

Survey results:

Littlehampton Leisure Centre Proposals Survey Report

October 2016



1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 This survey was run a part of public consultation on proposed outline design plans for a new Littlehampton Leisure Centre adjacent to the existing Littlehampton Swimming and Sports Centre on Sea Road.
- 1.2 Paper copies of the questionnaire were available at exhibitions at the existing Littlehampton Swimming and Sports Centre and the Arun Civic Centre between 3rd and 10th October. The survey was also available on the Arun District Council website. A total of 475 responses were received¹.

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2.1 96% say they support the replacement of the existing Littlehampton Swimming and Sports Centre with a “modern, environmentally friendly, fit for purpose, leisure centre”.
- 2.2 90% support the principles they have seen at either the exhibition or online. Half of these (45%) fully support the principles, whilst half (45%) generally support them but with some concerns.
- 2.3 Comments raised include:
 - Concern regarding damage to the woodland area causing by the re-siting of the leisure centre to the rear of the site.
 - Despite the reasons given in the FAQ document for a 25 metre pool, there are requests for a 50 metre pool to allow swimming training and to alleviate overcrowding.
 - Requests for more spectator seating. A view that the proposed centre has insufficient spectator seating and what there is, is in the wrong place.
 - Requests for more “fun” elements to be provided to attract children and families e.g. slides, diving boards, a flume, a fun pool for children etc.
 - Concern expressed regarding the proposals for a mixed-sex wet changing and shower area. The changing area needs to be larger.
 - Concern that the proposals do not include a sauna (something the existing centre does have). A steam room and spa are also mentioned. This is despite the reasons for exclusion given in the FAQ document.
 - Requests for a larger café, with suggestions that it would be better situated either on the first floor to provide sea views for customers, or on ground floor

¹ This is subject to a maximum standard error of +/-4.5% at the 95% confidence level on an observed statistic of 50%. Thus we can be 95% confident that if the whole population had responded the actual figure would lie between 45.5% and 54.5%.

with view of the small pool.

- A view that the proposed leisure centre is a “like-for-like” offering and that if money is being spent on a new centre then it should have more to offer and larger to cater for the growing local population.
- Other concerns raised include: a lack of privacy as pool users can be seen from outside the centre; need a larger car park and safer cycle parking; need a covered unloading area for disabled customers.

2.4 Two in three respondents (65%) agree that the proposals, as currently shown, will allow the new leisure centre to have better links with the adjacent Mewsbrook Park. A quarter state they don’t know or don’t mind. The balance is split roughly equally between those who agree but with refinements to the proposals and those who do not agree

2.5 Comments on this include:

- Unclear why the link with Mewsbrook Park is needed; cannot not see any benefits
- Concerns for the existing café in park
- Suggestions provided for better linkages between the centre and the park

2.6 80% say they would use the new centre once and week or more often, compared with 73% who currently use it that frequently. These percentages rise to 91% and 83% respectively for monthly usage.

2.7 A lack of facilities was the most frequently mentioned barrier to using the existing centre. Parking issues and a lack of public transport links were the next most frequently mentioned reasons.

2.8 Comments on this include:

- Poor changing rooms/showers/toilets
- Would like other activities/classes which are not provided for
- Parking/public transport issues
- Issues with swimming times/opening times
- Issues with the gym and other facilities
- Poor cleanliness

2.9 Nine in ten respondents feel that the proposed new centre will be a valuable asset to the local community.

3. KEY FINDINGS

- 3.1.1 Table 1 shows the profile of the survey respondents. Males are slightly under represented as are younger age groups (those under 30), with 30-59 year olds over represented.

Table 1 – Survey respondent gender and age profile

Gender	Number	Percentage	Catchment area profile ²
Male	188	41%	48%
Female	268	59%	52%

Age	Number	Percentage	Catchment area profile
Under 16	27	6%	16%
16 - 29	35	7%	13%
30 - 44	120	26%	18%
45 - 59	124	26%	19%
60+	164	35%	33%

- 3.1.2 423 (90%) of the 475 respondents stated that they are local residents, 332 (70%) are existing leisure centre users, and 10 (2%) are leisure centre staff. 85% have BN16 (Rustington) and BN17 (Littlehampton) postcodes. Other postcodes were other BN, PO, or RH (table 2).

Table 2 – Survey respondent profile

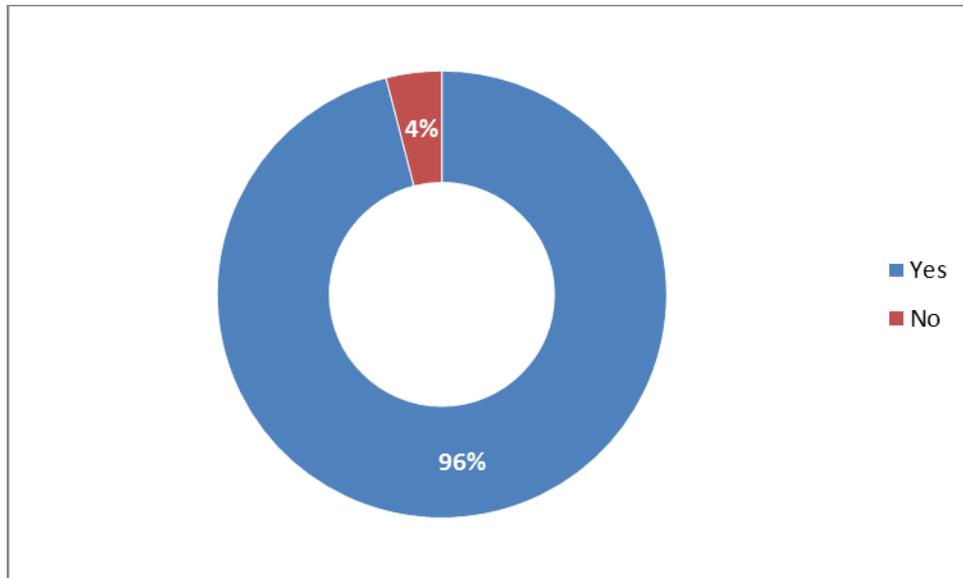
Type of respondent	Number	Percentage
Local resident	423	90%
Existing leisure centre user	332	70%
Leisure centre staff	10	2%
Other	16	3%

Postcode	Number	Percentage
BN16	168	36%
BN17	231	49%
Other	63	13%

² For this survey the catchment area refers to the local population within three miles of the leisure centre plus Arundel residents.

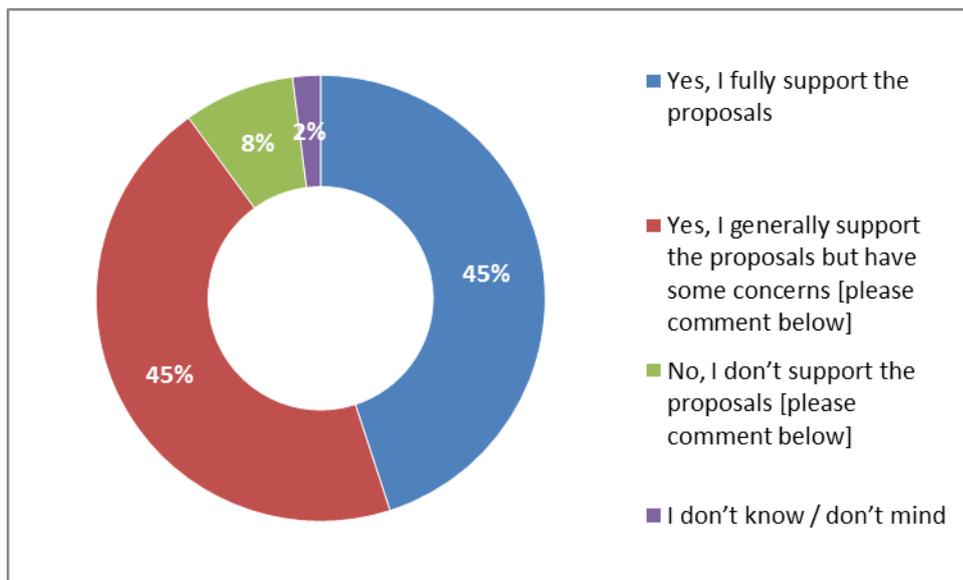
3.2 To understand respondents’ attitude to the overall proposal, they were asked whether in principle they support the replacement of the existing Littlehampton Swimming and Sports Centre with a modern, environmentally friendly, fit for purpose, leisure centre. 96% say they support this proposal (figure 1).

Figure 1 - In principle, do you support the replacement of the existing Littlehampton Swimming and Sports Centre with a modern, environmentally friendly, fit for purpose leisure centre?



3.3.1 The next question asks whether they support the principles they have seen at either the exhibition or online (exhibition boards outlining the proposed new centre were provided at the exhibitions³ and PDFs of these boards were available on the website page with the link to the online survey). Whilst 90% express support, half of these fully support the principles and half generally support them but with some concerns (figure 2).

Figure 2 - Do you support the principles you have seen at either the exhibition or online today?



³ The exhibition at the Littlehampton Swimming and Sports Centre was manned at certain advertised times.

- 3.3.2 Those that have concerns with the proposals or say they do not support them were asked to provide comments. 259 respondents provided comments. Full comments are provided in the appendix of this report; a selection of comments is shown below, sorted by theme and by number of comments received⁴:

1. Spectator seating [44 comments]:

“Is there enough space for suitable seating for galas? The plans do not seem to show enough space for this.”

“Swimming pool's viewing area i.e. too small and in the wrong position.”

“Where is the seating area for parents to watch their children?”

2. Sauna [42 comments]:

“I would like to see a sauna (which we have already) and/or a Jacuzzi.”

“Needs to have sauna and steam room. Most new facilities have this, why not Littlehampton?”

“No sauna/steam room. We were told we would have one still when they first talked about this replacement.”

3. Size of pools [37 comments]:

“I believe the area should be re-developed with a 50 metre pool. This investment would bring a huge amount of revenue and visitors to the area as at present swimmers have to travel to Crawley or Portsmouth.”

“It's a wasted opportunity to put Littlehampton on the map by giving it a 50m pool. By having a 50m pool with a boom, different pool activities could run concurrently, boosting income.”

“Would be more beneficial from a unique selling point/training/attracting clubs to have a 50m pool.”

4. Position of the new centre [37 comments]:

“Better sports use for external landscaping - 'trim trail'.”

“I am very concerned about the encroachment into the wood at the back as I understand it is a conservation area, and of great value to the community.”

“I believe the boat store could be better positioned on the western boundary of the site in order to maximise open space at the site.”

5. Extra facilities for pools [35 comments]:

“Lack of provision for young children. A basic swimming pool with no extras.”

⁴ Please note that those who said they fully supported the proposals were not asked to provide additional comments. Even so, a number of entirely positive comments were received.

“There is no flume or slide or diving board.”

“What has been gained on the swimming side? Why not build a 'fun pool' to attract families: slides, water play area etc?”

6. Changing rooms [28 comments]:

“I am very concerned about the unisex swimming changing room and showers. Provision needs to be made for separate changing and shower areas for male and female swimmers. I understand that parents with young children need to be catered for and surely a family changing area would be possible?”

“I hope that there are enough showers for busy lesson times, and good sized family changing rooms - lots of them! And large lockers.”

“Must have good changing room facilities: clean; hairdryers; private cubicles.”

7. Cafe [18 comments]:

“Good vision from cafe to poolside for parents.”

“I think the cafe should be on first floor to incorporate the great views of the beach or park. This would entice more visitors or tourists from further afield and provide more fun activities for children.”

“The café/seating area is just 30 seats in the proposal, I feel that this needs to be bigger.”

8. Parking [16 comments]:

“Concerned that adequate parking is provided.”

9. Totally positive [14 comments]:

“I think it will be extremely beneficial to our community to have this exciting new sports centre. Having watched the Olympics this year I feel it will inspire others to use this amazing facility, young or old.”

“It looks aesthetically pleasing and will open up the area to the seafront.”

“Very pleased that this isn't going to be flats and it will be located on the same site. Very pleased that parking facilities at the same level will remain. These were the concerns that I had.”

10. A lack of innovation [14 comments]:

“A chance to improve facilities rather than, in the main, replacing like for like has been missed.”

“The plans do not seem to improve on the facilities currently available. In fact in some areas there will be less to offer.”

“With an ever growing town it seems that the proposed centre is a like for like with the facilities already offered. Surely it's time to make a bigger, better facility, fun pool etc?”

11. Size of new centre [11 comments]:

“The proposed size may not support the local expanding conurbation.”

“Why build something small when you have the space for so much more?”

12. Selected other comments:

“Nice to have windows for gym/pool but I am concerned about heat management for south facing glass.”

“I am concerned with the glass fronted pool as I think it is a child protection issue that anyone can watch children and adults in a swimming pool.”

“What about disabled access to the pools?”

“Add in squash courts”

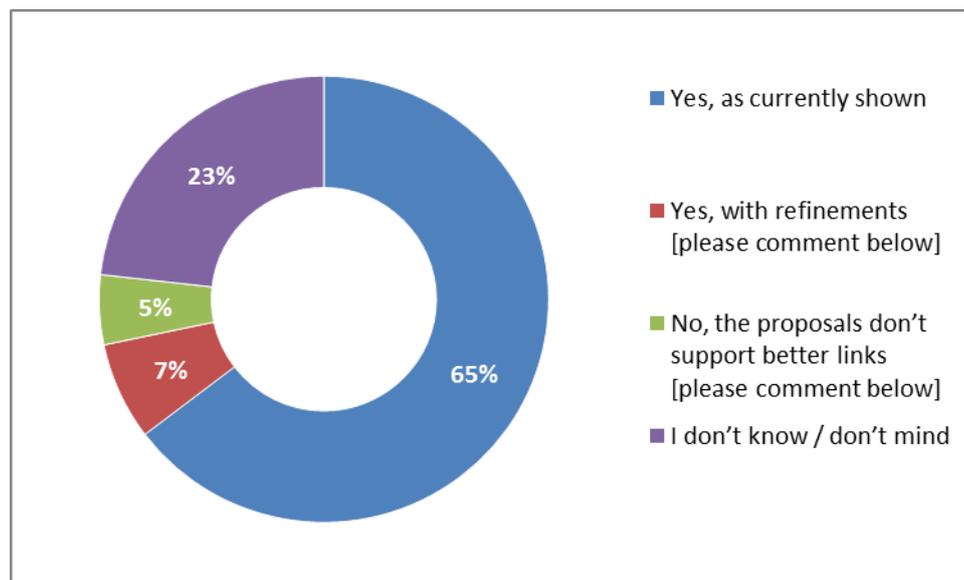
“Climbing wall? Soft play?”

“Loss of badminton courts for a period unknown whilst the dome is demolished is a concern for us.”

“How will this affect prices??”

3.4.1 Two in three respondents agree that the proposals, as currently shown, will allow the new leisure centre to have a better link with the adjacent Mewsbrook Park. A quarter state they don't know or don't mind. The balance is split roughly equally between those who agree but with refinements to the proposals and those who do not agree (see figure 3).

Figure 3 - Do you think that the proposals will allow the new leisure centre to have a better link with Mewsbrook Park?



- 3.4.2 Those who feel refinements are required or say they do not support better links were invited to provide comments. 75⁵ respondents provided comments. Full comments are provided in the appendix; a selection of comments is shown below, sorted by theme and by number of comments received⁶:

1. Why needed/not relevant/unclear [23 comments]:

"I cannot see what benefits linking to the park will have, I can't see it bringing any extra trade to the centre."

"I do not think that this really matters and should only be a minor consideration unless you are proposing to build some facilities at Mewsbrook in the future!"

"Why does it need to have better links with Mewsbrook Park? People visiting a park generally go to relax and have separate interests to those who want to exercise in a Leisure Centre."

2. Suggestions for linking the two/comments on proposed layout [18 comments]:

"I hope the two areas remain separate as they tend to be used by quite different sections of the community."

"It would be better to relocate the boat pound to allow a better visual link with the park."

"Need landscaping, gardens, cycle tracks/paths. Remove fencing between new centre and Mewsbrook."

3. Café in leisure centre/existing café in park [8 comments]:

"If you open a cafe in the new centre it will put pressure on the park cafe which might force it to close."

"Might have been good to link the catering and toilets so that they can be multi-use for pool and park users."

