoor Archery Range		
Low	Method of preventing cyclists from going too fast especially down the path from Coxford Road		
Low	Play Areas -that are free to use for children		
Low	Shelters -needed for when it rains		
Low	(a) Advertise between both bowls locker rooms on the wall (b) Publicise the awareness of the putting green and bowling green		
Low	Cover over the netball courts		
Low	Athletics track – 2 cages (one hammer and discus and one just discus) 2 highjump beds and 2 shot put circles		
Low	Main Sign Board – replant area around the main sign and ensure it is looked after – could Friends of Sports Centre do this		
Low	Improve Paths – review the path network many are crumbling and worn especially those up to the cricket pitches and main path up to coxford Road		
Low	Small piece of new tarmac where it gets very muddy every winter close to the end of the tennis court		
Low	Condition of the paths - from the Sporting View to the compound cycle barrier at the bottom , path skirts round therefore redundant		
Low	Improved access to use of the bowling green by casual users		
Low	Reduce Cars on site - New policy on reducing the number of cars through the sports centre especially reduce the number of cars going to the ski centre		
Low	Green Keeping - definite improvements in recent years		
Low	Name the different pitches after famous sotonians which will create a sense of identity		
Low	Better Communications - Place where people using the sports centre can get information about the clubs using the sports centre		
Low	Ensure that all staff are knowledgeable, informed, interested, enthusiastic and are proactive in promoting activities and take a pride in service delivery		
Low	Ice Rink - Bring the Christmas ice rink to the Sports Centre		
Low	City Wide Sports Day – annual event		
Low	Transport – better Bus use to decrease the need for car parking		
Low	Increased disabled parking – use the site of the old paddling pool		
Low	BMX area – ensure that the size of the facility is controlled and that it does not grow without permission		
Low	Improved Disabled Access – the disabled bays in the Dunkirk Road car park can no longer be seen as the lines have worn away they need reinstating – this is a far more user friendly entrance route for disabled people compared to coming down from the top entrance		
Low	Dispose of depot/nursery site - Develop partnership funding through the lease of the land currently occupied by the Depot/previously nursery as this area was not part of the 1938 sports centre		

Low	Cross Country running course – adult races prefer a 5km route which is free from tarmac and hard standing – the course does not need to be permanent but should be kept free from obstructions		
Low	Better Maintenance of Netball Courts - Moss on the netball courts make them slippery – this happens on the end of the courts where there are trees near by		
Low	Improve Locker Rooms - Refurbishment of the existing bowlers locker rooms		
Low	Better maintenance of Astro turf pitches and cleanliness of the changing facilities		
Low	Permanent Orienteering Course – approximately 30 points around the Sports Centre using a specialist map with a variety options for different levels of ability		
Low	New Athletics building with PA facilities -in the ground floor with computer terminals on the first floor – at the finishing line		
Low	Remove Blind corner - at the bowling green several accidents with cyclists and pedestrians in 2012 – the area needs remodelling – traffic calming		
Low	Need a hedge along the Dunkirk Road hill to attract wildlife and keep the dogs in the sports centre		
Low	Stronger take up of sports development and support for clubs ie club mark		
Low	Agreed and public vision for the sports centre - - eg greatest number of outdoor sporting and leisure activities /facilities for the greatest age range		
Low	Service Level Agreement - about each area and clarify of roles and responsibilities for cooperative working		
Low	Establish a user group -with representatives from all key clubs and sports		
Low	Monitoring System - Open participative and accessible monitoring of service delivery of the sports centre including complaints and responses to complaints and timescales		
Low	Avoid specific built facilities – aim for built facilities that could easily adapt to changing uses		
Low	Make Good damage caused by events - Cyclo Cross event each time leaves behind it a trail of slippery, dangerous hazardous areas for walking on – can there be a post cyclocross event tidy up perhaps even using wood chips to ease the issue		
Low	Ski Centre Signage -at the white house car park directing people the walking route to the ski centre		
Low	Signage for the ski centre on Winchester road to direct to the ski centre car park accessed down Dunkirk Road		
Low	Restore the rope swings -in the woods which are great fun but always cut down		
Low	Litter Signs – please don't drop litter unsightly and causes harm to animals also one at the entrance which say something like "Welcome to the Sports Centre please let others enjoy it too – please take your litter home. " There is a suggestion that those that book pitches and leave mess should loose a deposit.		
Low	Jacks play area is a lovely and popular play area for young people		
Low	Sat NAV issues – the post code for the ski centre directs people via sat nav to the white house – people would prefer to park at the top of the slop so this needs addressing		
Low	Parking -down highclere road is really bad – needs to change		
Low	All weather woodchip jogging trail through the woods		
Low	A heritage café		
Low	Keep the Dunkirk temporary path when the EA go rather than insist that they remove it		
Low	Alternative Use of football pitch - Would other uses be possible for the football pitch that the EA used as a construction site – also there is an area of this football pitch that is very poorly drained and would be good as a wildlife pond/area		

Low	Gardens around the bowling green to be well maintained and shrubs and trees looked after		
-----	---	--	--

VERSION 2 DATED 13/02/2014