



Koonung Park

Management Plan



July 2016
Manningham City Council

Executive Summary

Koonung Park is located in Bulleen and is 3.5 hectares in size and adjacent to Koonung Creek Linear Park with street frontages to Kampman Street, Furneaux Grove and Bulleen Road.

Koonung Park is identified in the Manningham Open Space Strategy as a district reserve with an important function in Manningham's open space network as a sporting and recreation facility.

Manningham City Council prepares Management Plans for complex recreation areas that accommodate a range of facilities and services and/or open space areas with a range of uses and purposes. Such areas are important community assets and due to competing priorities and limited funding for development, it is crucial to plan and prioritise the use, development and management of these areas. This is the first management plan completed for Koonung Park.

The overarching goal for the Koonung Park Management Plan is to provide high quality recreation services that respond to community demand, respect the natural environment and are maintained effectively into the future.

Koonung Park is highly valued by the local community and this plan strives to ensure there is a balance of sports club based activity and flexible recreation opportunities to cater for all local residents and their diverse recreation pursuits.

The objectives of this Plan are set out in Figure 1 and the resulting key recommendations of this plan include;

- Four new synthetic training nets that are accessible to the community
- Cyclone mesh fence around sportsground
- Protective netting behind northern goals
- New paths improving access through the Park to specific community facilities
- Options for the community tennis courts including basketball and netball rings and futsal line marking
- Improvements to the carpark
- Upgrade to the playground
- Landscaping and planting throughout the Park to improve amenity

Contents

Executive Summary	1
Contents	2
Figures	3
1. Introduction	4
1.1 Purpose	4
1.2 Goals and Objectives	4
1.3 Key Stakeholders	5
1.4 Facilities and Features	6
1.5 Methodology	6
1.6 Community Consultation and Engagement	6
1.7 Monitoring and Review	7
2. Planning/Policy Context	7
2.1 Related Strategies	7
3. Site Analysis	9
3.1 Location	9
3.2 Context	10
4. Precinct Analysis	11
4.1 Bolin Bolin Precinct	11
4.2 Demographic Analysis	12
4.3 History	12
4.4 Existing Conditions	12
4.5 Land Tenure and Management	14
4.6 Manningham Planning Scheme Provisions	14
4.7 Cultural Heritage	16
5. Sporting Facilities	16
5.1 Sportsground	16
5.2 Tennis Courts	19
6. Informal Recreation Opportunities	20
6.1 Walking and Cycling	20
6.2 Dog Walking	21
6.3 Exercise Equipment	21
6.4 Play (including basketball, netball and soccer)	21
6.5 Barbecue and Picnic Area	21
6.6 Toilets	22
6.7 Seating	22
7. Community Facilities – Koonarra Hall	22

8. Park Infrastructure	23
8.1 Carparking	23
8.2 Lighting	23
8.3 Signage	24
8.4 Open Space and Landscape Values	24
8.5 Path Connections	24
8.6 Water Tank	24
8.7 Drink Fountains	25
8.8 Litter	25
9. Strategic Direction - Objectives & Actions	26
Figure 7 – Koonung Park Masterplan	41

Figures

Figure 1 - Objectives	5
Figure 2 - Koonung Park location in a Manningham context	9
Figure 3 - Koonung Park Context Plan	10
Figure 4 – Residential proximity to open space in Bolin Bolin Precinct	11
Figure 5 - Koonung Park existing conditions	13
Figure 6 - Koonung Park planning overlays	15

1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose

Publicly owned open space and reserves improve our physical and psychological health, strengthen our communities and make our cities and neighbourhoods more attractive places to live and work. Manningham City Council prepares Management Plans for complex recreation areas that accommodate a range of facilities and services and/or open space areas with a range of uses and purposes. Such areas are important community assets and due to competing priorities and limited funding for development, it is crucial to plan and prioritise the use, development and management of these areas. This is the first management plan completed for Koonung Park.

The purpose of the Management Plan is:

- To document and protect the key values of Koonung Park by providing a framework for future planning.
- To establish short, medium and long term, objectives and actions for the future development of the Park.
- To develop a masterplan for improvements over a 10 year period.
- To provide a guide for the management of sport and recreation facilities in the Park.

The endorsed Koonung Park Management Plan will be used by Council Officers involved in planning, development and management of the Park and will help the community understand Council's vision, objectives and specific plans for the Park.

1.2 Goals and Objectives

The overarching goal for the Koonung Park Management Plan is to provide high quality recreation services that respond to community demand, respect the natural environment and are maintained effectively into the future.

Koonung Park is currently used by sports clubs and residents for various recreational pursuits including cricket, football, tennis and hall hire. Other facilities used by local residents include the playground, exercise equipment and open spaces for walking, exercising and dog walking.

Koonung Park, given its location in Bulleen where open space is generally less accessible, is highly valued by the local community. This plan strives to ensure there is a balance of sports club based activity and flexible recreation opportunities to cater for all local residents and their diverse recreation pursuits.

The five objectives for this Management Plan are set out in Figure 1 and actions pertaining to these objectives are detailed in Section 9 – Strategic Direction – Objectives and Actions.



Figure 1 - Objectives

1.3 Key Stakeholders

There are a number of stakeholders that have an interest in the upgrading and ongoing management of Koonung Park. These groups have been consulted during the preparation of the Plan. Stakeholders' involvement will continue as required throughout planning, construction and management phases.

Sports clubs

Sports clubs and their volunteers provide sport and recreation opportunities for the Manningham community. Their commitment contributes to the Manningham goal that community spirit is strengthened through an involved and well connected community. Manningham's partnership with these clubs is crucial to enable and support future improvements.

- Bulleen Cricket Club
- Manningham Cobras Football Club

Local residents

Local residents enjoy the visual amenity of Koonung Park and the neighbouring Koonung Creek Linear Park. They use the playground, outdoor exercise equipment, sportsground and community tennis courts. Ongoing communication with these residents is crucial to ensure that they are considered as part of the development and implementation of the Management Plan.

Koonarra Hall hirers

Community groups and businesses hire the hall for meetings and exercise classes on a weekly or monthly basis. The volunteers in these groups contribute to community spirit in the same way that sports clubs do. Regular hall hirers will also be considered as part of the development and implementation of the Management Plan.

1.4 Facilities and Features

In summary, existing facilities and features of the Park include:

- Sports pavilion
- Sportsground used for cricket (turf wicket) and football (AFL Rules)
- Cricket training nets (three turf and two synthetic)
- Tennis courts (two plexipave and one synthetic grass)
- Koonarra Hall (community hire)
- Playground
- Exercise equipment
- Toilets
- Council curator's shed
- Floodlighting (tennis courts and sportsground)
- Carpark
- Group of mature River Red Gums (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*) in the south west corner.

1.5 Methodology

The methodology for development and implementation of the Management Plan includes:

- Review and analysis of existing use and facilities
- Initial consultation with stakeholders
- Background studies / reports
 - Site opportunities/ constraints analysis
 - Landscape assessment
- Development of a draft Management Plan
- Public exhibition and community consultation on draft Management Plan
- Consideration of submissions and adoption of final Management Plan by Council
- Implementation of recommendations

1.6 Community Consultation and Engagement

Community consultation and engagement to date has included:

- Community feedback form through 'Your Say Manningham' website and meetings with club stakeholders, November – December 2015

There were a total of 54 survey responses from the local community and the feedback suggests that the park is well used, highly valued and is a park where local residents feel safe. Results include;

- 74% of the respondents visit the Park at least once a week
- 69% of the respondents visit the Park on both the weekend and on weekdays
- 73% of the respondents walk or run to the Park
- 90% of the respondents feel safe when visiting the Park, commenting that there are generally other people around also using the Park, it feels very open and there is good surveillance from nearby houses

- The most popular activities at the park are using the Park to access the Koonung Trail, exercise equipment, other exercise (unspecified), walking the dog, playground and tennis courts

Further details of the community consultation are included in Appendix 1 and Appendix 2.

1.7 Monitoring and Review

Ongoing monitoring of the Plan will be undertaken to ensure that the objectives and actions remain relevant and meet the needs of the community. A full review of the Management Plan will be carried out by Council five years after the completion of all the capital works recommended in the Plan.

2. Planning/Policy Context

2.1 Related Strategies

Whilst the Management Plan draws upon a number of Council strategies and policies, the documents that mainly influence the Plan are described below.

2.1.1 Open Space Strategy 2014

This is a 10-year plan that sets priorities and guidelines for the protection, development and use of public open space in the municipality. It has been developed to achieve the following goals:

- Value, expand and enhance the open space network
- Make the most of existing open spaces
- Attract more people, more often, to open space

The Strategy is divided into 3 parts; which include; key directions, the 15 precincts across the municipality and an inventory of Manningham's open space. Koonung Park is located in the Bolin Bolin Precinct (Figure 4) and there are a number of recommendations for this Precinct that relate directly to Koonung Park; Refer to section 4.1 for details.

2.1.2 Active for Life Recreation Strategy 2010-2025

This strategy was developed to provide a strategic framework for the management and development of recreation provision in Manningham. Major gaps, challenges and synergies are addressed, with the aim to increase participation in a broad range of recreational activities for the improved health and wellbeing of our community.

2.1.3 Koonung Creek Linear Park Management Plan 2011

Koonung Creek Linear Park runs along the south boundary of Koonung Park and is generally identified as the secondary Koonung shared path to the Eastern Freeway sound wall. Facilities in the south-west corner of Koonung Park such as public toilets, drinking fountain, exercise equipment and playspace also service the Linear Park. Actions from the Koonung Creek Linear Park Management Plan that directly affect Koonung Park include;

- Install a barbecue and drinking fountain in the playground vicinity
- Install bike hoops at toilet
- Construct footpath on the west side of Balwyn Road to link to Koonung Creek Linear Park.

The drink fountain has been installed and the remaining items are referenced in this Management Plan.

2.1.4 Manningham Tennis Strategy 2003

This Strategy is a framework for the operation and management of tennis facilities in Manningham based on a not for profit community tennis club model where clubs provide competition, coaching, programs and other tennis opportunities for the community.

2.1.5 Manningham Council Community Facilities Resourcing Plan (currently underway)

This Plan is being developed to identify current and future community facility needs. The plan will recommend the future capital and operational directions for community facilities to 2035. The availability of other community facilities in the area with regard to consolidating, expanding or upgrading current facilities will be explored.

2.1.6 Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Guidelines 2015

Council has a role in providing sports facilities that benefit the community through increasing participation and encouraging active, healthy lifestyles. These guidelines identify the funding responsibilities for identified core and optional infrastructure relating to specific sports.

2.1.7 Outdoor Advertising on Council Owned and Managed Land Policy 2015

This Policy informs organisations seeking to erect advertising signs on Council owned or managed property and provides guidance for decision making for Council Officers in determining applications for signage on Council owned or managed property, regulating the display of signs and associated structures.

2.1.8 Manningham Urban and Park Design Guideline 2010

The main purpose is to provide advice for the planning and selection of smaller facilities, furniture and other elements in open space and streetscape situations. This Guideline aims to provide practical advice for the design and provision of public furniture in public roads, carparks and shopping centres and in public open spaces, including parks and recreation reserves.

3. Site Analysis

3.1 Location

Koonung Park is located in Bulleen and is 3.5 hectares in size and adjacent to Koonung Creek Linear Park with street frontages to Kampman Street, Furneaux Grove and Bulleen Road.



Figure 2 - Koonung Park location in a Manningham context

3.2 Context

Koonung Park is identified in the Manningham Open Space Strategy as a district reserve with an important function in Manningham's open space network as a sporting and recreation facility (Refer Figure 3).

The Park is close to bus stops along Thompsons Road providing public transport access along five bus routes, with two bus stops located within 200 metres of the Park. The Eastern Freeway is a major barrier for the City of Boroondara residents although there is a footbridge across the freeway 500 metres east of Koonung Park.

Koonung Park is also accessed from the Koonung Creek Linear Park secondary trail.

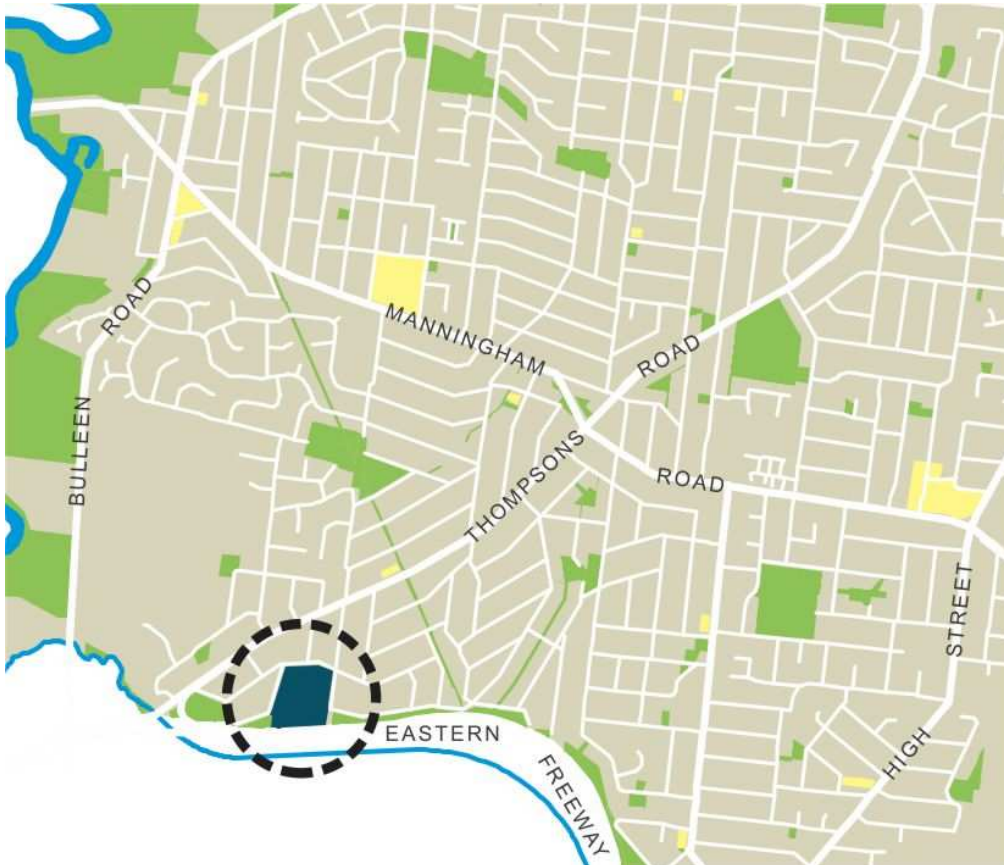


Figure 3 - Koonung Park Context Plan

4. Precinct Analysis

4.1 Bolin Bolin Precinct

The Open Space Strategy 2014 has 15 precincts and Koonung Park is located in the Bolin Bolin Precinct. This Precinct is at capacity in relation to its ability to provide additional public open space, so the focus on future provision is to ensure quality facilities are provided at the larger district parks, which include Koonung Park.

The Precinct map below (Figure 4) illustrates that residents east of Bulleen Road do not have ideal access to larger areas of public open space with the areas marked in red indicating they are beyond reasonable walking distance of a sizeable park. The large area directly east and west of Bulleen Road (marked as a block of pale green) is private open space (school sporting grounds) and is not accessible to residents. This creates a 'gap' in Council's open space provision standards. There are only two other reserves within practical walking distance from Koonung Park that provide a large area of open space; Harold Reserve (1100 metres) and Morris Williams Reserve (700 metres).

Residents in the vicinity of Koonung Park do have access to quality open space and the three pedestrian crossings with traffic lights on Thompsons Road, (plus Yarraleen Walkway and Harold Link) improve access to Koonung Park for the residents who live further away and provide options for safe travel. An improved bicycle/pedestrian connection between Thompsons Road and Bulleen Road would increase the use of the shared path through Koonung Park.

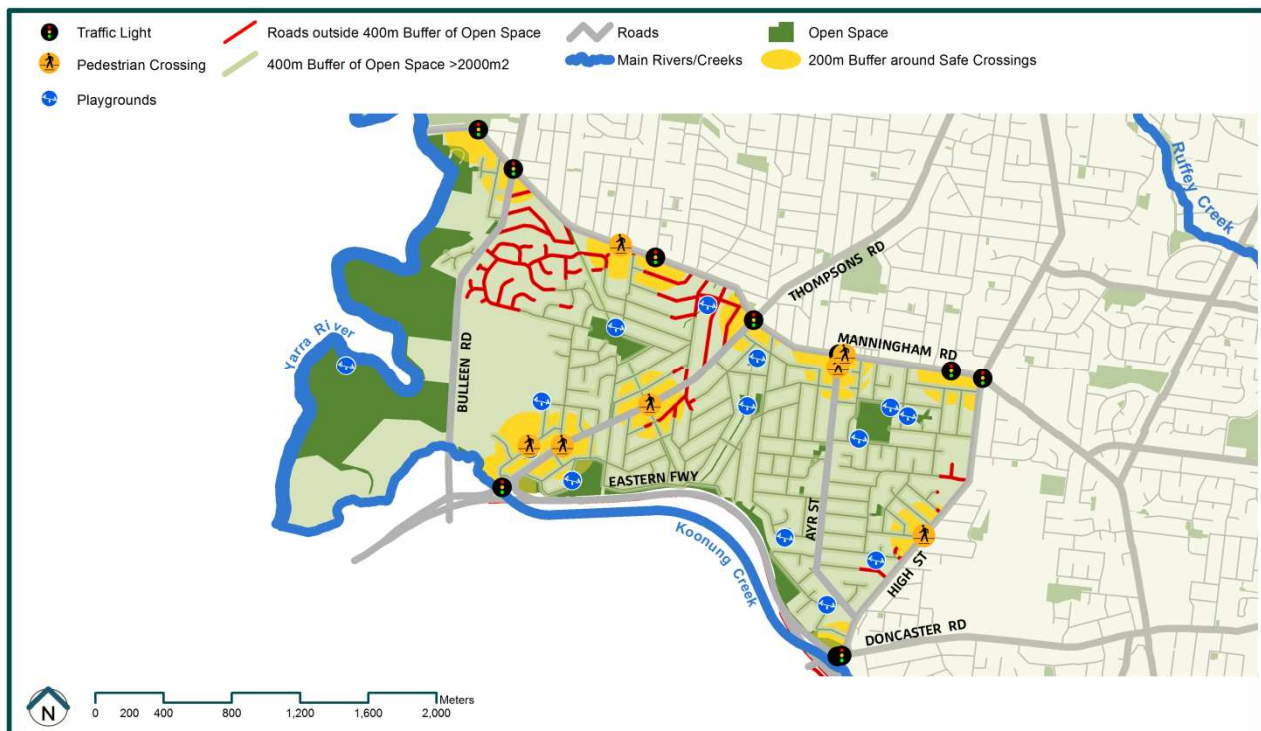


Figure 4 – Residential proximity to open space in Bolin Bolin Precinct

4.2 Demographic Analysis

The Bolin Bolin precinct has had a slightly declining and ageing population with a small increase in population expected over the next 20 years. The over 70s age group is particularly dominant, perhaps due to substantial retirement village accommodation in the area. There are also more 25-34 year olds and more young children in Bolin Bolin than the Manningham average which may indicate some regeneration of the area. Significant growth in the number of people in their 20s is expected in Bulleen, with an increase in higher density properties and the attractiveness of being in close proximity to Melbourne and the Heidelberg rail line on the northern side of the Yarra River. There is an increasing trend to smaller households, with over half comprising lone person and couples without children. The precinct has a very large, but declining, Italian and Greek community with an emerging Chinese affiliated community.

Open space considerations in Bolin Bolin are likely to be affected by the much higher levels of older population, including those with regularly visiting grandchildren, but also a small but increasing number of young parents with young children (reference: Open Space Strategy 2014 Part 2).

4.3 History

Photographic records show that the four remnant River Red Gums in the south west corner of the Park are more than 100 years old and potentially in excess of 200 years old, dating pre European settlement of Manningham. The 1945 aerial photo also indicates that the area was open pasture with woodland along the Koonung Creek.

