## **Community Consultation - 2018**

On 1 February 2018 Council sought feedback from the local community to help prepare a Landscape Masterplan for Robert Pymble Park. Notification letters and feedback surveys were sent to 1425 local residents, with submissions received up until 5pm on Thursday 1 March 2018. The feedback survey was also available online via the Council website.

## A total of 70 feedback surveys were received, plus 8 email submissions.

The insights from the feedback survey and submissions are summarised below.

The majority of respondents use the park for exercise and visit the park with family. The park provides a welcome escape from the noise and activity of the nearby Pacific Highway. Respondents most valued the open spaces and trees, in addition to the tennis courts and peaceful aspect of the park.

A number of respondents expressed concern about the toilet facilities, remarking that the toilet block was outdated, prone to vandalism & graffiti, and often dirty. Security was another area of concern, with a number of respondents commenting that the park did not feel safe at night due to poor lighting, lack of visibility due to large trees, and antisocial behaviour (drinking and drug use) near the toilet block. Other areas of concern included outdated play equipment, inadequate seating, and negative interactions with dogs (particularly around the children's playground).

Respondents would like to see additional seating, tables and covered areas, as well an upgrade of the existing toilet block and children's playground to improve accessibility & inclusivity. Suggestions for increasing recreational opportunities included:

- Basketball/netball hoop
- Soccer net/rugby post
- Sandpit
- Climbing net
- Table tennis
- Cricket net
- Chess table
- Flat area for pentaque/boules

There was also interest in the addition of BBQ facilities, adult exercise equipment, and events (e.g. markets, concerts, open-air cinema). Respondents also suggested a bike path/jogging track around the perimeter of the park to improve pedestrian safety and provide a safe area for children to practice riding bikes/scooters.

Accessibility was another area of interest. Suggestions for improvements included the addition of accessible:

- toilet facilities
- pathways
- seating
- parking spaces close to the entrance points

Trim No. 2018/036669	Questions What do you MOST value about the park?	Comments It's peace and quiet, a real oasis.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	It's beautiful as it is.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	Upgrade the toilet facilities occasionally.
	Any additional comments	I feel any noisy activities to bring in crowds of visitors would ruin the tranquil surroundings.
2018/038136	What do you MOST value about the park?	The size of the park is great and I like seeing the tennis courts being used. Also the kids area is great.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	Falling tree branches.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	Nothing. A BBQ maybe.
	Any additional comments	It is essential that it is maintained as open green space with the option of exercise i.e. tennis courts It is a wonderful park well suited to locals.
2018/038137	What do you MOST value about the park?	Tennis courts are available.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	Not secure at night.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	Gym equipment.
	Any additional comments	Please keep cleaning toilets frequently. It's very dirty sometimes and smells bad. Also please keep the park safe and secure at night. We often feel insecure when we walk around at night.
2018/038140	What do you MOST value about the park?	Tennis courts.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	No shaded seating areas.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	
	Any additional comments	
2018/038141	What do you MOST value about the park?	Convenient green space. Tennis courts. Old trees on south side.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	The park is underutilised in the north, a few dog walkers that's it! Northern end is sloped - difficult to play ball games - needs landscaping - flower beds. Children's play area uses a large area and not used on weekends. Toilets old and dark.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	Basketball courts. Cricket pitch?
	Any additional comments	Needs flat areas for ball games. Possible area for open air entertainment / Sunday markets.
2018/038142	What do you MOST value about the park?	Leafy, quiet, good play equipment.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	I like it just the way it is.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	Perhaps more shaded seating / picnic areas.
	Any additional comments	-
2018/038143	What do you MOST value about the park?	That it is close to the shops and station, quiet, low-key and not overly developed, tennis courts and some picnic area.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	Toilet block is a little dirty and not safe at times. Rubbish bins can often be overflowing.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	Better toilet facilities. Continue maintenance on tables, chairs and bench seating.
	Any additional comments	Do not pull out the swings and put in smaller "safer" OHS plastic swings like at other parks. These swings are great. Keep tennis courts both hard and sand surface.

Trim No. 2018/038144	Questions What do you MOST value about the park?	Quiet, peaceful and tucked in. Close-by, nice shape. Like the ups and down meadow.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	No covered area, no BBQ space for picnics.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	Need covered area about [illegible] in corners. Like to see better landscaped.
	Any additional comments	Please provide cemented walkway around the park. Provide covered picnic spots with benches and tables. More colourful plants.
2018/038879	What do you MOST value about the park?	The park is a fantastic natural environment in an otherwise increasingly dense urban population in the immediate area. There is little green space around the area within walking distance.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	Nothing - keep it the way it is!!
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	Not sure - space is limiting.
	Any additional comments	The park is an essential element of the Pymble precinct. Many families use the park for picnics. With increasing high density apartments nearby - essential for residents to have some green space to escape to. Please - no skateboarding facility to be added. Upgrade of toilet facilities.
2018/038883	What do you MOST value about the park?	Space and no high rise.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	Fear of high rise. Parking challenges.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	-
	Any additional comments	
2018/038884	What do you MOST value about the park?	Shady areas and playground suitable for young kids.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	Dirty toilets or over flowing bins that's not maintained. Older play equipment.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	More kids play areas and shade, possibly sand or water play with gated safe areas.
	Any additional comments	-
2018/039858	What do you MOST value about the park?	Green space. Tall trees. Mix of organised space (tennis), play equipment, lawns.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	No BBQs. Not enough recreational equipment for older children - the range at Karuah Park, Turramurra is excellent. No gardens. Few tables and chairs.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	BBQs. Flying fox. Basketball rings / table tennis / chess boards. More tables and chairs. Cricket nets. Bike paths. Update toilet facilities.
	Any additional comments	Love the work you have been doing at Turramurra (incl the park behind the baby health centre) - great really necessary with the number of families in units and the death of the backyard - they are great community building spaces.
2018/039876	What do you MOST value about the park?	Childrens playground, leafy trees, native birdlife, watching people play tennis. Oasis just off busy Pacific Highway in Pymble.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	Public convenience could be better. More drinking fountains. Grassy area not maintained - ie often 'scratchy', lack of grass to sit on.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	More children's play equipment ie sandpit.
	Any additional comments	-
2018/039898	What do you MOST value about the park?	The open space. Beautiful trees.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	Seeing dogs off the leash in the children's play area.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	A couple of outdoor 'Twilight' concerts during summer daylight saving times (not rock concerts!)
	Any additional comments	Keep the largest part of the park unspoilt by development.