4. Other comments:

"Token effort for integration."

"Looks good, although I am concerned about the miniature railway route. We wouldn't want to lose it."

"The opposite. I think Mewsbrook park will be swamped.....hence the need to destroy trees."

"Links will only happen if there are incentives for swimming clients to use Mewsbrook Park facilities. I don't think it will happen by default."

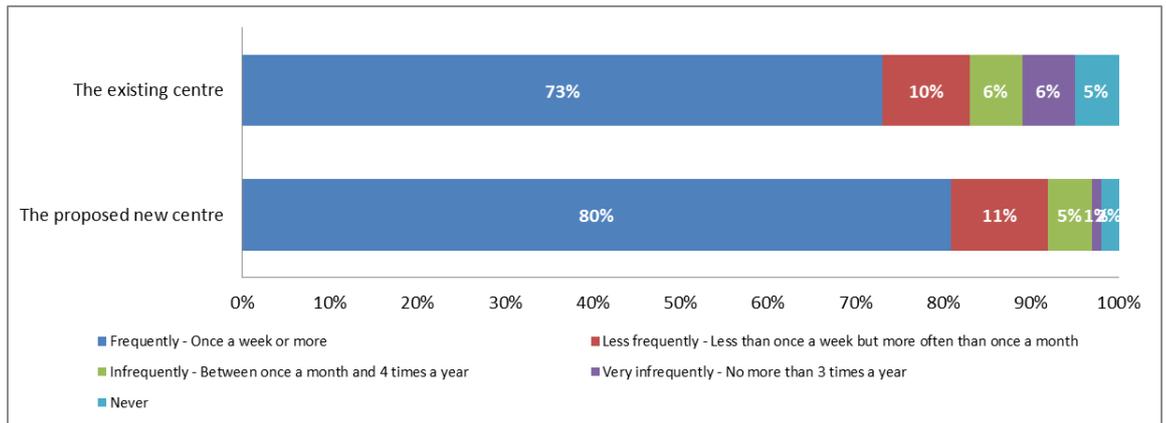
⁵ These includes responses from those who agreed fully and those who said don't know/don't mind.

⁶ Please note, those who said they fully supported the view that the proposals will allow the new leisure centre to have a better link with Mewsbrook Park were not asked to provide additional comments. Even so, a number of entirely positive comments were received.

3.5.1 Respondents were asked how frequently they use the existing centre, and how frequently they would use the proposed new centre (assuming the cost of using the new centre would be similar to using the existing centre).

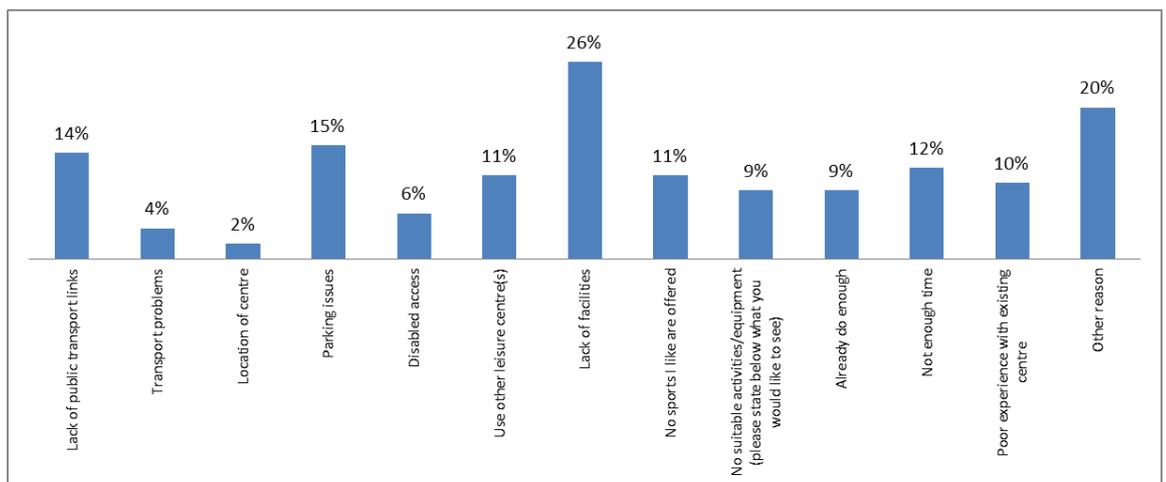
3.5.2 Figure 4 shows that 80% say they would use the new centre once and week of more often, compared with 73% who currently use it that frequently. The percentages rise to 91% and 83% respectively for usage of more often than once a month.

Figure 4 - How frequently do you use the existing centre, and how frequently would you use the proposed new centre? [for this question, please assume the cost of using the new centre would be similar to using the existing centre]



3.6.1 When asked if there are there any barriers to using the existing centre, a lack of facilities was the most frequently mentioned reason, mentioned by one in four. Parking issues and a lack of public transport links were the next most frequently mentioned reasons, but only mentioned by around one in seven respondents (figure 5).

Figure 5 - Are there any barriers to you using the existing centre? [please tick all that apply]



- 3.6.2 173 respondents provided comments on barriers to using the existing centre. Full comments are provided in the appendix; a selection of comments is shown below, sorted by theme and by number of comments received:

1. Changing rooms/showers/toilets [32 comments]:

“Changing rooms are too small and ALWAYS smell. The showers are ridiculously hot, for adults let alone children.”

“Poor changing area for families. Only 2 cubicles which are poorly maintained.”

“The pool changing rooms, especially the family change, absolutely stink 90% of the time - sweaty, stuffy, and sewage smells.”

2. Would like other activities/classes which are not provided for [22 comments]:

“Need more variety of classes and more at weekends/early morning.”

“Poor number of classes. Poor range of classes.”

3. Parking/transport [15 comments]:

“Parking for mother and baby swimmers, or elderly users would be good. Disabled mini-bus drop off by entrance.”

“Public transport links to the facility need to be improved.”

“The current cycle parking is of a poor standard and it feels like a risk leaving our bikes there.”

4. Swimming times/opening times [13 comments]:

“Not open to public swim evenings, or at least facility is not sufficient in capacity. Gym too busy due to size and demand.”

“Pool times are restricted when organisations are using the pool. It is important to encourage group activities/swimming clubs, but it does mean that there is a balancing act between using the pool “when you would like” as opposed to “when you can”.”

“Timing of many of the activities I would like to take part in are not suitable for full time workers.”

5. Gym/other facilities [12 comments]:

“Gym is currently too small and makes it very busy.”

“I use the centre at least 3-4 times a week and do the spinning classes. There have been occasions where I haven't been able to get in due to not enough bikes! Also some of the classes need to also be aimed at working parents in the evenings!!”

“The meetings room is not big enough or adequate enough for keep fit.”

6. Cleanliness [10 comments]:

“Cleanliness is very poor in many areas.”

“Cleanliness. Generally just looks old and worn.”

7. Other comments:

“No real fun aspect such as a slide, flume, rapids, wave machine.”

“Generally outdated facilities make the centre unattractive for use against more modern alternatives. This won't be a problem with the new centre.”

“I use the centre when I have to as I find the pool too crowded. I would come every day if the pool was wider (less crowded).”

“Lack of seating for competition swim galas.”

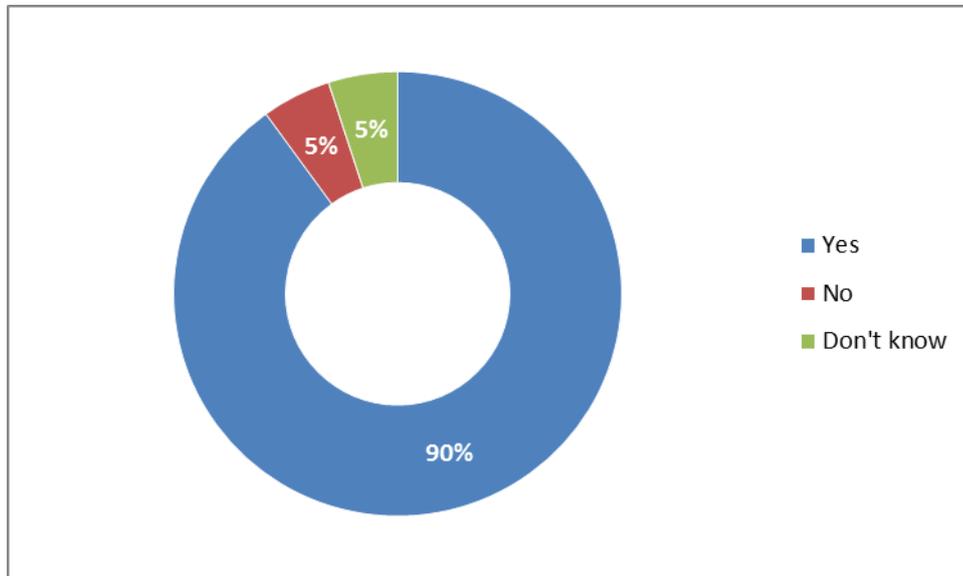
“No cafe in existing centre.”

“I am a regular player of badminton. The lighting in the existing sports dome has often been inadequate i.e. not bright enough when bulbs have blown, which has happened quite often.”

“The existing centre can be draughty.”

- 3.7 Nine in ten respondents feel that the proposed new centre will be a valuable asset to the local community (figure 6).

Figure 6 - Do you think the proposed new centre would be a valuable asset to the community of Littlehampton?



- 3.8 The final question asked for any further comments that respondents might have. 237 respondents provided extra comments. These broadly mirror the comments expressed elsewhere in this report and are shown in full in the appendix.

APPENDIX

[SECTION 3.3.2] Do you support the principles you have seen at either the exhibition or online today? Comments:**Spectator seating [44 comments]**

“By not having adequate seating (similar to Felpham/Worthing) or a 50m pool, reduction of current facilities limits the potential of pool, the club galas and friendly galas which would attract visitors to the area.”

“Currently there is not enough spectator viewing area. Could this be catered for in the new building?”

“From looking at the plans online, I am unable to see where seating would be for viewing of the swimming pools. I am a parent of a child currently taking lessons in the small pool; and also of a child in the Littlehampton Swimming Club. I am concerned there may be no/little seating for viewing and for club or school galas.”

“Hope there will be facility to watch children when I take them to their swimming lessons and access them easily when they finish, i.e. not have to walk right round the centre to get to the changing rooms.”

“I am a spectator at the pool every week taking my grandchildren to their swimming lessons. The plans are showing a very limited amount of spectator space, and where will everyone be seated when galas are on? If a new pool is being built I would expect better facilities and not worse.”

“I do not feel there are enough seats in the main pool for parents during swimming lessons/parties/swim galas etc.”

“I feel there is not much spectator viewing area around the pool.”

“I have two children that use the pool frequently. One has lessons in the small pool to which I always sit and watch but I can't see anywhere to do this in the new plans, and standing with all the other parents could be an issue. Also my daughter is in the squads which also has lots of people that watch and I can only see about 20 seats at one end of the big pool. This would also be a problem for galas and school galas to which we do a lot of and loads of people turn up to watch and there is very little space for people to watch. At the last school the pool had 3 rows of seats right down the length of the pool and there still wasn't enough room.”

“I really hope that there will be plenty of poolside seating next to both pools for parents to watch their children having lessons.”

“Insufficient seating for poolside viewing. We will have less viewing than we have now. But two more lanes. Make it a gala venue!!! (make money).”

“Is there enough space for suitable seating for galas? The plans do not seem to show enough space for this.”

“Is there going to be adequate spectator space? Especially for parents who want to sit on the edge of the learner pool and for those who have older children and can let them in the pool alone but would still like to keep an eye on them. Will there be visibility of the pool from the café?”

“It seems a pity that the facilities will not be adequate for swimming galas. No seating area for spectators for swimming events.”

“It should have adequate spectator seating (can't see any on plan!). It will be an excellent investment and am sure will be utilised by all generations within the community.”

“Lack of poolside seating.”

“Lack of spectator seating poolside.”

“Lack of spectator seating.”

“More spectator seats required at poolside.”

“My daughter swims for the swimming club at Littlehampton and I feel there needs to be more seating for parents to be able to watch children swim generally, and during swimming club, and school club sessions. This is very important.”

“My son is a member of Littlehampton swimming club. During galas held at the current site the spectator seating is inadequate and I believe this has not been incorporated into the new pool plans.”

“No real concerns, but would like to see more seating around the main pool.”

“No seating area around either pool. This is used extremely regularly by parents and children having lessons and by spectators.”

“No seating around pool.”

“No seating by learner pool. No seating for galas/competitions.”

“No seats in swimming area!”

“No spectator area and only a 25m pool! This is a missed opportunity to attract big business to the area.”

“No/little spectator space around the pool. Current pool is very, very, crowded during school/cub/club galas! Considering swapping to Splashpoint.”

“Seating area for swimming gala?”

“Sitting is a nightmare at the moment and what you have proposed looks like less seating. How can Littlehampton Swimming Club hold their own galas if there is nowhere to sit? It's an embarrassment other clubs around can hold events and we can't. Our swimmers are proud of their club and would love to hold events to show off their training centre and encourage more revenue from such events.”

“Spectator area for swimming pool tiered seating with access not from pool area.”

“Spectators' gallery needs more attention. Not enough given to view swimmers.”

“Still minimal spectator facilities. Another half hearted effort from the Council.”

“Swimming pool's viewing area i.e. too small and in the wrong position.”

“The current proposal doesn't allow nearly enough space for spectators during competitions.”

“The design of the interior - poolside seating provision is not shown.”

“There is not enough seating and the general provision has the feel of 'bare minimum'.”

“There should be extra room for tiered seating for viewing such as the set up at Felpham. Very few galas would take place at the pool as it is currently proposed. Felpham is still a better option for galas.”

“Very disappointing that there is not enough spectator area. This mistake was made at Splashpoint.”

“Viewing area for pools appears very limited.”

“We need poolside seating so parents can watch swimming lessons, even if they are concrete bleacher type seating (so no need to provide chairs).”

“Where is the poolside spectator seating?”

“Where is the seating area for parents to watch their children?”

“Where is the spectator area for watching swimmers, ability to hold galas?”

“With regards to lack of seating for pool spectators this is a significant disappointment that key pool users haven't been counted or consulted about what the typical and maximum seating needs are. This point should be reviewed before any further detailed design takes place.”

Sauna / steam room / Jacuzzi [additionally a petition received from Save Our Sauna with approx 140 names; seen as having medical benefits; sauna in the current centre] [42 comments]

FAQ page: Will the new centre have a sauna? Based on the Detailed Needs Assessment we have a facilities mix that has been agreed by Cabinet. Consideration will be given to other facilities/services within the constraints of the budget and designs of the centre

“Age/sauna/steam room/Jacuzzi?”

“At present we have a Sauna, which is a facility we pay extra money for each year. This is an important asset to the centre as it is a way of keeping ourselves fit and healthy as we suffer from arthritis and I also suffer from sinusitis due to a childhood injury. The sauna is essential to our wellbeing. When (like at present) it is not working, we suffer as our joints start hurting and I am now on tablets to clear my sinuses. The new centre would not be an improvement if you are taking away facilities we already have and pay for! Despite what people may think, a sauna is a medical asset and should be treated as such. We are not disabled, but without our regular usage the gym, swim and sauna, both myself and my

husband would probably be disabled, but we are determined not to get that far down the line. Therefore the sauna should be treated as an important asset to wellbeing, not just a luxury; it is far from a luxury, it is vital to many people's health!”

“Can you also provide sauna facilities?”

“I don't believe in this day and age that you would build a health suite without a sauna as myself and others use the present one for medical reasons as well as for pleasure.”

“I support the replacement of the current facilities BUT I do not support the leaving out of facilities such as a sauna, steam room, Jacuzzi or poolside seating.”

"I would like to be assured that there will be a sauna/steam room with possible Jacuzzi. This seems the norm in most leisure centres being built. There are more than enough places to eat in Littlehampton but no other spa places apart from the expensive private centres. We have a sauna now, why should we lose it? There are many health benefits from using sauna and steam rooms which is more in keeping with a good sports centre than a need for a cafe. If you cannot go without food surely vending machines could be used to supply food and drink? There are many people that would like a modern clean spa room to use on its own or after exercising. Please consider these points. If the provision for a spa is not made the impact will cost too much to put right. People will not be proud to say we have an excellent sports centre, just Littlehampton has one. What do you expect from Littlehampton? Not much."

