



**NORTHAM TOWN COUNCIL**  
**TOWN HALL**  
**WINDMILL LANE**  
**NORTHAM**  
**DEVON**  
**EX39 1BY**

To: All Members of the Westward Ho! Park  
Committee  
Cc: All Northam Town Councillors

Town Clerk: Mrs Jane Mills MILCM  
Telephone and Fax: 01237 474976  
E-mail [townclerk@northamtowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:townclerk@northamtowncouncil.gov.uk)

**You are hereby summoned to attend a Westward Ho! Park Committee Meeting on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at 6.30pm in the Council Chamber, Windmill Lane Northam.  
The agenda for the meeting is set out below.**

**Members of the public wishing to attend will be required to wear face masks, which may be removed if addressing the meeting, and to follow sanitising requirements.**

*M J Mills*

Mrs Jane Mills MILCM Fd Community Governance  
Town Clerk

Date of issue 6<sup>th</sup> April 2022

The following are elected Members of the Westward Ho! Park Committee: Councillors Mrs Hodson, Mrs McCarthy, Edwards, Laws, Leather, Newman-McKie, Sargent, Tisdale, and Woodhouse and but all Members of the Council are entitled to attend. Non-councillor members, Mrs C Hutchins, Mrs M Jones and Mr S Makeig-Jones.

### AGENDA

- 1 Apologies**
- 2 Chairman's Announcements**
- 3 Declarations of interest:**  
Members are reminded that all interests should be declared prior to the item being discussed.
- 4 To agree the agenda as published**
- 5 To confirm and sign the minutes of the Westward Ho! Park Meeting 15<sup>th</sup> February 2022 (herewith)**



Lords of the Manor



The local Council for Appledore, Northam, Orchard Hill and Westward Ho!  
Twinned with Mondeville, France and Biddenstedt, Germany  
Office open: Monday to Friday mornings



Trustees of the Common Right

**6 Public Participation**

Members of the public are permitted to make representations, answer questions and give evidence in respect of any item of business included in the agenda. Each member of the public is entitled to speak once only in respect of business itemised on the agenda and shall not speak for more than 4 minutes. A question shall not receive a response at the meeting nor start a debate on the question. The chair of the meeting may direct that a written or oral response be given. The period of time which is designated for public participation in accordance with standing orders shall not exceed 20 minutes.

**7 To consider the Action Points (*herewith*)**

**8 To receive a report from the Chair of FOTWHOP**

**9 To receive the results of the survey regarding the park (*herewith*)**

**10 To discuss sensory garden fencing/ hedging and surface**

**11 To consider granting approval to install trellis on the south wall of the park**

**12 To consider a Fields in Trust application for the park**

**13 To consider establishing two working groups for moving forward with the pavilion and tennis courts**

**Northam Town Council – Minutes of the Westward Ho! Park Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2022 in the Council Chamber, Windmill Lane, Northam at 6.30 pm.**

**Present:** Cllrs Mrs Hodson (Chairman), Laws, Leather, Mrs McCarthy (from minute, 2202/1122) Newman McKie, Sargent, Tisdale and Woodhouse  
Co-opted Members – Mrs C Hutchins, Mrs M Jones and Mr S Makeig-Jones

**In attendance:** Mrs M J Mills – Town Clerk, Mr G Langton - Deputy Town Clerk

**2202/1115 Apologies**

Apologies were recorded on behalf of Cllr Edwards

**2202/1116 Chairman's Announcements**

The Chairman had no announcements

**2202/1117 Declarations of interest**

Members were reminded that all interests should be declared prior to the item being discussed.

**2202/1118 To agree the agenda between Part A and Part B**

It was **resolved** to agree the agenda as published between Part A and Part B  
Proposed: Cllr Tisdale, Seconded: Cllr Hodson (all in favour)

**2202/1119 To confirm and sign the minutes of the Westward Ho! Park Meeting 18<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

It was **resolved** to confirm and sign the minutes of the Westward Ho! Park Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2022 as a correct record.  
Proposed: Cllr Sargent, Seconded: Cllr Tisdale (majority in favour 2 abstentions not present at the meeting)

**2202/1120 Public Participation**

*Members of the public are permitted to make representations, answer questions and give evidence in respect of any item of business included in the agenda. Each member of the public is entitled to speak once only in respect of business itemised on the agenda and shall not speak for more than 4 minutes. The period of time which is designated for public participation in accordance with standing orders shall not exceed 20 minutes.*  
No members of the public present.