The land was originally subdivided in 1931. Council started acquiring the land from various owners starting in 1946 and took some time to acquire the 33 separate lots that make up Koonung Park. The internal road reserves were not closed until 1977.

The oval was built in the early 1960s with the pavilion, carpark and tennis courts built by 1970. With the construction of the Eastern Freeway in late 1970s, the second oval (junior) located 300 metres west of the existing oval was lost. There has been minimal major change at the Park since the 1970s. The biggest more recent change has been the disbandment of the Koonarra Tennis Club in 2001 and conversion of the former tennis pavilion into a community hall for hire. This is outlined further in Section 5.2.

4.4 Existing Conditions

Entry points into the Park include carpark entrances on Furneaux Grove and Kampman Street, and various pedestrian access points from Balwyn Road, Furneaux Grove, Kampman Street and the Koonung Creek Linear Park.

The main facilities include a sportsground for football and cricket, three community tennis courts, Koonarra Hall for hire, playground and outdoor exercise equipment.

A group of four mature *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* (River Red Gums) in the south west corner provide the Park's main natural landscape feature.



- | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Vegetation | Sports Pavilion | Curator's Shed |
| Car Parking | Tennis Courts | Public Toilet |
| Flood Light | Koonarra Hall | Bin Cage |
| Park Bench | Football/Cricket Oval | Scoreboard |
| Pedestrian Entry | Cricket Nets | Spectator Area |
| Vehicle Entry | Exercise Equipment | Main Carpark Access |
| Emergency Vehicle Access | Playground | |
| Drink Fountain | | |
| Coaches Box | | |
| Steps | | |
| Water Tank | | |
| Shared Trail | | |
| Footpath | | |
| Barbecue | | |
| Dogs Off Lead | | |

Produced by MANNINGHAM GIS/GPS
on 29/03/2016



Figure 5 - Koonung Park existing conditions

4.5 and Tenure and Management

Koonung Park is owned and managed by Manningham City Council. The Park is made up of 36 separate small titles and consolidation of these into two titles was completed in 2016.

4.6 Manningham Planning Scheme Provisions

4.6.1 Zoning

Koonung Park is included in Public Park and Recreation Zone (PPRZ) (refer to Figure 6). The purpose of this zone is:

- To recognise areas for public recreation and open space
- To protect and conserve areas of significance where appropriate
- To provide for commercial uses where appropriate.

4.6.2 Overlays

There is one planning overlay that affects the Park. A small portion of the south west corner of the existing title located on the south side of Estelle Street is currently affected by the Land Subject to Inundation Overlay (LSIO). The purpose of the LSIO is:

- To identify land affected by the 1 in 100 year flood or any other area determined by the floodplain management authority
- To ensure that development maintains the free passage and temporary storage of floodwaters, minimises flood damage, and will not cause any significant rise in flood level or flow velocity
- To ensure that development maintains or improves river and wetland health, waterway protection and flood plain health

A planning permit is required for most building works. All planning permit applications are required to be referred to Melbourne Water

Amendment C109 to Manningham Planning Scheme (underway)

Amendment C109 proposes to increase the area of the flooding overlays as shown in Figure 6. This amendment is a result of revised flood modeling which has been done to identify properties that are subject to overland flooding in a severe 1 in 100 year rainfall event.

The Melbourne Water LSIO extends over the southern part of the Park including some of the oval. The Council Special Building Overlays (SBO2 and SBO3) extend over the western part and south east corner of the Park. 60 per cent of the Park is affected by the proposed flooding overlay.



- C109 - LSIO
- C109 - SB02
- C109 - SB03

- Planning Zone - PPRZ
- Existing LSIO

Produced by MANNINGHAM GIS/GPS on 29/03/2016



Figure 6 - Koonung Park planning overlays

4.7 Cultural Heritage

Many sites within Manningham's open space network hold Aboriginal cultural heritage values, particularly those in close proximity to our rivers and creeks. These have been mapped to comply with the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* and are identified as culturally sensitive areas. When upgrading open space within these areas, Council must consider the need to develop a Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP). A Cultural Heritage Management Plan seeks to protect and manage Aboriginal cultural heritage, with the involvement of Registered Aboriginal Parties.

Part of the Park is within an area of cultural heritage sensitivity as it is located within 200 metres of the Koonung Creek. Cultural Heritage Management Plans are mandatory for proposed high impact activities on undeveloped sites or sites that have not undergone major disturbance. As there is no evidence of significant ground disturbance in parts of this area, proposed works may require a Cultural Heritage Management Plan at the design stage.

5. Sporting Facilities

The Park accommodates two sports clubs - Bulleen Cricket Club and Manningham Cobras Football Club. Both clubs share the WJ Montgomery Pavilion and the sportsground alternating use during the winter and summer sports seasons. Both clubs have an agreement with Council that allows them seasonal use of the ground and pavilion. The sporting facilities also extend to the three tennis courts that are currently free for community use.

Bulleen Cricket Club fields both junior and senior teams in the Eastern Cricket Association (ECA). Its junior program fields teams in U10, U12, U14, U16, U18 plus a girl's U15 team competing for the first time in 2016. Players aged five years to eighteen years can take part in a structured cricket program at the club. There is one cricket ground at Koonung Park which has a turf wicket suitable only for senior cricket competition. All junior cricket competition is played on a synthetic wicket. The club's junior cricket program trains at Koonung Park but their competition is played at other Manningham cricket grounds.

Manningham Cobras Football Club fields two senior teams that train and play at Koonung Park and compete in the Victorian Amateur Football Association (VAFA). The ground is made available on an informal basis to Yarra Junior Football League (YJFL) for a range of activities including training for their representative teams and for finals matches.

During consultation both sports clubs and the local community prioritised various opportunities and issues which are outlined under the respective headings that follow.

Refer Action No. 5.1.2

5.1 Sportsground

The well maintained sportsground representing a large portion of flat open space within the Park is an important feature for both local residents and the tenant sports clubs. During the year the ground is used for local football and local cricket competition and is maintained to a good standard. This is one of six turf wickets maintained by Council.

In addition to being used for formal sport, the sportsground is also well used for dog walking and exercise by local residents. Feedback from community consultation indicates that the ground is in good condition and well maintained by the curator. The closest sportsgrounds are Bulleen Park, Bulleen (1500 metres) and Timber Reserve, Doncaster (2000 metres).

5.1.1 Junior cricket ground

Bulleen Cricket Club has proposed expansion of the ground in the south east near Balwyn Road, including the installation of an off centre synthetic wicket to enable additional use of the ground by the junior teams and establish a junior cricket base at Koonung Park. This proposal isn't

supported by Council and other options are being pursued to find a suitable ground to establish a junior cricket base. The main reasons the proposal isn't supported include:

- The synthetic wicket would be too close to the turf wicket table
- The ground would be too close to Balwyn Road
- Effective drainage for both grounds would not be achieved
- The level of development is inappropriate for the size and usage of the Park

Refer Action No. 2.1.1

5.1.2 Cricket training nets

There are currently two existing synthetic cricket nets and practice turf wickets all located together in the southern area of the park. The senior teams use the turf nets and both the junior and senior teams use the synthetic training practice nets.

The turf wickets are in good condition and are maintained by Council. However, they do require extended overhead netting for improved safety of park users, especially for those in the playground, exercise equipment and proposed barbecue area precinct. This is the only recommendation for the turf cricket nets.

The synthetic wickets are old and no longer meet the needs of the Club. It is recommended to remove the two existing cricket nets and replace them with four new cricket nets in a more suitable location. The reasons for removing the existing nets are twofold:

- A safety concern has been identified with cricket balls being hit within close proximity to the playground. Conflict between the sporting and informal recreation activities should be avoided. The new location will be closer to other sports infrastructure creating an informal recreation zone and a sports zone within the Park.
- The number of synthetic wicket training nets will increase from two to four and taking into account the existing turf nets, this is considered sufficient practice nets to meet the needs of the club.

Consideration has been given to the location of the new cricket nets on both of the old tennis court sites but the facility is recommended to be built on the eastern park boundary south of the third tennis court (Refer to Masterplan). The reasons for this site in preference to further south include:

- Sits well in the park's landscape and retains formal sport activities together allowing for continuity of informal open space next to the Koonung shared path
- Closer to power access for ball machine used in training sessions
- Closer to carpark and pavilion for cricketers' convenience
- Ease of moving cricket covers from the centre of the ground into storage facility
- Access to a drink fountain (refer 8.7)

All of the proposed synthetic training nets will allow full usage by the community when the nets are not being used by the club. The final size and configuration will be confirmed at the detail design stage but cricket club storage (refer 5.1.8) is also proposed to be included. This area of Balwyn Road frontage and access into the Park will change with the new cricket infrastructure and the improvements will include a new path from Balwyn Road. The path will direct pedestrians between the southern tennis court and cricket nets through to the sportsground. The steps and disused path will be removed. Depending upon space required for Balwyn Road pedestrian access, the length of the training facility may be compromised a little to enable the storage facility to be included.

Before the proposed new synthetic training nets are constructed, an interim measure on the old nets of extended overhead soft netting is proposed to improve the safety of park users near the playground area.

Refer Action No. 1.1.1, No. 1.1.2 and No. 1.1.4

5.1.3 WJ Montgomery Pavilion

Manningham Cobras Football Club and Bulleen Cricket Club share this pavilion which was upgraded in 2013. Both clubs were involved in the design detail of the new building and the building accommodates them satisfactorily. The building upgrade did not extend to landscaping, improved path connections around the pavilion and seating under the sheltered spectator area. These improvements are proposed to be included as actions in this Management Plan.

Refer Action No. 3.1.6

5.1.4 Protective nets behind goals

The Football Club has requested protective netting behind the football goals at the northern end of the ground to prevent the football carrying into the carpark when players are kicking for goal. Players chasing balls in a carpark during training sessions and balls potentially hitting parked cars are a safety issue and it is recommended that this request be supported.

Refer Action No. 1.1.5

5.1.5 Cyclone fence and spoon drain around perimeter

The existing sportsground fence meets requirements for both cricket and football. The Cricket Club has requested 1.2 metre cyclone fence around the sportsground perimeter to replace the pipe tubular fence and a concrete spoon drain around the perimeter of the ground to improve drainage. It is proposed to construct the perimeter fence allowing minimum 20 percent gaps for easy access through the ground for sports spectators and local residents.

Refer Action No. 1.1.6

5.1.6 Floodlights

In order to meet Australian Standards for lighting for Australian Rules Football training, the floodlighting infrastructure obtained an upgrade in 2016. This project was separate to the management plan process. Council, in partnership with Sport and Recreation Victoria, the Manningham Cobras Football Club and the Yarra Junior Football League installed a 4 x 25 metre pole floodlighting system around the sportsground. It is anticipated that there will be increased usage of the Yarra Junior Football League boys and girls representative competition as a result of the upgraded floodlights.

5.1.7 Scoreboard

The sports clubs use a standalone scoreboard located at the southern end of the sportsground. Both clubs have indicated that upgrading the existing manual scoreboard to an electronic scoreboard is a priority. United Energy has advised infrastructure requiring power must be located on the title that contains the power supply. The title where the existing scoreboard is located does not contain a power supply. An electronic scoreboard will need to be relocated, most likely on the western boundary of the sports ground.

The funding and maintenance of scoreboards is the clubs' responsibility and provision of any scoreboard infrastructure requires Council approval. Clubs need to refer to Council's *Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Guidelines* and Council's *Outdoor Advertising on Council Owned and Managed Property Policy*.

Refer Action No. 1.1.7

5.1.8 Storage

Council has met the requirements to fund sports club storage in the pavilion according to Council's *Outdoor Sports and Infrastructure Guidelines*. Many sports clubs find the issue of storage challenging and the Cricket Club has been using the convenience of the space underneath Koonarra Hall to store its cricket covers. This space is proposed to be closed to public access (refer no. 7 – Koonarra Hall) so the club will no longer have storage access.

It is proposed for Council to fund extra storage for the turf wicket cover and training items, including the ball machine, in a separate storage facility built as part of the proposed synthetic cricket nets.

Refer Action No. 1.1.8

5.1.9 Flagpole

There is a flagpole located in front of WJ Montgomery Pavilion. Feedback from Bulleen Cricket Club was that the flagpole would be utilised if it was relocated further east of the pavilion for improved vision from the spectator area. Flagpoles are not Council's responsibility and any relocation will need to be financed by the Club.

Refer Action No. 1.1.9

5.1.10 Curator's building

This building, located in the south west area of the Park, serves as a store for the curator's machinery and is maintained by Council. While there are no recommendations for the short term, it is recommended that the siting of this building be located closer to other buildings when it is due for an upgrade in the future.

Refer Action No. 5.1.7

5.2 Tennis Courts

The Koonarra Tennis Club disbanded in 2001. At the time there were five en-tout-cas tennis courts and substantial works were required at the facility. The clubrooms were redeveloped to become Koonarra Hall. Two courts were returned to open space and the top three courts were resurfaced with plexipave and synthetic grass in 2004/05, making them suitable for community use. The lower court is also line marked for futsal (modified soccer).

In 2006, Manningham YMCA entered into an occupancy agreement with Council to manage the tennis courts at set times with a community program. The courts were available for community use at all other times. This arrangement continued until 2013 when the arrangement between Council and Manningham YMCA was officially rescinded.

The tennis courts are a popular facility at Koonung Park. Community consultation indicates 64% of respondents are aware of the tennis courts and 27% of the respondents include it as their main reason for visiting the Park. 73% of these respondents are aged between 35 - 59 years, whose regularity of use mainly ranges from everyday to once a month. Of the 36% of respondents who were not aware of the tennis facility prior to the consultation, 71% said they are now likely to use the tennis courts in the future. Other community feedback commented on the popularity of the courts, the need for general maintenance and complaints about the private coaches restricting community use, through extended blocks with clients, at no cost. Professional tennis coaching is currently not permitted at the facility.

Signs disallowing private coaching at the facility were installed in late 2015. Since the initial consultation, tennis court nets have been replaced and other cyclic maintenance undertaken. The surfaces of the tennis courts are in good condition but the fencing requires upgrading to meet safety standards.

The floodlights are in working order and feedback from the consultation process suggests that at least one group who hires Koonarra Hall has been regularly using them. A 2016 external audit

states that the poles and fixtures are in poor condition and recommends that the existing system be decommissioned to ensure no further use. Two of the poles are poorly located on pathways and a significant amount of money is required to replace the floodlights. It is recommended to remove existing tennis floodlights.

While tennis is a popular activity at Koonung Park, maximising participation at the Park and providing quality facilities is a Council priority for the Bulleen community. Feedback from community consultation indicated people currently use the Park to practice soccer and would make use of soccer goals if installed in the Park. Feedback also indicated that there was not a high use (perhaps awareness) of the futsal soccer already available. Aside from tennis, it is known the tennis courts are currently also used for children's birthday parties through Koonarra Hall bookings (Refer 7. Community Facilities – Koonarra hall), futsal soccer and other activities, such as learning to bike ride. There is an opportunity to make the tennis courts multi use and combine tennis with other activities.

In the short term it is recommended that the three courts are maintained by Council for multi use purposes for the community (including tennis) and professional tennis coaching continues to be disallowed.

Community feedback suggests basketball and netball would be popular activities at the Park and the tennis court area is the preferred location. It is recommended to include netball and basketball rings on the top courts and retain the futsal soccer line marking on the southern court to play soccer. The tennis poles and net can be removed and reinstated according to the activity. There is no need to remove tennis nets on the top courts as basketball and netball will run east – west; adjacent to the tennis nets.

There are options as to how the tennis courts can be managed in the future and it is important as for all of our community tennis venues (and clubs) that these courts remain accessible and provide multi use benefit to the community.

In the long term, a recommendation of this Plan is to explore options for use and management of the courts that could include:

1. Continued community use as a multi use facility with the current model; or
2. Second venue for a community club to potentially offer an extra venue for competition, coaching and other community tennis programs. This would be undertaken through an expression of interest process with the intention to assist community based clubs maximise potential for their programs that are currently capped at their existing facility due to not enough courts available for specific programs. If a club was interested to pursue this option, these courts would still remain available to the community; however, some restrictions of usage may be imposed. New floodlights could be considered as part of this option.

Refer Action No. 1.2.0, 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.3, 2.1.2, 5.1.3 and 5.1.4

6. Informal Recreation Opportunities

Informal recreation opportunities mainly occur along the Park's southern boundary with the Koonung Creek Linear Park, including the Koonung Trail, playground and exercise equipment.

6.1 Walking and Cycling

Walking is the most popular recreation activity in Manningham, with 54% participation levels, as reported in the *Active for Life Recreation Strategy 2010*. Community consultation for this Plan indicates that walking (and running) is the most popular mode of transport to Koonung Park (71.2%), while cycling represents 11.5% and travel by car is 17.3%. As the Park is situated adjacent to the Koonung Trail, there are extensive opportunities for walking, dog walking, cycling and running. Opportunities to improve path connections are outlined in 8.5.

6.2 Dog Walking

40% of the community consultation survey respondents said they walk their dog at Koonung Park. Dogs are allowed in the Park off-lead provided they are under effective control at all times. Dogs must be on-lead within 15 metres of the playground, BBQ and organised sporting event. No issues have been identified with dogs at Koonung Park and there are no actions recommended relating to dogs.

6.3 Exercise Equipment

Outdoor exercise equipment provides adults of all ages and abilities with the opportunity to participate in physical activity at no cost. The equipment at Koonung Park was installed in 2015 with assistance from the State Government's Community Facility Funding Program.

Community consultation indicated that 25% of respondents visit the Park specifically for the exercise equipment and 38.5% indicated they visit the Park for other exercise that was not related to the existing sports infrastructure. Initial community programs conducted to introduce the equipment to the community had low participation rates, but with the number of people using Koonung Park for exercise there is potential for future community programs to encourage people to combine their exercise regime with the exercise equipment.

Refer Action No. 2.1.4

6.4 Play (including basketball, netball and soccer)

Consultation indicated that 29% of respondents visit the Park to use the playground and these people identified support for the existing playspace to be upgraded with family activities and improved access to the Koonung Creek Linear Park. Suggestions included the installation of basketball and netball, soccer goals, additional seating, picnic shelter and a barbecue area located near the playground.

The existing playground, developed in 2003, provides play opportunities for children aged 2-7 years. The playground is well used but is now outdated and requires replacement. An opportunity exists to introduce some interesting themes and landscaping to this area. A proposed path to link the playground, barbecue area and exercise equipment to Koonung Creek Linear Park is one of these improvements.

Other playgrounds nearby include: Sandra Reserve (300 metres), Stanley Reserve (490 metres), Morris William Reserve (660 metres), Harold Reserve (1100 metres) and Riverview Reserve (1200 metres). There are basketball / netball facilities at three of these reserves (Sandra, Morris Williams and Harold Reserves) but community feedback strongly supported basketball and netball as sports that would be popular for local residents at Koonung Park. These activities will be provided at the tennis courts and along with tennis and Futsal soccer (which is already line marked on the third court), this area of the Park will become a multi use ball sport area. Refer 5.2.

Refer Action No. 2.1.3 and 1.2.3

6.5 Barbecue and Picnic Area

Two barbecues are located next to the pavilion. While only 4% of respondents from the community consultation stated that they use these barbecues, the cricket club and football club use them regularly, especially over the summer months. These barbecues will be retained.

An action from the *Koonung Creek Linear Park Management Plan 2011* is to install a barbecue in the playground vicinity. This received support through the recent community consultation process, with four residents stating that a barbecue with a picnic shelter near the playground would encourage them to use the Park more often. It is recommended to include a picnic shelter as part of the barbecue area. As recommended in Manningham Urban and Park Design Guideline for a barbecue area, a litter bin will also be installed.