"I would like to have a sauna and wet room in the new centre."

"I would like to know why there is no sauna shown on the plan?"

"I would like to see a sauna (which we have already) and/or a Jacuzzi."

"If there is a sauna and steam room included."

"It should have at least a Sauna and even better a spa! This would be a great asset to the town for tourism out of season. When we go away in winter and stay in other towns we look for a local centre with Spa and know others do too! We have a fabulous town with great walks along the seafront, River Arun, and places of interest, but it gets dark about 4pm. What would be better than going to the local pool spa to get warm before eating in town and staying at your B and B? This is what we do and have friends that also do this. Question 4 states replacement of leisure centre that implies the same facilities not less; we have a Sauna at the moment that is the minimum requirement! Otherwise it is not fit for purpose. A sauna is not a luxury, it helps prevent able bodied people, who have issues from becoming disabled and a burden on society, I have Arthritis and really feel it before it rains etc. The answer is a regular Sauna this helps the symptoms. There seems to be a lot done for the disabled and children, but nobody helps those that are trying to help themselves from being disabled and a burden to Littlehampton, Arun DC and the NHS. We pay for this and do not want it free, just need to keep this facility for our health and wellbeing. Even the Freedom Leisure site states "The warmth and humidity are superb in helping the muscles and joints wind down and if need be, repair, after a workout. Heat is also a good way

to relax generally". This reduces blood pressure and helps joints to repair Arthritis! If you take this facility away you are taking away a facility from people who are trying to look after themselves and not be a burden on you! The answer is not "all those that need this go to Virgin". We can't all afford the prices and it's not applicable to tourists that might want to visit our town."

"It would be nice to have a steam room and sauna facility."

"Might be nice to have a sauna, steam room, and Jacuzzi."

"Need a full health suite. Sauna, Jacuzzi, steam room."

"Need a full health suite."

"Needs steam room/sauna/Jacuzzi type adult area."

"Needs to have sauna and steam room. Most new facilities have this, why not Littlehampton?"

"No sauna in new plans."

"No sauna in the new plan? A steam room would be good as well."

"No sauna or Jacuzzi."

"No sauna!" (x3)

"No sauna/steam room. We were told we would have one still when they first talked about this replacement."

"Proposal of having the sauna."

"Sauna and wet room seems necessary in a new swimming centre."

"Sauna. From the point of view of hygiene this facility must require users to shower before use. Impossible to verify?"

"Sauna? Steam? Spa?"

"Should have sauna/steam room and diving facilities."

"The inclusion of a sauna is important, even though I no longer use one myself."

"The new complex does not include a sauna and relaxation area."

"The opportunity to add additional features such as a sauna, steam room should be considered. Could a track and files element be incorporated?"

"The reduction of facilities such as sauna etc seems illogical when building a new facility; you should be increasing such spa activities."

"There's no sauna provision."

"Where is our sauna!!!! ADC needs to listen!!!!"

“Where is the sauna? Do you not propose to have this facility?”

“Where is the sauna?” (x 3)

“Would be helpful to have a therapy pool. Great opportunity missed if not in the plans.”

“Yes to a point but where's the sauna, steam room? This needs addressing.”

“You should be able to use sauna and Turkish bath as part of pool entry.”

Size of pools [37 comments]

Despite the reasons given on the FAQ page for not considering a 50m pool. A 50m pool could add approx £3m on to the build cost and £300k pa on to running costs; issues with underground pipes making it difficult to fit a 50m pool on the site; and 50m pools are normally heated a few degrees lower than community pools, leading to complaints that the pool would be too cold for the general user, particularly for young children.

“50m pool would be great.”

“Bigger pool (50m) would be better.”

“Clarification of Learner Pool dimensions. On visual plans 10 x 17m on written 13 x 17m.”

“Depth at shallow end should be at least 1 metre.”

“Extend to a 50m pool! Need a 4m diving pool with 5m diving board!”

“General principle is OK; execution of opportunity is a worry. Littlehampton Swimming Club is the venue's biggest user and we have not got a competition venue still! 50 metre pool and gallery are missed opportunities.”

“I believe the area should be re-developed with a 50 metre pool. This investment would bring a huge amount of revenue and visitors to the area as at present swimmers have to travel to Crawley or Portsmouth.”

“I hope 8 lane pool means plenty of permanent lanes to swim in at all times.”

“I see no 'for' points for a 50m pool but do we know how much income from holding swimming competitions?”

“I support the fact that you are replacing the existing LSSC however, as a swimmer it would have been really helpful to have a 50m pool. As well as creating more money and visitors for you, it would help Littlehampton Swim Club by allowing them to train in a 50m pool.”

“I would have thought greater consideration would have been taken to include a 50 metre pool.”

“If you have the space the pool needs to be larger. The existing pool is way too narrow and gets overcrowded. For instance, Arun Leisure Centre in Felpham is so much better in terms of space (25x25m).”

“It should have a 50 metre swimming pool which meets ASA standards. The only 50 metre pool in Sussex is K2 (run by Freedom Leisure) so don't waste this opportunity to build for the future and develop the space for local users, your main user, and the wider community!”

“It would be better to have 8 lanes and a 50m pool so that galas can be held there.”

“It's a wasted opportunity to put Littlehampton on the map by giving it a 50m pool. By having a 50m pool with a boom, different pool activities could run concurrently, boosting income. I feel it's short-sighted and could become another wholly inadequate facility, like Splashpoint.”

“Length of the pool is disappointing - should have been 50m.”

“Littlehampton Town Council's motto is 'Progress'. Where is the 'Progress' in building the same sized pool?”

“Main pool MUST have half of it with moveable floor to generate maximum income when the learner pool is closed. Also will give you maximum flexibility.”

“New pool should be 50m in length.”

“Not being used as a competition pool is very disappointing to hear, especially as the local swim club uses and supplies the majority of the revenue for the centre!”

“Not the correct size of learning pool.”

“Pool should be 50m long.”

“Sadly it's not a 50m pool with the option of 25m. The swimming club is expanding and the leisure centre will miss out on gala funding.”

“Should be Olympic size.”

“Small pool dimensions on plan do not agree with written statement.”

“The new size of the learning pool.”

“The swimming pool needs to be bigger. 50m and have spectators for events.”

“Think it should be a 50m pool.”

“This will prohibit clubs and the use of the swimming pool for a long duration of time.”

“We need a 50m pool.”

“Why build only a 25m pool?”

“Why have the plans not included an Olympic sized swimming pool?! Surely this is an opportunity to put this centre on the map properly? The size cannot be changed afterwards of course, so please give this some serious thought. A pool of Olympic dimensions would

encourage top athletes to use this facility for training.”

“Why not a 50 metre pool?! Why no spectator seating? We wonder why we don't produce more swimmers!!”

“Why not a 50m pool?”

“Why not an Olympic size pool to attract more people to the area as there is no Olympic size one near here?”

“Would be more beneficial from a unique selling point/training/attracting clubs to have a 50m pool.”

“You should consider making the main pool 50m but at the very least.”

Position of new centre/boat store on the site [effects on woodland area to the rear; position of boat store; noise concerns for residents] [37 comments]

“Although the Arun Youth Aqua Centre boat store is located on the site map we are slightly concerned that the boat store does not show on the artists/architects model.”

“As nice as landscaped areas are, I don't trust WSCC not to nip in and force some houses there instead.”

“Better sports use for external landscaping - 'trim trail'.”

“Concerned about the new centre affecting wildlife in the surrounding area.”

“Conservation area must remain including trees.”

“Don't want to encroach on the park too much.”

“I am very concerned about the encroachment into the wood at the back as I understand it is a conservation area, and of great value to the community.”

“I believe the boat store could be better positioned on the western boundary of the site in order to maximise open space at the site.”

“I feel it is important to keep the trees that are already on the site as far as possible.”

“I have concerns regarding the location of the new building and the fact that, not only are we losing the small field (overflow car park) but the new leisure centre will extend into the Ruby Conservation Gardens. Many mature trees will be felled and a large area of the gardens destroyed resulting in a considerable loss of natural habitat for wildlife and a peaceful area.”

“I have concerns that the building of the new leisure centre may have a negative impact on the wildlife and plants of the Mewsbrook conservation area.”

“I hope the following points will be addressed: (1) minimising the area of woodland to be cleared. (2) soundproofing the sports hall (the northernmost area of the complex) to eliminate any disturbance to nearby wildlife and local residents.”

“I just hope that some of the taller trees nearer to our property can be thinned out in the process so we get a bit more sunshine returned to us.”

“I understand the swim pool will now have to go across the site, pushing it further on to Mewsbrook land and trees will have to be removed.”

“I would worry that part of Mewsbrook Park is being lost if the new pool is built on part of the existing field. Events are sometimes held on this very field. Obviously that won't happen in the future unless the Arun Council has proposals to accommodate events here.”

“Important to maintain existing tree screen.”

“It feels that you are shoving the new facilities at the back of the land when the space at the front could be used better or is there a plan to get planning permission to build residential property on the land at the front in due course!! I would have considered obtaining planning for some houses at the back of the land and the funds raised could have been spent on the new facilities at the front of the land.”

“It might disrupt the wildlife in the woodlands.”

“Planting that improves biodiversity of the site.”

“Proximity of new building to residential may have increased noise concerns due to plant equipment (heating and ventilation). Encroachment onto green area of Mewsbrook

will reduce size of events currently run in the park. Also will Leisure Centre start to use this area for outside activities, therefore restricting public use of the area?"

"Removal of trees / natural habitation."

"Should be careful in building over park/native areas."

"The building is far too back. Set it nearer the seafront with parking/boat area behind. Boat/store etc disregarding in all perspectives."

"The location of the new centre and the removal of the trees behind."

"There appears to be a lot of "wasted" green space."

"We are pleased this facility is not being relocated and the land used for residential development. We could do with speed controls on road."

"Why fell the trees?"

"Why not build on the existing site? Why disturb Ruby Gardens?"

"Will more housing be put up on existing site?"

"With regard to Ruby Gardens, hopefully these will not disappear although some of the

woodland needs cleaning as this attracts night time gatherings leaving a great deal of litter i.e. food packaging. There is an ancient mulberry tree that should be preserved."

"Worried about the foxes that live in the woodland/conservation area."

"Worried about the impact on the wildlife in the woodland/conservation area."

"Would be better at the front."

"Yes I am pleased that the AYAC facilities have been included but I do not see why the boat park needs to be moved because of the so called "maritime pine tree copse"?"

"Yes I am pleased that the AYAC facilities have been included in the plans, however, I am slightly concerned that it might not come to fruition."

"Yes I am pleased that the AYAC facilities have been included in the plan. Slightly concerned that it might not come to fruition. The current position is perfect for our young sailors, hoping we will be OK."

"You need to maximise the views of the surrounding environment"

Extra facilities for the pools (especially for children/family fun) [flume; slide; diving board; fun pool; water play features] [35 comments]

"A flume or slide would be worth having, and diving boards."

"A fun pool is needed to attract children!!!"

"A slide for the main pool."

"All looks wonderful as a shiny new building always will. However what a great shame it would be not to include something (if only small) to please our kids (next generation) in the pools e.g. slide, water attractions. Fun around the small pool is crucial in a lot of people's eyes!"

"As a soon to be parent it concerns me that there does not seem to be anything for children within the swimming pool. Surely this would prove a huge selling point?! Even a small water play feature/slide?"

"Beach entry to small pool?"

"Beach style entrance to the small pool. Slides for toddlers like at Splashpoint will be a huge plus point for us to use the Littlehampton pool as opposed to Splashpoint."

"Design of building looks good, however pools need to have a lot more fun e.g. similar to those at Splashpoint."

"Diving pool?"

"Flume/slide: let's motivate the children to get out and swim; that's why we travel further to use Splashpoint."

"Fun pool for children?"

"I feel, like many friends of mine, that there needs to be a fun pool to attract more children to your centre, without which they may seek alternative centres."

"It would be nice to have more fun facilities for children."

"It would have been nice to see some more facilities proposed such as a climbing wall, water slides, fun pool area etc."

"It's so fantastic to have a new centre planned which is much needed, but it seems a shame there is no fun element to the pool."

"Lack of provision for young children. A basic swimming pool with no extras."

"Learn from Splashpoint, include a slide, even if it's a little one."

“Moveable floor on main pool to allow a range of activities, as Splashpoint currently has.”

“Need more things for children e.g. slide, mushroom, fountains, etc.”

“No diving pool?” (x 2)

“No leisure pool, basically nothing to do for little children. The same style like without any diving boards or leisure pool. Kids under 6 years of age can't really play in a learner pool. Please can you do something with it?”

“Slides etc for children's activities.”

“The pool (both learner and lanes) could do with some fun elements for the kids. Not like Splashpoint as that is rubbish, but just something different for the kids to do as well as swim. (Floats and swimming can be boring). Otherwise it looks very good and in keeping with what it should be.”

“The swimming pool needs to be fun! Obviously as well as practical for lessons would hugely benefit the community. Needs to compete with Splashpoint.”

“There could be so much more, like slides for children to play on and an outside pool.”

“There is no flume or slide or diving board.”

“There is nothing new for families.”

“There should/could be more 'fun' in the pool. The small purple slide isn't adequate at the moment. But as a 'swimming' pool and for lessons, the centre is already excellent.”

“There's no diving board. Please consider this.”

“Very disappointed, no slides for kids.”

“We feel that by not having a slide similar to Worthing and Felpham means that revenue will be lost from local visitors as they will still continue to travel to other facilities.”

“What has been gained on the swimming side? Why not build a 'fun pool' to attract families: slides, water play area etc?”

“Where is the slide?”

“Would be nice to include a splash pool/wave pool/flumes to encourage more people to use the facility with their families.”

Changing rooms [not unisex; more space; family cubicles; more/better showers; better toilets; large lockers; provide privacy] [28 comments]

“Are there going to be family changing cubicles?”

“Bigger changing rooms required, separate showers.”

“Changing and shower areas are not big enough. Male and female showers should be separate not shared.”

“Changing areas appear unisex?”

“Changing rooms do not show male or female. No space for the disabled.”

“Changing tables for babies' classes are very important.”

“Decent toilets, better changing cubicles.”

“Do hope that the changing facilities will provide some privacy.”

“Do not like mixed changing, nightmare for schools and clubs and "peeping toms".”

“Do not like the mixed changing rooms. Not acceptable.”

“I am very concerned about the unisex swimming changing room and showers. Provision needs to be made for separate changing and shower areas for male and female swimmers. I understand that parents with young children need to be catered for and surely a family changing area would be possible?”

“I hope that there are enough showers for busy lesson times, and good sized family changing rooms - lots of them! And large lockers.”

“I would prefer male/female changing rooms, not a communal one.”

“Is the dry change area adequate? Sufficient showers and toilets when there may be numerous users of the sports hall?”

“It would appear that the wet changing facilities are unisex - surely this is a retrograde step in these times of child protection? Other similar facilities such as the Sovereign Centre, Eastbourne have separate male/female/family changing areas. This also enables people to properly shower after sporting activities. Talking to some of the ladies about this it shocked them that single sex changing facilities were being withdrawn.”

“Larger changing rooms.”

“Mixed changing rooms. I prefer a single sex changing room. Lockers need to stay the same as now.”

“Mixed showers - do not agree with it.”

“Must have good changing room facilities: clean; hairdryers; private cubicles.”

“Need single sex changing rooms.”

“Not enough showering facilities.”

“Overall I do support the proposals however I have reservations about the female changing rooms being shared with mother/toddlers. Kids are so noisy especially when they are being bathed and dressed - screaming!!”

“The mixed changing facilities mean that the social element that is experienced by many members in the single sex changing rooms will be lost.”

“The new building needs to have more showers than the current one and separate showers ladies/gentlemen to make it possible to have a proper wash. Having only 3 showers, as it is now, is pretty impossible at the best of times. The current ladies change is much too small, not enough lockers and not enough space to put

anything down while getting changed. There should be hairdryers that are wall mounted hand dryers rather than coin operated hair dryers as these are easy and cheap to operate and maintain. You should also encourage users to have a proper shower before entering the pool to encourage hygiene and this is another reason why you need separate ladies/men shower rooms.”

“The only concern I have is the mixed wet changing room.”