**2202/1121 To consider the Action Points**

Action Points were noted.  
Cllr Hodson advised that TDC have earmarked all possible sleepers so none would be available to NTC.

**2202/1122 To receive a report from the Chair of FOTWHOP**

The Chair of FOTWHOP advised the 200 club is continuing with 3 draws left for this year. The numbers will not be restricted in future. Grant applications are being looked at, FOTWHOP has booked a stall at the May Fair. At a recent meeting it was agreed to provide £500 towards plants in the Park.  
Cllr Mrs McCarthy arrived at the meeting

- 2202/1123 To receive a draft survey on options for the tennis courts and pavilion usage**  
There was a proposal to amend the survey, restricting the choice of options to 4 for uses of the pavilion Proposed: Cllr Leather Seconded: Cllr Sargent, votes were 4 in favour and 4 against, the Chair used her casting vote for the survey to remain unchanged.  
It was therefore **resolved** to circulate the survey adding in a space for respondents to put their postcode and the addition of a return address.  
It will be delivered to all properties through the Link, also available online, website, Facebook, and local shops.  
**Action Point – circulate survey**
- 2202/1124 To discuss sensory garden fencing/ hedging and surface**  
It was **resolved** to move forward with picket fencing from a sustainable source, obtain 3 quotes and to use green wood preserver  
Proposed: Cllr Laws, Seconded: Cllr Sargent,(all in favour)  
With regard to the surface, this will be an agenda item when there has been some exploratory work done  
**Action Point – seek three quotes. Surface issues, future agenda**
- 2202/1125 To receive an update on the working group conclusions re financial implications for the future improvements to the park**  
After some discussion it was **resolved** to recommend to Full Council that Northam Town Council agrees to apply for a PWLB loan to cover the cost of the refurbishment of the Pavilion and the works required on the tennis courts/sports area, in the region of £150,000 to £200,000  
Proposed: Cllr Laws, Seconded: Cllr Tisdale (all in favour)  
**Action Point - Place recommendation on Full Council agenda with a report**

## Action Points for WESTWARD HO! PARK COMMITTEE Meeting April 2022

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<b>Survey on options for the tennis courts and pavilion usage</b>	Survey was circulated and closed on 4 <sup>th</sup> April
<b>Sensory Garden picket fencing</b>	Three quotes were sought
<b>Recommend to Full Council that Northam Town Council agrees to apply for a PWLB loan to cover the cost of the refurbishment of the Pavilion and the works required on the tennis courts/sports area</b>	Recommendation taken to Full Council

## **Report into the Westward Ho! Park survey (Pavilion and Tennis Courts).**

The survey was circulated in The Link magazine (March 2022 delivery) to each household in Northam, through shops and other outlets in Westward Ho! and as a weblink shared on the Council's website as a front page news item and on Facebook.

To maximise the response, the weblink was shared on Facebook at the start of each week of March. The last day for inputting surveys was the 4<sup>th</sup> April 2022. Originally, the plan was to close the survey on the 31<sup>st</sup> March but given the need for staff to work from home having received positive Covid-19 LFT results, the final hard copies received were input on the 4<sup>th</sup> April and the survey closed for all responses.

The Council provided 6500 hard copies, circulated with The Link.

There were 446 responses, 112 were submitted in paper form and 334 online. The response rate was therefore 6.4%. It is noted that approx. 214 of the online responses were from students at Bideford College, not all of whom would live in the Northam Town area.

The detail of the responses is attached to this paper, with key points picked out over the following pages. All response rate percentages have been rounded to the nearest whole number.