Refer Action No. 2.1.5

6.6 Toilets

The toilets are located in the south-west corner of the Park and cater for users of both Koonung Park and the Koonung Creek Linear Park. The four toilets (including one disabled toilet) were built in approximately 2001 to replace the original toilets and have been assessed as part of development of this management plan to be in good condition. There are no recommendations relating to the toilets.

6.7 Seating

The provision of park seating provides an important resting and viewing function for the community to enjoy. Koonung Park provides many seating opportunities around the sportsground and the tennis courts but the existing seats are ageing and need replacement. Options for spectators to sit near the pavilion are also limited.

While the Football Club has indicated that its spectators do use the seats all around the ground, the total number of these seats is in excess of 26. It is recommended to remove these as they require repairs, rationalising replacements with a lesser amount around the ground and near the pavilion. It is also recommended that the old seat in the garden bed overlooking the tennis courts be replaced with some bench seating outside the entrance to Koonarra Hall.

Refer Action No. 3.1.3

7. Community Facilities – Koonarra Hall

Koonarra Hall was originally the clubrooms for Koonarra Tennis Club but is now a multipurpose venue for hire, suitable for meetings, seminars and private functions, including family gatherings and children's parties. It is a suitable venue catering for functions with 80 guests. Permanent bookings are currently for small groups and include yoga, tai chi, senior citizen groups and club meetings.

Manningham Council Community Facilities Resourcing Plan is currently underway and includes an audit and long term resourcing plan for upgrades and improvements including Koonarra Hall. This is estimated for completion in 2017. Until then, the Hall will be maintained as per Council's Building Maintenance Cyclic Program, and general / reactive maintenance.

Koonarra Hall features an outdoor deck and current access to the three community tennis courts. While the tennis courts cannot be booked, hall hirers do make use of them on a 'first come, first served' basis, especially for children's birthday parties. A recommendation as outlined in Section 5.2 is to retain tennis on all courts and combine multi use activities that include futsal soccer, basketball and netball over the three courts. Use by Koonarra Hall birthday party hirers will continue as per the current 'first come first served' basis.

There are two points of access into Koonarra Hall. The stairs on the western side of the hall are old and require an upgrade. There is also a tennis floodlight located in the middle of this pathway and this is recommended for removal in Section 5.2 Tennis Courts. The other access to Koonarra Hall is from Balwyn Road on the eastern side and reference is made to this in Section 8.1.3 Disabled Carpark regarding disability access and carparking for users of Koonarra Hall.

Currently the public can access underneath the verandah of Koonarra Hall and it is recommended to prevent any public access to ensure the community's safety.

Refer Action No. 3.1.2, 1.2.0, 5.1.5 and 5.1.6

8. Park Infrastructure

High quality infrastructure such as sports pavilions, lighting, carparking, amenities and clear signage contribute towards a positive experience when visiting the Park.

8.1 Carparking

Options for carparking at Koonung Park include an off street carpark and the local streets. Both carparking options are used by Koonarra Hall users, commuters accessing Thompsons Road bus routes via the Koonung Park Trail and the sports clubs for training and competition.

8.1.1 Off street parking

The Park has a large unmarked asphalt carpark which accommodates all users. The current informal layout allows up to 90 parked cars. The eastern end of the carpark is narrow and doesn't allow for good pedestrian circulation. It is recommended to remove a small part of the asphalt and include landscaping to improve pedestrian access in this section. More shade planting throughout all sections of the carpark is also recommended as is removing some asphalt where the asphalt is wider than required for carparking. Line marking the carpark is not recommended as it will ultimately result in less car spaces than currently achieved through informal carparking arrangements.

8.1.2 Street parking

Some people drive to the vicinity of Koonung Park and commute by bus along Thompsons Road. Street parking in Kampman Street and Furneaux Grove fluctuates and occasionally this spills over into the west end of the carpark. Since January 2015 bus travel from all areas in Manningham is the same price and the demand for parking in this specific area has significantly reduced.

There are parking restrictions on one side of the road while the other side is unrestricted parking along Kampman Street and Furneaux Grove to prevent traffic congestion and improve safety.

8.1.3 Disabled carparking and access

Currently there are no disabled carparks at Koonung Park. Feedback from the community consultation identified that while there is disabled access into Koonarra Hall from Balwyn Road there is not the opportunity to provide a disabled carpark. It is recommended that a disabled bay be constructed in the off street carpark and disabled access from the carpark will be directed around the tennis courts to Koonarra Hall. A ramp will replace the two steps near the Hall.

Refer Action No. 3.1.1, 3.1.9 and 4.1.9

8.2 Lighting

There were very few concerns related to lighting expressed in the community consultation. Assessing the area, the following has been observed in relation to the level of illumination:

- Tree foliage is casting a shadow within the carpark. The effectiveness of the existing spotlights on power poles as street lights along Kampman Street could be improved by trimming branches that are casting the shadow in the carpark.
- There are noticeable dark spots at the eastern and western extremities of the carpark. It is recommended that lighting in these areas could be improved.
- Kampman Street and Furneaux Grove are both relatively dark and additional lighting or upgrading of the existing street lights would enhance lighting conditions in the surrounds. It is recommended that a closer assessment of the lighting conditions be undertaken.

Refer Action No. 4.2.0 and 5.1.1

8.3 Signage

The *Manningham Outdoor Signage Guidelines 2011* applies to the sign at the Furneaux Grove entrance which names the Park, facilities and the tenants. Over the years, there has been some inconsistency in the naming of this Park; it has correctly been referred to as Koonung Park and incorrectly as Koonung Reserve. The existing sign naming it Koonung Reserve is inaccurate and requires updating.

Signage at other entrances is also recommended, including way finding signage throughout the Park, in particular directing users to the Koonung Trail and the newly upgraded Thompsons Road 'Kiss and Ride' interchange.

Refer Action No. 3.1.5

8.4 Open Space and Landscape Values

The landscape character of Koonung Park is largely defined by the flat open space shared by sport and informal recreation activities. The four large remnant River Red Gums (*Eucalyptus caladulensis*) in the south west corner and the Melaleuca (*Melaleuca linariifolia*) windbreak planting remain from the tennis court infrastructure. The Melaleuca trees are not indigenous and do not have heritage value.

The site of the old tennis courts requires landscaping improvements. Aside from removing the two tennis courts when the club disbanded, very little work has occurred in this area. It is recommended that the new cricket training nets be located in this area, with associated new landscaping and access. Actions include removal of Melaleuca tree windbreak on the western boundary of old tennis court site and up prune and thin out Melaleuca trees on the southern boundary. The synthetic cricket pitch will be removed from the south eastern corner with the area returned to open space and reshaped to a more natural form.

There are a number of recommendations made for landscaping improvements throughout the reserve including protecting significant trees, additional planting as well as the removal of some vegetation to improve sightlines and create a more consistent landscaping theme. Specific vegetation removal includes the Evergreen Alders (*Alnus jorullensis*) in the Kampman Street area and Photinia hedges (*Photinia fraseri*) in the carpark area.

Refer Action No. 4.1.1, 4.1.2, 4.1.3, 4.1.4, 4.1.5, 4.1.6, 4.1.7, 4.1.8, 4.1.9, 4.2.1 and 4.2.2

8.5 Path Connections

Community consultation revealed that 40.4% of respondents visit Koonung Park in order to access Koonung Creek Linear Park. This highlights the importance of paths not only connecting to the shared path but also throughout Koonung Park to ensure pathways of travel are accessible, safe and well constructed and encourage people to walk and/or cycle. There are a number of recommendations that will improve access through the Park to specific community facilities.

Refer Action No. 3.1.1, 3.1.4, 3.1.6, 3.1.7, 3.1.8 and 3.2.0

8.6 Water Tank

The water tank located on the side of Koonarra Hall was located as a contingency measure during the recent drought to allow recycled water to be used for irrigation of the cricket wicket area. The tank is not being used and it is recommended to relocate it to the Council depot where it can be added to an already extensive network of tanks collecting water from roof areas for operational purposes.

Refer Action No. 4.2.3

8.7 Drink Fountains

There are three drink fountains servicing Koonung Park. There is a recently installed drink fountain on the Koonung Creek Linear Park shared path and there are two old drink fountains on the east side of the oval. Only one of these is in working order. It is recommended to remove both of these drink fountains and replace with one new drink fountain near the proposed synthetic training nets.

Refer Action No. 1.1.3

8.8 Litter

The sports clubs have a bin cage with four recycling bins and four rubbish bins. These are emptied by Council and remain locked while not in use. Feedback from consultation suggests these bins are poorly located on Furneaux Grove at the park entrance. Rubbish bins should be well sited (in this case to the pavilion) and easily accessible. The disability carparking space proposed in this area and sufficient turnaround space required (from parked cars) for the rubbish truck have been considered. The current location is the only suitable location in the pavilion vicinity but the bin cage should be screened to make it visually less unobtrusive. The recommendation is to screen the bins on Furneaux Grove with planting.

There are no other litter bins in the park. However, as per Council's Urban and Park Design Guidelines, a bin will be sited as part of the proposed barbecue area.

Refer Action No. 2.1.5

9. Strategic Direction - Objectives & Actions

The following table provides a summary of all recommendations. The table includes the reference in the Management Plan document, the Council service unit or stakeholder responsible for implementation, costing and a priority rating.

Action No.	Action	Reference	Unit responsible	Council \$	Priority Level
Objective 1. Maintain and improve the infrastructure for formal sport and community facilities					
1.1.1	Extend overhead protective netting on the turf practise nets (may require additional support posts) and existing synthetic training nets (until they are replaced with new facility).	5.1.2	Parks and Recreation	8,000	High
1.1.2	Remove two existing synthetic cricket nets in the south west area of the Park and reinstate as informal open space	5.1.2	Parks and Recreation	2,500	High
1.1.3	Remove two old drink fountains on east side of oval and replace with one new fountain near the proposed synthetic training nets.	8.7	Parks and Recreation	\$4,500	Low
1.1.4	Construct four new synthetic cricket nets accessible to the community on the eastern side of the Park (includes removal of old tennis court path and a new cage over services).	5.1.2 and 8.4	Parks and Recreation	120,000	High
1.1.5	Install protective netting behind the football goals at the northern end of the sportsground.	5.1.4	Parks and Recreation	40,000	Medium
1.1.6	Construct 1.2 metre cyclone fence and concrete spoon drain around sportsground perimeter leaving 20 per cent gaps for access onto ground.	5.1.5	Parks and Recreation	66,000	Medium
1.1.7	Upgrade and relocate scoreboard in line with <i>Council's Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Guidelines</i> and <i>Council's Outdoor Advertising on Council Owned and Managed Property Policy</i> .	5.1.7	Club	N/A	Low
1.1.8	Increase the sports clubs' storage capacity by including a separate storage facility as part of the proposed synthetic cricket nets.	5.1.8	Parks and Recreation	Refer Action 1.1.4	High
1.1.9	Relocate flagpole.	5.1.9	Club	N/A	Low

Action No.	Action	Reference	Unit responsible	Council \$	Priority Level
1.2.0	Remove tennis court floodlights.	5.2	Parks and Recreation	10,000	Medium
1.2.1	Retain tennis on all three courts in a multi use area that includes futsal soccer on the southern tennis court and basketball and netball on the top two courts.	5.2	Parks and Recreation	Nil	Medium
1.2.2	Replace fencing and shelters around tennis courts as required to meet public safety standards.	5.2	Parks and Recreation	25,000	Medium
1.2.3	Include netball and basketball rings on the top two tennis courts (as part of new fencing if possible)	5.2 and 6.4	Parks and Recreation	\$6,000	
Objective 2. Provide high quality recreation opportunities for the community					
2.1.1	Support Bulleen Cricket Club in finding a suitable ground to establish its junior cricket program.	5.1.1	Parks and Recreation	N/A	High
2.1.2	Continue to monitor private tennis coaching on tennis courts to ensure it is not permitted and community access is maximised.	5.2	Local Laws	N/A	High
2.1.3	Upgrade the playground introducing some interesting themes and landscaping to this area.	6.4	Economic and Environmental Planning	Playspace program	Medium
2.1.4	Continue to implement community programs that promote the use of the exercise equipment.	6.3	Economic and Environmental Planning	Operational	High
2.1.5	Provide barbecue facility (including bicycle parking, litter bin and picnic shelter) near playspace as recommended in Koonung Creek Linear Park Management Plan (KCLPMP) 2011.	KCLPMP recommend. Area A7 and A8	Economic and Environmental Planning	KCLPMP budget	Medium
Objective 3. Ensure facilities are easily accessible by all community members					
3.1.1	Replace the two steps north east of Koonarra Hall with a ramp to improve disability access to carpark and engage an engineer to inspect the retaining wall for any defects.	8.1.3 and 8.5	Parks and Recreation	7,000	Medium

Action No.	Action	Reference	Unit responsible	Council \$	Priority Level
3.1.2	Upgrade stairs that provide western access to Koonarra Hall.	7.0	Economic and Environmental Planning	15,000	Medium
3.1.3	Replace and consolidate seating throughout the Park.	6.7	Economic and Environmental Planning	22,500	Low
3.1.4	Create path connection to link people entering the Park near the corner of Furneaux Grove and Balwyn Road to the carpark.	6.1 and 8.1.1	Economic and Environmental Planning	3,500	Medium
3.1.5	Update the main sign and replace other signs as necessary.	8.3	Economic and Environmental Planning	6,500	High
3.1.6	New path access and landscaping from Balwyn Road (between tennis court and cricket training net facility) to pavilion. Design new seating and paved space around pavilion.	5.1.2 and 5.1.3	Economic and Environmental Planning	\$35,000	Medium
3.1.7	Construct new path linking the Koonung Creek Linear Park to the playground, barbecue and exercise equipment area.	8.5	Economic and Environmental Planning	15,000	Medium
3.1.8	Install new kerb and channel at the corner of Estelle Street and Balwyn Road.	8.5	Engineering & Technical Services	30,000	Low
3.1.9	Provide line marking for a disabled carpark in close proximity to the sports pavilion and Koonarra Hall.	8.1.3	Engineering & Technical Services	2,000	High
3.2.0	Extend the west side of Balwyn Road footpath to the Koonung Creek Linear Park shared path.	KCLPMP recommend. Area A9	Economic and Environmental Planning	KCLPMP budget	High
Objective 4. Enhance the landscape and protect the environment					
4.1.1	Remove the Photinia hedge located between the carpark and sportsground to improve sightlines to the sportsground.	8.4	Parks and Recreation	1,000	Low

Action No.	Action	Reference	Unit responsible	Council \$	Priority Level
4.1.2	Replace small section of cypress pine fencing on Kampman Street with bollards.	8.4	Parks and Recreation	3,000	Low
4.1.3	Install new garden beds to create a planted barrier between the playground, exercise equipment, barbecue area and Kampman Street.	8.4	Parks and Recreation	8,500	Medium
4.1.4	Create a garden bed in the grassed area above the tennis courts retaining wall to improve the safety of people walking in this area.	8.4	Parks and Recreation	20,000	Medium
4.1.5	Infill planting along the shared path in the vicinity of the Koonung Creek Linear Park sound wall.	8.4	Parks and Recreation	12,000	Low
4.1.6	New street trees on Kampman Street, Furneaux Grove and Balwyn Road and screen plant the switchboard and rubbish bins on Furneaux Grove.	8.4	Parks and Recreation	Streetscape Program	High
4.1.7	Remove synthetic cricket pitch located in the south eastern corner of the Park and return to open space.	8.4	Parks and Recreation	2,000	Low
4.1.8	Remove Melaleuca trees on the western side of the former tennis court site and thin out and prune some melaleucas on the southern boundary.	8.4	Parks and Recreation	1,500	High
4.1.9	Landscape carpark and provide shade planting throughout.	8.1.1	Economic and Environmental Planning	16,000	Low
4.2.0	Prune foliage from trees that are casting shadows within the carpark. Improve lighting in dark spots at the eastern and western ends of carpark.	8.2	Parks and Recreation	Operational	Medium
4.2.1	Protect the existing River Red Gums as significant landscape features within the Park.	8.4	Parks and Recreation	N/A	High
4.2.2	Additional tree planting through park and removal of vegetation as marked on the Masterplan.	8.4	Economic and Environmental Planning	8,000	High
4.2.3	Relocate water tank to Council depot.	8.6	Parks and Recreation	N/A	Low

Action No.	Action	Reference	Unit responsible	Council \$	Priority Level
Objective 5. Manage facilities and associated sports clubs effectively into the future					
5.1.1	Assess the lighting conditions in Kampman Street and Furneaux Grove.	8.2	Engineering & Technical Services	Operational	Medium
5.1.2	Continue to support tenant agreements with existing sports clubs.	5.0	Parks and Recreation	N/A	High
5.1.3	Continue to maintain infrastructure for multi use area including court surface, nets and other infrastructure required for tennis, basketball, netball and futsal soccer.	5.2	Parks and Recreation	AMS	Ongoing
5.1.4	Explore the following options for both daytime and evening tennis use: - Continued community use with the current model; or - Expressions of interest process for a community club to use the courts as an extra venue for competition, coaching and other community tennis programs.	5.2	Parks and Recreation	N/A	Medium
5.1.5	Maintain Koonarra Hall as per Council's Building Maintenance Cyclic Program.	7.0	Building Maintenance	N/A	Ongoing
5.1.6	Close off public access to area underneath Koonarra Hall to ensure community safety.	7.0	Building Maintenance	4,000	Medium
5.1.7	Review location of Curator's building in the long term	5.1.10	Economic and Environmental Planning	N/A	Low
TOTAL				\$494,500	

**High priority = 1-3 years, medium priority = 4-7 years and low priority = 8 years + from time of funding*



Koonung Park Management Plan

Council is developing a management plan for Koonung Park in Bulleen and is seeking your feedback on what you would like to see for the future of this district reserve.

To support participation, health and wellbeing in our community, we encourage residents to get involved and be active in our local parks and reserves.

To ensure our parks can be enjoyed today and in the future, we need to plan for them.

What is a management plan?

A management plan provides direction for the future use, development and management of a park or community facility. For Koonung Park the management plan will ensure it continues to meet the needs of the local community.

Koonung Park is located on the corner of Fumeaux Grove and Balwyn Road and has a range of sport and recreation facilities, including a sports ground, three community tennis courts, exercise equipment and a playground for children aged 2 to 8 years.

Koonung Park also includes a hall for hire, Koonarra Hall, and links to the adjacent Koonung Creek Linear Park and the popular Koonung Trail.

The Koonung Creek Linear Park Management Plan was endorsed in 2011. Some of the actions outlined in that plan, that will benefit Koonung Park, include a new barbecue near the playground, bike rails at the public toilets and a footpath linking Balwyn Road to the Koonung Trail.

Existing plans for the park include upgrading the four floodlights around the sports ground to meet Australian standards for Australian Rules Football training. That project is in partnership with the Victorian Government and will be completed in April 2016.

How can you get involved?

To provide direction for its future use, we are seeking feedback on how you currently use Koonung Park and what you would like to see included.

To have your say, please complete this survey by 5.00 pm on Monday 14 December 2015.



For more information call our Economic and Environmental Planning Unit on 9840 9171 or to complete the survey online, visit www.yoursaymanningham.com.au/koonung-park



9840 9355

1. How often do you visit Koonung Park?

- Everyday/most days
- 2 – 3 times a week
- Once a week
- 2 – 3 times a month
- Once a month
- 2 – 3 times a year
- Once a year
- Less often
- Never – go to question 14

2. When do you usually visit the park?

- Weekdays
- Weekends
- Both

3. Do you feel safe when visiting the park?

- Yes
- No

4. Why do you say that?

5. How do you usually get to the park?

- Walk/run
- Cycle
- Car
- Public transport

6. What are your main reasons for visiting Koonung Park?
(please choose up to three)

- Cricket ground
- Cricket nets
- Football ground
- Tennis courts
- Koonarra Hall
- Playground
- Exercise equipment
- Other exercise
- Access to the Koonung Trail
- Access to public transport
- Barbecue
- Walk the dog
- Other (please specify)

Koonung Park has three community tennis courts, which are available to the community free of charge. One of these courts is line marked for futsal soccer.