“There need to be more showers than currently (not shown on the plan).”

“Will male and female changing rooms and showers be separate?”

“Will there be conspicuous showers to encourage people to use them before getting in the pool?!”

Café [first floor with views; larger; view of pool; proper café not just vending machines] [18 comments]

“A 150 cover cafe overlooking the sea would create a lot of needed revenue.”

“Cafe (restaurant) should be on upper level with view of the sea. If partly a restaurant it could earn income and reduce any subsidies.”

“Cafe on first floor with external balcony/terrace.”

“Cafe seating area seems small in comparison with existing one.”

“Cafe should have a view of the pool.”

“Good vision from cafe to poolside for parents.”

“Great to see a new cafe.”

“I think the cafe should be on first floor to incorporate the great views of the beach or park. This would entice more visitors or tourists from further afield and provide more fun activities for children.”

“I would learn from Splashpoint. Have a good café.”

“I would like to be sure that there is proper provision made for cafe facilities. The lack of such facilities is in no way compensated for by the provision of vending machines in the present swimming centre. Proper cafe facilities will encourage visitors and residents to linger and to

use the new centre as a social hub. Please don't miss the boat a second time.”

“Is it possible to have a first floor café to take advantage of sea views?”

“It would be good to make better use of the views seawards. The possibility of a first floor café with views which could become a destination should be considered.”

“The cafe should be closer to the park.”

“The café/seating area is just 30 seats in the proposal, I feel that this needs to be bigger.”

“The outside café patio needs to wrap around the outside of the front of the building so that it links in better to Mewsbrook Park. There should also be a playground close by to attract parents to that area and buy a coffee.”

“The smallish cafe on the ground floor is an opportunity missed. Part of the fitness area could be relocated so that all of this area could be used as a larger cafe/party venue facility i.e. parties, weddings etc.”

“Will cafe be run by a local company? Don't want a franchise like Costa, Starbucks.”

“Will there be an area to eat/drink your own food or is seating limited to cafe and only for customers' use?”

Parking [enough spaces; layout] [16 comments]

“Car parking reduced from existing.”

“Car parking.”

“Concerned that adequate parking is provided.”

“Concerns about access for those who do not drive.”

“Further considerations should be given to the parking layout at the site - the car parks are currently separated, would it not be more efficient for them to be designed so as if one were full the additional spaces could be accessed without having to come back out of the car park and drive back up the hill? People will automatically attempt to park closer and this seems an unnecessary separation.”

“Greater use of this improved combined leisure facility/park will hopefully mean more use by patrons, giving rise to more cars. Hendon Avenue is already a nightmare for residents.”

“How many parking spaces available? How will people without vehicles access centre? Very limited access with poor public transport. Will the bus on the seafront call into the car park?”

“I hope that the parking space will remain the same at least and our member badge which entitles us to free parking will be maintained.”

“I think the car park could be a bit bigger.”

“I'd like to see covered cycle parking.”

“More parking?”

“No requirement for coach park if not a competition pool.”

“Not sure a bus stop in the car park is a good idea, how will the barrier be operated to allow access?”

“Parent and child bays for parking and maybe a crèche so single parents can use gym facilities.”

“With the increased number of facilities will there be enough parking?”

“Would expect parking arrangements to be the same for gym users.”

Positive [please note: the question asked for concerns with the principles, hence the relatively small number of totally positive comments received] [14 comments]

“A great addition for Littlehampton.”

“About time. Existing facilities now tired.”

“Fully support the plan as described in the display.”

“I think it will be extremely beneficial to our community to have this exciting new sports centre. Having watched the Olympics this year I feel it will inspire others to use this amazing facility, young or old.”

“I think it will be very good to change it because this building is old and dirty, so a fresh and clean one will be nice.”

“It looks aesthetically pleasing and will open up the area to the seafront.”

“Looks good.”

“New design look most impressive and the layout looks well thought through.”

“Provided it is carried out as planned and within time frame.”

“The new centre will be a great attraction to the park and Littlehampton.”

“These are exciting times for the local community and I think it will bring more people back to the leisure centre.”

“This will be a great improvement.”

“Very pleased that this isn't going to be flats and it will be located on the same site. Very pleased that parking facilities at the same level will remain. These were the concerns that I had.”

“Well thought out with exciting new ideas for modernisation.”

Lack of innovation [a like-for-like offering; need better use of space] [14 comments]

“A chance to improve facilities rather than, in the main, replacing like for like has been missed.”

“As a Chartered Management Accountant with many years of experience (and with an engineering degree) I do not think this is worth anywhere near the £15m price tag. Either renovate what we already have for considerably less money OR build something a lot bigger i.e. ice skating, additional fun pool, steam room etc. Please do not simply replace what we already have with exactly the same thing albeit with a more modern façade. A complete waste of

taxpayers' money and will not bring more people to Littlehampton or increase usage.”

“Could have done a lot more with the space.”

“I feel there has been a general lack of engagement with the public and this consultation seems to have presented the outcome and not gathered any needs from the community. I fear this 'bare minimum' approach will push more custom to private gyms and health club facilities which have expanded in recent years due to lack of good local provision to meet their needs.”

“It's only a modernised version of the current leisure centre.”

“Looks like a like-for-like replacement.”

“Not a lot of change, other than a cafe and more modern.”

“Not ambitious enough for an area that is rapidly growing.”

“The new centre is practically like for like. My son is learning to swim here and my daughter swims for the club.”

“The new centre only seems to offer a modern replacement of what is currently available/on offer at the existing centre.”

“The plans do not seem to improve on the facilities currently available. In fact in some areas there will be less to offer.”

“The proposal looks like it has been dropped on to the site from a standard book of leisure centre plans. Not much attempt to integrate such a huge mass into the masterplan. It looks very incongruous with the parkland of Mewsbrook Park. Is the cafe large enough? No diving pool? No increased seating? It just really looks like a newer replication of what's there now.”

“With an ever growing town it seems that the proposed centre is a like for like with the facilities already offered. Surely it's time to make a bigger, better facility, fun pool etc?”

“You are placing one centre with another very similar one. It's like treading water. Why isn't more being offered? Why not expand and use the site of the sports dome and the existing centre?”

Size of new centre [11 comments]

FAQ page: Given all the new housing development that is taking place in and around Littlehampton, will the new leisure centre be big enough to accommodate everyone? The Detailed Needs Assessment took into account the current and projected population of the District (including the housing developments) and ran the figures through The Sport England Facilities Calculator. This tool is used to help local planning authorities quantify how much additional demand for the key community sports is generated by populations of new growth, development and regeneration areas.

“Despite you having put the model through Sport England's demand calculator I feel that, unless another centre is likely to be built in the District, it will be oversubscribed.”

“Despite, the comments on 'frequently answered questions' I would still raise the issue of the new Leisure Centre being big enough to cope with future expansion in population.”

“Facilities need to be the same in size or larger than existing.”

“I have concerns regarding the lack of spa area; the overall size/footprint of the centre; the learner pool; and the car park.”

“I think it could be bigger, providing more facilities. The land is available.”

“It will not cater for all the new homes being built in the area.”

“My experience of Splashpoint (Worthing) is that the changing facilities, pool, capacity etc is too

small for the population it is serving. Please don't underspec or underestimate numbers of users.”

“New building has less space available and less facility.”

“The proposed size may not support the local expanding conurbation.”

“Whilst we will get a lovely new pool, and another cafe (expensive and no doubt unhealthy food choices) we will have reduced facilities. This could lead to a number of impacts on ROI of the overall budget spend. It is likely that locals will still continue to travel outside of the town (as I do), and that we will not draw visitors to the area. What is the point of spending so much money and not have a competitive edge on other facilities, and retain revenue in our town? Suggest that consideration is taken for increased spectator viewing, slide or activity area similar to Worthing, and retaining the sauna/steam area.”

“Why build something small when you have the space for so much more?”

Other facilities [11 comments]

“Crèche for young mums?”

“Climbing wall? Soft play?”

“Is there adequate storage for equipment (table tennis/mats/other equipment)?”

“On the present plan there don't appear to be any WCs marked on the first floor.”

“Outdoor courts for netball, 5 a-side, basketball etc and also to look to build a much better skate park.”

“Potential bottleneck from reception to dry/wet change areas - you need sufficient open area for buggies/wheelchairs/school parties.”

“Provision of more community meeting rooms. Provision of an outside activity area.”

“The long narrow corridor you have to walk down upon entry could become congested and doesn't seem a warm welcome.”

“The Proposed Outline Plan doesn't have a scale so it's difficult to see if the size of the rooms for exercise classes and yoga will be adequate.”

Currently the yoga class on Thursday takes 16 people but it is far too cramped and we cannot do exercises without bumping into each other. Please allow adequate space for the movements of each person. To practice yoga a WARM ventilated room is required as we have bare feet and lay in still relaxed positions for periods of time. The coldness of the current facility for yoga has been a real problem for years and has never been resolved. Please ensure that as well as cold air for aerobic classes, the proper (and safe) temperature is provided for yoga.”

“Will there be more WCs than the 1 block indicated on the plan. Lots of WCs needed.”

“Would the multi-purpose room benefit from a nicer view?”

Design of new centre [heat management; materials] [9 comments]

“Dislike how angular it is, wavy or circular shape to soften would be more ideal for seafront.”

“Has the heat gain of the south facing glass aspect been considered?”

“If there is a need for a new centre then it needs to be economically viable, based on the future - not just based on the income the current provision has. There is no unique selling point to what has been outlined.”

“It looks good on paper. My reservation is around the practical usability. To use Splashpoint as an example: the concept was good but in reality the user experience is rubbish. Not enough showers, no contained changing area (you try having a children's party there!!). Too much money spent on style (copper roof). We love the Littlehampton pool because you can swim in it, there is a family change room, the parking is convenient. Please keep in mind the end users throughout the design.”

“Nice to have windows for gym/pool but I am concerned about heat management for south facing glass.”

“No labelled exit; position of entrance in relation to seafront as strong winds could be an issue.”

“Simply to ensure community input as much as possible to design elements and the implementation aspects that may affect the local area. And to understand fully the current plans and future (long-term options) for the land where the existing facility is located.”

“The building looks as though it was designed in isolation and it will never fit in with the surrounding housing. That is not in itself a bad thing but the sketches suggest that the upper storey is timber clad and this will not wear well without regular maintenance to re-stain the wood. Without this, the exterior will soon deteriorate and the building will become an eyesore. It would be better if it was brick clad. We are also being consulted on the wrapping paper rather than the contents and what is proposed offers little if anything above what is currently available (Worthing is about three times the size of Littlehampton and manages a lesson programme with a six lane pool). Instead of a “designer label” building, what is really needed is a far more utilitarian approach to the external design with the emphasis being placed on providing a high quality interior and providing a much broader range of activities. This could be achieved by building an extension out towards the coach park based on an off the peg factory warehouse unit to replace The Dome (and possibly the gym), clad to match the existing building and then refurbish and modernize the existing building, all the while looking to improve what is on offer for the public. This would be cheaper and be far better value for money than what is on the table.”

“The new building looks modern and I like the idea of having 8 swim lanes. The timescale seems quite far away considering the state of the existing facilities. They need a lot of work to carry on going until 2019.”

Disabled facilities [access to pools; changing rooms; covered entrance porch] [8 comments]

“Disabled access to pools.”

“Does the 'fully accessible' pool include a hoist and is there covered access from the disabled parking?”

“I have not seen any detail about the interior. However, I have two comments to make, the first based upon the outline plan of the interior of the building and second based upon a comment I have heard. 1. I work with people who are either disabled or have long term chronic health challenges - it is good to see the disabled spaces immediately outside. HOWEVER, the current building has changing rooms just a few metres from the entrance/reception, BUT the new building looks like it has very long corridors to reach the changing rooms and entrance to the swimming pools. For those with severe disabilities I recommend seeing if you can provide a changing room nearer the main entrance AND investigate an alternative entrance from the front of the building straight into the swimming pool for those who need it. Thanks. 2. A comment I heard was that you will no longer have separate male and female changing rooms/showers, instead going for "mixed" showers and "mixed" changing rooms with cubicles - again for those who are disabled and need it, will you be able to provide separate areas with showers for them to change? Thanks.”

“I think you should consider disabled users that come in mini-buses and provide a covered lean-to entrance.”

“I would like the interactive room to be retained at the leisure centre as it is part of the WSCC local offer for disabled people, and is the only facility like this between Chichester and Brighton.”

“Is there any provision for disabled single sex wet changing facilities? I understand the proposed wet change facilities are combined. As a disabled amputee I would have concerns using shared facilities and it is important that I can dry myself fully before re-attaching a prosthetic limb which can only be fully achieved by stripping off completely which would be inappropriate in shared facilities and would put me off using the facility. Prior to having my surgery I was a regular swimmer at this pool and was hoping to return as my disablement allowed, however the shared changing facilities would put me off from doing so as it would make it particularly difficult. When the centre is being specially designed with disabled access in mind this seems a shame.”

“Not enough facilities for disabled children and adults. A covered area to unload mini buses would be helpful. Hard to see about changing facilities, but hopefully there will be sufficient for carers to help disabled people. Hydrotherapy pool??”

“What about disabled access to the pools?”

Gym and studios [8 comments]

“At the moment only one toilet for gym users. This needs to be adjusted to more.”

“Gym could have been bigger.”

“Gym needs to cater for the over-sixties.”

“Hoping that the free weights section will be bigger and don't discard the old technogym treadmills as I can't sprint on the newer ones.”

“I hope the spinning studio will be larger than the room used currently.”

“The facilities - gym / café could look across the sea which would have a much greater impact.”

“Why has the gym area been reduced to one area, even though in peak times it is already cramped? Cannot you see the problem that occurs recently? If you want to introduce more people to use the facility, two small studios are not enough. Unfortunately you have not created the large spacious space / area to fit in nicely like Felpham Leisure.”

“Why there is a room solely for spinning?”

Squash courts [7 comments]

“Add in squash courts”

“Are there plans for squash and badminton courts?”

“No sign of squash courts.”

“No squash court.”

“No squash courts! Why not put in a couple? No squash available locally unless you join another club - yet more cost.”

“Squash courts. Facilities to use during building i.e. The Littlehampton Academy, The Angmering School etc.”

“Squash courts?”

Privacy issues [glass frontage allowing swimmers to be seen from outside the building] [6 comments]

“Concerned about the lack of privacy with glass fronted swimming pool.”

“Height of building. Do not wish to be overlooked.”

“I am concerned that people will be able to see swimmers through the glass.”

“I am concerned with the glass fronted pool as I think it is a child protection issue that anyone can watch children and adults in a swimming pool.”

“My concerns are all the windows. Everyone can see women/men and children swimming.”

“Needs to be frosted or one way glass around the pool. Splashpoint invites unwanted eyes. I do not like the fact that children can be seen in their swimwear.”

Keep the existing building [6 comments]

But FAQ sheet – “more economically prudent to build a new centre”.

“If we are losing facilities compared with the present building, would it not be better to rebuild and extend the existing facilities?”

“Leave the place alone it's not Worthing. Splashpoint is a (expletive deleted).”

“No real need for a new pool. Proposed design only a slight benefit but at a huge cost!”

“No suggestions were made about simply making improvements to the existing site, regarding cost efficiency etc.”

“Rather than spending all the money on new building, extend the present one and improve the inside as it seems to work well enough as it is.”

“We could do with money spent on other more important things i.e. a hospital! No one in my vicinity will use this. More noise in a peaceful area. We can hear noise from the dome now. I live in Fairway, just across from the dome.”

Sports hall [5 comments]

“Concerned that the new hall is adequate for five table tennis tables.”

“Permanent badminton courts.”

“Sports hall has only four courts; the existing one has five.”

“Why isn't the new sports centre bigger? Where are the improved indoor facilities? No improvement to current number of pitches.”

“Will the 4-court sports hall provide sufficient capacity? The existing is 5-court and it is not unusual to not be able to secure a court as they are all fully booked. I appreciate some activities that occupy courts will be moved to other parts of the facility, but without detailed information on what these are I can't really comment on this aspect.”

Building phase [4 comments]

But FAQ page – “The current centre will be operational whilst the new centre is being built.”

“Concerned ref the facilities offered during the interim period whilst the new centre is built.”

“Loss of badminton courts for a period unknown whilst the dome is demolished is a concern for us.”