Trim No.	Questions	Comments
2018/039912	What do you MOST value about the park?	Tennis courts. Green leafy park for sports and relaxation.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	-
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	Exercise equipment / outdoor. Water feature - fountain. Water fountain.
	Any additional comments	BBQ facilities.
2018/039932	What do you MOST value about the park?	I love the greenery / the fact that vandalism has stopped (thank you Council!) it is quiet, it is well kept, that the play equipment is kept clean, the tennis courts are available.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	Vandalism!! The toilets have been locked at night lately which is great:) The tennis court shelter is not opened for the aged tennis groups or schools in the morning - to be closed at 5pm.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	I live looking on the park and love its serenity and quietness. I was veryactive in working against vandalism just two years ago and love it being an alcohol free zone from 7pm-7am. Thank you Council.
	Any additional comments	I really don't want the park to be developed at all, except for the toilets being upgraded. Everyone I know who lives here loves the soccer games that families organise, the exercise classes. I truly don't believe any development needs to take place except a few more picnic tables. The Autumn colours in the park are gorgeous and I love seeing children playing in the fallen leaves. The park is a beautiful free facility and we all love it. I organise a street get together for Christmas and the only place to meet are the table and chairs under the big tree. We would love perhaps a larger picnic table area. Please don't develop the park, it is beautifully kept and maintained by the Council and we all love it as it is. I ring Gordon Police whenever there are hoons in the park drinking alcohol and they are amazingly responsive.
2018/039941	What do you MOST value about the park?	The tennis courts.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	Dog mess.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	Separate areas for dogs.
	Any additional comments	Keep the tennis courts. Consider lights for night time tennis use.
2018/039948	What do you MOST value about the park?	Its very presence and the green open space and the availability of tennis courts for use by our grandchildren.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	-
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	Boules (pentaque) courts. Chess tables.
	Any additional comments	There is a large French speaking community in this area that would use and enjoy boule courts.
2018/039958	What do you MOST value about the park?	The tennis courts.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	I think it is just great but the children's play equipment could be improved.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	-
	Any additional comments	-
2018/039974	What do you MOST value about the park?	It's undeveloped nature/ the ability of all ages to use the park as they wish without being directed by deliberate development - dogs and balls, frisbee (adults and children) and ball games, quiet lunches and people reading or just enjoying the atmosphere - children using their imaginations. The green grass areas and people using the tennis courts.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	The fact that lower branches have been removed from trees and children can no longer easily climb them or have fun building "cubbies" in or around them.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	Perhaps a small open covered shed area with facilities for boiling water etc perhaps a table and bench seats. Perhaps a fenced small sand pit so small children can use their imaginations - (try digging etc in landscaped areas - a big no no!) children need somewhere to indulge in "undirected" play.

Trim No.	Questions	Comments
	Any additional comments	The area is far too small for the development suggested - it is likely to become a grassless (and we NEED green grassy areas) dust bowl or a "chip" covered area. As more children (in high rise) live in the area they NEED grass to run freely and for a reasonable distance uninterrupted by "landscaping" etc. Their needs should be far more important than "attracting people from outside the immediate neighbourhood." The area also must be attractive to "older" children not just "littlies".
2018/039988	What do you MOST value about the park?	Quiet, shade, uncrowded.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	-
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	Prefer to leave it as is
	Any additional comments	-
2018/040000	What do you MOST value about the park?	It's tranquility.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	Personal training that involves shouting instructions to clients. Rowdy individuals at night time (both have increased recently)
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	Enhance children's playground.
	Any additional comments	Deciduous trees would be prefereable to eucalypts which shed leaves, bark and falling branches.
2018/040043	What do you MOST value about the park?	Accessible green space with large trees. Open space. Well maintained, looks beautiful.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	Stories about drug deals or busts.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	Leash free dog area. Free gas BBQs, picnic tables. Events to attract residents to meet e.g. suburb Christmas party, noodle or craft markets, open-air cinema.
	Any additional comments	Never ever turned into housing or retail development but retained as public greenspace for the community.
2018/041582	What do you MOST value about the park?	The large open spaces, the natural environment.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	The drug use, youth crime, vandalism, graffiti means we do not feel safe and we cannot enjoy the park at night time. Trees that block visibility. Trees are great but not if it blocks visibility and light.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	CCTV video monitoring, more random police / security patrols, more lighting. Commuter bike tracks and jogging tracks to increase use which also increases safety. Dog parks (enclosed). Shade over the playground. Coffee cart / shop near playground and tennis with seating area. Ornamental areas. Community garden.
	Any additional comments	Focus has to be on: 1) Increasing security and safety directly as suggested above. 2) Increase usage throughout the park with: dog parks; walking / cycling tracks; coffee cart / café; ornamental areas with flowers; community garden; shading over play area; public art centre. Especially in the centre of the park so people are encouraged to walk through at all times not just walk around the park.
2018/041632	What do you MOST value about the park?	It's walking distance from my house. It's very valuable green space amidst heavily developed surrounds.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	The mess of leaves under the trees. There are too many trees.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	Looking like no man's land at the moment. Needs to remove a lot of trees to open up the area and introduce some colourful shrubbery.
	Any additional comments	No skateboarding please but an off-leash area would be lovely to take our small puppies.
2018/041637	What do you MOST value about the park?	Shade from trees. Good number of benches.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	Not enough toys in playground.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	More fun toys / rides in playground for the young children. Flying fox would be a good choice. Sandpit / bigger slide.
	Any additional comments	Current rubbish bins do not have a cover on top so I seen birds are sitting on top for searching foods which does not look good. I would recommend you replace bins with closed cover.