7. Before today were you aware of this free community facility?

- Yes
- No – go to question 11

8. Do you use this facility?

- Yes
- No – go to question 12

9. How often do you use the tennis courts?

- Everyday/most days
- 2 – 3 times a week
- Once a week
- 2 – 3 times a month
- Once a month
- 2 – 3 times a year
- Once a year
- Less often

10. How do you mainly use the tennis courts?

- Training
- Playing matches
- Coaching
- Futsal soccer
- Other (please specify)

Please go to question 12

11. Now that you are aware that the community tennis courts are free, are you likely to use them in the future?

- Yes
- No

12. How would you rate Koonung Park overall?

- Very good
- Good
- Neutral
- Poor
- Very poor

13. Why do you say that?

14. Is there anything Council could do to encourage you to use the park more often?

15. Do you have any further comments?

16. Which of the following best describes your household?

- Couple with children at home
- Couple with no children at home
- Single parent with children at home
- Lone person household
- Group household
- Other household

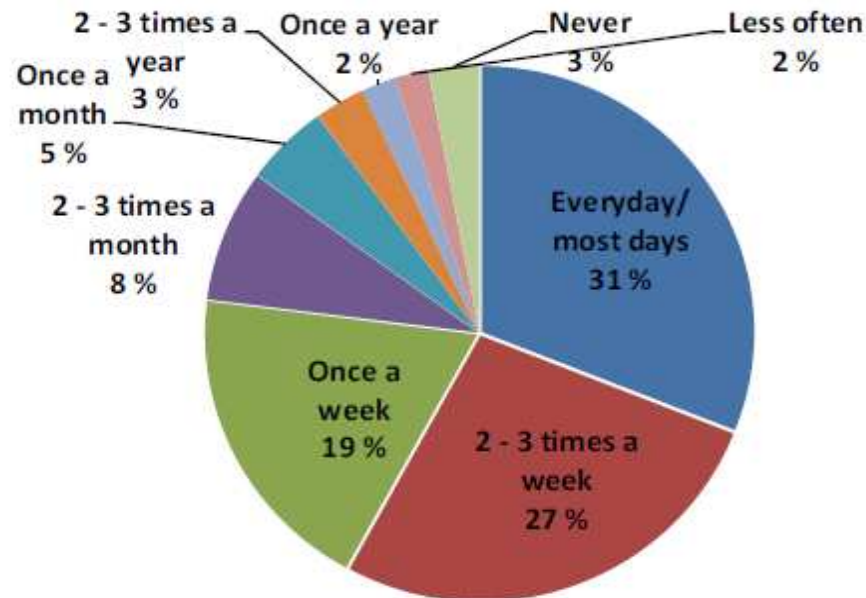
17. What is your age group?

- 15 – 17 years
- 18 – 24 years
- 25 – 34 years
- 35 – 49 years
- 50 – 59 years
- 60 – 69 years
- 70+ years

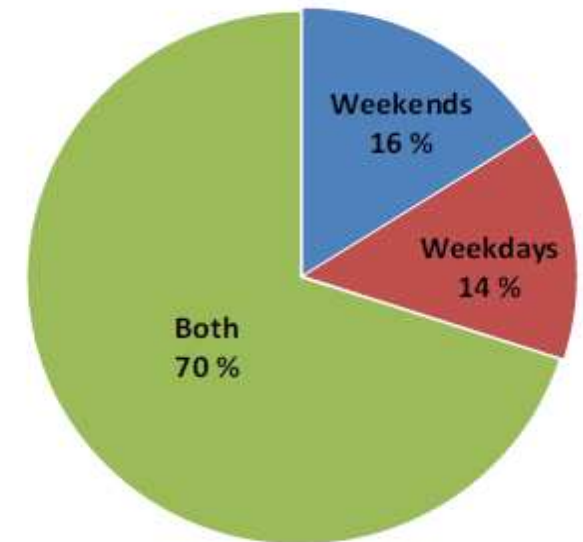
Thank you for completing our survey. Your response is very important to us.

Summary Report for 2015 Community Consultation

1. How often do you visit Koonung Park?

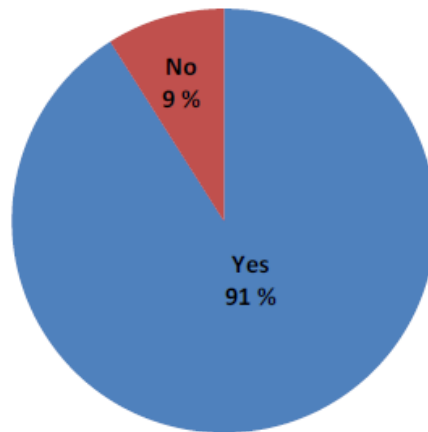


2. When do you usually visit the park?

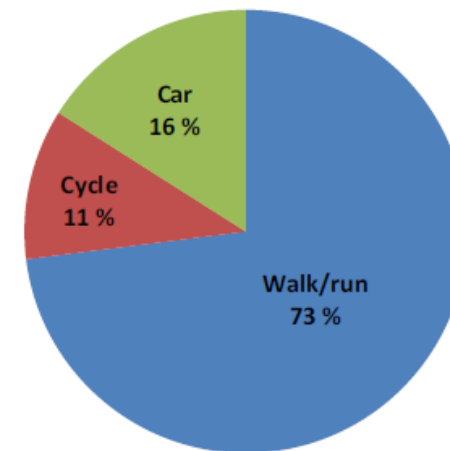


Summary Report for 2015 Community Consultation

3. Do you feel safe when visiting the Park?

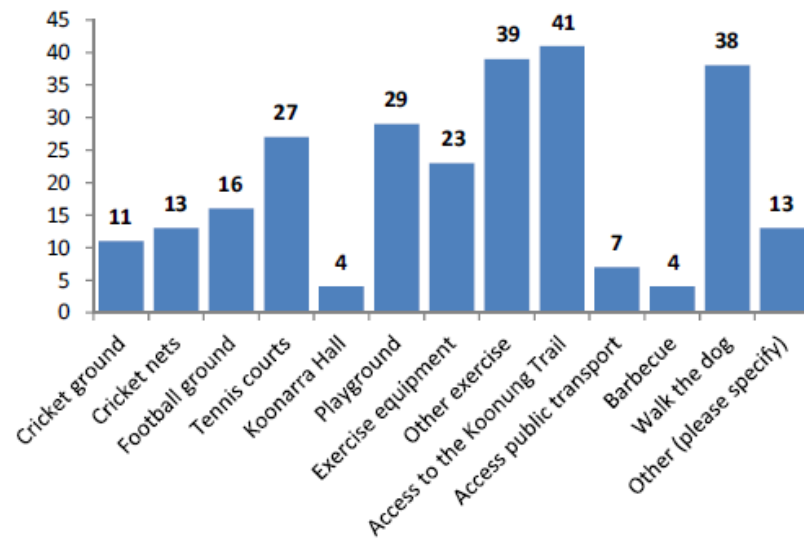


5. How do you usually get to the Park?



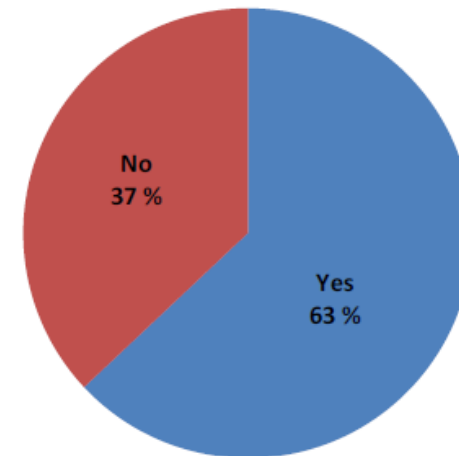
Summary Report for 2015 Community Consultation

What are your main reasons for visiting Koonung Park? (Please choose up to 3)



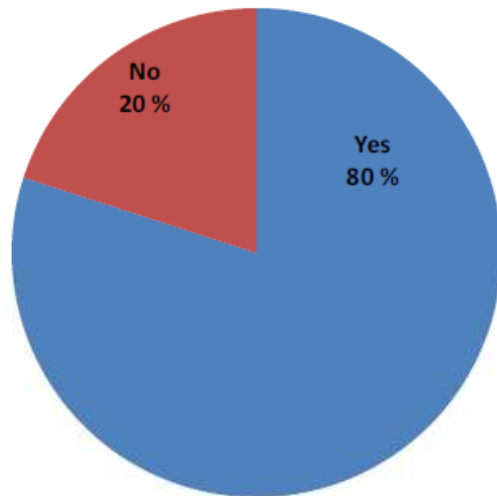
Koonung Park has three community tennis courts, which are available to the community free of charge. One of these courts is line marked for futsal soccer.

7. Before today were you aware of this free community facility?

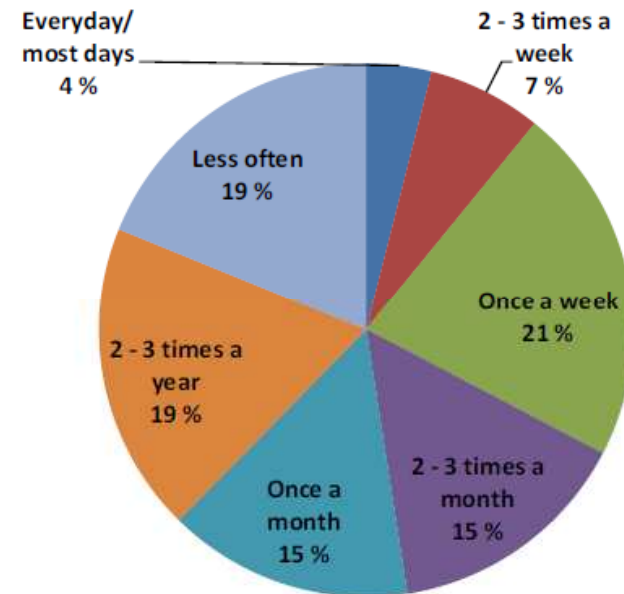


Summary Report for 2015 Community Consultation

8. Do you use this facility?

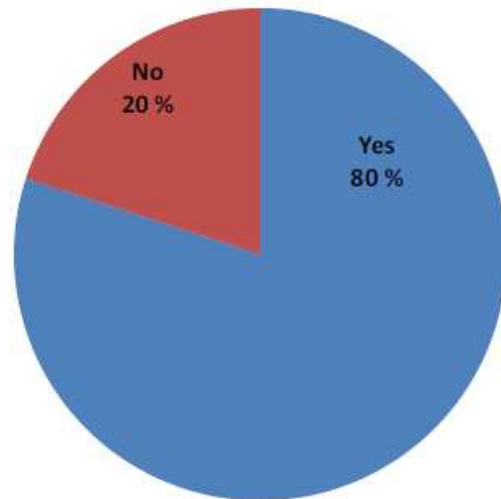


9. How often do you use the tennis courts?

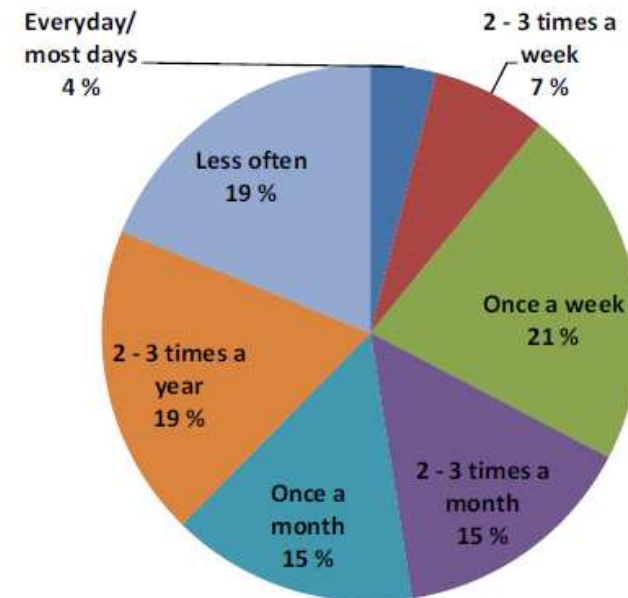


Summary Report for 2015 Community Consultation

8. Do you use this facility?

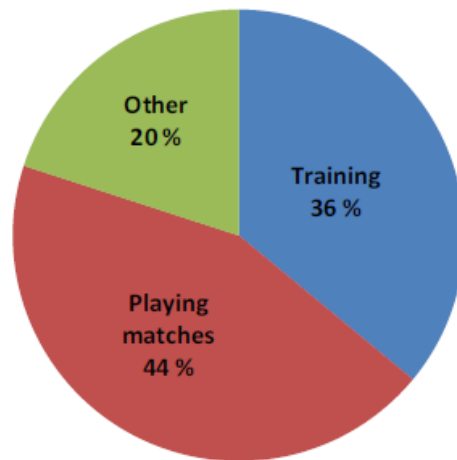


9. How often do you use the tennis courts?

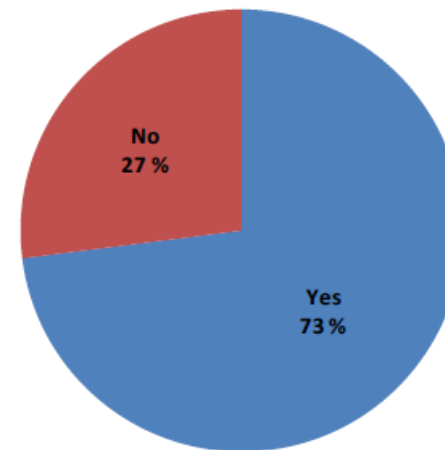


Summary Report for 2015 Community Consultation

10. How do you mainly use the tennis courts?

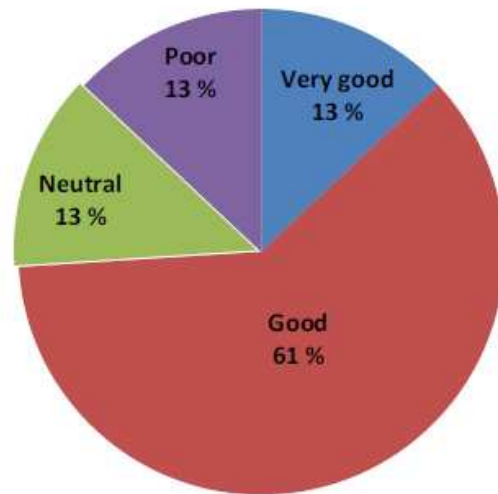


11. Now that you are aware that the community tennis courts are free, are you likely to use them in the future?

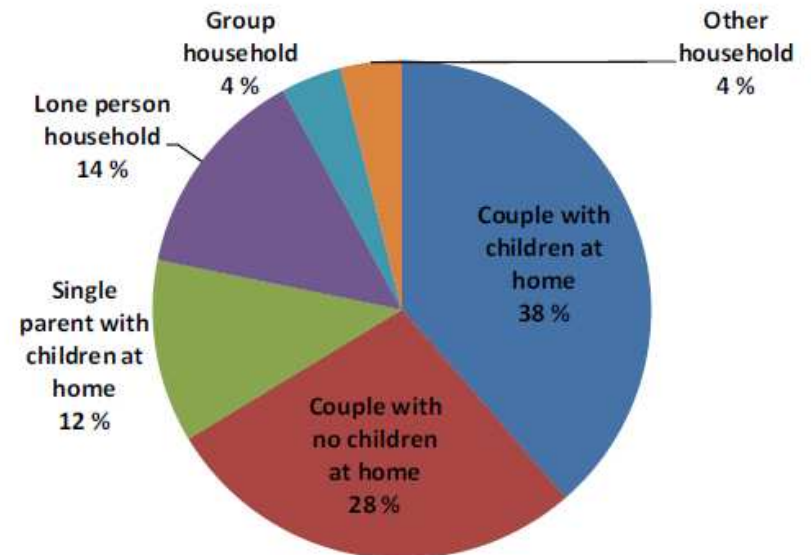


Summary Report for 2015 Community Consultation

12. How would you rate Koonung Park overall?

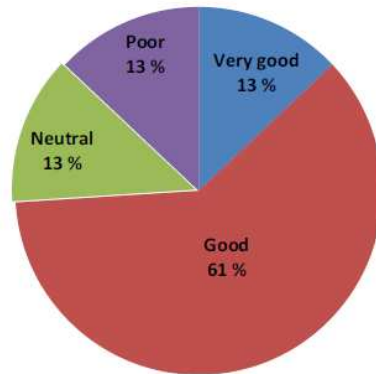


16. Which of the following best describes your household?

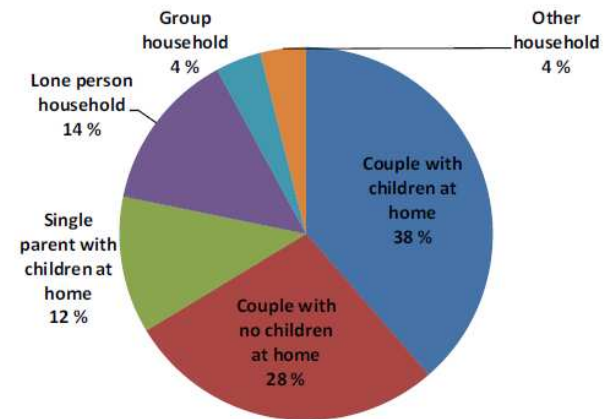


Summary Report for 2015 Community Consultation

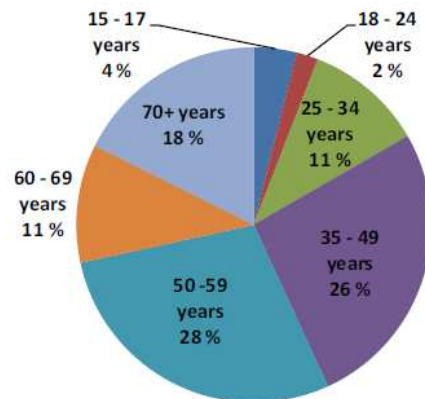
12. How would you rate Koonung Park overall?