“Loss of dome for space.”

“Transitional arrangements for local (i.e. Littlehampton) users of the sports dome take little account of the needs of Littlehampton users, especially those without their own transport. Bersted is fine if you live in Bognor but would involve an hour's journey by public transport for locals, in effect denying them a facility.”

Prices [3 comments]

“Concerned ref increased costs.”

“Hopefully not more expensive to users.”

“How will this affect prices??”

Staff issues [3 comments]

“I can't see that there is a staff room for the staff.”

“Lack of office space for staff; no clear staff room area.”

“The staff are very good, they are working in a rather antiquated environment!”

[SECTION 3.4.2] Do you think the proposals will allow the new leisure centre to have a better link with Mewsbrook Park? Comments:

Why needed/not relevant/unclear [23 comments]

“Connection to Mewsbrook is not relevant.”

“Freedom Leisure already has a link with Mewsbrook. It takes 30 seconds to walk from the leisure centre to Mewsbrook Park.”

“How can just placing a huge building mass further back into the site achieve better links with Mewsbrook? Apart from the green space between the two, what else is offered to improve the coastline context? What does the architect think will encourage links?? There needs to be more thought about how people will use this green space and not just treat it as a thoroughfare to the park from the car park which is what most people will do. Yes the new leisure centre is a destination point but not the space around it which is uninteresting and will remain unused.”

“I cannot see what benefits linking to the park will have, I can't see it bringing any extra trade to the centre.”

“I cannot see why there needs to be a link with the park?”

“I do not think that this really matters and should only be a minor consideration unless you are proposing to build some facilities at Mewsbrook in the future!”

“I don't know what 'better links with Mewsbrook Park' means. Is it proposed that some leisure centre activities are external?”

“I don't see how the links can be any better as the location is the same.”

“I don't think it matters particularly. Will the land freed up be immediately used for housing?”

“It's next door. Why waste this on a question?”

“Not a lot, but not important.”

“Not concerned with park. Just require better swimming and sports centre.”

“Not relevant”

“Not sure how they are related!”

“Not sure.”

“Nothing to do with the park.”

“Only concerned with swimming centre not park.”

“Plenty of access. Users of pool/leisure complex are really not concerned with access to the park!”

“There is no evidence to suggest a better link with Mewsbrook Park. How 'better link' is defined is unclear.”

“This is not demonstrated in the plans at all.”

“Why are better 'links' necessary?”

“Why does it need to have better links with Mewsbrook Park? People visiting a park generally go to relax and have separate interests to those who want to exercise in a Leisure Centre.”

“Yes but why are you concerned with this?”

Suggestions for linking the two/comments on proposed layout [18 comments]

“Better links could be made if the park had more outdoor sports facilities, especially for athletics or short tennis. Also, markings for football or throwing and jumping activities.”

“Covered cycle sheds/facilities would be ideal and welcome.”

“Hopefully sitting a little further back it will link nicely. Mewsbrook is fairly popular regardless of the new site.”

“I hope the two areas remain separate as they tend to be used by quite different sections of the community.”

“I want to ensure the new access to the centre is made as attractive as possible and new signage along the promenade to direct people to both

the park and leisure centre. At present signage stops at Norfolk Gardens, implying the town stops there! I would like to possibly see the greenspace leading from the promenade having some hilly spots (Telly Tubby hills) making the area more attractive. I would also like to take this opportunity to revamp Ruby Gardens and make designated paths around this area with new planting. Not sure what the side of the Centre will look like from park, but would like to ensure this is sympathetic to the park. If a large white side, maybe a nice mural on it? We are excited about the Leisure Centre being part of the park.”

“It would be better to relocate the boat pound to allow a better visual link with the park.”

“Landscaping and walkways leading from the seafront into Mewsbrook Park should be seamless. Make a definitive line/barrier between the car park area and the landscaping with no car parking in front of the building (possibly additional parking to the left side, some covered and side entrance for school parties).”

“Need landscaping, gardens, cycle tracks/paths. Remove fencing between new centre and Mewsbrook.”

“Outdoor games facilities? Viewing area to pool from outside?”

“Patio needs to be much wider and wrap around the building.”

“Put the pools side by side along the park side so they both have a view and connection to outside space and increase awareness of outside space.”

“Relocate the boat store - this will not be a pretty structure and locating it to the west of the

proposed leisure centre would be a considerable improvement, opening up the park and views of the leisure centre.”

“Suggest use part of the open space released at the front of the building as a 'trim trail' i.e. wood, ropes etc. for all age groups.”

“The leisure centre could be re-orientated on the site to better integrate with Mewsbrook Park and surrounding development.”

“The proposed building blends into its landscape better but too much space has been given over to parking for cars. More outdoor leisure themed sports could have been incorporated.”

“The two spaces should be combined as a joint community asset.”

“Would be good to have play water fountains outside.”

“Would be nice if there were more water ways and bridges - Millennium bridge?”

Café in leisure centre/existing café in park [8 comments]

“Don't put the café in jeopardy so it has to close.”

“I would think people from the park might want to use the proposed cafe. However a size for 30 people would be too small. People like cafes; this would be a good opportunity for people from outside to come in.”

“If you open a cafe in the new centre it will put pressure on the park cafe which might force it to close.”

“It won't have better links because it will have less facility than it has now. The cafe will be full of watchers so where will people who want to

eat and drink go? Crazy not to be able to seat 100 people.”

“Might have been good to link the catering and toilets so that they can be multi-use for pool and park users.”

“Need clarity on provision of cafes serving the park.”

“Perhaps it is possible to have the cafe closer to the park?”

“Worried about the cafe in Mewsbrook Park not keeping going.”

Little or no change [5 comments]

“I don't think it will make much difference. Need to keep young children safe from wandering into the park and falling into the lake, as happened with tragic results before.”

“I don't think this will change.”

“No change as far as I can see.”

“No changes.”

“Token effort for integration.”

Miniature railway [4 comments]

“I think accommodation should be made for a future station of the miniature railway. This should also be included in the landscaping.”

“I think the miniature railway should not be moved or taken down.”

“Looks good, although I am concerned about the miniature railway route. We wouldn't want to lose it.”

“The link with the park are no different. Why not have a stop on the Mewsbrook Park miniature railway to pull people from both ends of the line? Park and ride from East Beach car park?”

Negative impact on wildlife/trees etc [4 comments]

“I have concerns that the building of the new leisure centre may have a negative impact on the wildlife and plants of the Mewsbrook conservation area.”

“I think the pool will dominate everything else, affect wildlife, cause increased litter, etc.”

“Part of the Jubilee Gardens are going which is a shame because me and my friends play there.”

“The opposite. I think Mewsbrook park will be swamped.....hence the need to destroy trees.”

Positive [3 comments]

“Fantastic proposal and will complement the area tremendously.”

“Keep up the good work.”

“Will be a fantastic addition to Littlehampton's leisure facilities. Let's build it!”

Other comments

“Links will only happen if there are incentives for swimming clients to use Mewsbrook Park facilities. I don't think it will happen by default.”

“Referring to the exhibited proposals and then viewing the area, it does seem more connected, but please see my comments about parking.”

“The centre is not big enough even for swimming!”

“The new plans for Mewsbrook Park incorporate the café and outdoor eating area, children's play area and picnic tables, open spaces for sports and the skateboard park yet no consideration has been given to the many dog walkers who

particularly enjoy walking their dogs in the small field/overflow car park and the Ruby Conservation Gardens. With the loss of the field and the big reduction in the size of the Conservation Gardens more dog owners will have to walk their dogs in the main park.”

“Without a car you are very limited with how you get to the leisure centre. Buses are not frequent and it's nowhere near a train station.”

“Yes but with the understanding there will always be ways to improve the links with Mewsbrook Park.”

“Yes if Mewsbrook Park and the Council work together.”

[SECTION 3.6.2] Are there barriers to you using the existing centre? Comments:

Changing rooms/showers/toilets [32 comments]

“Changing facilities, shower, lockers.”

“Changing room basic and often smells terrible.”

“Changing rooms are too small and ALWAYS smell. The showers are ridiculously hot, for adults let alone children.”

“Changing rooms at the pool are very tired and shabby - puts me off using the pool.”

“Current changing rooms are too cold and not enough space in the cubicles (especially if you a child with you to dry and change).”

“Female changing rooms are not very clean.”

“Grotty changing facilities. Lack of useable lockers. Sometimes grubby.”

“I do use the current centre but my little boy prefers the facilities and play equipment at Splashpoint. I also prefer and find it easier to use the change facilities at Splashpoint.”

“I find the changing room too small, too cold, not enough space, not enough showers. I would come every day if there were more showers, more lockers, more space to put things while getting changed.”

“It needs a special changing room for mothers and babies. I know many female users who find the constant screaming unbearable.”

“It would be desirable to have a dry change for the fitness suite that was accessible to members at all times, with clean and functioning lockers and showers.”

“Lack of family changing in present leisure centre.”

“Ladies changing room is usually filthy - not good enough. You need more staff - will new pool be better staffed?”

“Last time I used the centre I was very concerned with the standard of the changing rooms and have not been back since.”

“More showers with cubicles.”

“Poor changing area for families. Only 2 cubicles which are poorly maintained.”

“Poor changing facilities.”

“Poor changing room facilities for babies and families.”

“Poor facilities in changing rooms - broken lockers etc.”

“Showers with a bit more privacy.”

“Terrible showers. Terrible changing facilities.”

“The changing facilities are poor and often unclean. The toilets are dated and messy.”

“The existing centre does not provide a pleasant area for swimming or changing. It feels old, crowded and dirty.”

“The ladies changing rooms are very old, smelly and not enough of them.”

“The pool changing rooms, especially the family change, absolutely stink 90% of the time - sweaty, stuffy, and sewage smells.”

“The toilets never work and showers are not private enough.”

“There is clearly chlorine in the shower water. It will be nice to have cleaner more modern changing rooms and pool area.”

“Toilets always seem very smelly.”

“Toilets and showers very poor.”

“Toilets.”

“Upkeep is poor, changing rooms are poor and often dirty and not big enough, no designated children's pool like Splashpoint.”

“We hope the changing facilities are maintained to a higher standard, are not all open plan, and sufficient cubicles are provided.”

Would like other activities/classes which are not provided for [22 comments]

“Archery please.”

“Ballroom and sequence dancing facilities.”

“Health suite, diving pool, 50m pool.”

“I already visit the leisure centre four times a week - the three other days I go to a kickboxing gym (since this type of activity isn't offered at the Littlehampton Leisure Centre). I would however

like to see a better mix of activities offered - I work full time and only have weekday evenings and weekends to work out, and would like to see more things like the Les Mills activities if at all possible to make things a bit more interesting.”

“I use the pool once a week but have been uninspired by the other activities. More classes and better facilities would be most welcome.”

Zumba classes, dance classes, mixed abilities at times to suit working people.”

“I would like to do athletics here.”

“I would really like to see more varied sports, and more activities for my children to save us travelling to Worthing or Horsham for slides!”

“It lacks a fun pool and sauna/steam room.”

“Lack of facilities. Location.”

“Legs, tums, bums!”

“Maybe more clubs for different sports would be a good idea.”

“More classes such as Pilates, Tai Chi etc would be helpful, at a reasonable cost.”

“More spa activities are needed.”

“Need more variety of classes and more at weekends/early morning.”

“Netball.”

“Our family often travels to 'Pavilions in the Park' in Horsham and the Freedom Leisure Burgess Hill pool, as both offer so much more for families, with slides/flumes/wave machines/waterfalls/rapids etc etc etc. Also family changing rooms.”

“Poor number of classes. Poor range of classes.”

“Some lessons are overbooked and places are not available.”

“Squash courts would be nice.”

“Squash courts.”

“Use the Worthing leisure centres because of the classes on offer i.e. Les Mills Body Training Systems, but swim regularly at Littlehampton pool.”

“We hope that there will be more classes offered with the new gym. Hope the interactive room has a place in the new centre.”

Parking/transport [15 comments]

“Always found parking good here. Also always liked the kids' parties here.”

“Hope parking places will remain the same or better with the free pass for members.”

“I drive to the existing centre from my home in East Preston, but if there was a better bus service it's likely I would come by bus, especially in the day time.”

“I walk or get dropped off.”

“Lack of public transport does affect some people who may not be here to pick up these questionnaires.”

“More disabled spaces required.”

“Needs to be another bus service, or the land train extended to include the centre as a stop off.”

“No bus from where I live, so I have to use my car.”

“Parking for mother and baby swimmers, or elderly users would be good. Disabled mini-bus drop off by entrance.”

“Parking must be free!”

“Public transport links to the facility need to be improved.”

“The above comments apply to my 16 year old son as it is a not inconsiderable cycle ride if he is not getting a lift and public transport is not helpful.”

“The current cycle parking is of a poor standard and it feels like a risk leaving our bikes there. I worry that the cycle parking has been placed around the side - out of sight. At least the current cycle parking is directly in front of the entrance. By placing the cycle parking around the corner from the entrance, it becomes much less secure. Ideally cycle parking should be overlooked as much as possible. The best place to put the cycle parking would be just to the north of the disabled parking.”

“There is no secure cycle parking - unfortunately nowadays it's vital to have secure parking to protect cycles from thieves/vandals. A decent bike can cost several thousand pounds so it needs to be left somewhere really secure (i.e. individual lockers where bikes are not visible to opportunist thieves).”

“Possibly park and ride to reduce local traffic congestion.”

Swimming times/opening times [13 comments]

“Difficult to find clear timetables online. Information on bank holiday opening hours.”

“Lack of 'free swim' time for adults at times convenient to the 'average' worker.”

“Member of Tri club. Not adequate swimming times.”

“More public swim sessions alongside teaching sessions.”

“My children enjoy swimming but only free and fun sessions. Lessons do block out a lot of this availability during the week.”

“My son (13) finds the youth times in the gym too narrow so he can't attend during the week (too late home from school). More flexible, longer opening hours.”

“Need more early morning classes i.e. 7am.”

“Not enough time in swimming lessons.”

“Not open for public swims in the evening or it is only one lane.”

“Not open to public swim evenings, or at least facility is not sufficient in capacity. Gym too busy due to size and demand.”

“Pool times are bad for Triathlon club.”

“Pool times are restricted when organisations are using the pool. It is important to encourage group activities/swimming clubs, but it does mean that there is a balancing act between using the pool "when you would like" as opposed to "when you can".”

“Timing of many of the activities I would like to take part in are not suitable for full time workers.”

Comments that refer to the proposed centre, not barriers to using existing centre [13 comments]

“I think Arun are correct to use the existing location.”

“If a lot of money is going to be invested in a new building then it should offer more than is currently provided. From what I can see on the plans, it appears only that newer facilities are on offer, not an extended range (apart from a new four court hall, which will be better).”

“If there isn't a spa, I would consider going out of the area as it would be of no use to me and an insult to users whose views don't count.”

“Leave the place alone!!”

“Missed opportunity for spa, massage, treatment rooms.”

“Missed opportunity for the new centre to encourage more users. Why not include mini-spa type facility/room for physio/massage/treatments etc plus

sauna/steam room? This would encourage more users to the centre, including older users.”

“Need sauna!”

“New centre needs to be better equipped for galas. As it is proposed it is not suitable. There is no point having an 8 lane pool without better viewing facilities.”

“No Sauna. If excluded I will certainly cancel my memberships”

“No squash courts; having badminton completely operate from the main centre. Annoying. Glad to see all will be under one roof.”

“No squash. Where are the plans for the sauna?”

“Why not a 50m pool? Why no spectator area?”

“Without a sauna myself and friends would join other centres.”

Gym/other facilities [12 comments]

“Better spinning bikes, more qualified teachers.”

“Bigger gym (as in your proposed centre).”

“Gym is currently too small and makes it very busy.”

“I do yoga and the room that we use presently at the centre is noisy, very drafty in winter and poorly lit. I'm looking forward to the new facilities! :)”

“I use the centre at least 3-4 times a week and do the spinning classes. There have been occasions where I haven't been able to get in due to not enough bikes! Also some of the classes need to also be aimed at working parents in the evenings!!”

“Intrusive videos in the gym suite.”

“Poor facilities regarding sauna or a steam room - needs updating as soon as possible! Fixing time takes far too long especially when paying for such service. Also need music in gym! Not quiet radio!”