### **Future uses of the Pavilion.**

The respondents were given the choice of 16 possible uses, with a free entry field ('other') to enable respondents to provide their own ideas, which 69 did. The responses with over 50% were:

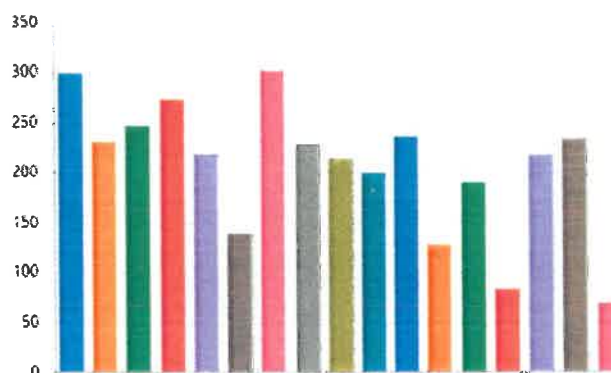
1. Making friends, addressing loneliness, isolation, bereavement group	302 (68%)
2. Mother and toddler	299 (67%)
3. Youth drop in coffee and chat	274 (61%)
4. School Holiday Club	247 (55%)
5. Evening film club and social events	236 (53%)
6. Arts and crafts club	233 (52%)
7. After school club	230 (52%)
8. Silver surfers tea and coffee mornings	227 (51%)

The complete list and bar chart are presented overleaf, along with all the 'others' mentioned. The most common response in 'other' was some kind of coffee shop or café.

1. Thinking about the Pavilion, please tick all the uses that you consider appropriate for the entire community.

More Details

- Mother and toddler 299
- After school club 230
- School Holiday Club 247
- Youth drop in coffee and chat 274
- Advice centre (e.g. health, well... 218
- Reminiscence group 138
- Making friends. addressing lo... 302
- Silver surfers tea and coffee m... 227
- Silver surfers tea and coffee af... 213
- Birthday parties 199
- Evening film club and social e... 236
- Local museum 127
- Food pantry 190
- Local radio station 82
- Gardening club 217
- Arts and crafts club 233
- Other 69



Respondent	'Other' response
2	Food Bank
3	ART EXHIBITONS FOR LOCAL ARTISTS
13	evening social events by local groups
20	Second hand-book shop
21	Training / work experience for people with learning disabilities
23	Any local group open to anyone (relevant to the group) in the community
25	coffee, snacks and ice cream cafe
26	Library type facilities (WWHo! is growing so it would be useful to have our own library facility)
29	Knock it down. It's an eyesore
32	Coffee Shop
35	Small function room with kitchen that can be hired for sit down meals with outside caterers and/or guest chef evenings. Portion of takings could go to council/up keep of building.
39	Weekly Youth Club
41	Multi-use with careful management, perhaps an indoor all-weather games centre.
43	Repair hub/café where people can take small household objects. There is one in Braunton.

45	Youth Club.
47	Seating exercise sessions.
57	Gallery for local artists - say one a month exhibitions.
58	Cafe and fresh food farmers market, home grown veg once a month. Maybe plants also.
59	Dancing/fitness etc.
75	Must be wheelchair-friendly (need wider paths).
88	All / any of these would be excellent.
90	Coffee shop
105	DANCING GROUP - ROCK OR COUNTRY MUSIC
106	I THINK YOU HAVE IT JUST ABOUT COVERED
110	Community Cafe with book exchange
117	Park cafe run by young adults with disabilities
122	Bring and buy, table top sales etc. to raise funds for the park.
125	History Club
129	Library / tourist information.
136	Temporary/flexible group space rather than a permanent fixture.
138	mini-market and table-top sales.
140	Possible nursery school/group. In the home counties I know a lot of scout groups do this successfully.
141	Evening/weekend youth club. Well done for thinking of such a wide range of options.;
142	Daily cafe 9-5 with low price coffee and cakes for the whole community, young or old.;
145	Sports clubs.
146	Local clubs and activities meeting venue
156	Groups for people with additional needs.
177	Basic engineering/tech. club for young people.
181	.
182	Education for pet owners of dogs how to keep our beautiful Devon clean and healthy for our future generations.
183	As broad a range of uses as possible for as many people as possible.