16. Which of the following best describes your household?



17. What is your age group?



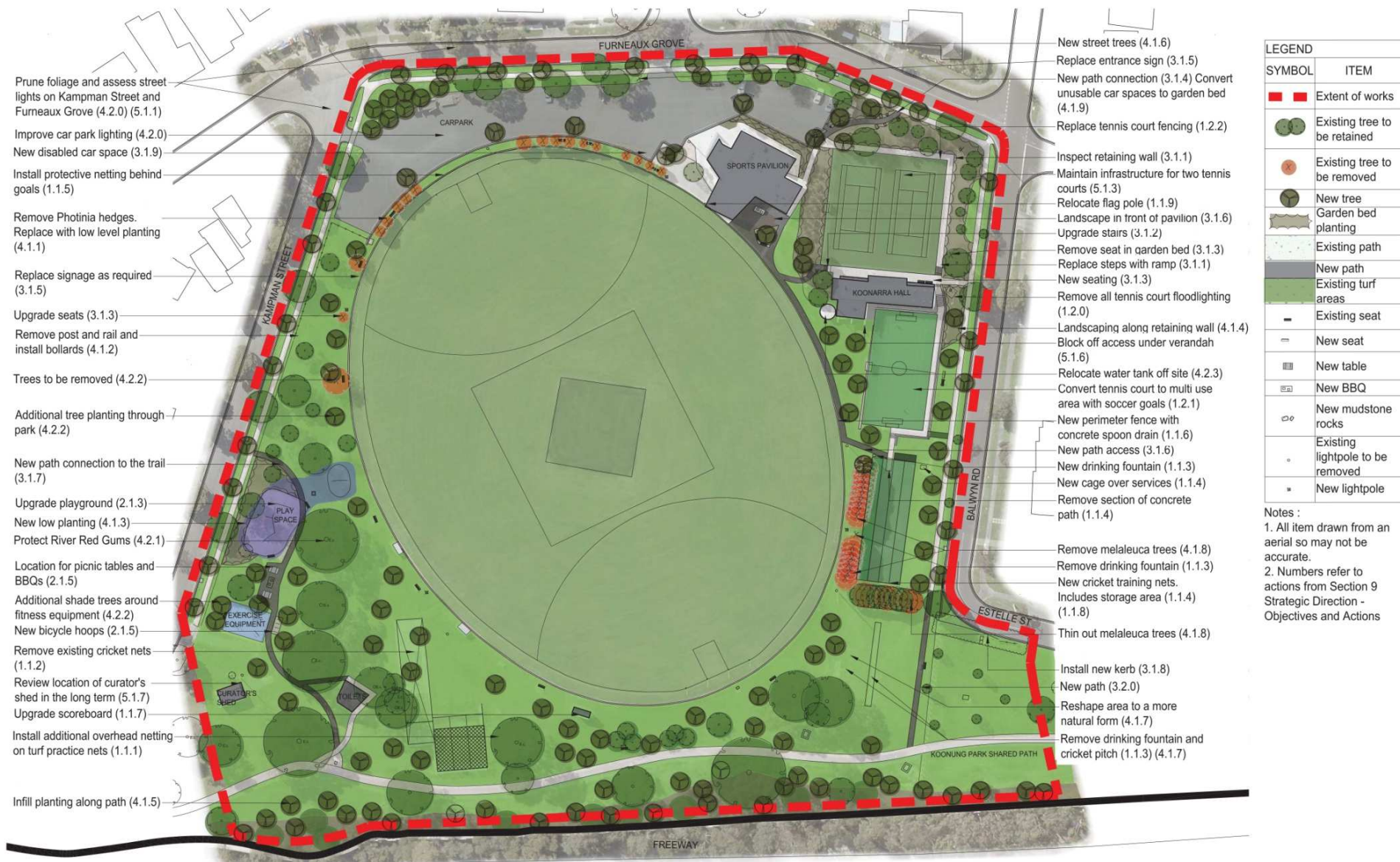


Figure 7 – Koonung Park Masterplan

Executive Summary

Koonung Park is located in Bulleen and is 3.5 hectares in size and adjacent to Koonung Creek Linear Park with street frontages to Kampman Street, Furneaux Grove and Bulleen Road.

Koonung Park is identified in the Manningham Open Space Strategy as a district reserve with an important function in Manningham's open space network as a sporting and recreation facility.

Manningham City Council prepares Management Plans for complex recreation areas that accommodate a range of facilities and services and/or open space areas with a range of uses and purposes. Such areas are important community assets and due to competing priorities and limited funding for development, it is crucial to plan and prioritise the use, development and management of these areas. This is the first management plan completed for Koonung Park.

The overarching goal for the Koonung Park Management Plan is to provide high quality recreation services that respond to community demand, respect the natural environment and are maintained effectively into the future.

Koonung Park is highly valued by the local community and this plan strives to ensure there is a balance of sports club based activity and flexible recreation opportunities to cater for all local residents and their diverse recreation pursuits.

The objectives of this Plan are set out in Figure 1 and the resulting key recommendations of this plan include;

- Four new synthetic training nets that are accessible to the community
- Cyclone mesh fence around sportsground
- Protective netting behind northern goals
- New paths improving access through the Park to specific community facilities
- Options for the community tennis courts including basketball and netball rings and futsal line marking
- Improvements to the carpark
- Upgrade to the playground
- Landscaping and planting throughout the Park to improve amenity

Contents

Executive Summary	1
Contents	2
Figures	3
1. Introduction	4
1.1 Purpose	4
1.2 Goals and Objectives	4
1.3 Key Stakeholders	5
1.4 Facilities and Features	6
1.5 Methodology	6
1.6 Community Consultation and Engagement	6
1.7 Monitoring and Review	7
2. Planning/Policy Context	7
2.1 Related Strategies	7
3. Site Analysis	9
3.1 Location	9
3.2 Context	10
4. Precinct Analysis	11
4.1 Bolin Bolin Precinct	11
4.2 Demographic Analysis	12
4.3 History	12
4.4 Existing Conditions	12
4.5 and Tenure and Management	14
4.6 Manningham Planning Scheme Provisions	14
4.7 Cultural Heritage	16
5. Sporting Facilities	16
5.1 Sportsground	16
5.2 Tennis Courts	19
6. Informal Recreation Opportunities	20
6.1 Walking and Cycling	20
6.2 Dog Walking	21
6.3 Exercise Equipment	21
6.4 Play (including basketball, netball and soccer)	21
6.5 Barbecue and Picnic Area	21
6.6 Toilets	22
6.7 Seating	22
7. Community Facilities – Koonarra Hall	22

8. Park Infrastructure	23
8.1 Carparking	23
8.2 Lighting	23
8.3 Signage	24
8.4 Open Space and Landscape Values	24
8.5 Path Connections	24
8.6 Water Tank	24
8.7 Drink Fountains	25
8.8 Litter	25
9. Strategic Direction - Objectives & Actions	26
Figure 7 – Koonung Park Masterplan	41

Figures

Figure 1 - Objectives	5
Figure 2 - Koonung Park location in a Manningham context	9
Figure 3 - Koonung Park Context Plan	10
Figure 4 – Residential proximity to open space in Bolin Bolin Precinct	11
Figure 5 - Koonung Park existing conditions	13
Figure 6 - Koonung Park planning overlays	15

1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose

Publicly owned open space and reserves improve our physical and psychological health, strengthen our communities and make our cities and neighbourhoods more attractive places to live and work. Manningham City Council prepares Management Plans for complex recreation areas that accommodate a range of facilities and services and/or open space areas with a range of uses and purposes. Such areas are important community assets and due to competing priorities and limited funding for development, it is crucial to plan and prioritise the use, development and management of these areas. This is the first management plan completed for Koonung Park.

The purpose of the Management Plan is:

- To document and protect the key values of Koonung Park by providing a framework for future planning.
- To establish short, medium and long term, objectives and actions for the future development of the Park.
- To develop a masterplan for improvements over a 10 year period.
- To provide a guide for the management of sport and recreation facilities in the Park.

The endorsed Koonung Park Management Plan will be used by Council Officers involved in planning, development and management of the Park and will help the community understand Council's vision, objectives and specific plans for the Park.

1.2 Goals and Objectives

The overarching goal for the Koonung Park Management Plan is to provide high quality recreation services that respond to community demand, respect the natural environment and are maintained effectively into the future.

Koonung Park is currently used by sports clubs and residents for various recreational pursuits including cricket, football, tennis and hall hire. Other facilities used by local residents include the playground, exercise equipment and open spaces for walking, exercising and dog walking.

Koonung Park, given its location in Bulleen where open space is generally less accessible, is highly valued by the local community. This plan strives to ensure there is a balance of sports club based activity and flexible recreation opportunities to cater for all local residents and their diverse recreation pursuits.

The five objectives for this Management Plan are set out in Figure 1 and actions pertaining to these objectives are detailed in Section 9 – Strategic Direction – Objectives and Actions.



Figure 1 - Objectives

1.3 Key Stakeholders

There are a number of stakeholders that have an interest in the upgrading and ongoing management of Koonung Park. These groups have been consulted during the preparation of the Plan. Stakeholders' involvement will continue as required throughout planning, construction and management phases.

Sports clubs

Sports clubs and their volunteers provide sport and recreation opportunities for the Manningham community. Their commitment contributes to the Manningham goal that community spirit is strengthened through an involved and well connected community. Manningham's partnership with these clubs is crucial to enable and support future improvements.

- Bulleen Cricket Club
- Manningham Cobras Football Club

Local residents

Local residents enjoy the visual amenity of Koonung Park and the neighbouring Koonung Creek Linear Park. They use the playground, outdoor exercise equipment, sportsground and community tennis courts. Ongoing communication with these residents is crucial to ensure that they are considered as part of the development and implementation of the Management Plan.

Koonarra Hall hirers

Community groups and businesses hire the hall for meetings and exercise classes on a weekly or monthly basis. The volunteers in these groups contribute to community spirit in the same way that sports clubs do. Regular hall hirers will also be considered as part of the development and implementation of the Management Plan.

1.4 Facilities and Features

In summary, existing facilities and features of the Park include:

- Sports pavilion
- Sportsground used for cricket (turf wicket) and football (AFL Rules)
- Cricket training nets (three turf and two synthetic)
- Tennis courts (two plexipave and one synthetic grass)
- Koonarra Hall (community hire)
- Playground
- Exercise equipment
- Toilets
- Council curator's shed
- Floodlighting (tennis courts and sportsground)
- Carpark
- Group of mature River Red Gums (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*) in the south west corner.

1.5 Methodology

The methodology for development and implementation of the Management Plan includes:

- Review and analysis of existing use and facilities
- Initial consultation with stakeholders
- Background studies / reports
 - Site opportunities/ constraints analysis
 - Landscape assessment
- Development of a draft Management Plan
- Public exhibition and community consultation on draft Management Plan
- Consideration of submissions and adoption of final Management Plan by Council
- Implementation of recommendations

1.6 Community Consultation and Engagement

Community consultation and engagement to date has included:

- Community feedback form through 'Your Say Manningham' website and meetings with club stakeholders, November – December 2015

There were a total of 54 survey responses from the local community and the feedback suggests that the park is well used, highly valued and is a park where local residents feel safe. Results include;

- 74% of the respondents visit the Park at least once a week
- 69% of the respondents visit the Park on both the weekend and on weekdays
- 73% of the respondents walk or run to the Park
- 90% of the respondents feel safe when visiting the Park, commenting that there are generally other people around also using the Park, it feels very open and there is good surveillance from nearby houses

- The most popular activities at the park are using the Park to access the Koonung Trail, exercise equipment, other exercise (unspecified), walking the dog, playground and tennis courts

Further details of the community consultation are included in Appendix 1 and Appendix 2.

1.7 Monitoring and Review

Ongoing monitoring of the Plan will be undertaken to ensure that the objectives and actions remain relevant and meet the needs of the community. A full review of the Management Plan will be carried out by Council five years after the completion of all the capital works recommended in the Plan.

2. Planning/Policy Context

2.1 Related Strategies

Whilst the Management Plan draws upon a number of Council strategies and policies, the documents that mainly influence the Plan are described below.

2.1.1 Open Space Strategy 2014

This is a 10-year plan that sets priorities and guidelines for the protection, development and use of public open space in the municipality. It has been developed to achieve the following goals:

- Value, expand and enhance the open space network
- Make the most of existing open spaces
- Attract more people, more often, to open space

The Strategy is divided into 3 parts; which include; key directions, the 15 precincts across the municipality and an inventory of Manningham's open space. Koonung Park is located in the Bolin Bolin Precinct (Figure 4) and there are a number of recommendations for this Precinct that relate directly to Koonung Park; Refer to section 4.1 for details.

2.1.2 Active for Life Recreation Strategy 2010-2025

This strategy was developed to provide a strategic framework for the management and development of recreation provision in Manningham. Major gaps, challenges and synergies are addressed, with the aim to increase participation in a broad range of recreational activities for the improved health and wellbeing of our community.

2.1.3 Koonung Creek Linear Park Management Plan 2011

Koonung Creek Linear Park runs along the south boundary of Koonung Park and is generally identified as the secondary Koonung shared path to the Eastern Freeway sound wall. Facilities in the south-west corner of Koonung Park such as public toilets, drinking fountain, exercise equipment and playspace also service the Linear Park. Actions from the Koonung Creek Linear Park Management Plan that directly affect Koonung Park include;

- Install a barbecue and drinking fountain in the playground vicinity
- Install bike hoops at toilet
- Construct footpath on the west side of Balwyn Road to link to Koonung Creek Linear Park.

The drink fountain has been installed and the remaining items are referenced in this Management Plan.

2.1.4 Manningham Tennis Strategy 2003

This Strategy is a framework for the operation and management of tennis facilities in Manningham based on a not for profit community tennis club model where clubs provide competition, coaching, programs and other tennis opportunities for the community.

2.1.5 Manningham Council Community Facilities Resourcing Plan (currently underway)

This Plan is being developed to identify current and future community facility needs. The plan will recommend the future capital and operational directions for community facilities to 2035. The availability of other community facilities in the area with regard to consolidating, expanding or upgrading current facilities will be explored.

2.1.6 Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Guidelines 2015

Council has a role in providing sports facilities that benefit the community through increasing participation and encouraging active, healthy lifestyles. These guidelines identify the funding responsibilities for identified core and optional infrastructure relating to specific sports.

2.1.7 Outdoor Advertising on Council Owned and Managed Land Policy 2015

This Policy informs organisations seeking to erect advertising signs on Council owned or managed property and provides guidance for decision making for Council Officers in determining applications for signage on Council owned or managed property, regulating the display of signs and associated structures.

2.1.8 Manningham Urban and Park Design Guideline 2010

The main purpose is to provide advice for the planning and selection of smaller facilities, furniture and other elements in open space and streetscape situations. This Guideline aims to provide practical advice for the design and provision of public furniture in public roads, carparks and shopping centres and in public open spaces, including parks and recreation reserves.

3. Site Analysis

3.1 Location

Koonung Park is located in Bulleen and is 3.5 hectares in size and adjacent to Koonung Creek Linear Park with street frontages to Kampman Street, Furneaux Grove and Bulleen Road.



Figure 2 - Koonung Park location in a Manningham context

3.2 Context

Koonung Park is identified in the Manningham Open Space Strategy as a district reserve with an important function in Manningham's open space network as a sporting and recreation facility (Refer Figure 3).

The Park is close to bus stops along Thompsons Road providing public transport access along five bus routes, with two bus stops located within 200 metres of the Park. The Eastern Freeway is a major barrier for the City of Boroondara residents although there is a footbridge across the freeway 500 metres east of Koonung Park.

Koonung Park is also accessed from the Koonung Creek Linear Park secondary trail.

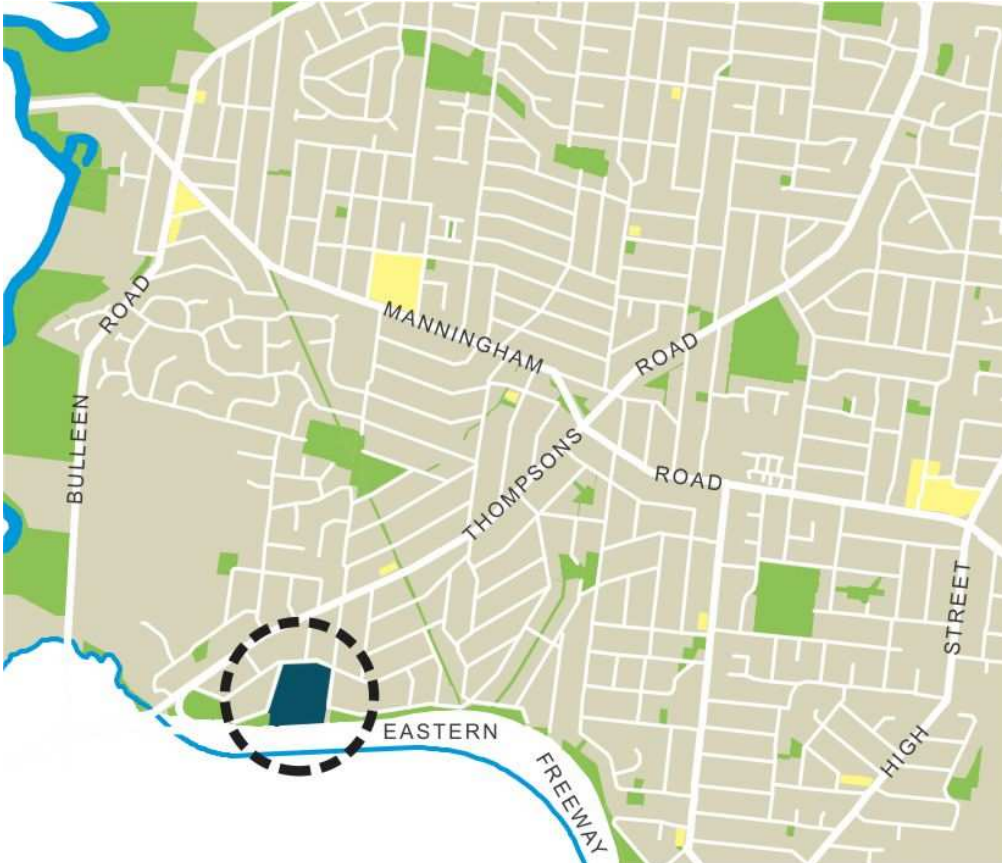


Figure 3 - Koonung Park Context Plan

4. Precinct Analysis

4.1 Bolin Bolin Precinct

The Open Space Strategy 2014 has 15 precincts and Koonung Park is located in the Bolin Bolin Precinct. This Precinct is at capacity in relation to its ability to provide additional public open space, so the focus on future provision is to ensure quality facilities are provided at the larger district parks, which include Koonung Park.

The Precinct map below (Figure 4) illustrates that residents east of Bulleen Road do not have ideal access to larger areas of public open space with the areas marked in red indicating they are beyond reasonable walking distance of a sizeable park. The large area directly east and west of Bulleen Road (marked as a block of pale green) is private open space (school sporting grounds) and is not accessible to residents. This creates a 'gap' in Council's open space provision standards. There are only two other reserves within practical walking distance from Koonung Park that provide a large area of open space; Harold Reserve (1100 metres) and Morris Williams Reserve (700 metres).

Residents in the vicinity of Koonung Park do have access to quality open space and the three pedestrian crossings with traffic lights on Thompsons Road, (plus Yarraleen Walkway and Harold Link) improve access to Koonung Park for the residents who live further away and provide options for safe travel. An improved bicycle/pedestrian connection between Thompsons Road and Bulleen Road would increase the use of the shared path through Koonung Park.

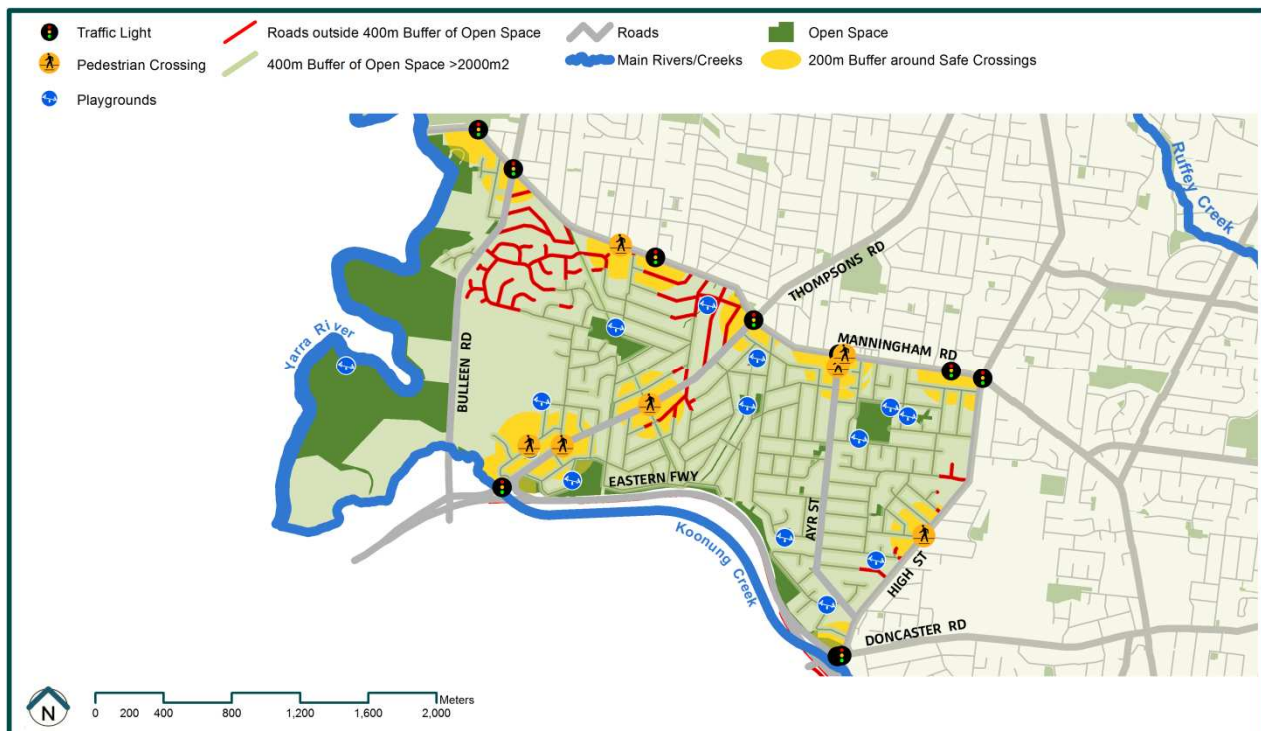


Figure 4 – Residential proximity to open space in Bolin Bolin Precinct

4.2 Demographic Analysis

The Bolin Bolin precinct has had a slightly declining and ageing population with a small increase in population expected over the next 20 years. The over 70s age group is particularly dominant, perhaps due to substantial retirement village accommodation in the area. There are also more 25-34 year olds and more young children in Bolin Bolin than the Manningham average which may indicate some regeneration of the area. Significant growth in the number of people in their 20s is expected in Bulleen, with an increase in higher density properties and the attractiveness of being in close proximity to Melbourne and the Heidelberg rail line on the northern side of the Yarra River. There is an increasing trend to smaller households, with over half comprising lone person and couples without children. The precinct has a very large, but declining, Italian and Greek community with an emerging Chinese affiliated community.