“Small weights room.”

“The gym is not particularly well equipped and again often has a very stale environment more often than not due to the air con not working.”

“The meetings room is not big enough or adequate enough for keep fit.”

“The weights room is too small and not enough machines.”

“Would use larger gym for exercise classes.”

No barriers [12 comments]

“No barriers for me to use the centre.”

“No. Within walking distance.”

“No barriers to existing centre, but although I ticked frequently for usage of new centre, if there is no sauna in new centre, we will probably have to go elsewhere, as I said before, the sauna is an important part of our wellbeing and self medication. So the barriers exist with the new leisure centre, not being a like for like or better facility, not existing one!”

“None, existing gym is fine for me, but looking forward to new leisure centre!!”

“None.”

“No barriers.” (x4)

“There are no barriers.”

“No, the existing centre is perfect.”

“There isn't really anything wrong with the existing centre. It could be added to by additional building at the rear. Update the existing building as well.”

Cleanliness [10 comments]

“A better standard of cleanliness and basic things like providing drinks cups.”

“Just cleaner.”

“Cleanliness is very poor in many areas.”

“Low hygiene such as dirty mat, dirt on floors.”

“Cleanliness. Generally just looks old and worn.”

“Not always very clean and showers not always working, but otherwise OK.”

“Currently use Virgin and Splashpoint as cleaner and better facilities.”

“The level of cleanliness is not good.”

“Dated, run down and hard to keep clean.”

“Yes, it's dirty and too many kids/noisy. Currently a member at David Lloyd.”

Other facilities [10 comments]

“Children play slides.”

“Water slide, water pistols, water attractions are crucial to the new swimming pools. I understand it is aimed at swim clubs, schools etc, however why ignore social/leisure swimming at weekends?”

“No play pool for children e.g. Splashpoint, Worthing. I feel this leisure centre loses a lot of custom due to this.”

“We often travel to other centres that offer a better fun pool experience. i.e. Spectrum in Guildford or Triangle at Burgess Hill. This is an opportunity for Littlehampton to offer this and attract people into the area.”

“No real fun aspect such as a slide, flume, rapids, wave machine.”

“Would like to have more pool entertainment when family swimming, like a wave machine (as at Bexhill) and a fun slide (like at Bognor). Encourage more families to use the pool and facilities.”

“No water slide for children, who need fun! Learner pool too small, needs at least 12.5m x 12.5m.”

“Would like to see more variety of clubs offered for children to attend after school/weekends i.e. football, basketball, trampoline, dance (especially for teenagers).”

“The current small pool is great for my baby but the big pool lacks activities to appeal to my older children. They prefer Splashpoint or the Triangle where there are more flumes/diving/fountains, etc. I hope the new pool will feature these.”

“Water flumes / slides / wet play facilities. Climbing wall (similar to K2). Event hire spaces. Skating.”

Personal reasons [10 comments]

“Age and health”

“As the days get shorter for outdoor activities, I will probably use the leisure centre.”

“Detest physical exercise. What do you call me when I am in a leisure centre? Lost.”

“Do not live in Littlehampton, only if time allows after work.”

“Family commitments.”

“I am almost 70 years old and although I have good intentions of using the facilities I find most of the sports too taxing.”

“I'm a bit lazy”

“Medical condition which is still healing so currently unable to swim - hoping to return in future”

“Only recently fully retired so did not have enough time (or energy). I would like to see more activities suitable for older (but fitter) people.”

“Work commitment.”

Outdated [7 comments]

“Agree the existing centre is tired and dated. Would like it to feel more 'exclusive' with steam room, sauna, Jacuzzi, swim tunnels, ice skating, diving. Centre of excellence. Stronger marketing.”

“Facilities could do with updating. The existing building looks tired and out-dated, both inside and out!”

“Generally outdated facilities make the centre unattractive for use against more modern

alternatives. This won't be a problem with the new centre.”

“More modern pool with less chlorine would be fine.”

“Present centre looks a little run-down.”

“The existing centre is looking quite scruffy and the new centre looks fabulous; lets really hope it happens.”

“Very basic.”

Size of pools/seating [7 comments]

“Crowded pool.”

“I swim once a week at the leisure centre and am driven quite potty by slow people being in the wrong lane, so a bigger pool gives me hope!”

“I use the centre when I have to as I find the pool too crowded. I would come every day if the pool was wider (less crowded).”

“Lack of seating for competition swim galas.”

“Need 8 lanes for galas and training. Club trains in three pools due to size and has galas in Bognor. A new facility should bring everything here.”

“Not enough seats to watch.”

“Pool is sometimes too busy.”

Positive [6 comments]

“I think the centre is in a good location.”

“It is an optimal location.”

“Perfect location.”

“The centre is fine, it provides a good service.”

“Really like the existing centre and staff. All classes I go to are good.”

“Use the centre every day already.”

Café [5 comments]

“Do need a cafe.”

“Need a reasonably priced cafe.”

“No cafe facilities which might encourage one to stay after a session.”

“No cafe in existing centre.”

“No cafe. It would be nice to be able to have lunch after a swim sometimes.”

Prices [4 comments]

“Also, as the cost of the gym has gone up over the years the cost per session or gym membership is now prohibitive for me - how does

this fit with the 'health & well-being' goals of our local councils for its residents?”

“Cost!!! I am a family of one adult and three children. Why does it always have to be expensive? Not expensive = more users. Very expensive = less users. Not quite sure what very expensive is but on a tight budget £40+ a month is expensive!”

“Cost.”

“Would like local residents to get a discount. Then we could use it more often. Maybe a card we could show?”

Sports Dome [4 comments]

“Difficult to book badminton courts.”

“More badminton courts please. Climbing wall would be good.”

“I am a regular player of badminton. The lighting in the existing sports dome has often been inadequate i.e. not bright enough when bulbs have blown, which has happened quite often.”

“You need a bigger sports hall, outdoor courts and a much better skate park.”

Temperature [3 comments]

“I cannot attend my Thursday yoga class in the Autumn and Winter due to the severe coldness in the room used. There is a grating in ceiling that lets outside air into the room. Of course this air is freezing in winter. This has made me ill in the past and despite many yoga members raising this repeatedly over the years, it has never been

resolved. It's actually dangerous to practice yoga stretches in the cold. A simple covering over this grate would have resolved the issue but this seems to be too difficult to put in place.”

“Swimming pool cold.”

“The existing centre can be draughty.”

Disabled facilities [1 comment]

“Access to the fitness suite at the moment is only available to those who can climb stairs. It would be good to have some equipment for clients with disabilities, although I do understand that such

equipment could be prohibitively expensive. Changing facilities that would allow those who need help to have assistance from someone of the opposite gender i.e. partner or parent.”

Other comments [5 comments]

“I do 2,000 miles a year on a bike to keep me fit and have been swimming since I was 20 years old.”

dome/swimming. My children swim every week, we are family members.”

“I don't use the leisure centre but we have an interest as we are nearest neighbours.”

“I use the existing centre almost daily when I am in Sussex. I would use the new centre on the same basis unless I found it unwelcoming or if it not longer provided what I want - see general comments below”

“I have been considering joining a gym elsewhere because it would be newer/fresher, better facilities, nicer. But I would rather stay local. But Littlehampton sports centre is just too dispersed:

“What is nice is that there is equipment brought out for young people and for parties, this could do with updating but is a good asset.”

[SECTION 3.8] If you have any further comments, please detail them below:

“Do you think the proposed new centre would be a valuable asset to the community of Littlehampton?” The answer to this is yes.... but I feel the current proposal is short sighted and will not deliver a leisure centre fit to last an ever expanding town for the next fifty years or so. Does the learner pool really need an adjustable floor? Will this mean that at certain times of the day it may be too deep for younger users but too shallow for others? Wouldn't it be more cost effective to have a slightly deeper end? A deeper end wouldn't have any ongoing maintenance requirements either. The most striking thing I can see about the new proposal is the car park area. Is it big enough? At peak times the current car park becomes completely full I would not think it wise to reduce this capacity. Where is the spa area? I assumed with a new centre that the existing sauna would evolve into be a fully kitted out spa area. I was shocked to discover that the sauna wasn't even being replaced like for like. I accept that the cost of running/maintaining a spa is significant but if other local centres are able to make a business case for it I don't see why ADC can't as well. I believe people would happily pay a monthly membership to have access to a decent spa area.. sauna, steam, bubble bath, seating area. Please build us a leisure centre fit for our expanding town and a centre we can all be proud of.”

“Instead of an exciting new development, what do I see? A bog standard, dated, design of a leisure centre similar to the one we opened in 1983. It is a typical architect's "out of a book" design with very little imagination and research done to make it stand out from other leisure centres. It is so ordinaire, do they realise that this new place has to last at least 30 years? You wonder what the pool plant will look like? Operating a leisure centre, particularly where pools are involved, is a very expensive operation costing the ratepayers a great deal of money each year and increasing by the year due to maintenance. Nowhere in this design do I evidence that total flexibility has been applied to ensure MAXIMUM INCOME and therefore reduce running and grant costs to ADC's ratepayers. Most of the income a swimming pool makes is from swimming tuition, birthday parties, private parties etc. In this new design the potential swimming tuition revenue has been totally ignored and also incorporating a FUN ELEMENT in the pools. 1. Learner Pool: too small, should be larger, min 12.5m x 12.5m, and I was pleased to see that a moveable floor is in the plan (hooray!). Great for disabled customers, mother and baby etc. 2. Main Pool: too deep in shallow end making it impossible to operate classes to increase maximum income and for use by recreational swimmers when learner pool is closed. That happens a great deal. Therefore a moveable floor over half the main pool area from shallow end to middle is A MUST. The advantage also is that main pool can be 2m deep all over, great for swimming club, water polo, synchro swimming, octo push etc. 3. Changing Facilities: only village changing which looks great in principle but creates lots of operational problems due to MIXED CHANGING. Many pools opened with village changing have now sectioned off the spaces into separate male and female. Problems with peeping toms etc, which is sad but a reality. School and Club changing rooms should be provided at least 4 to 6 areas to hold about 20 students. Schools and Clubs changing in a village change is a nightmare and not recommended. 4. Fun Element: should be incorporated in design. A large 100m plus slide would be great. When I take my grandson swimming and you ask him which pool it is one with a slide. Littlehampton is boring! So boring! 5. Spectator areas: in both pools look at present non existing. For hygiene, health, and safety reasons they must be separated from the bare foot areas. Not like it is at present at the pools. I do realise that all the above means more money and there is not any. Ways to achieve funding the above added items might be. 1. Reduce fitness facility and space by half. Most people I know who are serious fitness users go to Virgin, David Lloyd or other private clubs. Do we really want to compete with them?? If they wish to use a council centre which is usually cheaper they can go to Arun Leisure Centre which has a fantastic fitness facility. We need to make Littlehampton TOP CHOICE for swimming in Arun and the many visitors we get every year who want a swimming pool complex to go when the weather is poor. Anyway thought you might like to see my views as somebody who has been operating 6 leisure centres in Holland, Australia and Great Britain. 40 years plus experience.”

“50m pool to provide suitable training facilities for our athletes, and allow for more groups/clubs/public to be able to use the facilities. Cafe looks to be too small. Use money to make better facilities rather than trying to win architectural awards e.g. Splashpoint is covered in copper - what a waste of money that is. Looking forward to the new facilities.”

“A fun area in the pool would be great. Both areas at the moment serve a purpose but slides/fountains would attract a wider audience! Good luck with the project.”

“A new centre would be lovely as long as it stays in this location on the seafront and near Mewsbrook Park.”

“A new public bus service from Littlehampton and Rustington will be essential.”

“A small outdoor paddling pool and play area would be an additional attraction for visitors and residents.”

“A swimming pool here is always a valuable asset. However when the opportunity to improve comes and is not taken then progress and improvement have not occurred. A swimming competition pool with viewing enhances the facility, the town, the swimming club, the area. Brings revenue. Have other venues even been looked at for best ideas???”

“Absolutely ridiculous. Where is the much sought after 50m pool with spectator viewing, to bring the communities together for swimming galas across East/West Sussex - possibly even Hampshire? Such an opportunity to bring much needed visitors/revenue. Our country needs 50m pools for the love of swimming. What an opportunity.”

“Add more bike racks.”

“All good.”

“An improvement on the current gym facilities would be great as the weights room is much too small and there are not enough machines overall.”

“Approve very much of the steps taken to consult the public. Thank you.”

“Architecturally swish, but the facilities do not appear to have been increased to justify the expected costs.”

“As a group we regularly use four badminton courts and occasionally five, though was not always possible in the past because one court was being used for indoor bowls. Is there any scope for increasing the sports hall area? I realise costs are the deciding factor and that demand may not be sufficient. What about a 50m pool? I don't swim, but such a facility would surely attract a lot of local swimming clubs.”

“As a local resident, I would appreciate receiving a hard copy of the proposal plans (as posted on the boards for the consultation exercise) and would appreciate information over the next two and a half years as to the progress of the project.”

“As a swimmer in the Littlehampton Swimmer Club I think you should build more seating. It is placed in a very bad space to see both pools and there is very little space to sit parents (especially if we're holding a competitive gala with other clubs). An electronic board to see times should also be included. A 50m pool would be nice too (with maybe a diving pool). Have a look at K2 in Crawley to get ideas.”

“As already stated I strongly feel that the new proposed site needs standard modern facilities such as Sauna, Steam Room, Jacuzzi and poolside seating.”

“As I am disabled it appears it's a fair distance to walk from lifts to gym. Can they not adjoin or have I not read the plans correctly? No distances in feet/yards shown. Are showers to be in changing rooms? It does not differentiate between males/females.”

“As Littlehampton is a prime location, it would be a valuable asset to the town. It would create more tourists and swim competitions. This opportunity is once in a lifetime and is not one to be missed. A new 50m pool would benefit many people.”

“As long as the existing site stays open while the new one is created I have no issues.”

“As long as there are no proposed developments for flats or housing and it is kept as a public open space for everybody, I think this leisure centre is what Littlehampton needs!”

“As members of Littlehampton Swimming Club we would like to host our own galas in our town, but are forced to go to the Arun Leisure Centre to use the spectator area. Generally we fill all available seating at ALC and must generate good monetary value for the facility.”

“As my daughter is a keen member of LSC it would have been beneficial whilst redeveloping to consider a 50m pool along with seating areas poolside to allow hosting of galas which would have clear benefit to the centre through quantity of users. Poolside seating is currently and proposed well below the required level. All in all a "new" centre but not better, just a like for like replacement with no forethought for expansion to suit growing local population.”

“Basically, good idea but needs more thought. Will need more efficient staff.”

“Building a new centre will prohibit activities. Students, children, and adults would not be able to use it for a considerable length of time. I firmly believe we should not build a new centre as you could just renovate it, for better quality.”

“But if it had even better facilities.”

“By offering a bigger centre it could attract more people to it. Young families would not have to go elsewhere to a fun/leisure pool. I do like that it offers better access for disabled into the pool.”

“Can you add a swimming costume spinner? Shame the sauna is going, was hoping the new centre would have a sauna, steam rooms - better than the current one.”

“Cannot wait for the new development to start.”

“Can't wait to see the finished building!”

“Can't wait, this has been a long time coming!”

“Can't wait. At last a community project which would be available to all regardless of age or ability. Instead of more housing.”

“Changing rooms to improve and be female and separate male.”

“Concerns that wet change areas are much better than at existing pool, and as previously stated my main concern is there does not appear to be adequate seating around either the main or small pools for spectating.”

“Considerations for autistic children/adults would help i.e. flooring/lighting/sound/colours of equipment. Facilities for disabled adults i.e. large ball pool. Indoor games: skittles, curling, hydrotherapy pool. Outdoor gym facilities in Mewsbrook Park maybe? Need to consider sunlight coming in the gym and pool as it dazzles swimmers/lifeguards and makes a gym very hot in summer.”

“Cost per month. Do existing members get it slightly cheaper? I've been a member for 16 years!”

“Could be better. Do we need another 25m pool and a plain fun pool? If we want a 50m pool we have to travel to Crawley or Portsmouth. Finally, can we be assured that the current facilities will remain open until the new ones are fully functional?”

“Could be so much better if the developers had enough vision to build a 50 metre pool - not just for swimmers but for the whole community. K2 paid for itself in about three years so it financially makes sense. Very short sighted.”