185	Community Fridge.
189	The Happy Café was always a great project. I don't know why it was discontinued but it would be lovely to see it reinstated, maybe 3 days a week.
190	Cooking Club; Climbing Wall.
191	Evening Classes: First Aid, languages, Astronomy, Car Maintenance, Sign Language, Guitar, Self-defence, for the elderly & women.
197	Balance classes for those who need it there is no current NHS classes for this and non in Westward Ho
200	All of the above;
201	Subsidised exercise classes for over 60s
205	Wellbeing Area.
217	Table tennis club.
243	Skatepark.
248	A better park.
251	place for local bands to rehearse.
271	Skatepark.
284	Small ice cream and milkshake shack.
315	no idea.
318	ji;
323	Friends.
333	ronaldo suiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiii.
368	Football area.
370	Mini golf.
371	Sports.
383	Park for older kids.
405	Football.
428	Café.
431	a place where friends can meet up;
442	Toilets and changing for tennis etc.
443	Bridge club, Table tennis;

## Future of the Tennis Courts.

400 of the 446 respondents (90%) wanted to see the tennis courts refurbished, with 208 (47%) saying they would play tennis on them regularly.

344 (77%) thought the area should be for other sports, alongside tennis, with 334 (75%) agreeing that '*a project to have two tennis courts and an area for other sports, such as basketball, netball or five-a-side football*' was a suitable way forward.

249 responded with suggestions for other sports or uses to which the two non-tennis courts could be put, though some of the suggestions given were not compatible with the area as it is not grass/soil/AstroTurf (e.g. cricket, rugby, putting green, bowls/pétanque, veg patch), or respondents used the space to clarify their intentions. Seven entered N/A or an equivalent. A list of all but the N/As is presented overleaf. Given the spread of responses, it is possible that respondents were taking the opportunity for what they felt the park in general would be better used for rather than just the tennis courts. Table Tennis, for example was quite a common response, if these respondents had concrete/metal outdoor table tennis tables in mind then one or two these could be sited outside the hard surfaced area, with suitable surface around them.

299 (67%) felt that there should be some element of charging, though other comments indicated that this could be for certain sessions and that children should access the courts for free and 'spontaneously'.

## Respondents

The demographic split was skewed heavily towards the under-18s, though as previously noted, this could be the result of a request made through Bideford College. Of the self-selected responses, the majority were from the 61 and above age group.

8. To ensure that we gain responses from all age groups within our community, please tick select the appropriate age range.

[More Details](#)

● Under 18	217
● 19-24	8
● 25-40	19
● 41-60	65
● 61 or over	137



Responses were mostly from the EX39 1 or EX39 2 postcode areas, though some (especially the under 18s) were from EX39 3 or EX39 4.

Respondent	Suggestion
1	Roller-skate area
2	the option to have multi use games even just catch!
6	Walking ball sports for the older generation
7	Wheel chair friendly sports
8	Netball, basketball, yoga , tai chi
10	Hockey
12	volleyball, hand ball and any disabled-friendly/inclusive sports. Tennis courts should remain free to all particularly if reducing the number of courts as it is a community facility. Perhaps fundraising to cover the costs rather than charging?
13	boules
14	Would like to see adult keep kit equipment but not necessarily on the tennis site
15	Absolutely basketball and table tennis
16	Basketball and table tennis
17	Basketball
18	VOLLEYBALL
21	Football, basketball
22	There could be a community vegetable patch. I think that outdoor gym equipment is not a good idea because it will corrode.
24	Climbing wall, obstacles for parkour. Skate ramp/park.
26	Used for outdoor gym or yoga?
27	Climbing wall
28	I think the existing tennis courts and basketball facilities perfectly adequate and if you charge it will spoil it for many young people who can't afford to pay and it spoils spontaneity
29	Kids & adults coaching sessions run by Atlantic racquet centre and a gate access system on tennis courts also managed by ARC.
30	Short tennis. Walking football
32	Outside gym
33	Pickleball - only one club in Devon (Exeter) 100's clubs in UK. A court will easily fit on one tennis court. All ages and gender.
34	Circuit training, radio controlled models
35	Skate park.
37	skate board park.
38	We are proud that they are free. This was one of the arguments for the Council to buy the park.
40	Did not answer
41	Hockey, Badminton, Outdoor Table Tennis
42	Short Tennis
45	Table Tennis
49	Children's sports
51	Did not answer
52	Basketball, netball, football
53	Flat enclosed space to just play safely
63	Five- a-side Hockey
65	Volleyball