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2018/041641	What do you MOST value about the park?	The trees, the lawn, spaciousness.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	Old toilets.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	Exercise equipment, more seats, improved toilets, better lighting.
	Any additional comments	Demand for the park will continue to increase with the rise of apartments in the area.
2018/041663	What do you MOST value about the park?	I love the beautiful open perspective and trees it gives for the enjoyment of all local residents. I also ove that it is a place for local people to meet and gather in an informal community manner.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	1. The play area desperately needs updating. 2. It could actually be utilised more by putting open spaces to more use - see suggestions below.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	1. An off-leash area for dogs in a portion of the park only - fenced from other areas. This sort of area allows local residents to gather on a regular basis and establishes community. It does not need to be a big area but it should still be fenced off for all concerned. 2. The courts are an essential resource for the community. A lot of activity happens on them that allows community interaction. The courts are open to more use if council organises more local tennis lessons or competitions. 3. A bike track around the exterior of the park would make it an ideal safe space for children to ride in the area without fear of danger from traffic. All this needs to be is a foot path around the park (marked as a bike/walking track). There are a lot of families in the area and children would appreciate somewhere safe to ride bikes. It would also encourage more utilisation of the park. I believe it would be utilised a lot because of the interesting topography of the area. It would also be suitable for rollerskating, skateboarding or scootering.
	Any additional comments	The park is a beautiful feature of our suburb and I completely endorse its upgrade and encourage more use by the community, and its use a catalyst to establish community and enable local residents to meet and mingle.
2018/044368	What do you MOST value about the park?	Green space - attraction of birds. Play equipment for young children.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	The bowl shape especially at the top end makes access difficult - only one set of steps.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	Water bubbler. Tables, seats and the higher end.
	Any additional comments	1. The steps are steep and not very user friendly - steps should have handrails on both sides. 2. A ramp would be useful for prams, wheelchairs and those who find steps/stairs difficult. 3. Several years ago Council sponsored a late afternoon summer concert in the park. Could this be repeated.
2018/044803	What do you MOST value about the park?	The greenery of nature and feeling of peace.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	Other noisy children or worst vandals and gangsters. Overgrown unkept weeds.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	Tennis, band stand.
	Any additional comments	
2018/046255	What do you MOST value about the park?	The trees and the undeveloped areas.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	The noisy groups of people in the evenings mostly weekends.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	-
	Any additional comments	Don't want an over-landscaped area full of additional items. Good to see and area left as natural as possible. Please no removal of trees for development. Realise they sometimes become dangerous. Have lived near this area for over 50 years, am not against development in suitable areas. Feel the courts and playground are sufficient. Please leave the natural area as is. If they want more features let them visit the Bicentennial Park which is within easy reach.
2018/046257	What do you MOST value about the park?	Where you can walk around and feel safe, quiet and comfortable.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	Late night teen gathering safety issue.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	Bin for dog poo. Tennis court.