“Current centre needs replacing.”

“Currently use the centre for my twins' swimming lessons, birthday parties, and Whiz Kids. Would welcome the new facility.”

“Design is OK but maybe a more 'striking' design would help put Littlehampton on the map.”

“Desperately need it!”

“Despite my comments about the trees it is still nice to have the Ruby Gardens and a well maintained barrier between us and the new centre.”

“Either spend a LOT less on renovation or provide a state-of-the-art facility. I honestly though the floor plans were for the existing leisure centre - they are the same, only worse. Is way too much money for nothing other than a pretty building.”

“Fitness facility should be compact/not too large. Many fitness users go to David Lloyd or Virgin where they often get better facilities. Also to be a member there might give you better value. Do not forget spectator facilities for the main pool. Parents like to watch their family. Learner pool should be made larger at the cost of the fitness facility.”

“For or 3 years some users will be denied facilities which we currently enjoy (in sports dome). By 2019 (or probably later) some of us will no longer need a leisure centre.”

“From the plans shown today this will be an asset to the seafront, for visitors and residents of Rustington as well as Littlehampton.”

“Fully support the plans, delighted we are able to utilise the existing site.”

“Fully supportive of the proposal and it co-incides with my and my partner's impending retirement so we would be more likely to take fuller advantage! Thank you for the opportunity to comment.”

“Galas held at Felpham due to seating area. If the pool was 50m for swimmers it would bring in greater revenue as all county galas would be held here. A spectators' gallery would benefit all.”

“Good luck with a very exciting proposal.”

“Great to see investment in leisure centre. This centre needs to be bigger to cope with increased demand better facilities will bring.”

“Having a brand new modern pool in Littlehampton will stop residents going to Worthing to use Splashpoint. This will bring more revenue into Arun and keep residents in the area to use Mewsbrook, cafe, and other facilities.”

“Having this new sports centre will be a huge importance to the community for improving health for younger and older generations. I would love to see the local sailing club continue to be used as it encourages our youngsters confidence and skills and team work. All of the members help one another and all instruction is volunteered freely. It would be a shame to lose this local sailing club.”

“Hope boat area is securely kept.”

“Hopefully the new location enables the existing pool to be used during construction. Should it close during this period I think many users would find other locations and it would be difficult to entice them back at a later stage.”

“How about a sauna, steam room and Jacuzzi area like they have at Chichester?”

“How will the foundations be built? We live close to the centre and my husband works nights. Will foundations involve pile driving?”

“I am assuming these draft proposals are only first ideas as they at present fail to address the issues and seem to only replace the facilities already present. Surely we can do better than this? Sailing centre would obscure front entirely.”

“I am concerned about the transitional arrangements. The best alternative location that our U3A (Littlehampton) Table Tennis Group has been offered is North Bersted. Many members feel that this is too far away.”

“I am delighted with proposals for the new centre. Easy accessibility and an excellent facility for the town. Having talked to the officer I am reassured about the architects and developers, that there will not be a repetition of problems at Worthing.”

“I am pleased that a new Leisure Centre is being built. It would be good if buses travelled nearby from the railway station. I also hope that prices will not escalate as the people of Littlehampton won't be able to afford it. I also hope there will be concessions for retired people and people on low income.”

“I am pleased you are keeping the centre in this area, on the same location.”

“I definitely hope the new centre will be a real 'plus' for the area, as it must be able to offer something more than the current centre. Like ourselves, whole families will come to the centre frequently if you offer slides/flumes etc. The cafe area, if it serves hot food and drinks will be a great draw for families, but they will only come if the centre offers something new to bring them here to Littlehampton, rather than travelling to Horsham or Burgess Hill.”

“I do have some concerns. Not keen on unisex change room/showers. I hope that there are sufficient cubicles and showers that provide privacy (some people have had operations etc that need privacy for showering). We hope there will still be adults only swimming times, as now.”

“I do not believe the proposal on the table will provide a valuable asset for the community since it does not offer much beyond what is already available and therefore offers poor value for money against refurbishing the existing centre and investing the balance elsewhere - a velodrome? I started using the pool many years ago as it nearly always had a swimming lane available for general use and it was on my way home from work. In more recent years I have stuck with it because I find it a welcoming friendly place where I recognise and exchange pleasantries with many of the other users – i.e. using the centre has a social element. I suspect I am not alone in thinking this, especially among the more senior users. I am concerned that this will be lost unless social interaction is considered a key parameter of the interior design. For example, changing villages isolate users. When I last used the King Alfred Pool in Brighton (many years ago) the male change had cubicles which were chest high for an adult which enabled customers to get to know each other while offering the necessary privacy. It also provided a neighbourhood watch level of security and child protection which, from what I have read and been told by users, many changing villages sadly appear to lack. As I have already suggested, there is not much detail about the interior, but I would like to make the following observations. People with a poor body image will not use the fitness suite when they realise that one-way glass does not work when it is dark outside; there needs to be good connectivity between the various elements of the centre so people can easily use more than one element during a single visit while at the

same time changing and keeping their possessions at one location; there needs to be seating around the pool so parents can watch their children during their lessons - assuming the plans are to scale this appears not to be the case. It would be helpful if the pool hall included a couple of self-contained flumes or other measures that would attract families and/or kids - at the moment the kids disappear when they finish their lesson programme never to be seen again and the pool is poorly used when the lessons are not in progress.”

“I don't like it.”

“I don't understand why the swimming pool has to be replaced.”

“I feel that the current design is not futurist enough. It should be and could be a major revenue earner for Littlehampton, so push the boat out/in and incorporate a marina with restaurants. See Brighton or Portsmouth for examples.”

“I feel the development will improve the area and attract more visitors to the centre.”

“I fully understand that Littlehampton needs a new swimming pool and facilities. Unfortunately (this doesn't) give us anything new, for example no leisure pool or some facilities for kids under 6 years of age. My family and me have to go to Worthing or Burgess Hill. We really are looking forward to the new leisure centre and understand that is needed, but after looking at the plans on the Arun website we are feeling disappointed.”

“I go to classes five times a week and I hope the existing prices do not increase too much.”

“I have no problems with the existing centre at all, but feel that the new one is coming at the right time, before the existing one has had its day.”

“I have seen the changing rooms for the pool slowly deteriorate and have complained of the smell many times. It all needs replacing.”

“I hope that the lighting installed in the new facility will be fit for purpose providing even brightness across the whole court to the regulation standard for badminton. If bulbs fail, I hope that the new system will allow these to be replaced from stock rather than enduring a lengthy wait for replacement bulbs to be delivered and installed.”

“I hope that you would consider your plans and include a fun pool/area and also a decent cafe where food is served until 9.00pm. I also feel that you have missed a golden opportunity to have the cafe on the first floor overlooking the sea. There is no other cafe in the area that could offer such a view and the public would love it so much both in summer and winter.”

“I hope the cafe is a proper cafe, not just vending machines. And I hope it will use an outside seating area to maximise use.”

“I know there was a lot of opposition to the swimming centre land being built on but it seems a lot of green space, but maybe this will be seen as an extension to the park? Possible green gym? Any sheltered area? No sauna/steam room/Jacuzzi planned?”

“I like how the new centre design looks modern, but I think that if there are glass windows all around, people shouldn't be able to fully see in, as people I have spoken to don't like it.”

“I play badminton. No proposals for a temporary court when the dome is demolished? Also, facilities for 'prime time'?”

“I regularly use the swimming centre and I struggle to do backstroke when there are other people in the lane. Usually I can count my strokes and work out when the end is coming but when I have to adjust my stroke I often either bump my head or end up turning too early; so I was just wondering whether you could incorporate a marker for 5 metres at each end on the ceiling of the new pool? In a pool in France I went to they had a red line painted on the ceiling which was really helpful.”

“I think an athletics track in Mewsbrook Park would be a good option. And I think an indoor athletics track and high jump and long jump pit.”

“I think it would be so much better to have a 50m pool and to have more seating area so that parents can watch their children.”

“I think the new centre as proposed sounds like a great idea.”

"I think the new swimming pool looks great. I am not happy about the new arrangements for swimming lessons. I do not like the fact that they will be running for 50 weeks of the year. I like them term time only and I like to make a one off payment not by Direct Debit."

"I think this all looks good especially if the site is slightly further away from the seafront. During the storms the sea came frighteningly close to the pool!"

"I think you need a slide for many reasons: more attractive; more fun and will bring in a lot more families = family membership. Do more with the space: sauna; slide; fun area. Could also have more modern facilities. MORE FUN NEEDED."

"I welcome the proposal and hope that the design and facilities will be of a good standard."

"I will ask about liaison with the Project Team during implementation. Keeping the community informed of progress is important and can build excitement and ownership etc. One aspect I would like to see also is a stronger link to NHS / community fitness actions and thinking. Where there can be facility for fitness and wellbeing tests for all ages and programmes that follow-up offered at the Centre."

"I would hope the cost will not rise. This is an important local facility for those of us who cannot afford Virgin or David Lloyd. The staff are great here and I can get all the fitness opportunities I need, however I will lose that if the price goes up. In an area which has a high demographic of low income, everything needs to be done to support people to live healthy lives."

"I would like a new sauna facility, a better wet room. and a big and warmer family changing room."

"I would like to see a water slide."

"I would like to support this as I'm very local and I end up going to Arun Leisure Centre in Felpham a lot as the pool is wider, there are more showers and lockers. There is also daylight and this is much appreciated."

"I would love to see a small play area in the smaller pool and perhaps a slide. Maybe a beach type entrance (shallow and you walk to the deep end). This would attract more people with smaller children that are crawling. I would like to see better changing areas with a baby changing mat in the cubicles. Maybe a multi-change for families? Also a buggy area in reception as I like to walk to the Centre."

"I would use the centre more often if: A relaxing cafe area with comfortable chairs, fresh coffee etc. A reasonably warm changing room (it's very cold now when you leave the swim pool). More showers (three is nowhere near enough)."

"If the centre was to have at least a sauna, if not full health spa facilities, it would make it a more enticing place for tourism, as people could visit the centre while staying in the area and using the facilities. We actually book our winter breaks where there are these facilities, as it gets dark by 5pm, so it is lovely to have a swim and health spa in the evening. Also, The sauna is a self medication and has health benefits to those who use it regularly. At a time when doctors' surgeries in the area are closing, it is important to support those who are trying their best not to bother the doctor, of which a sauna is an important part. Those with arthritis need the heat to stay flexible and I with sinus problems need it to stay healthy too. Most of the other Freedom Leisure centres offer these facilities and Littlehampton should also be offering it too. If the new centre does not have at least a sauna, it is not an improvement, as we have one in the present centre, which I will hasten to say is very well used! This is an ideal opportunity to attract new members and tourists by offering a health spa. Unlike now whereby people pay just £1 on top of a swim for a sauna, it can be a separate price to help pay for the facility. We pay extra £59 a year for the Sauna, which is not a huge amount, but we would be prepared to pay extra to ensure there is this facility in the new centre. It also needs a band system to ensure everyone who uses it pays for it. If it was poolside, that would be easier and cheaper, as the pool staff could just monitor it. A sauna is not a luxury, it is a beneficial medical asset, used by many to self medicate. Doctors recommend heat for those who suffer, please replace this vital part of our life!"

"If the new centre had a better set up for galas it would become more valuable to the community. Littlehampton has a growing swimming club with some very strong swimmers and it would be a great shame if the club hold's its galas elsewhere because the new centre has insufficient facilities. It would also bring added revenue to the centre if it were better equipped."

"If you moved the learner pool to the end of the big pool and made it a little longer (6-8 metres) and the same width, with a moveable boom between, you could have two very useable pools and also one that could be made into a 50m pool. This is very much needed for British Swimming and would bring lots of money into the area. Check out what happens at Portsmouth when they have their long course meets."

“If you want the centre to be environmentally friendly then it is important to make sure it is as appealing as possible to cyclists and people who want to travel other than by petrol or diesel vehicles. The link with the park should be part of that - encouraging people from Rustington and South Beaumont, and further afield to use clean transport - cycling, walking, scooting etc. through Mewsbrook to the new site. I think this is particularly an issue at night - better lighting around the park would help.”

“I'm pleased to see that the proposed scheme allows the present swimming centre to be used while the new centre is under construction. I'm glad that the new main pool is no longer than the present one, as this suits me well. I have to say I'm happy with the pool at the existing centre (though there could be better maintenance of things like lockers and showers) so its replacement is not something I'm particularly excited by.”

“I'm surprised to say that the proposals look great. There appears to be consideration given to soft landscaping and bio diversity and capacity for all activities seems to be increased, which hopefully means more activities can be offered and - fingers crossed! - we might be able to squeeze a slow, medium and fast lane into the pool on a regular basis (weekend mornings please). A dedicated spinning studio, as at Felpham, will be great. I really like the idea of bringing the park up to the seafront, it's a really great opportunity to make a lovely park even lovelier. I'm from Bedford and our leisure centre, Robinson Pool, integrates with Bedford Park and it made going for a swim / workout even more enjoyable - it's great to see a similar idea here.”

“It has been made perfectly clear to ADC and by petition that we would like our sauna included in the new plans. ADC needs to listen!!”

“It is important to retain the facility in its present location.”

“It is so needed.”

“It looks like it's going to be good. I hope all the nice staff stay.”

“It seems a pity not to take advantage of the view by siting the restaurant upstairs. It could be a big draw for visitors. Compare the success of the Harbour Lights at the Look and Sea.”

“It seems funny to make a smaller pool when all that you can see in the area are lots of new houses which would I am sure be using this facility. Should be encouraging people to get healthy and give them a good experience i.e. sauna.”

“It seems the proposed sports centre is out of proportion to the site it occupies. We are going to end up with a massive car park and other bits and pieces. Why can you not bring the site of the sports centre forward, temporarily moving the boat store elsewhere, and expand Mewsbrook Park into the area roughly where the dome is now? The park and wood would be maintained as a cohesive whole.”

“It should be a 50 metre pool and have spectator seating.”

“It should be further subsidised.”

“it will be nice to have an updated pool with working lockers and improved facilities.”

“It would be lovely to have additional things such as a sauna and steam room. Perhaps a water slide for children?”

“It would be more valuable to have a 50 metre pool as it would bring more people to the area to use the facility and the surrounding businesses i.e. cafes, shops, and hotels.”

“It would be really nice to see the latest energy efficiency plant equipment implemented. Has PV and CHP been considered? It would be great to encourage locals to cycle so I hope there will be a decent area for cycle storage. I hope the centre will link with Mewsbrook community charity to show appreciation and care for our local environment. The facilities will be amazing and with the green space as well should be a fantastic opportunity for all generations to enjoy and maintain/improve their general well being.”

“It's about time we get a new centre. This one is old and dated.”

“It's not Worthing. Splashpoint is a (expletive deleted). Leave the place alone it's clean and friendly.”

“Just get on and build the thing. It's been talked about for long enough.”

“Just get on with it! But please don't neglect to old site until the new is operational. We still pay for the service.”

“Just need a cleaner improved centre with tea, coffee, and seating area - inside and out. Clean changing and showers.”

“Just the expense of change of payment for swimming lessons (?) 50 weeks a year. This change after 24+ years doing just term-time.”

“Just the glass.”

“Keep up the good work!”

“Looking at the proposals, I am pleased to see that the new centre is almost "like for like" with the existing centre. My 2 main concerns are: that the new centre be flexible enough to accommodate the rising population in this area. It would be a disappointment for the whole area (and the people involved in this build) to come to the realisation in a year or so's time that it is too small. That the exterior of the building be functional and no more. Please do not let us have an Aquarena type building (pretty for a short time then completely useless - looks great, not fit for purpose). I would rather the outside look plain and boring and like a seventies office building but fill all requirements on the inside! Staying fit and eating right are very important to me and I use the existing centre 3/4 times a week. I would hate to lose that big part of my life and fitness.”

“Looking forward to the new centre opening.”

“Looks fine to me, fits in well with the park. Wish it every success. Will be an asset to Littlehampton.”

“Looks great - a much needed refurbishment! Look forward to using it and pleased it's staying on this site.”

“Looks really nice!”

“Make sure any bicycle facilities are good quality. Need space and easy lock up (security). Centre needs to be easy to keep really clean to attract more participants. The current centre is very, very good value for money plus has lovely staff. Don't want to lose that.”