68	Fitness equipment- pull up bar, dip bars, leg press, upper body machine
69	As above
70	Bowls
71	Volley Ball
72	Skateboard Park
73	Table Tennis (concrete)
74	Putting; Bowls
78	More advertising and signage needed for locals and tourists
79	skateboard ramp
82	My only comment for Point 7 below would be for the cost to make it affordable for all.
94	Important to give free tennis priority plenty of opportunity plenty of opportunity for lessons etc Elsewhere.
95	Split the courts ,for 5aside football, basketball, netball
100	MINI BASEBALL; YOUTH TUG OF WAR
102	FUN & ACTIVITY AREA FOR PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN.
103	ROUNDERS
104	ALL WEATHER PITCH FOR HOCKEY
115	ASTRO-SURFACE FOR RUGBY, FOR EXAMPLE.
123	Instead of other sports it could be used as an outside exercise facility with appropriate facilities, such as in Victoria Park, Bideford
125	Volley Ball
128	area that could be used for cycling proficiency
130	Hockey
133	Table tennis
135	Gym equipment
136	Skateboard 1/2 pipe
140	Basketball and netball only
142	re-surfaced for toddlers, small children to ride bikes etc. and extra play equipment for children up to age of 10. Not teenagers.
146	Wheel chair rugby, volleyball
149	Badminton courts
151	Skating
153	Allow dogs to exercise
154	Table tennis, climbing wall, paddling pool.
155	Pétanque
157	Any sport that doesn't exclude ages.
164	Basketball
168	Not a sport but what about outdoor Tai-Chi?
169	Table Tennis Table - if room.
172	Putting green
176	Sports for the disabled (youngsters)
179	Skate boarding area
180	Volleyball.
182	it would be safer to have a grass surface, it would save unnecessary broken bones or future knee and hip problems.

187	Exercise classes / fitness
191	Beach volleyball on Beach. Please can skateboarders have their own place? WWHo! used to have a Roller disco (just saying).
192	Area for young children to safely learn to ride bikes.
195	Volley Ball, Pétanque (Bowls), Putting.
196	Basketball or skate park
202	Table Tennis
205	Hockey, fitness training
206	Badminton or squash
207	dodgeball
208	volleyball
209	Handball
210	Basket ball
214	Football
216	badminton
219	Rounders, French cricket, jogging club
220	skateboarding
221	cricket
223	Rugby pitch
224	Only basketball
227	Rounders
230	Football court
231	Football
235	volleyball
237	Golf
238	Golf
243	Football , football tennis , basketball
244	Netball
245	Football
246	Football or badminton
247	Football
248	More tennis
255	basket ball
256	hand ball
260	Basketball
264	Football or multi sports pitch
265	Badminton
269	football
272	Hockey
273	Basketball or netball
275	Basketball
278	Badminton
279	Netball
281	Volleyball
284	skateboarding

285	Table tennis
289	Beams, balancing and bars for flips and gymnastics.
294	Padel (racquet sport)
296	Basketball
298	Netball
299	Volleyball
308	Badminton handball capture the flag
313	Football,
314	Football
317	cricket
318	Minecraft
321	rugby
322	rugby
328	volleyball
330	running tracks!
333	Syms
334	football
339	badminton or basketball
342	Football basketball tennis golf
346	Football
349	Badminton
350	Badminton
351	Badminton football volleyball and athletics
352	Rounders/Baseball
355	basket ball
357	cricket
358	volleyball
359	Rugby, badminton
364	badminton
365	Hockey
367	Football
368	hockey
370	Table tennis
374	Dodgeball/ bench ball
375	golf
376	Hand ball
377	Netball and volleyball
379	Badminton
382	Badminton or maybe some gymnastics
383	Football or rowing
384	Basketball
388	cricket
389	Cricket, rounders
391	Football

392	netball
393	Football
395	for people build a skate park so you can do competitions
397	Football pitch definitely needed
398	football pitch
400	Basketball
404	netball
407	rounders
408	badminton
409	pump track
410	Mini golf
413	Football badminton cricket or
417	Basketball
421	Rugby, badminton, basketball, football
422	roller skating, football
425	Small rugby pitch
426	Astro turf football
428	skate park
429	Skateboarding area or halfpipe
432	volleyball
435	badminton
436	baseball
437	running track
439	a bigger park
442	Radio controlled vehicles, fencing, country dancing.