Trim No.	Questions	Comments
	Any additional comments	Restricted operating time.
2018/046259	What do you MOST value about the park?	Tennis court.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	-
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	Enough. Good.
	Any additional comments	Sometimes my children was scared of unleashed dogs, so if you can make a sign of warning to dog's owner.
2018/047740	What do you MOST value about the park?	Wonderful urban green space. Well lit when walking through in the evening. Good looking tennis facility.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	Poor toilet facilities. Very small playground. Pity about the locked seating areas. Drainage - big puddle after rain on lower part of park near playground.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	An improved and much bigger children's playground area would be great please. More picnic areas.
	Any additional comments	Perhaps the locked seating area could be used to expand better toilet facilities. Or available to groups who can be given a key? Perhaps the sandstone could be cleaned and check all the pathways and steps. Drainage at bottom of park (near playground) is not good, big puddle when wet.
2018/047746	What do you MOST value about the park?	Quiet green area to walk around and enjoy the fresh air as I live in an apartment. Tennis court and children's playground and lovely shade from established trees.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	Not maintained very well - raking up bark etc.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	Nothing needed.
	Any additional comments	No nightwork. Council nightwork is disrupting the peace in this area and impacting the wellbeing of local residents.
2018/047756	What do you MOST value about the park?	Open wide space.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	Litter and alcohol bottles left behind by teenagers.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	Café. Fountain.
	Any additional comments	It would be great if you could rezone or allow development behind the shopping area to have cafes overlooking the park. Then the park and cafes could become a meeting "square" for locals.
2018/047772	What do you MOST value about the park?	It is a good area to play in andit is very accessible - for youngr people only though. <60 years od age I think.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	The actual park play equipment - it is very low quality and the park isn't accessible for wheelchairs and / or older people - my grandmother struggled. There is no sports play equipment e.g. netball / basketball hoops, rugby posts.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	An updated park with a larger slide, a spider web swing and more tables. Also netball / basketball hoops (a few of them) on the grass is fine so people can come shoot hoops, two or one rugby posts on the grass and finally a cricket pitch maybe - but having the other things as well. I say this because I think it would attract a heap more people than people that come now.
	Any additional comments	Children and teens these days need to get outdoors more often and I think taking this opportunity to make a place where they can actually easily go out to kick a ball or something would be greatly appreciated - netball hoops - on the grass, rugby posts on the grass and cricket nets or pitch or a soccer goal. Please consider this because obesity is rising in Australia quickly so we really need for children and teens to get out more. And also a wheelchair accessible park would be greatly appreciated as well.
2018/048983	What do you MOST value about the park?	Peace. A place where one can escape the surrounding increase in high rise unit buildings.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	Dog droppings. Owners do not pick up after their dogs (not in every case).

Trim No.	Questions	Comments
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	More seats provided - and a few extra tables for picnics etc.
	Any additional comments	I don't want to see any more 'structures' built in the park area. With the increase in unit numbers owners/tenants are looking for places where one can 'escape' the noise of cars and the highway. I would like to see more police and ranger patrols during the day and at night. To reduce the drinking and drug use in the park involving underage drinkers.
2018/048989	What do you MOST value about the park?	Open space.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	There is no proper way to exercise in the park e.g. a footpath for running. Safety, especially in the evening. The park can be dark and is used by particular individuals.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	Footpath around the park for jogging.
	Any additional comments	The park should be more open to prevent people from staying in some areas to drink etc. This will make it more user friendly and safe.
2018/050952	What do you MOST value about the park?	Pathways. Leafy outlook.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	No updated children's play area.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	Shaded children's play area with more activities.
	Any additional comments	
2018/050955	What do you MOST value about the park?	The green space.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	-
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	
	Any additional comments	Management of gum trees. Opposite 10 Park Cr is a large gum that repeatedly drops huge limbs. It needs to be removed.
2018/050967	What do you MOST value about the park?	A quiet green space close to amenities.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	Rubbish left lying about.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	
	Any additional comments	A flower garden would be lovely.
2018/050972	What do you MOST value about the park?	Quiet park for local community and nearby neighbours.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	Probably lacks a bit of stuff to do.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	1. Gym equipment - similar to the park equipment at Lofberg Oval in West Pymble (fitness equipment). 2. Fenced area for dogs to play.
	Any additional comments	Potential to create more space for vehicles dropping children to the train station. It can be very busy on Alma Street by the southern end of the park in the mornings.
2018/050977	What do you MOST value about the park?	The playground for children when they were young.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	The large space which is not used much except for walking through.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	More BBQ and picnic tables.
	Any additional comments	Park is not attractive or used very much. Cannot be used for running as you need to avoid branches on the ground.
2018/050982	What do you MOST value about the park?	Peace, trees.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	

Trim No.	Questions	Comments
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	A few more seats under the trees.
	Any additional comments	I like the peace and quiet sitting or walking between the trees.
2018/050989	What do you MOST value about the park?	
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	-
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	
	Any additional comments	Don't use park. No parking.
2018/054380	What do you MOST value about the park?	Location, trees (mature), proximity to station, shops and home. Playground facilities. Cleanliness and maintenance.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	Toilets, tennis courts.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	More playground equipment for youngsters. Improved toilet facilities.
	Any additional comments	Please use the adjacent open space opposite in Alma Ave (which I believe is a drain) for something useful like a coffee café. The park should be well lit at night to discourage vadalism. The current playground equipment is basically for toddlers and juvenilles. Please consider including equipment for 5-10yr olds e.g. a rope pyramid. Although we do not use them, please keep the tennis courts. No skateboard facilities please.
2018/055139	What do you MOST value about the park?	The beautiful established large trees - their variety and placement. The availability of bathrooms. The children's play area. The wide open spaces and the generous size of the park. Please keep the old stumps as the bigger teenage kids love to play on and sit on them,
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	The tennis courts. It's good they generate income for Council and encourage use of the park, but I have never used them. The inconsistency in paving/paths around the edge of the park.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	If the paths were improved/smooth they could make a fabulous track to ride around - there are very few areas to safely bike ride / teach to ride in the area as it is so hilly. Is there a water fountain? I can't recall.
	Any additional comments	It's a great place for walking dogs - the provision of 'doggy bags' via dispensers would help keep it clean. I'm not organised enough to book a court ahead of time. If there was a way to click on a 'book now' app on arrival or just prior that might encourage more (paid) use, esp. on weekends.
2018/055150	What do you MOST value about the park?	Tennis courts. Park / oval area. Toilets.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	Children's play area is very dated and needs upgrading.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	Dog park with fencing. Turn the children's playground into a native wildplay garden (similar to Centennial Park's one).
	Any additional comments	
2018/055170	What do you MOST value about the park?	Easy access. Trees for shade.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	Sheltered area near toilets is always locked by a gate. Would be nice to be able to use this sheltered area.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	Rain sheltered areas. Basketball ring. Water feature for hot days.
	Any additional comments	
2018/057978	What do you MOST value about the park?	The large open space behind the tennis courts. Lots of trees.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	Toilets.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	Updated toilets - see Cameron Park, Turramurra. More children's play equipment / different ages e.g. scooter path, spider web, flying fox, table tennis, merry go round, slides, swings.
	Any additional comments	See above.