Open space considerations in Bolin Bolin are likely to be affected by the much higher levels of older population, including those with regularly visiting grandchildren, but also a small but increasing number of young parents with young children (reference: Open Space Strategy 2014 Part 2).

4.3 History

Photographic records show that the four remnant River Red Gums in the south west corner of the Park are more than 100 years old and potentially in excess of 200 years old, dating pre European settlement of Manningham. The 1945 aerial photo also indicates that the area was open pasture with woodland along the Koonung Creek.

The land was originally subdivided in 1931. Council started acquiring the land from various owners starting in 1946 and took some time to acquire the 33 separate lots that make up Koonung Park. The internal road reserves were not closed until 1977.

The oval was built in the early 1960s with the pavilion, carpark and tennis courts built by 1970. With the construction of the Eastern Freeway in late 1970s, the second oval (junior) located 300 metres west of the existing oval was lost. There has been minimal major change at the Park since the 1970s. The biggest more recent change has been the disbandment of the Koonarra Tennis Club in 2001 and conversion of the former tennis pavilion into a community hall for hire. This is outlined further in Section 5.2.

4.4 Existing Conditions

Entry points into the Park include carpark entrances on Furneaux Grove and Kampman Street, and various pedestrian access points from Balwyn Road, Furneaux Grove, Kampman Street and the Koonung Creek Linear Park.

The main facilities include a sportsground for football and cricket, three community tennis courts, Koonarra Hall for hire, playground and outdoor exercise equipment.

A group of four mature *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* (River Red Gums) in the south west corner provide the Park's main natural landscape feature.



- | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Vegetation | Sports Pavilion | Curator's Shed |
| Car Parking | Tennis Courts | Public Toilet |
| Flood Light | Koonarra Hall | Bin Cage |
| Park Bench | Football/Cricket Oval | Scoreboard |
| Pedestrian Entry | Cricket Nets | Spectator Area |
| Vehicle Entry | Exercise Equipment | Main Carpark Access |
| Emergency Vehicle Access | Playground | |
| Drink Fountain | | |
| Coaches Box | | |
| Steps | | |
| Water Tank | | |
| Shared Trail | | |
| Footpath | | |
| Barbecue | | |
| Dogs Off Lead | | |

Produced by MANNINGHAM GIS/GPS
on 29/03/2016



Figure 5 - Koonung Park existing conditions

4.5 and Tenure and Management

Koonung Park is owned and managed by Manningham City Council. The Park is made up of 36 separate small titles and consolidation of these into two titles was completed in 2016.

4.6 Manningham Planning Scheme Provisions

4.6.1 Zoning

Koonung Park is included in Public Park and Recreation Zone (PPRZ) (refer to Figure 6). The purpose of this zone is:

- To recognise areas for public recreation and open space
- To protect and conserve areas of significance where appropriate
- To provide for commercial uses where appropriate.

4.6.2 Overlays

There is one planning overlay that affects the Park. A small portion of the south west corner of the existing title located on the south side of Estelle Street is currently affected by the Land Subject to Inundation Overlay (LSIO). The purpose of the LSIO is:

- To identify land affected by the 1 in 100 year flood or any other area determined by the floodplain management authority
- To ensure that development maintains the free passage and temporary storage of floodwaters, minimises flood damage, and will not cause any significant rise in flood level or flow velocity
- To ensure that development maintains or improves river and wetland health, waterway protection and flood plain health






A planning permit is required for most building works. All planning permit applications are required to be referred to Melbourne Water

Amendment C109 to Manningham Planning Scheme (underway)

Amendment C109 proposes to increase the area of the flooding overlays as shown in Figure 6. This amendment is a result of revised flood modeling which has been done to identify properties that are subject to overland flooding in a severe 1 in 100 year rainfall event.

The Melbourne Water LSIO extends over the southern part of the Park including some of the oval. The Council Special Building Overlays (SBO2 and SBO3) extend over the western part and south east corner of the Park. 60 per cent of the Park is affected by the proposed flooding overlay.



- | | |
|---|--|
|  C109 - LSIO |  Planning Zone - PPRZ |
|  C109 - SB02 |  Existing LSIO |
|  C109 - SB03 | |

Produced by MANNINGHAM GIS/GPS on 29/03/2016



Figure 6 - Koonung Park planning overlays

4.7 Cultural Heritage

Many sites within Manningham's open space network hold Aboriginal cultural heritage values, particularly those in close proximity to our rivers and creeks. These have been mapped to comply with the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* and are identified as culturally sensitive areas. When upgrading open space within these areas, Council must consider the need to develop a Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP). A Cultural Heritage Management Plan seeks to protect and manage Aboriginal cultural heritage, with the involvement of Registered Aboriginal Parties.

Part of the Park is within an area of cultural heritage sensitivity as it is located within 200 metres of the Koonung Creek. Cultural Heritage Management Plans are mandatory for proposed high impact activities on undeveloped sites or sites that have not undergone major disturbance. As there is no evidence of significant ground disturbance in parts of this area, proposed works may require a Cultural Heritage Management Plan at the design stage.

5. Sporting Facilities

The Park accommodates two sports clubs - Bulleen Cricket Club and Manningham Cobras Football Club. Both clubs share the WJ Montgomery Pavilion and the sportsground alternating use during the winter and summer sports seasons. Both clubs have an agreement with Council that allows them seasonal use of the ground and pavilion. The sporting facilities also extend to the three tennis courts that are currently free for community use.

Bulleen Cricket Club fields both junior and senior teams in the Eastern Cricket Association (ECA). Its junior program fields teams in U10, U12, U14, U16, U18 plus a girl's U15 team competing for the first time in 2016. Players aged five years to eighteen years can take part in a structured cricket program at the club. There is one cricket ground at Koonung Park which has a turf wicket suitable only for senior cricket competition. All junior cricket competition is played on a synthetic wicket. The club's junior cricket program trains at Koonung Park but their competition is played at other Manningham cricket grounds.

Manningham Cobras Football Club fields two senior teams that train and play at Koonung Park and compete in the Victorian Amateur Football Association (VAFA). The ground is made available on an informal basis to Yarra Junior Football League (YJFL) for a range of activities including training for their representative teams and for finals matches.

During consultation both sports clubs and the local community prioritised various opportunities and issues which are outlined under the respective headings that follow.

Refer Action No. 5.1.2

5.1 Sportsground

The well maintained sportsground representing a large portion of flat open space within the Park is an important feature for both local residents and the tenant sports clubs. During the year the ground is used for local football and local cricket competition and is maintained to a good standard. This is one of six turf wickets maintained by Council.

In addition to being used for formal sport, the sportsground is also well used for dog walking and exercise by local residents. Feedback from community consultation indicates that the ground is in good condition and well maintained by the curator. The closest sportsgrounds are Bulleen Park, Bulleen (1500 metres) and Timber Reserve, Doncaster (2000 metres).

5.1.1 Junior cricket ground

Bulleen Cricket Club has proposed expansion of the ground in the south east near Balwyn Road, including the installation of an off centre synthetic wicket to enable additional use of the ground by the junior teams and establish a junior cricket base at Koonung Park. This proposal isn't

supported by Council and other options are being pursued to find a suitable ground to establish a junior cricket base. The main reasons the proposal isn't supported include:

- The synthetic wicket would be too close to the turf wicket table
- The ground would be too close to Balwyn Road
- Effective drainage for both grounds would not be achieved
- The level of development is inappropriate for the size and usage of the Park

Refer Action No. 2.1.1

5.1.2 Cricket training nets

There are currently two existing synthetic cricket nets and practice turf wickets all located together in the southern area of the park. The senior teams use the turf nets and both the junior and senior teams use the synthetic training practice nets.

The turf wickets are in good condition and are maintained by Council. However, they do require extended overhead netting for improved safety of park users, especially for those in the playground, exercise equipment and proposed barbecue area precinct. This is the only recommendation for the turf cricket nets.

The synthetic wickets are old and no longer meet the needs of the Club. It is recommended to remove the two existing cricket nets and replace them with four new cricket nets in a more suitable location. The reasons for removing the existing nets are twofold:

- A safety concern has been identified with cricket balls being hit within close proximity to the playground. Conflict between the sporting and informal recreation activities should be avoided. The new location will be closer to other sports infrastructure creating an informal recreation zone and a sports zone within the Park.
- The number of synthetic wicket training nets will increase from two to four and taking into account the existing turf nets, this is considered sufficient practice nets to meet the needs of the club.

Consideration has been given to the location of the new cricket nets on both of the old tennis court sites but the facility is recommended to be built on the eastern park boundary south of the third tennis court (Refer to Masterplan). The reasons for this site in preference to further south include:

- Sits well in the park's landscape and retains formal sport activities together allowing for continuity of informal open space next to the Koonung shared path
- Closer to power access for ball machine used in training sessions
- Closer to carpark and pavilion for cricketers' convenience
- Ease of moving cricket covers from the centre of the ground into storage facility
- Access to a drink fountain (refer 8.7)

All of the proposed synthetic training nets will allow full usage by the community when the nets are not being used by the club. The final size and configuration will be confirmed at the detail design stage but cricket club storage (refer 5.1.8) is also proposed to be included. This area of Balwyn Road frontage and access into the Park will change with the new cricket infrastructure and the improvements will include a new path from Balwyn Road. The path will direct pedestrians between the southern tennis court and cricket nets through to the sportsground. The steps and disused path will be removed. Depending upon space required for Balwyn Road pedestrian access, the length of the training facility may be compromised a little to enable the storage facility to be included.

Before the proposed new synthetic training nets are constructed, an interim measure on the old nets of extended overhead soft netting is proposed to improve the safety of park users near the playground area.

Refer Action No. 1.1.1, No. 1.1.2 and No. 1.1.4

5.1.3 WJ Montgomery Pavilion

Manningham Cobras Football Club and Bulleen Cricket Club share this pavilion which was upgraded in 2013. Both clubs were involved in the design detail of the new building and the building accommodates them satisfactorily. The building upgrade did not extend to landscaping, improved path connections around the pavilion and seating under the sheltered spectator area. These improvements are proposed to be included as actions in this Management Plan.

Refer Action No. 3.1.6

5.1.4 Protective nets behind goals

The Football Club has requested protective netting behind the football goals at the northern end of the ground to prevent the football carrying into the carpark when players are kicking for goal. Players chasing balls in a carpark during training sessions and balls potentially hitting parked cars are a safety issue and it is recommended that this request be supported.

Refer Action No. 1.1.5

5.1.5 Cyclone fence and spoon drain around perimeter

The existing sportsground fence meets requirements for both cricket and football. The Cricket Club has requested 1.2 metre cyclone fence around the sportsground perimeter to replace the pipe tubular fence and a concrete spoon drain around the perimeter of the ground to improve drainage. It is proposed to construct the perimeter fence allowing minimum 20 percent gaps for easy access through the ground for sports spectators and local residents.

Refer Action No. 1.1.6

5.1.6 Floodlights

In order to meet Australian Standards for lighting for Australian Rules Football training, the floodlighting infrastructure obtained an upgrade in 2016. This project was separate to the management plan process. Council, in partnership with Sport and Recreation Victoria, the Manningham Cobras Football Club and the Yarra Junior Football League installed a 4 x 25 metre pole floodlighting system around the sportsground. It is anticipated that there will be increased usage of the Yarra Junior Football League boys and girls representative competition as a result of the upgraded floodlights.

5.1.7 Scoreboard

The sports clubs use a standalone scoreboard located at the southern end of the sportsground. Both clubs have indicated that upgrading the existing manual scoreboard to an electronic scoreboard is a priority. United Energy has advised infrastructure requiring power must be located on the title that contains the power supply. The title where the existing scoreboard is located does not contain a power supply. An electronic scoreboard will need to be relocated, most likely on the western boundary of the sports ground.

The funding and maintenance of scoreboards is the clubs' responsibility and provision of any scoreboard infrastructure requires Council approval. Clubs need to refer to Council's *Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Guidelines* and Council's *Outdoor Advertising on Council Owned and Managed Property Policy*.

Refer Action No. 1.1.7

5.1.8 Storage

Council has met the requirements to fund sports club storage in the pavilion according to Council's *Outdoor Sports and Infrastructure Guidelines*. Many sports clubs find the issue of storage challenging and the Cricket Club has been using the convenience of the space underneath Koonarra Hall to store its cricket covers. This space is proposed to be closed to public access (refer no. 7 – Koonarra Hall) so the club will no longer have storage access.

It is proposed for Council to fund extra storage for the turf wicket cover and training items, including the ball machine, in a separate storage facility built as part of the proposed synthetic cricket nets.

Refer Action No. 1.1.8

5.1.9 Flagpole

There is a flagpole located in front of WJ Montgomery Pavilion. Feedback from Bulleen Cricket Club was that the flagpole would be utilised if it was relocated further east of the pavilion for improved vision from the spectator area. Flagpoles are not Council's responsibility and any relocation will need to be financed by the Club.

Refer Action No. 1.1.9

5.1.10 Curator's building

This building, located in the south west area of the Park, serves as a store for the curator's machinery and is maintained by Council. While there are no recommendations for the short term, it is recommended that the siting of this building be located closer to other buildings when it is due for an upgrade in the future.

Refer Action No. 5.1.7

5.2 Tennis Courts

The Koonarra Tennis Club disbanded in 2001. At the time there were five en-tout-cas tennis courts and substantial works were required at the facility. The clubrooms were redeveloped to become Koonarra Hall. Two courts were returned to open space and the top three courts were resurfaced with plexipave and synthetic grass in 2004/05, making them suitable for community use. The lower court is also line marked for futsal (modified soccer).

In 2006, Manningham YMCA entered into an occupancy agreement with Council to manage the tennis courts at set times with a community program. The courts were available for community use at all other times. This arrangement continued until 2013 when the arrangement between Council and Manningham YMCA was officially rescinded.

The tennis courts are a popular facility at Koonung Park. Community consultation indicates 64% of respondents are aware of the tennis courts and 27% of the respondents include it as their main reason for visiting the Park. 73% of these respondents are aged between 35 - 59 years, whose regularity of use mainly ranges from everyday to once a month. Of the 36% of respondents who were not aware of the tennis facility prior to the consultation, 71% said they are now likely to use the tennis courts in the future. Other community feedback commented on the popularity of the courts, the need for general maintenance and complaints about the private coaches restricting community use, through extended blocks with clients, at no cost. Professional tennis coaching is currently not permitted at the facility.

Signs disallowing private coaching at the facility were installed in late 2015. Since the initial consultation, tennis court nets have been replaced and other cyclic maintenance undertaken. The surfaces of the tennis courts are in good condition but the fencing requires upgrading to meet safety standards.

The floodlights are in working order and feedback from the consultation process suggests that at least one group who hires Koonarra Hall has been regularly using them. A 2016 external audit

states that the poles and fixtures are in poor condition and recommends that the existing system be decommissioned to ensure no further use. Two of the poles are poorly located on pathways and a significant amount of money is required to replace the floodlights. It is recommended to remove existing tennis floodlights.

While tennis is a popular activity at Koonung Park, maximising participation at the Park and providing quality facilities is a Council priority for the Bulleen community. Feedback from community consultation indicated people currently use the Park to practice soccer and would make use of soccer goals if installed in the Park. Feedback also indicated that there was not a high use (perhaps awareness) of the futsal soccer already available. Aside from tennis, it is known the tennis courts are currently also used for children's birthday parties through Koonarra Hall bookings (Refer 7. Community Facilities – Koonarra hall), futsal soccer and other activities, such as learning to bike ride. There is an opportunity to make the tennis courts multi use and combine tennis with other activities.

In the short term it is recommended that the three courts are maintained by Council for multi use purposes for the community (including tennis) and professional tennis coaching continues to be disallowed.

Community feedback suggests basketball and netball would be popular activities at the Park and the tennis court area is the preferred location. It is recommended to include netball and basketball rings on the top courts and retain the futsal soccer line marking on the southern court to play soccer. The tennis poles and net can be removed and reinstated according to the activity. There is no need to remove tennis nets on the top courts as basketball and netball will run east – west; adjacent to the tennis nets.

There are options as to how the tennis courts can be managed in the future and it is important as for all of our community tennis venues (and clubs) that these courts remain accessible and provide multi use benefit to the community.

In the long term, a recommendation of this Plan is to explore options for use and management of the courts that could include:

1. Continued community use as a multi use facility with the current model; or
2. Second venue for a community club to potentially offer an extra venue for competition, coaching and other community tennis programs. This would be undertaken through an expression of interest process with the intention to assist community based clubs maximise potential for their programs that are currently capped at their existing facility due to not enough courts available for specific programs. If a club was interested to pursue this option, these courts would still remain available to the community; however, some restrictions of usage may be imposed. New floodlights could be considered as part of this option.

Refer Action No. 1.2.0, 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.3, 2.1.2, 5.1.3 and 5.1.4

6. Informal Recreation Opportunities

Informal recreation opportunities mainly occur along the Park's southern boundary with the Koonung Creek Linear Park, including the Koonung Trail, playground and exercise equipment.

6.1 Walking and Cycling

Walking is the most popular recreation activity in Manningham, with 54% participation levels, as reported in the *Active for Life Recreation Strategy 2010*. Community consultation for this Plan indicates that walking (and running) is the most popular mode of transport to Koonung Park (71.2%), while cycling represents 11.5% and travel by car is 17.3%. As the Park is situated adjacent to the Koonung Trail, there are extensive opportunities for walking, dog walking, cycling and running. Opportunities to improve path connections are outlined in 8.5.

6.2 Dog Walking

40% of the community consultation survey respondents said they walk their dog at Koonung Park. Dogs are allowed in the Park off-lead provided they are under effective control at all times. Dogs must be on-lead within 15 metres of the playground, BBQ and organised sporting event. No issues have been identified with dogs at Koonung Park and there are no actions recommended relating to dogs.

6.3 Exercise Equipment

Outdoor exercise equipment provides adults of all ages and abilities with the opportunity to participate in physical activity at no cost. The equipment at Koonung Park was installed in 2015 with assistance from the State Government's Community Facility Funding Program.

Community consultation indicated that 25% of respondents visit the Park specifically for the exercise equipment and 38.5% indicated they visit the Park for other exercise that was not related to the existing sports infrastructure. Initial community programs conducted to introduce the equipment to the community had low participation rates, but with the number of people using Koonung Park for exercise there is potential for future community programs to encourage people to combine their exercise regime with the exercise equipment.