# What do you think the community needs?

446

Responses

07:49

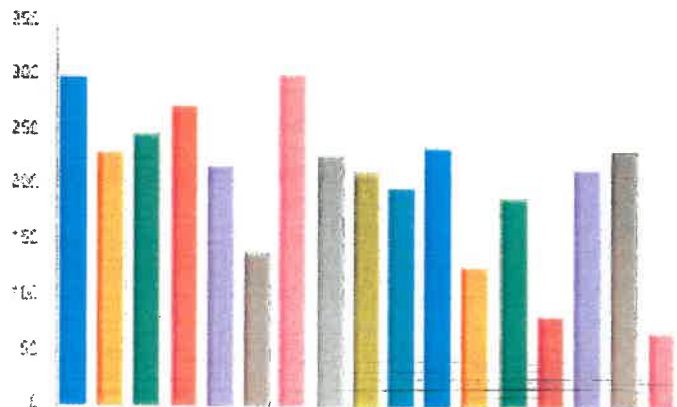
Average time to complete

Closed

Status

1. Thinking about the Pavilion, please tick all the uses that you consider appropriate for the entire community.

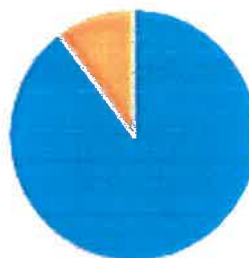
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Gardening club	217
Arts and crafts club	233
Other	69





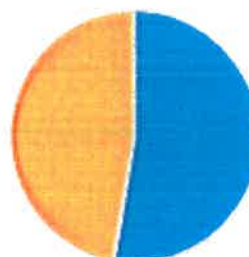
2. Moving on to the tennis courts, do you wish to see them refurbished?

● Yes (go to Q3)	400
● No (go to Q6)	46



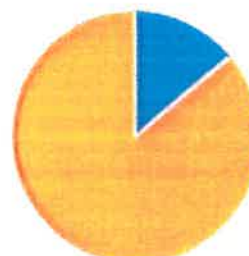
3. Would you play tennis regularly on refurbished courts?

● Yes	208
● No	186



4. Should the entire area be for tennis only? (i.e. four tennis courts as now)

● Yes (go to Q7)	56
● No (go to Q5)	344



5. Would you support a project to have two tennis courts and an area for other sports, such as basketball, netball or five-a-side football?

● Yes	334
● No	9



6. Do you have any ideas for sports that you would like to see in the fenced area, other than those mentioned above?

249  
Responses

Latest Responses  
"no"

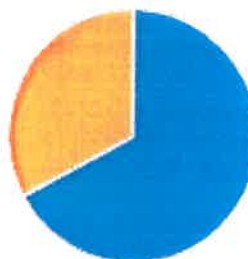
29 respondents (12%) answered **Football** for this question.



7. Would you support a scheme to introduce a prepaid booking system for the tennis courts to generate funds for continued maintenance and future resurfacing of the courts?

Note: A mix of free sessions and paid sessions could be available, with free tennis lessons for children.

<span style="color: blue;">●</span> Yes	299
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> No	147



8. To ensure that we gain responses from all age groups within our community, please tick select the appropriate age range.

<span style="color: blue;">●</span> Under 18	217
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> 19-24	8
<span style="color: green;">●</span> 25-40	19
<span style="color: red;">●</span> 41-60	65
<span style="color: purple;">●</span> 61 or over	137



9. So we know where respondents are from within our community, please tell us your postcode.

446  
Responses

Latest Responses

"ex394ex"

"EX391DZ"

"EX39 2LX"

81 respondents (18%) answered EX39 for this question.

EX39 1ES    EX39 3RB    EX39 4HH  
EX39 1HG    EX39 3AR    EX39 1BL    EX39 3JW  
EX39 iBL    EX39 2RB    EX39 1LP    EX39 3AL  
EX39 3TA    Ex39 4dx    EX39 1TU    EX39 3SB    EX39 1HP  
EX39 1XJ    EX39 1AA    Ex39 2RG

**EX39**