Trim No.	Questions	Comments
2018/057982	What do you MOST value about the park?	Shady trees. Seating areas. Lighting. Grass areas.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	State of toilets. Locked cage on shelter. Long grass (at times).
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	A decent tennis pavilion and covered area. Gym like equipment to exercise.
	Any additional comments	Main areas for improvement: playground upgrade; tennis facilities.
2018/058247	What do you MOST value about the park?	The trees, the security of the undercover seating near courts (to stop drinking at nights by groups so it feels safer etc) the peaceful use of the park - it is not over-developed. It is a place of refuge and lovely to see the courts used and the children have a play area.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	People let their dogs run around without a leash and they don't clean up their excrement.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	Two extra park benches under the shade of trees (away from courts) near the opposite end to the childrens play area. Please retain it as is. It is great to have the grassy areas for relaxation or exercise or picnics and then the courts etc nearby but separate to the lovely grassy areas. Please do not change it by losing the grassy areas.
	Any additional comments	When we moved to Pymble in 2012, I contacted Council as I was horrified at the lack of maintenance and care for the park (e.g. grass was so long etc). I grew up living in Park Cres so had great memories of the park so it was sad to see how it was rundown and not used because of this. A big thank you - the park is beautifully maintained and it is wonderful to see children and families using it again. You kindly rectified the issue in 2012 and it looks great. The only considerations I wish for the park usage will be: 1) Please do not make it a leash-free zone / park for dogs. I actually think there should be signs to be non-leash free. I have been in the park when people (playing tennis) let their dog roam and they don't clean up the dogs excrement. They even let their dogs onto the courts who urinate and other excrement! They don't clean it up. Therefore can signage remind people it is mandatory to clean up. I also had a dog run up to me and grab me which was scary. Please make it a non-leash free zone. 2) Extra seating needed under shady trees. I love sitting in the park so even an extra two park benches would be great. Also, when I sit on the benches, heaps of ants come up from below - can they please be sprayed?
2018/058484	What do you MOST value about the park?	Natural grass.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	Not very flat.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	Soccer/football goals/nets
	Any additional comments	
2018/059571	What do you MOST value about the park?	Trees and space.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	No fitness equipment, not enough seating.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	Coffee shop, BBQ area.
	Any additional comments	-
2018/059574	What do you MOST value about the park?	That it exists!
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	
	Any additional comments	Many years ago "Carols by Candlelight" was arranged for local residents. That was very pleasant and would be good to do every year. Holiday tennis camps for local children. One of my daughters attended many years ago. You realise I stress "local." Please don't let more cars be parked around. People should be able to walk to the park. Make sure that it is kept clean including toilets. Friday and Saturday nights it should be policed so there are no groups of youths coming off the trains and causing disturbance. I have heard from some people in Alma St complaining of noise after closing time at Pymble Hotel.
2018/059672	What do you MOST value about the park?	Wide open space, well maintained, lots of trees, restrictions on alcohol.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	Cars driving too fast around, sometimes not enough lighting, graffiti on buildings, cars parking too close to the edge of the park leaving no room to walk to station.