Refer Action No. 2.1.4

6.4 Play (including basketball, netball and soccer)

Consultation indicated that 29% of respondents visit the Park to use the playground and these people identified support for the existing playspace to be upgraded with family activities and improved access to the Koonung Creek Linear Park. Suggestions included the installation of basketball and netball, soccer goals, additional seating, picnic shelter and a barbecue area located near the playground.

The existing playground, developed in 2003, provides play opportunities for children aged 2-7 years. The playground is well used but is now outdated and requires replacement. An opportunity exists to introduce some interesting themes and landscaping to this area. A proposed path to link the playground, barbecue area and exercise equipment to Koonung Creek Linear Park is one of these improvements.

Other playgrounds nearby include: Sandra Reserve (300 metres), Stanley Reserve (490 metres), Morris William Reserve (660 metres), Harold Reserve (1100 metres) and Riverview Reserve (1200 metres). There are basketball / netball facilities at three of these reserves (Sandra, Morris Williams and Harold Reserves) but community feedback strongly supported basketball and netball as sports that would be popular for local residents at Koonung Park. These activities will be provided at the tennis courts and along with tennis and Futsal soccer (which is already line marked on the third court), this area of the Park will become a multi use ball sport area. Refer 5.2.

Refer Action No. 2.1.3 and 1.2.3

6.5 Barbecue and Picnic Area

Two barbecues are located next to the pavilion. While only 4% of respondents from the community consultation stated that they use these barbecues, the cricket club and football club use them regularly, especially over the summer months. These barbecues will be retained.

An action from the *Koonung Creek Linear Park Management Plan 2011* is to install a barbecue in the playground vicinity. This received support through the recent community consultation process, with four residents stating that a barbecue with a picnic shelter near the playground would encourage them to use the Park more often. It is recommended to include a picnic shelter as part of the barbecue area. As recommended in Manningham Urban and Park Design Guideline for a barbecue area, a litter bin will also be installed.

Refer Action No. 2.1.5

6.6 Toilets

The toilets are located in the south-west corner of the Park and cater for users of both Koonung Park and the Koonung Creek Linear Park. The four toilets (including one disabled toilet) were built in approximately 2001 to replace the original toilets and have been assessed as part of development of this management plan to be in good condition. There are no recommendations relating to the toilets.

6.7 Seating

The provision of park seating provides an important resting and viewing function for the community to enjoy. Koonung Park provides many seating opportunities around the sportsground and the tennis courts but the existing seats are ageing and need replacement. Options for spectators to sit near the pavilion are also limited.

While the Football Club has indicated that its spectators do use the seats all around the ground, the total number of these seats is in excess of 26. It is recommended to remove these as they require repairs, rationalising replacements with a lesser amount around the ground and near the pavilion. It is also recommended that the old seat in the garden bed overlooking the tennis courts be replaced with some bench seating outside the entrance to Koonarra Hall.

Refer Action No. 3.1.3

7. Community Facilities – Koonarra Hall

Koonarra Hall was originally the clubrooms for Koonarra Tennis Club but is now a multipurpose venue for hire, suitable for meetings, seminars and private functions, including family gatherings and children's parties. It is a suitable venue catering for functions with 80 guests. Permanent bookings are currently for small groups and include yoga, tai chi, senior citizen groups and club meetings.

Manningham Council Community Facilities Resourcing Plan is currently underway and includes an audit and long term resourcing plan for upgrades and improvements including Koonarra Hall. This is estimated for completion in 2017. Until then, the Hall will be maintained as per Council's Building Maintenance Cyclic Program, and general / reactive maintenance.

Koonarra Hall features an outdoor deck and current access to the three community tennis courts. While the tennis courts cannot be booked, hall hirers do make use of them on a 'first come, first served' basis, especially for children's birthday parties. A recommendation as outlined in Section 5.2 is to retain tennis on all courts and combine multi use activities that include futsal soccer, basketball and netball over the three courts. Use by Koonarra Hall birthday party hirers will continue as per the current 'first come first served' basis.

There are two points of access into Koonarra Hall. The stairs on the western side of the hall are old and require an upgrade. There is also a tennis floodlight located in the middle of this pathway and this is recommended for removal in Section 5.2 Tennis Courts. The other access to Koonarra Hall is from Balwyn Road on the eastern side and reference is made to this in Section 8.1.3 Disabled Carpark regarding disability access and carparking for users of Koonarra Hall.

Currently the public can access underneath the verandah of Koonarra Hall and it is recommended to prevent any public access to ensure the community's safety.

Refer Action No. 3.1.2, 1.2.0, 5.1.5 and 5.1.6

8. Park Infrastructure

High quality infrastructure such as sports pavilions, lighting, carparking, amenities and clear signage contribute towards a positive experience when visiting the Park.

8.1 Carparking

Options for carparking at Koonung Park include an off street carpark and the local streets. Both carparking options are used by Koonarra Hall users, commuters accessing Thompsons Road bus routes via the Koonung Park Trail and the sports clubs for training and competition.

8.1.1 Off street parking

The Park has a large unmarked asphalt carpark which accommodates all users. The current informal layout allows up to 90 parked cars. The eastern end of the carpark is narrow and doesn't allow for good pedestrian circulation. It is recommended to remove a small part of the asphalt and include landscaping to improve pedestrian access in this section. More shade planting throughout all sections of the carpark is also recommended as is removing some asphalt where the asphalt is wider than required for carparking. Line marking the carpark is not recommended as it will ultimately result in less car spaces than currently achieved through informal carparking arrangements.

8.1.2 Street parking

Some people drive to the vicinity of Koonung Park and commute by bus along Thompsons Road. Street parking in Kampman Street and Furneaux Grove fluctuates and occasionally this spills over into the west end of the carpark. Since January 2015 bus travel from all areas in Manningham is the same price and the demand for parking in this specific area has significantly reduced.

There are parking restrictions on one side of the road while the other side is unrestricted parking along Kampman Street and Furneaux Grove to prevent traffic congestion and improve safety.

8.1.3 Disabled carparking and access

Currently there are no disabled carparks at Koonung Park. Feedback from the community consultation identified that while there is disabled access into Koonarra Hall from Balwyn Road there is not the opportunity to provide a disabled carpark. It is recommended that a disabled bay be constructed in the off street carpark and disabled access from the carpark will be directed around the tennis courts to Koonarra Hall. A ramp will replace the two steps near the Hall.

Refer Action No. 3.1.1, 3.1.9 and 4.1.9

8.2 Lighting

There were very few concerns related to lighting expressed in the community consultation. Assessing the area, the following has been observed in relation to the level of illumination:

- Tree foliage is casting a shadow within the carpark. The effectiveness of the existing spotlights on power poles as street lights along Kampman Street could be improved by trimming branches that are casting the shadow in the carpark.
- There are noticeable dark spots at the eastern and western extremities of the carpark. It is recommended that lighting in these areas could be improved.
- Kampman Street and Furneaux Grove are both relatively dark and additional lighting or upgrading of the existing street lights would enhance lighting conditions in the surrounds. It is recommended that a closer assessment of the lighting conditions be undertaken.

Refer Action No. 4.2.0 and 5.1.1

8.3 Signage

The *Manningham Outdoor Signage Guidelines 2011* applies to the sign at the Furneaux Grove entrance which names the Park, facilities and the tenants. Over the years, there has been some inconsistency in the naming of this Park; it has correctly been referred to as Koonung Park and incorrectly as Koonung Reserve. The existing sign naming it Koonung Reserve is inaccurate and requires updating.

Signage at other entrances is also recommended, including way finding signage throughout the Park, in particular directing users to the Koonung Trail and the newly upgraded Thompsons Road 'Kiss and Ride' interchange.

Refer Action No. 3.1.5

8.4 Open Space and Landscape Values

The landscape character of Koonung Park is largely defined by the flat open space shared by sport and informal recreation activities. The four large remnant River Red Gums (*Eucalyptus caladulensis*) in the south west corner and the Melaleuca (*Melaleuca linariifolia*) windbreak planting remain from the tennis court infrastructure. The Melaleuca trees are not indigenous and do not have heritage value.

The site of the old tennis courts requires landscaping improvements. Aside from removing the two tennis courts when the club disbanded, very little work has occurred in this area. It is recommended that the new cricket training nets be located in this area, with associated new landscaping and access. Actions include removal of Melaleuca tree windbreak on the western boundary of old tennis court site and up prune and thin out Melaleuca trees on the southern boundary. The synthetic cricket pitch will be removed from the south eastern corner with the area returned to open space and reshaped to a more natural form.

There are a number of recommendations made for landscaping improvements throughout the reserve including protecting significant trees, additional planting as well as the removal of some vegetation to improve sightlines and create a more consistent landscaping theme. Specific vegetation removal includes the Evergreen Alders (*Alnus jorullensis*) in the Kampman Street area and Photinia hedges (*Photinia fraseri*) in the carpark area.

Refer Action No. 4.1.1, 4.1.2, 4.1.3, 4.1.4, 4.1.5, 4.1.6, 4.1.7, 4.1.8, 4.1.9, 4.2.1 and 4.2.2

8.5 Path Connections

Community consultation revealed that 40.4% of respondents visit Koonung Park in order to access Koonung Creek Linear Park. This highlights the importance of paths not only connecting to the shared path but also throughout Koonung Park to ensure pathways of travel are accessible, safe and well constructed and encourage people to walk and/or cycle. There are a number of recommendations that will improve access through the Park to specific community facilities.

Refer Action No. 3.1.1, 3.1.4, 3.1.6, 3.1.7, 3.1.8 and 3.2.0

8.6 Water Tank

The water tank located on the side of Koonarra Hall was located as a contingency measure during the recent drought to allow recycled water to be used for irrigation of the cricket wicket area. The tank is not being used and it is recommended to relocate it to the Council depot where it can be added to an already extensive network of tanks collecting water from roof areas for operational purposes.

Refer Action No. 4.2.3

8.7 Drink Fountains

There are three drink fountains servicing Koonung Park. There is a recently installed drink fountain on the Koonung Creek Linear Park shared path and there are two old drink fountains on the east side of the oval. Only one of these is in working order. It is recommended to remove both of these drink fountains and replace with one new drink fountain near the proposed synthetic training nets.

Refer Action No. 1.1.3

8.8 Litter

The sports clubs have a bin cage with four recycling bins and four rubbish bins. These are emptied by Council and remain locked while not in use. Feedback from consultation suggests these bins are poorly located on Furneaux Grove at the park entrance. Rubbish bins should be well sited (in this case to the pavilion) and easily accessible. The disability carparking space proposed in this area and sufficient turnaround space required (from parked cars) for the rubbish truck have been considered. The current location is the only suitable location in the pavilion vicinity but the bin cage should be screened to make it visually less unobtrusive. The recommendation is to screen the bins on Furneaux Grove with planting.

There are no other litter bins in the park. However, as per Council's Urban and Park Design Guidelines, a bin will be sited as part of the proposed barbecue area.

Refer Action No. 2.1.5

9. Strategic Direction - Objectives & Actions

The following table provides a summary of all recommendations. The table includes the reference in the Management Plan document, the Council service unit or stakeholder responsible for implementation, costing and a priority rating.

Action No.	Action	Reference	Unit responsible	Council \$	Priority Level
Objective 1. Maintain and improve the infrastructure for formal sport and community facilities					
1.1.1	Extend overhead protective netting on the turf practise nets (may require additional support posts) and existing synthetic training nets (until they are replaced with new facility).	5.1.2	Parks and Recreation	8,000	High
1.1.2	Remove two existing synthetic cricket nets in the south west area of the Park and reinstate as informal open space	5.1.2	Parks and Recreation	2,500	High
1.1.3	Remove two old drink fountains on east side of oval and replace with one new fountain near the proposed synthetic training nets.	8.7	Parks and Recreation	\$4,500	Low
1.1.4	Construct four new synthetic cricket nets accessible to the community on the eastern side of the Park (includes removal of old tennis court path and a new cage over services).	5.1.2 and 8.4	Parks and Recreation	120,000	High
1.1.5	Install protective netting behind the football goals at the northern end of the sportsground.	5.1.4	Parks and Recreation	40,000	Medium
1.1.6	Construct 1.2 metre cyclone fence and concrete spoon drain around sportsground perimeter leaving 20 per cent gaps for access onto ground.	5.1.5	Parks and Recreation	66,000	Medium
1.1.7	Upgrade and relocate scoreboard in line with <i>Council's Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Guidelines</i> and <i>Council's Outdoor Advertising on Council Owned and Managed Property Policy</i> .	5.1.7	Club	N/A	Low
1.1.8	Increase the sports clubs' storage capacity by including a separate storage facility as part of the proposed synthetic cricket nets.	5.1.8	Parks and Recreation	Refer Action 1.1.4	High
1.1.9	Relocate flagpole.	5.1.9	Club	N/A	Low

Action No.	Action	Reference	Unit responsible	Council \$	Priority Level
1.2.0	Remove tennis court floodlights.	5.2	Parks and Recreation	10,000	Medium
1.2.1	Retain tennis on all three courts in a multi use area that includes futsal soccer on the southern tennis court and basketball and netball on the top two courts.	5.2	Parks and Recreation	Nil	Medium
1.2.2	Replace fencing and shelters around tennis courts as required to meet public safety standards.	5.2	Parks and Recreation	25,000	Medium
1.2.3	Include netball and basketball rings on the top two tennis courts (as part of new fencing if possible)	5.2 and 6.4	Parks and Recreation	\$6,000	
Objective 2. Provide high quality recreation opportunities for the community					
2.1.1	Support Bulleen Cricket Club in finding a suitable ground to establish its junior cricket program.	5.1.1	Parks and Recreation	N/A	High
2.1.2	Continue to monitor private tennis coaching on tennis courts to ensure it is not permitted and community access is maximised.	5.2	Local Laws	N/A	High
2.1.3	Upgrade the playground introducing some interesting themes and landscaping to this area.	6.4	Economic and Environmental Planning	Playspace program	Medium
2.1.4	Continue to implement community programs that promote the use of the exercise equipment.	6.3	Economic and Environmental Planning	Operational	High
2.1.5	Provide barbecue facility (including bicycle parking, litter bin and picnic shelter) near playspace as recommended in Koonung Creek Linear Park Management Plan (KCLPMP) 2011.	KCLPMP recommend. Area A7 and A8	Economic and Environmental Planning	KCLPMP budget	Medium
Objective 3. Ensure facilities are easily accessible by all community members					
3.1.1	Replace the two steps north east of Koonarra Hall with a ramp to improve disability access to carpark and engage an engineer to inspect the retaining wall for any defects.	8.1.3 and 8.5	Parks and Recreation	7,000	Medium

Action No.	Action	Reference	Unit responsible	Council \$	Priority Level
3.1.2	Upgrade stairs that provide western access to Koonarra Hall.	7.0	Economic and Environmental Planning	15,000	Medium
3.1.3	Replace and consolidate seating throughout the Park.	6.7	Economic and Environmental Planning	22,500	Low
3.1.4	Create path connection to link people entering the Park near the corner of Furneaux Grove and Balwyn Road to the carpark.	6.1 and 8.1.1	Economic and Environmental Planning	3,500	Medium
3.1.5	Update the main sign and replace other signs as necessary.	8.3	Economic and Environmental Planning	6,500	High
3.1.6	New path access and landscaping from Balwyn Road (between tennis court and cricket training net facility) to pavilion. Design new seating and paved space around pavilion.	5.1.2 and 5.1.3	Economic and Environmental Planning	\$35,000	Medium
3.1.7	Construct new path linking the Koonung Creek Linear Park to the playground, barbecue and exercise equipment area.	8.5	Economic and Environmental Planning	15,000	Medium
3.1.8	Install new kerb and channel at the corner of Estelle Street and Balwyn Road.	8.5	Engineering & Technical Services	30,000	Low
3.1.9	Provide line marking for a disabled carpark in close proximity to the sports pavilion and Koonarra Hall.	8.1.3	Engineering & Technical Services	2,000	High
3.2.0	Extend the west side of Balwyn Road footpath to the Koonung Creek Linear Park shared path.	KCLPMP recommend. Area A9	Economic and Environmental Planning	KCLPMP budget	High
Objective 4. Enhance the landscape and protect the environment					
4.1.1	Remove the Photinia hedge located between the carpark and sportsground to improve sightlines to the sportsground.	8.4	Parks and Recreation	1,000	Low

Action No.	Action	Reference	Unit responsible	Council \$	Priority Level
4.1.2	Replace small section of cypress pine fencing on Kampman Street with bollards.	8.4	Parks and Recreation	3,000	Low
4.1.3	Install new garden beds to create a planted barrier between the playground, exercise equipment, barbecue area and Kampman Street.	8.4	Parks and Recreation	8,500	Medium
4.1.4	Create a garden bed in the grassed area above the tennis courts retaining wall to improve the safety of people walking in this area.	8.4	Parks and Recreation	20,000	Medium
4.1.5	Infill planting along the shared path in the vicinity of the Koonung Creek Linear Park sound wall.	8.4	Parks and Recreation	12,000	Low
4.1.6	New street trees on Kampman Street, Furneaux Grove and Balwyn Road and screen plant the switchboard and rubbish bins on Furneaux Grove.	8.4	Parks and Recreation	Streetscape Program	High
4.1.7	Remove synthetic cricket pitch located in the south eastern corner of the Park and return to open space.	8.4	Parks and Recreation	2,000	Low
4.1.8	Remove Melaleuca trees on the western side of the former tennis court site and thin out and prune some melaleucas on the southern boundary.	8.4	Parks and Recreation	1,500	High
4.1.9	Landscape carpark and provide shade planting throughout.	8.1.1	Economic and Environmental Planning	16,000	Low
4.2.0	Prune foliage from trees that are casting shadows within the carpark. Improve lighting in dark spots at the eastern and western ends of carpark.	8.2	Parks and Recreation	Operational	Medium
4.2.1	Protect the existing River Red Gums as significant landscape features within the Park.	8.4	Parks and Recreation	N/A	High
4.2.2	Additional tree planting through park and removal of vegetation as marked on the Masterplan.	8.4	Economic and Environmental Planning	8,000	High
4.2.3	Relocate water tank to Council depot.	8.6	Parks and Recreation	N/A	Low

Action No.	Action	Reference	Unit responsible	Council \$	Priority Level
Objective 5. Manage facilities and associated sports clubs effectively into the future					
5.1.1	Assess the lighting conditions in Kampman Street and Furneaux Grove.	8.2	Engineering & Technical Services	Operational	Medium
5.1.2	Continue to support tenant agreements with existing sports clubs.	5.0	Parks and Recreation	N/A	High
5.1.3	Continue to maintain infrastructure for multi use area including court surface, nets and other infrastructure required for tennis, basketball, netball and futsal soccer.	5.2	Parks and Recreation	AMS	Ongoing
5.1.4	Explore the following options for both daytime and evening tennis use: - Continued community use with the current model; or - Expressions of interest process for a community club to use the courts as an extra venue for competition, coaching and other community tennis programs.	5.2	Parks and Recreation	N/A	Medium
5.1.5	Maintain Koonarra Hall as per Council's Building Maintenance Cyclic Program.	7.0	Building Maintenance	N/A	Ongoing
5.1.6	Close off public access to area underneath Koonarra Hall to ensure community safety.	7.0	Building Maintenance	4,000	Medium
5.1.7	Review location of Curator's building in the long term	5.1.10	Economic and Environmental Planning	N/A	Low
TOTAL				\$494,500	

**High priority = 1-3 years, medium priority = 4-7 years and low priority = 8 years + from time of funding*



Koonung Park Management Plan

Council is developing a management plan for Koonung Park in Bulleen and is seeking your feedback on what you would like to see for the future of this district reserve.

To support participation, health and wellbeing in our community, we encourage residents to get involved and be active in our local parks and reserves.

To ensure our parks can be enjoyed today and in the future, we need to plan for them.

What is a management plan?

A management plan provides direction for the future use, development and management of a park or community facility. For Koonung Park the management plan will ensure it continues to meet the needs of the local community.

