

**LONGHOPE RECREATION SURVEY**  
**Summary findings from 78 responses**  
**August / September 2020**

Many thanks to everyone who responded to this survey to help provide a snapshot of the recreation needs and interests of the parish in 2020.

Just over 12% of Longhope households replied, which is a statistically significant result. Opinions are divided as to whether the current facilities meet all local recreation needs, but there is some good feedback on people's sporting interests.

The biggest interest by far is in outdoor exercise equipment, such as may be seen on the playing field at Mitcheldean and which a future management committee would do well to consider when reviewing playground equipment generally. Tennis is the next highest interest, and others that score well include basketball, running (for which there is already a club), cricket, athletics, football and yoga (for which there is a volunteer organiser).

The pop-up pub also gets high marks, which of course has a further value in helping to raise funds for the Rec. Improvements to the kitchen, the showers and providing collapsible tables and chairs were popular. Several replies made comment about the need for improved access for those with mobility difficulties, including a tarmacked path from Church Road up the school side of the field to the pavilion, for which some funds have already been raised.

Twenty-eight households offered help of different kinds, including fundraising and joining a management committee. Those people together with those that asked to be kept informed of developments at the Rec are being contacted by email to confirm they are happy for their contact details to be held securely by the parish council, and only used for the purposes for which they were provided in line with the data protection regulations. Otherwise all personal details have been deleted, leaving only anonymous survey replies to be kept, to help inform future planning.

If you would like to get more involved in the Rec, please contact the new parish clerk Ian Barrett at [clerk@longhopeparishcouncil.com](mailto:clerk@longhopeparishcouncil.com) .

## DETAILED RESULTS

*(Please note not every respondent answered every question)*

**Longhope Recreation Ground and Pavilion currently meet all the recreation needs of the parish (please tick one)**

- Strongly Agree (4 replies)
- Agree (13)
- Neither agree or disagree (23)
- Disagree (17)
- Strongly Disagree (19)

**Do you currently use Longhope Recreation Ground and its facilities?**

- No (45)
- Yes (31)
- If Yes please state roughly how often.

Daily (5 replies)	Twice monthly (2)
Weekly (10)	Monthly (3)
Twice a week (3)	5/6 times a year
Three times per week (2)	Every 3 months
3/4 times a week	Occasionally (2)
4 to 6+ times per week	

**What prevents you from using the current facilities in Longhope?**

- Current state of the venue (25)
- Lack of accessibility (16)
- Lack of parking (12)
- Range of facilities on offer (43)
- Any other (26)

Other issues preventing use included Covid restrictions, no pop-up pub or café, not accessible to those with disabilities, not sure what is available at what cost, and people letting dogs off the lead to run wild.

**Would you use the facilities if they were improved?**

- Yes (46)
- No (4)
- Unsure (24)

**At present the only formal sports group using the current facility is senior football, and there is also use by local brownies and scout groups. What other sports or activities would you or someone of any age in your household be interested in taking part in were they offered?**

ACTIVITY	JUNIOR		SENIOR		TOTAL
	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE	MALE	
Athletics	6	12	5	8	31
Basketball	9	16	6	8	37
Brownies/ Guides/ Scouts	5	8			13
Cricket	3	10	4	13	31
Cycling	5	4	6	7	22
Football	4	11	5	9	29
Hockey	6	3	3	1	13
Holiday activities 5-11yrs	9	12			21
Holiday activities 12-16yrs	10	10			20
Netball	8	2	8	1	19
Outdoor exercise equip.	12	16	26	21	74
Pop-up Pub			25	26	51
Running	3	7	10	14	34
Tag Rugby	1	10	4	7	22
Tennis	11	12	16	20	59
Yoga	2	1	16	9	27
Youth Club	11	14			25

Other individual suggestions included:

Activities for the elderly less mobile.	Skate board facilities
Badminton, village fete or motor show, live music events	Regular groups such as craft, gardening, senior coffee mornings, etc
Cafe	Table tennis
Children's playground equipment	Tai Chi
Darts	Use for commercial meeting / events
Fencing club	Use for music rehearsals
Farmers type market with fresh local produce	Use of the building for a cookery club, art group, discussion group
Martial Arts Club	Village should have a full cycle track
Morning Coffee, Afternoon Teas	Walking football
Orienteering	Wheelchair tennis if the courts were more accessible.
Pilates	

**What extra facilities do you think would be valuable?**

- Extended kitchen facilities 26
- Collapsible seating and tables 24
- Individual showers 19
- Outdoor exercise equipment 39
- Specific disability needs 16

The several suggestions to improve disability needs included:

Wheelchair access from front of pavilion – down to field. There should be a tarmac (or similar) path against hedge bordering school grounds & a handrail (8 replies)
Wheelchair / disability play equipment in play area. Disability swings & roundabouts are available (2 replies)
Disabled toilet. Not at all easy to get a wheelchair into the loos
Good ramp, sort the lip into the building that's no good for some wheelchairs
More seating for people to just sit and enjoy the view. Tarmac car park area.

Other suggestions included tennis and basketball area repairs, better facilities for the teens, play area improvements, a skate park (already suggested), toilets open all day, an all-weather multi-sport area, and showers for football referees and officials. There were differing opinions on improving the car parking, some felt there should be better parking while others suggested facilities for cycles to reduce car use.

### **What help might you be able to give as we develop the facilities?**

- Cleaning (6 replies)
- Create or maintain a website/Twitter/Facebook page (5)
- Help with finances (6)
- Help with fundraising events (11)
- Join a management committee and attend meetings (10)
- Organising sports events (5)
- Running a new club (6)
- Site maintenance (7)
- Other (3)

New club interest included martial arts, yoga, silent meditation, support for dementia victims and a club for disabled children. Other offers included developing a cycle track round the village and running a course on personal budgeting.

### **Any additional comments on Longhope Recreation Ground.**

Over 40 extra comments were made. Those ideas not already covered above included:

Pictures of old Longhope and other items to stimulate those with early dementia
Make some small changes to the Rec to improve it as an environment for wildlife and reduce Longhope's carbon footprint - e.g. plant trees where there is space - these will also give shade during hot spells (this improves accessibility for older or disabled people)
It is a shame the village fete doesn't occur anymore. Maybe bonfire/ Halloween get together/ Easter hunt events would bring village families together to use the venue.