Trim No.	Questions	Comments
THIF NO.	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	No, leave it natural.
	Any additional comments	Please don't reduce the size of the park, and reduce the traffic flow/speed around the park.
2018/059675	What do you MOST value about the park?	Value that people can come and enjoy the tennis court and relax. Value that it is kept clean and lawn mowed and leaves swept.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	Would like less big trees as it is very difficult to see into and across park at night - not too safe, very dark at night.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	Upgrade newer cleaner toilet facilities. Try to make the park more walking exercise friendly. Not enough chairs and tables for folks to sit around.
	Any additional comments	Install more brighter lights around park. Not easy to see who is at the park in the night time. Many young teenagers party around and in the park late at night, disturbing neighbours. They paint graffittis and walk inside houses lawns to use water hoses. We feel there is not enough flat large open space in this park, with too many large trees. Hard for children to run around to enjoy.
2018/059680	What do you MOST value about the park?	The trees and garden beds are well maintained.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	Not enough rubbish bins. More lighting at night.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	Some of the new exercise equipment for the elderly that is being put in around other areas of Sydney.
	Any additional comments	-
2018/060389	What do you MOST value about the park?	The thing my husband and I most value about Robert Pymble Park is the simplicity and peacefulness of the landscape. The lawns and trees provide an uncluttered green open space where we can picnic and look at the trees and the sky as if we were in the country. The park is well maintained and easy to access.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	We least value the toilet facilities, which need to be updated. The building itself is quite satisfactory, but the tilings and fittings inside need to be replaced.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	Robert Pymble Park provides a wonderful open space for us all to enjoy. We have so many units nearby whose occupiers are able to walk to this lovely park. They can have picnics and running space for their children, without having to drive at all. We do not need any more personal training or child care centres in this area.
	Any additional comments	Ku-ring-gai Council has resumed part of Gordon Golf Course and has changed the simplicity of West Pymble Swimming Pool (just to name two) all in the name of progress. Just leave Robert Pymble Park alone! Leave it the way it was originally intended - as a quiet, uncluttered green refuge in which we can find peace amongst the hustle and bustle of city life.
2018/060398	What do you MOST value about the park?	We love living on the park perimeter. Have lived here over 30 years. Love seeing people playing tennis and families enjoying the children's swings, slide etc. Much less vandalism since KMC closed off weather shed at tennis courts.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	Not enough picnic tables and benches, but balance needed to curtail vandalism.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	Apart from more tables and benches we don't want any building development.
	Any additional comments	As KMC knows there's a lack of parking spaces for rail commuters hence the restricted parking currently around park perimeter. These restrictions should stand. If commercial or unit owners want changes the community should be informed. Do not destroy this beautiful green space.
2018/060404	What do you MOST value about the park?	As a resident, I value the beautiful trees at the top end of the park - especially in autumn. I enjoy watching people use the park for children's birthday parties, walking their dogs, or just enjoying a picnic! Great to have the tennis courts for hire as well.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	I think the fence around the park needs updating and the toilet block as well is very dated. Some newer tables and seating would be good in front of the courts with possibly a BBQ setting?? New play equipment for the children with better ground cover under it. Desperately need new path in front of children's play equipment

Trim No.	Questions	Comments
Trim No.	Questions  Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	Covered table and chair settings and demolish caged brick shelter. One BBQ setting? New paths with perhaps a path in front of playground that is elevated so it sits above the water when it rains. More modern play equipment and surface. New fencing and toilet block.
	Any additional comments	Maintain the open space at the top end of the park so that chn/dogs can run around freely. Ensure safety of park users that dead branches are removed before they crash to the ground with regular maintenance.
2018/061394	What do you MOST value about the park?	Quiet.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	No water fountain.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	More seating on the high part from Alma St.
	Any additional comments	More play equipment for children.
2018/061395	What do you MOST value about the park?	That is is a rare piece of green space in an ever over-developed environment.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	The toilet and shelter areas are poorly designed and maintained.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	This is a small park and it does not really need further infrastructure, although some provision of shade trees would be appealing.
	Any additional comments	
2018/062141	What do you MOST value about the park?	I am 89 years old and the park is my favourite place to take my daily walk! I can only use the paths as I walk with 2 sticks or a walker. The paths are quite easy to use if kept clear of debris. I most like the park for its beautiful trees.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	Lack of seats along the paths. If there were seats I would be able to spend longer in the park and enjoy the trees. Sometimes the paths are covered in twigs, leaves and pebbles. Is it possible to clear them more regularly? Also it is difficult to find a parking spot around the park.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	1. Benches, distributed along footpaths for walkers with sticks or walkers to rest. 2. Rubbish bins next to all seats. 3. Recycling bins for cans and bottles. 4. Disabled parking spots near footpath access points. 5. Toilet block upgrade to include disabled toilet. 6. A new covered seating area would be nice. 7. A seasonal coffee stall would be even nicer.
	Any additional comments	Flowerbeds are not required as it is a park of trees. Regular tree care is needed to maintain tree health plus safety of park users. The agapanthus could be removed as they are non-native invasive plants.
2018/063176	What do you MOST value about the park?	It is beautiful, open, has lots of big beautiful trees!
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	The idea of changing it!
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	Indoor heated pool would be nice.
	Any additional comments	Leave it alone please.
2018/064360	What do you MOST value about the park?	Beautiful green space from mainly flat / apartment area.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	-
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	Proper toilet.
	Any additional comments	More optional extras like Wahroonga. Jazz in the Park. Concerts. Markets.
2018/064367	What do you MOST value about the park?	Open space for the community to enjoy.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	Small children's play area. Limited equipment for children to play on. Dogs in the fenced area for children.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	Adult all weather exercise equipment. Outdoor table tennis tables for adult/teenage exercise. Bike track around the edge of the park for children cycling.
	Any additional comments	Improved public toilet facilities. More picnic tables with shade protection. BBQ facility.