“Massive opportunity to make the new centre a competition venue has been missed! If this was a supermarket being rebuilt it would be like building a new one that didn't stock bread and milk! LTSC is the centre's biggest user and we have not been given enough opportunity to consult with the designers to ensure our needs are fully met. Seating gallery and 50 metre pool would have been easy.”

“More facilities for leisure activities for people with mobility problems and disabled wheelchair users. A hydrotherapy pool would be great for people with disabling illness like MS, Parkinsons etc. I currently help with an adults' disabled swim club; we have to rush every week as we use Oakgrove College hydro pool in the lunch break. If facilities were suitable here we could use them. Good changing facilities are needed for disabled people and a carer to help in cubicles large enough and with easy access - hoists available etc. Please consider all the disabled users in our community!”

“More family orientated, more fun, like Burgess Hill and Horsham pools. Instead of just landscaping more land for practically the same layout, why not also have a completely separate FUN pool, like Burgess Hill and Horsham?!”

“More inter sports.”

“More slides, flumes, wave machines, things to occupy children whilst I enjoy some drink and hot food in your newly proposed cafe! Also, the male toilets smell really bad!”

“Move cafe area to right of pool encompassing exit and leading to outside seating (and onwards to park area). This will increase the footprint, but original cafe area could be used for larger reception area. The natural flow of people would be to enter on the right; use facilities; exit on the left to the park or back along the front cafe area to exit for car park. Or move the whole structure forward over the rear car park with parking to the left and rear so that the car park is not a dominating feature spoiling the outlook from the building and improving the view from the Sea Road. Why is this building not much bigger than the existing one, to enable more facilities: another sports hall; permanent viewing/tiered area for sports hall and pool? In general the surrounding population is growing so if this is not addressed now then the facility will be too small for the future.”

“My son would have really liked diving boards. Please think about memberships. Fit 4 at Worthing has a lot of advantages (many activities, kids' clubs) not just the four locations. Bognor is just too far away to be useful. But pro coaching, football, sailing, skating, the lady talked about triathlons. These things could all be wrapped up into a good package. All in all, I am really reassured about what I have seen. How this is all delivered will be what can make this really great for the community.”

“Need sauna, Jacuzzi, and steam room. Be better than Worthing!”

“Need something different to attract people. Soft play area? Fun/swimming pool - water slides etc.”

“New centre as proposed would be a great asset for visitors and residents.”

“New centre looks great but location is not the best - i.e. bus links, train links etc.”

“No access to pool for disabled customers.”

“Not convinced that there are enough ancillary services on offer or enough space consideration for spectators. The cafe servery is too small and seating for 30 is quite limited. Not enough made of the gallery opportunity overlooking the sports hall. The long corridor approach to main circulation is very depressing. Why couldn't this centre have similar to other centres i.e bowling or a climbing wall or a large children's soft play area? There appears to be enough space on the site. I think the architecture looks like a drab concrete clad box with a couple of token jaunty angles on the glazing. Come on! You can do better than this surely? The building is all one very boring colour, no attempt seems to have been made to address this.”

“Not the current proposal.”

“Only concerns are prices??”

“Only seating for viewing pool needs clarifying please.”

“Outside running track around site? Climbing wall?”

“Overall I think the proposals are very good but I do not support the proposed unisex swimming changing room with showers as I detailed under Q6.”

“Overall, a great proposition for the future of Littlehampton.”

“Perfect opportunity missed to provide tiered seating for galas, competitions, and general spectator use during lessons.”

“Please bear in mind local people. We have seen too many new builds and the population go very high.”

“Please can the beautiful pool ceiling wood be used as a sculpture for the new pool area? i.e. in park area. Giving new pool a piece of the old. It could have an opening plaque on it for example. Local people are so attached to the pool it would be a lovely gesture. Also please can someone please check the wooded area behind the sports dome for doormice as they are local and protected?”

“Please can we have cubicles or shower curtains in the women's changing area, we have been asking for years.”

“Please consider a swimmer's point of view and put loads of seats in. Swimming is such a great sport and if swimming events can be held, more people will be interested. No point having a lovely new pool if parents can't watch their child swim. They will go elsewhere.”

“Please consider building a new large space for all facility area such as bigger studio rooms rather than one big that can be divided into two cramped rooms, if you need more members to be in any classes especially at the peak time. First floor can see that only two area that can be used only e.g., gym and studio only. Do not build a cramped room, otherwise it will not be any improvement from the existing building.”

“Please don't make the exterior white or something that will deteriorate in the salt air. More indoor space, room for kids play and sport use. Indoor kids' climbing/ball pit area - like Durrington/flying fortress. More for kids.”

“Please ensure that there is a sufficient cleaning contract. The current Littlehampton Centre and the one at Felpham are never very clean. It doesn't take much for the wet change areas to look and smell dirty.”

“Please improve the pool for families and the changing rooms.”

“Please include a sauna within the new leisure centre.”

“Please keep cleaning it because our family has noticed mould in the tiles and pipes, so please don't let it go mouldy. More showers.”

“Please keep price reasonable.”

“Please learn from the fantastic facility at Splashpoint, Worthing. Swimming should be fun and good exercise. This looks like a replica of what is here and not an improvement.”

“Please listen to the people's comments.”

“Please make sure there is as much if not more provision for disability sports clubs, both in pool and in sports centre.”

“Please provide a sauna and a spa. As it's quite popular at the moment I think it essential. Also providing a cafe might be useful. Please consider these comments.”

“Please put in a sauna and slide, plus a hot tub.”

“Please really visit local users and speak to them directly about all their needs - not just the daytime but evenings too! How a design can be proposed by those who haven't spent 7 days and nights a week talking to users there is beyond me. Of all the investment in consultation this could have reaped the most benefit prior to design. Please do it now before it is too late.”

“Please retain the disabled changing / shower facility they have in the MUC, but can it be considered for having radar key access as it's often in use by non disabled people who just want it for the big space?”

“Please see previous points made re seating by pool, lots of showers, plenty of large family changing rooms, large lockers and that it is cleaned frequently! Parents need to be near children while lessons are taking place. Please enable lower height sinks and toilets for children to use. Thank you.”

“Please think about the changing rooms: space for buggies; space taken by school groups; gully through middle of room; more cubicles in multi-use for families!!”

“Please, please consider putting in squash courts, just a couple. Maybe the studios could be designed/built in such a way they can be multi purpose and set up as squash courts at certain times of the week?”

“Please, please do not cut down the trees. They act as a very good wind breaker for us in the bungalows in Fairway and it would be a disaster if they were removed to make way for this building. Don't say you will replant trees; it takes many years for them to get to this beneficial height protecting us from the awful gales we get on the coast.”

“Pleased to see the improvements.”

“Provision must be made for sports dome users to continue their activities in other suitable local facilities, specifically badminton which is difficult to house in anything other than specialised facilities.”

“Q9 and 10 are loaded against the current facility and for the proposals. Improved facilities which should be on a site this large are: Improved parking. Sauna. More indoor pitches. Climbing wall. Soft play/Crèche. Squash courts. Poolside seating. Feelings of space. Room to improve and develop the site in future. Water slide/flumes. Wave machine. Splashpoint in Worthing is on a smaller site and provides more facilities for leisure/family swimming. How can galas/races be held with no spectator room? Use the space better please.”

“Sauna and spa are essential! (like Felpham).”

“Should have been 50 metres!!”

“Should increase the size of the studio rooms - make it more comfortable. For huge investment on this project, should provide more activity.”

“Should make pool 50m. There are currently no plans for a sauna? Are staff and admin going to share a room? Surely we cannot be expected to work in an environment where others are trying to relax?”

“Spectator seating required. Sauna required. Squash courts required. More facilities required.”

“Surely Sport England would look more favourably grant wise to see another 50m pool in the South? Would like to see a little more room to fit five badminton courts.”

“The centre will be a great asset to the area and Littlehampton only if it is up to date with improved areas not less than what it has now. If cannot be guaranteed to do this perhaps it should wait for further funding i.e. lottery?”

“The current leisure centre/swimming pool is very "tired" and in need of renewal. There is only so much that can be done with the existing building and maintenance costs will increase year on year. Every effort is made to encourage people to exercise and hopefully people will be more encouraged to use newer and more modern facilities.”

“The facility must have the capacity to evolve so changes can be made at minimal cost to the public purse. The new centre must complement the park and you must be careful not to ruin the park experience by creating an intrusive centre.”

“The frontage at Littlehampton is so special and provides a variety of activities. The new centre will enhance this and a studio with views to the sea is a great addition.”

“The lack of sauna or steam room seems a very backward step for a new centre.”

“The lobby area needs to be bigger: buggies, school parties, gym users, swimmers, all in a tiny lobby area. The outlook is too far back and overlooking the car park. The refreshment area needs to allow own food and drinks. The new leisure centre is not a big improvement; it needs to be bigger with more facilities. The location is wrong. It should be moved forward and built over the boat store and car park with the parking at the rear of the building. The new leisure centre is being built to a cost and not to the need to meet a modern desire. The centre will be here for 30/40 years. Please build to a need and not to a cost.”

“The new centre should have a sauna and wet room.”

“The new centre will certainly be a huge asset to the community, however with a huge demand in the local area for improved leisure facilities for children why waste the opportunity to include something for them in the fantastic new build? Many of my friends travel to Splashpoint to use the facilities there as there isn't anything for social swimming currently here. What a shame to miss the chance with a new build!”

“The new centre would be an asset to both Rustington and Littlehampton. Its position would allow visitors to the beaches on cooler days easy access to use the new centre. Its position is ideal, near the park and the beaches.”

“The new facilities can't come soon enough.”

“The new proposal provides for no more than the existing venue. The existing site actually has more spectating area. This is a massive opportunity to build something special but it looks no better than 'Splashpoint' which, again, was a missed opportunity and ill-thought out. A 50m pool with diving and spectating would be far more appealing and show a commitment to swimming and business. The proposal is short-sighted and it's clear that non-swimmers and non-leisure centre users have planned it.”

“The new, modern development will be a positive asset for residents and will attract visitors from outside of Littlehampton. I live in Worthing and would be happy to travel to the new centre for its updated and modern facilities.”

“The plans look good and will cater for many users. One concern would be that the cost would make usage prohibitive to some users if fees/admission are increased too much.”

“The plans look great and the layout offers more versatility than the existing centre.”

“The plans look great. I'm all for a new, improved leisure centre that makes the best of the available space and surrounding area!”

“The plans were very comprehensive and easy to understand. The gentlemen who were present answered all my questions and I feel very satisfied that the new development will be an exciting and beneficial addition to the local community.”

“The proposals look great, and I can't wait to see what it's like when completed.”

“The sooner this is built, the better.”

“There is a significant social life amongst regular members, based on the opportunity to socialise in a relaxed atmosphere, in the single sex changing areas. The cubicle-based changing proposal for the pool will suppress this, which would be a loss. If it is possible to keep some form of communal single-sex changing, it will continue to be popular and a valued social opportunity for many.”

“There is no difference to the existing centre in the plans. No spectator area. No opportunity for galas. No interest in providing more swimming opportunities. Unless a huge difference is made i.e. 50m pool or longer spectator area I don't feel we are gaining anything.”

“There seems to be no area for viewing the swimming pool for galas, etc.”

“This could have been SO much more! You have saved circa £3m not building by A259 site. Why not widen the pool deck to accommodate seating for competition galas? No view in studio 1 when partitioned. Lack of

seating/viewing area for learner pool. Could be fixed to incorporate cafe seating and generate additional revenue. Please incorporate an electronic timing system and scoreboard in the pool area.”

“This facility will be fantastic.” (x3)

“This subject has had a lot of discussion and time spent on it and I believe the proposal is the best the public are going to get (I want it to stay near the seafront). It's time to get on with it but how will the crossover work - people still need to be able to exercise? I'm linked to Mewsbrook Park Group and we will be observing (probably recording) this transformation, no doubt answering some of the public's questions as they come into (and use) the park.”

“This will bring more people in from outside areas which could generate new business for local businesses.”

“To me, secure cycle parking is a no-brainer. Please don't miss the opportunity to support this healthy method of travel and reduce demand for car parking spaces. A cycle locker uses a similar concept to a swimming pool changing room locker. Look at: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bicycle_locker for ideas. I'm not aware of other leisure facilities locally that offer decent cycle parking, so this could be a USP for the new centre. I like the idea of a sea view for fitness suite users.”

“To practice yoga, a WARM ventilated room is required as we have bare feet and lay in still relaxed positions for periods of time. The coldness of the current facility for yoga has been a real problem for years and has never been resolved. Please ensure that as well as cold air for aerobic classes, the proper (and safe) warm temperature is provided for yoga.”

“To summarise, I think you could utilise the land better and also need to consider a larger pool, outdoor floodlit facilities and also a better skate park. This would bring the facilities into the future and enhance rather than replicate what is already there. Everyone comments that Splashpoint made a mistake by building a pool which is too small for competitive swimming. The initial plans look like trying to do things in the cheapest way possible which I can understand but by selling some of the land off, you could get additional funding.”

“Users on the sports facility and park already cause chaos with parking, turning around etc. It seems they are reluctant to use the more than adequate parking facilities already provided. In addition the boat house/sailing club hold up the flow of traffic with parents parking and pulling boats up the road. As a resident this is hugely annoying and really unsafe for everyone. Could you incorporate a path for them that doesn't use Hendon Avenue?! Finally I would like to know in what order the works will be undertaken (demolish then build or vice versa?) and obviously site access etc.”

“Very good to have extra lanes in the pool. Would definitely use the gym more if built as in the design. All looks good. When can we come? Bicycle racks: please have more and better cycle parking.”

“We are members of AYAC Sailing Club which will be affected by the new swimming complex and therefore are very interested in the proposals and how the AYAC Club will fit into the plans.”

“We do not want to lose our facilities at AYAC. We teach young people to sail. We do not want to be ousted.”

“We have recently moved to the area and have not joined yet, but will do so soon. It's a pity there are no squash courts.”

“We need a new centre. Lockers in changing rooms do not all work; toilets need sorting; and it would be nice to see a modern building for the future.”

“Well done for trying to improve this town.”

“What is the current site going to be used for?”

“Where is any spectator area?”

“While providing a new facility for the coming years it would be good to see the original provision of a sauna continued with the added attraction of a Jacuzzi.”

“Whilst the new building is being built in the new location where the sports dome is, where are the classes that happen there going to happen?”

“Why no access into sports hall from within the Leisure Centre? This isolates the room, and stops it from being used by large events as an additional area for teams to congregate or visitors to circulate. Why no spectator seating around the pools for parents during swim classes, or parties, or spectators during events?”

Current pool has very limited seating provision. Could there be an exterior Sculpture Park incorporated into the new landscaping areas between the centre and Sea Road?"

"Will car parking provide charging points for electric vehicles?"

"Will improve the look of the site."

"Will the existing parking fee of £1 a year still apply?"

"Will there be separate cubicle changing facilities?"

"With a competition sized pool you could increase the revenue by holding galas which would attract more people."

"Without a doubt this will be very valuable to everybody."

"Would Arun District Council guarantee the the green land around the new centre will not be developed for non sporting activity?"

"Would like assurance that the boat store will definitely remain, either in existing position or proposed potential alternative, presuming it will be of sufficient size. Very disappointed that the number of able car parking spaces has been reduced in view of the new centre attracting an increased number of visitors and taking into account the large number of housing developments currently being built, together with those planned for the future."

"Would like squash court plus cafe."

"Would love to see a 5 star facility in Littlehampton that would offer something great for families."

"Yes so long as we get bigger and better facilities, including a sauna!"

"You ask if there are any barriers that prevent you using the existing facility? The answer is no. But you do not ask if there are any barriers in using the new facility? There is; I will not use the new facility as I need a Sauna for health reasons, I can walk to the new leisure centre, but will have to travel to Worthing everyday as I either swim, gym and Sauna and can't afford to be a member of two centres! If there is no Sauna in the new centre, when the old one had one! It is not fit for purpose for me! I we can't get to Worthing everyday, which looks a bit difficult. You may well be supporting me as a disabled person, but I don't want to be in this position and I will do all I can to prevent it, but are you willing to support those that are trying to look after themselves and prepared to pay a realistic amount?!"

"You need a diving pool!"

"You need a kids' slide."