Trim No.	Questions	Comments
2018/066825	What do you MOST value about the park?	Open space. Well kept. Unpretentious.
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	Toilet block.
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	Demolish the toilet block and replace with a nice federation style tea room / café with toilets below.
	Any additional comments	-
2018/038038	What do you MOST value about the park?	-
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	
	Any additional comments	As a long time resident of Pymble and an even longer resident of Ku-ring-gai, I feel entitled to make a comment about Robert Pymble Park. My initial reaction is to say leave the park as it is. However, I am not aware of the extent of the utilisation of the tennis courts. If they are not used very often, perhaps they could be converted to parkland. Apart from that comment, I would say please leave the park alone. It is a very beautiful area as it is at present.
2018/039827	What do you MOST value about the park?	-
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	-
	Any additional comments	I love Robert Pymble Park.  As you consider what to do with the park, can I offer the following:  - Please keep the park as a park please - please do not let it get developed as units or property.  Green parks are beautiful - we need parks with all the development that is going on.  - Please do not let the park become a dog park. While I have a dog, I find dog parks a bit unkept.  The dog park at Friars Field (and others around Ku-ring-gai) is sufficient.  - I am happy to leave the park as it is - however, I have read the improvements you're making at Gordon and I am impressed with the changes you have made to other parks.  - I would ask you not to over construct the park.  - Finally, I think the toilet block needs to be looked at - it is blocked off an not used.  Otherwise, my major request is to leave as a park please.
2018/044167	What do you MOST value about the park?	-
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	
	Any additional comments	Robert Pymble Park would be more accessible if the above pathway was addressed. With reference to Robert Pymble Park - the shops should be turned around to be accessed from that area . There is car parking already although it needs review and expanding . Unfortunately ,forward thinking has been ignored and there is already a set of units being built behind the fruit shop . No more please!  Access to shops was from the park would lead to a more Village atmosphere for Pymble. I would suggest reference to West Pymble shopping area with parking , shops and recreational area; however, if the shop access was from the Robert Pymble Park , recreational facilities would offer even better at Pymble.
2018/044209	What do you MOST value about the park?	
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	-
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	-
	Any additional comments	Robert Pymble Park has been a central element of the Pymble village for over a century. It features elegant rolling lawns and a magnificent treed setting, surrounded by traditional homes, in a village centre which emerged around the 1890s, coinciding with subdivisions of previous orchards and the opening of the North Shore Railway in 1890. The park's history is documented in detail in The Historian (Ku-ring-gai Historical Society Inc), Vol 39 No 1 (October 2010), in particular Pymble Park Precinct (Allan Rost, pp 33-49), which includes historic subdivision plans and photos.

Trim No. Questions Comments

A number of features combine to provide the essential context within which to appropriately evaluate the significance of Robert Pymble Park and its landscape management and maintenance. i) Pymble, of which the Robert Pymble Park is a centrepiece, is classed as a "Village" (rather than a "Town", or something even larger) in various planning instruments. This classification is intended to remain unchanged, and informs the necessity to retain the current modest low-key scale in the level of recreational facilities.

ii) Pymble village (both sides of the highway) is set amongst the most undulating topography of all of Ku-ring-gai's villages. Significant hills and slopes incorporate a substantial tree canopy including considerable remnant blue gum high forest, notwithstanding incremental loses from surrounding over-development. Within this, the park and surrounding street plantings at Robert Pymble Park significantly contribute to the treed setting of the area, and are an important contribution to Pymble's attractive village character. The progressive loss of trees and parts of the tree canopy in the immediate area support the need for a program of tree maintenance and replenishment both in and around the park.

iii) The existing setting and character of the Pymble village, its village park, and surrounding housing, is of high urban value, as is acknowledged in a number of studies. The National Trust of Australia (NSW) 1997 Study of Ku-ring-gai Inter-war Housing reported as follows:

"...the uniform appearance of the area stems from its well established landscape. The centrepiece is the housing surrounding Robert Pymble Park. The houses and park constitute an excellent example of good civic design. There are excellent examples of individual houses of merit... The Pymble precinct epitomises the area and era in both the excellent intact nature of its houses, their gardens and street plantings... The area possesses streetscape integrity due to the established nature of the well landscaped gardens and street planting; the area has a uniformity of housing style including colour, form and architectural detail that gives the area an harmonious appearance."

The Godden McKay Logan (GML) 2000 Heritage Study Report, s.27.5, p. 396 reported that: "The area as a whole has heritage value for its many significant residences, including many large estates and representative housing, dated from the late Victorian period, to fine examples of Federation period dwellings and the various styles of the inter-war period, in established garden settings. The housing north of the railway line contains a number of visually and historically distinct areas, such as the area around Pymble Park and from Fern to Station Streets."

iv) The park and Pymble village are surrounded by heritage conservation areas (HCAs). Much of the housing surrounding the park and in its vicinity dates from the late-Victorian, Federation, and interwar periods, with associated garden settings. It is therefore important that Robert Pymble Park retain its period character, and to remove or minimise intrusive elements which sit uneasily with that character.

We submit that the landscape masterplan should:

- (1) Maintain the park's traditional aesthetic and civic character and values as described above;
- (2) Prioritise tree maintenance and replenishment;
- (3) Use park furniture including park benches, lamp posts, timber railings, and park signage in a period style, consistent with the Victorian/Federation/inter-war period origins of the park;
- (4) Utilise colour schemes for (3) which are consistent with and appropriate to those periods;
- (5) Remove or minimise intrusive elements which sit uneasily with the park's character and values;
- (6) Retain the current modest, low-key, scale in the level of recreational facilities.

2018/057011

What do you MOST value about the park?

What do you LEAST value about the park?

act ac year meet value aceat the pain.

Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?

Any additional comments

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Landscape Masterplan for Robert Pymble Park. Robert Pymble Park is an excellent open space of I believe some 5 acres that is generally underutilised due to it being "hidden" away behind Pymble Grandview Street shops. Most early mornings I walk through the park entering at Post Office Street & exiting corner Park Crescent & Alma Street. I carry bags for general rubbish & recyclables collection. There are far less bottles found since the amenities block sitting area has been fenced off & the lighting improved. Mainly on weekends the present garbage containers overflow particularly in the children's play area.

The children's play area is underdeveloped & no doubt one of the issues is safety from the large overhanging tree branches.

Generally as the housing density of the area increases this open park space will become more valuable & thus suggest keeping the grassy bank space which provides a bit of country in the city.

2018/058247

What do you MOST value about the park?

-

 $What \ do \ you \ \textit{LEAST value about the park?}$ 

Trim No.	Questions	Comments
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	-
	Any additional comments	Thank you for maintaining the park so it looks great for the locals to use. It was so overgrown and Pymble overall looked so run down in 2012 when we moved back here. It has really come along, with the local shops such as the chemist, florist, printers, newsagent, physios etc. Many thanks for the wonderful care of the park and encouraging local business that aligns with the community spirit of Pymble.  So glad there are no loud music venues or tacky restaurants like the ones that spoilt the area in recent years like "1047" (where they were also rude to residents). We now have a wonderful French restaurant and a quiet wine bar near the park to cater to the needs for dining out without spoiling the area by becoming too built up.  Pity about approving the brothel to be at street level where children walk past each day as they sometimes have the door open where one can see in when walking past but overall they seem to have their street window looking ok so it is non invasive to the local shopping area.
2018/062795	What do you MOST value about the park?	•
	What do you LEAST value about the park?	-
	Are there any additional facilities you would LIKE to see in the park?	
	Any additional comments	I'm sorry for the late reply but this is the first opportunity I have had to respond to your survey.  1) Tennis courts are fabulous and should be maintained in current format  2) Trees at top of park should be maintained as is  3) A perimeter walking path for strollers / children learning to ride bikes would be an improvement  4) Upgrade of toilet block would be good  5) New picnic shelter and table and chairs near tennis courts  6) Path near lower end of playground floods in wet weather and could be wider to get around hedge.

Contact: Nick Zajko Reference: S11630-4 2018/027986

1 February 2018



Dear Resident

## Robert Pymble Park Landscape Masterplan - Have Your Say

Council would like your help in preparing a Landscape Masterplan for Robert Pymble Park, the parkland bounded by Park Crescent and Alma Street at Pymble.

Robert Pymble Park is classified as a District Park within Council's Open Space Classification System. District Parks have features that attract people from outside the immediate neighbourhood, such as:

- large open space areas
- unique landscape and heritage character
- a range of recreational opportunities
- passive shady places and gardens
- areas for play, events/social/picnic spaces
- toilet facilities and shelters

Landscape Masterplans enable the local community to have a say in the process of upgrading District Parks. The masterplan process identifies embellishments that may improve a park, such as increasing recreation opportunities, improving access/inclusivity, upgrading facilities and integrating sustainability principles. Masterplans can also inform us about important park issues that may guide future management and maintenance practices. When a masterplan is adopted by Council, staged works can be planned and completed as funding becomes available, with the knowledge that all projects are in keeping with, and will contribute to, a long term vision for the park that is supported by the local community.

Please provide your feedback by:

- Posting comments in the 'Park User Survey' section at: conversations.kmc.nsw.gov.au
- Emailing your scanned completed survey to: <a href="mailto:parksandplaygrounds@kmc.nsw.gov.au">parksandplaygrounds@kmc.nsw.gov.au</a> or
- Mailing your completed survey to: The General Manager, Masterplan for Robert Pymble Park, Locked Bag 1006, GORDON NSW 2072

Please quote reference "S11630-4" when providing feedback. Submissions must be received by 5pm on Thursday 1 March 2018.

Please contact our Community Engagement Coordinator on (02) 9424 0757 or via email to <a href="mailto:kmc@kmc.nsw.gov.au">kmc@kmc.nsw.gov.au</a> if you have any questions.

Yours faithfully



Nick Zajko

**Landscape Architect** 



## ROBERT PYMBLE PARK LANDSCAPE MASTERPLAN User Survey

Please circle your answers below (You can answer more than one option)

1. How do you use the park?	2. Who do you visit the park with?
a) for picnics	a) friends
b) walk through only	b) family
c) relaxation/reading	c) young children
d) play	d) organised group (e.g. tennis)
e) exercise	e) by myself
3. What do you <u>MOST</u> value or like abo	out the park?
4. What do you <u>LEAST</u> value or like ab	out the park?
5. List any additional activities/facilitie	s that you would <u>LIKE</u> to see in the park:
Please provide any other comments, the developing the masterplan for the park	houghts or ideas you have to assist us in

Do you want to be kept informed about future consultations and Council decisions involving this Masterplan? Provide your e-mail and postal address and Council will keep you informed
Your email address is:
Your postal address is:
NB: Email and postal addresses will be kept confidential in accordance with Council's Privacy Policy and will ONLY be used to advise you about this project

Robert Pymble Park Landscape Masterplan

Project updates will be available at Council's website: <a href="www.kmc.nsw.gov.au">www.kmc.nsw.gov.au</a> or go directly to <a href="http://www.kmc.nsw.gov.au/Current\_projects\_priorities/Current\_works\_and\_upgrades/Park\_and\_facility\_upgrades/District\_Park\_Masterplans">www.kmc.nsw.gov.au/Current\_projects\_priorities/Current\_works\_and\_upgrades/Park\_and\_facility\_upgrades/District\_Park\_Masterplans</a>

<u>Thank you for completing the survey –</u>
<u>Please put in envelope provided and return to us by Thursday 1 March 2018</u>