Koonung Park is located on the corner of Fumeaux Grove and Balwyn Road and has a range of sport and recreation facilities, including a sports ground, three community tennis courts, exercise equipment and a playground for children aged 2 to 8 years.

Koonung Park also includes a hall for hire, Koonarra Hall, and links to the adjacent Koonung Creek Linear Park and the popular Koonung Trail.

The Koonung Creek Linear Park Management Plan was endorsed in 2011. Some of the actions outlined in that plan, that will benefit Koonung Park, include a new barbecue near the playground, bike rails at the public toilets and a footpath linking Balwyn Road to the Koonung Trail.

Existing plans for the park include upgrading the four floodlights around the sports ground to meet Australian standards for Australian Rules Football training. That project is in partnership with the Victorian Government and will be completed in April 2016.

How can you get involved?

To provide direction for its future use, we are seeking feedback on how you currently use Koonung Park and what you would like to see included.

To have your say, please complete this survey by 5.00 pm on Monday 14 December 2015.



For more information call our Economic and Environmental Planning Unit on 9840 9171 or to complete the survey online, visit www.yoursaymanningham.com.au/koonung-park



9840 9355

1. How often do you visit Koonung Park?

- Everyday/most days
- 2 – 3 times a week
- Once a week
- 2 – 3 times a month
- Once a month
- 2 – 3 times a year
- Once a year
- Less often
- Never – go to question 14

2. When do you usually visit the park?

- Weekdays
- Weekends
- Both

3. Do you feel safe when visiting the park?

- Yes
- No

4. Why do you say that?

5. How do you usually get to the park?

- Walk/run
- Cycle
- Car
- Public transport

6. What are your main reasons for visiting Koonung Park?
(please choose up to three)

- Cricket ground
- Cricket nets
- Football ground
- Tennis courts
- Koonarra Hall
- Playground
- Exercise equipment
- Other exercise
- Access to the Koonung Trail
- Access to public transport
- Barbecue
- Walk the dog
- Other (please specify)

Koonung Park has three community tennis courts, which are available to the community free of charge. One of these courts is line marked for futsal soccer.

7. Before today were you aware of this free community facility?

- Yes
- No – go to question 11

8. Do you use this facility?

- Yes
- No – go to question 12

9. How often do you use the tennis courts?

- Everyday/most days
- 2 – 3 times a week
- Once a week
- 2 – 3 times a month
- Once a month
- 2 – 3 times a year
- Once a year
- Less often

10. How do you mainly use the tennis courts?

- Training
- Playing matches
- Coaching
- Futsal soccer
- Other (please specify)

Please go to question 12

11. Now that you are aware that the community tennis courts are free, are you likely to use them in the future?

- Yes
- No

12. How would you rate Koonung Park overall?

- Very good
- Good
- Neutral
- Poor
- Very poor

13. Why do you say that?

14. Is there anything Council could do to encourage you to use the park more often?

15. Do you have any further comments?

16. Which of the following best describes your household?

- Couple with children at home
- Couple with no children at home
- Single parent with children at home
- Lone person household
- Group household
- Other household

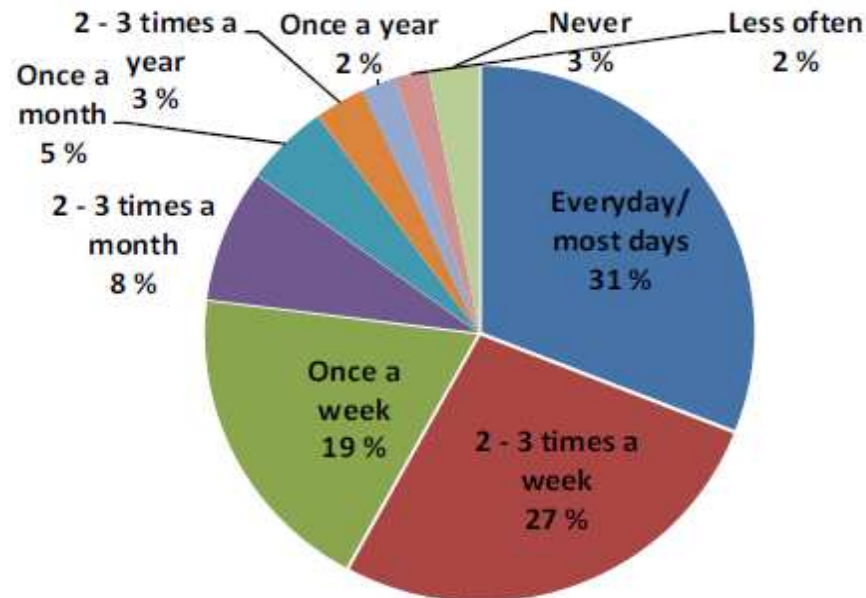
17. What is your age group?

- 15 – 17 years
- 18 – 24 years
- 25 – 34 years
- 35 – 49 years
- 50 – 59 years
- 60 – 69 years
- 70+ years

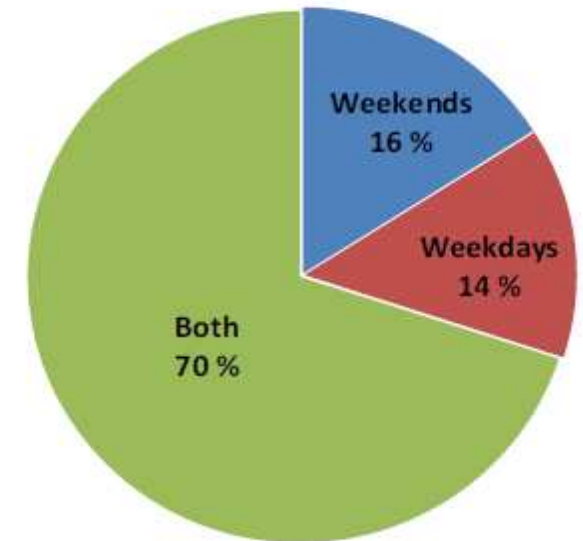
Thank you for completing our survey. Your response is very important to us.

Summary Report for 2015 Community Consultation

1. How often do you visit Koonung Park?

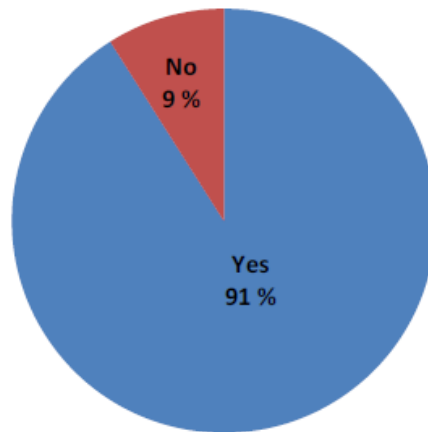


2. When do you usually visit the park?

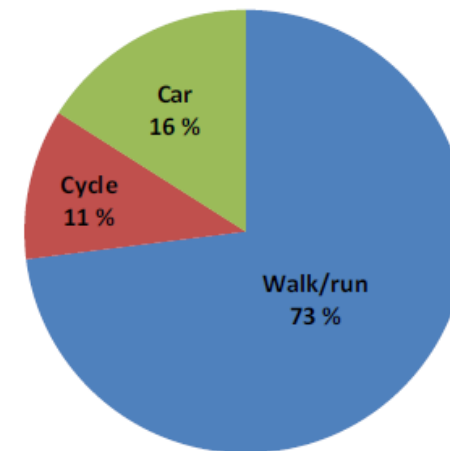


Summary Report for 2015 Community Consultation

3. Do you feel safe when visiting the Park?

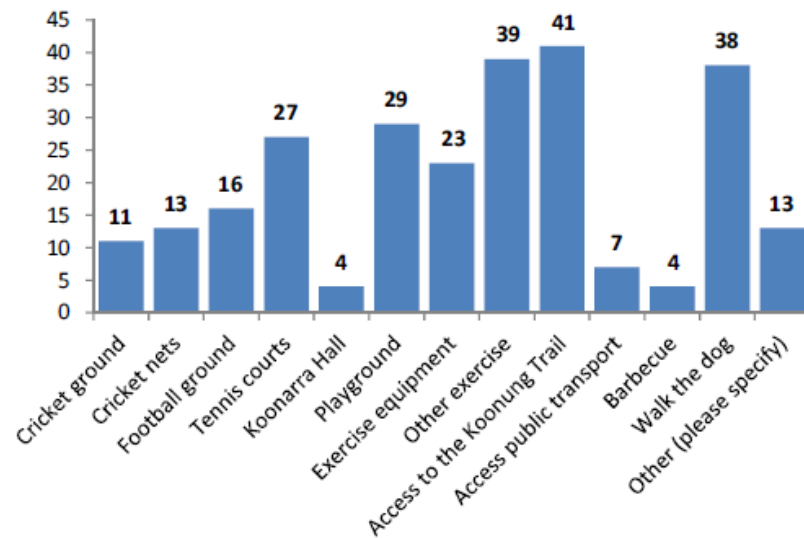


5. How do you usually get to the Park?



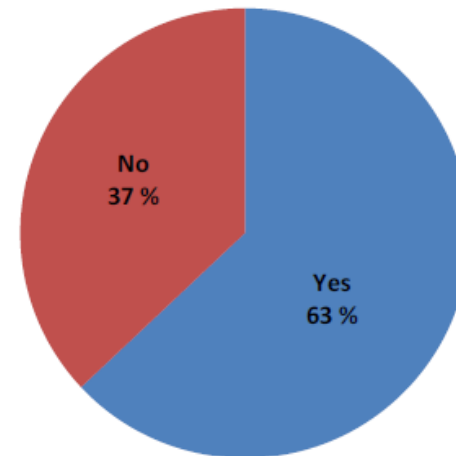
Summary Report for 2015 Community Consultation

What are your main reasons for visiting Koonung Park? (Please choose up to 3)



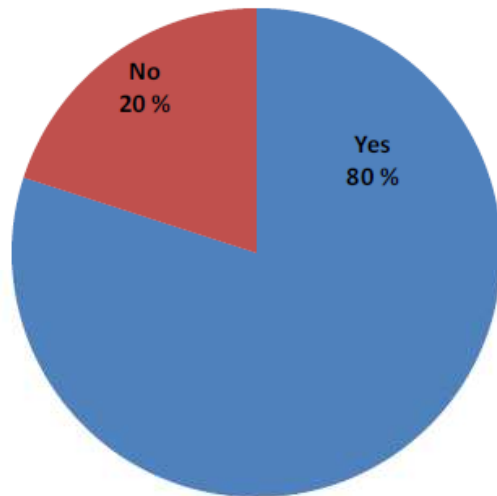
Koonung Park has three community tennis courts, which are available to the community free of charge. One of these courts is line marked for futsal soccer.

7. Before today were you aware of this free community facility?

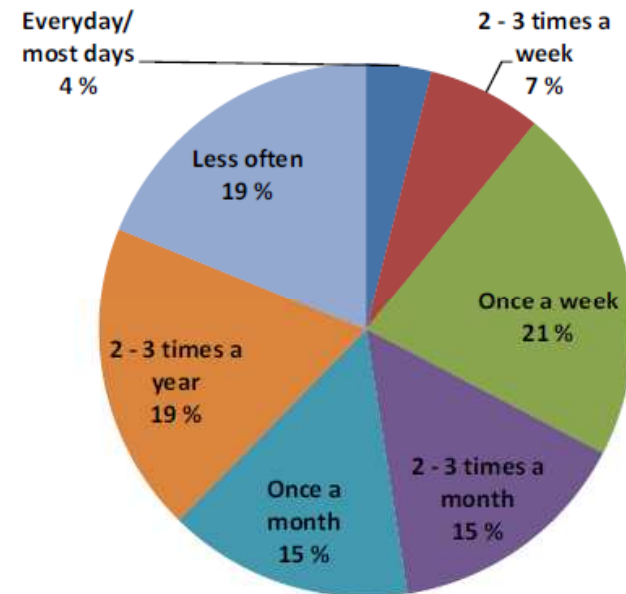


Summary Report for 2015 Community Consultation

8. Do you use this facility?

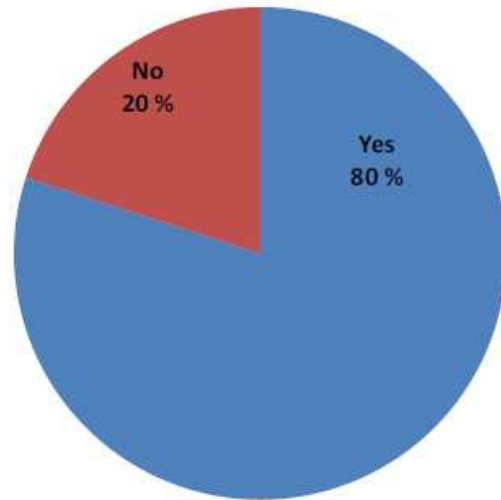


9. How often do you use the tennis courts?

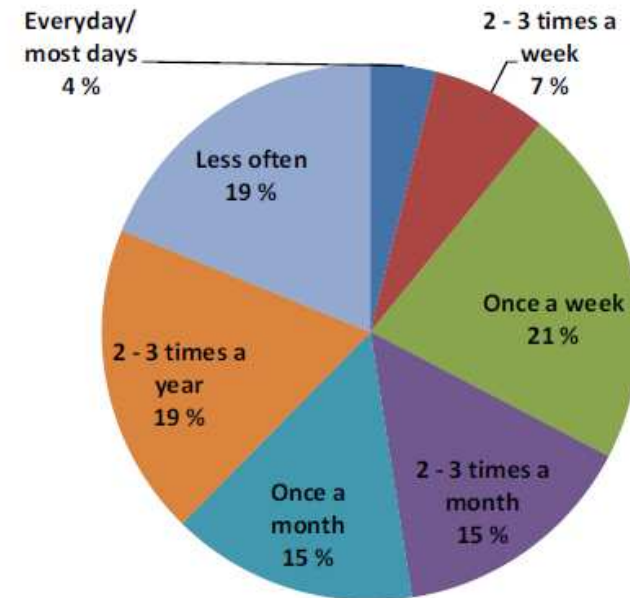


Summary Report for 2015 Community Consultation

8. Do you use this facility?

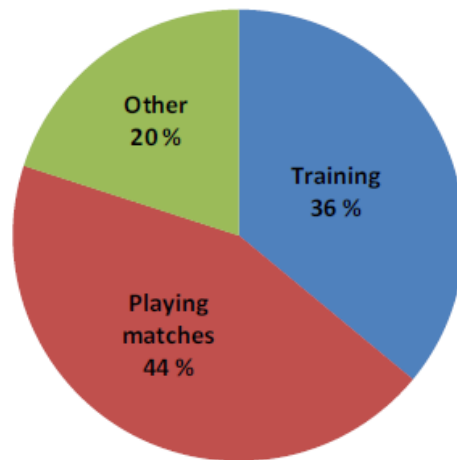


9. How often do you use the tennis courts?

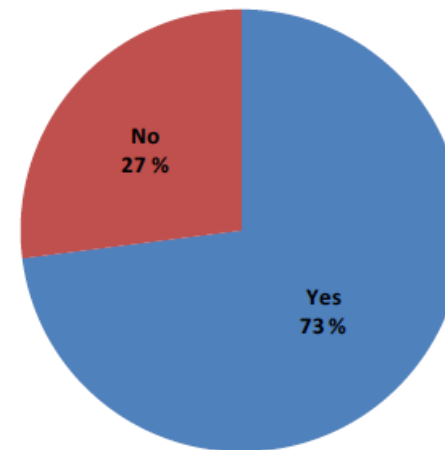


Summary Report for 2015 Community Consultation

10. How do you mainly use the tennis courts?

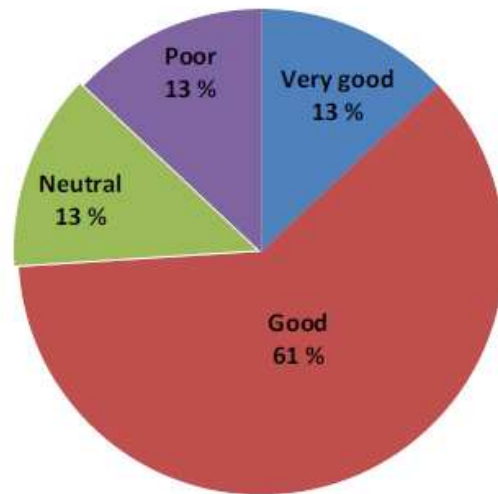


11. Now that you are aware that the community tennis courts are free, are you likely to use them in the future?

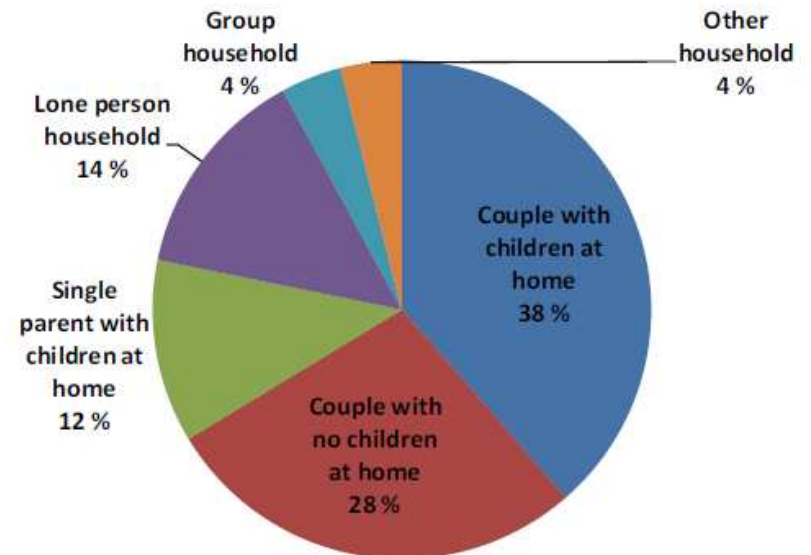


Summary Report for 2015 Community Consultation

12. How would you rate Koonung Park overall?

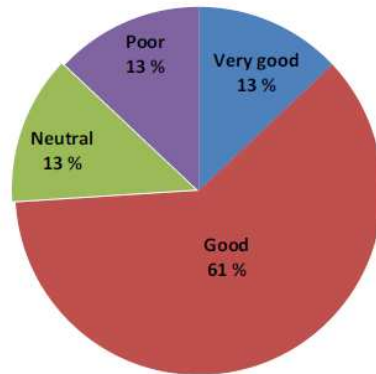


16. Which of the following best describes your household?

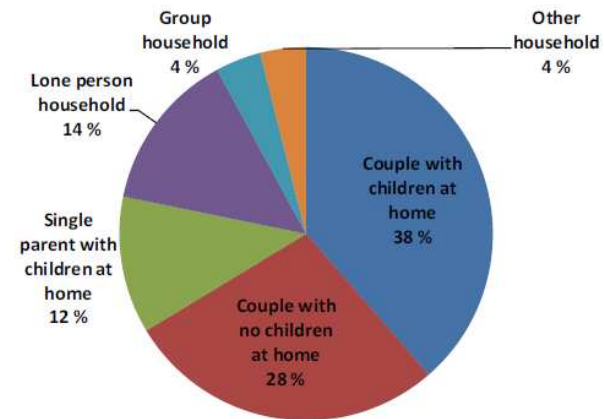


Summary Report for 2015 Community Consultation

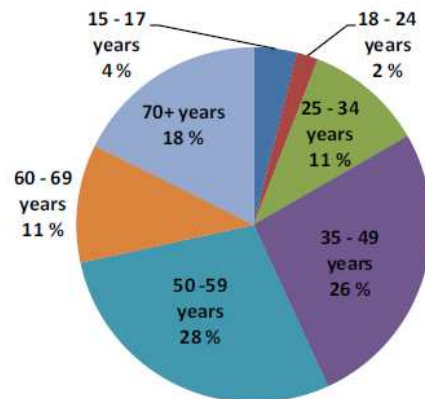
12. How would you rate Koonung Park overall?



16. Which of the following best describes your household?



17. What is your age group?



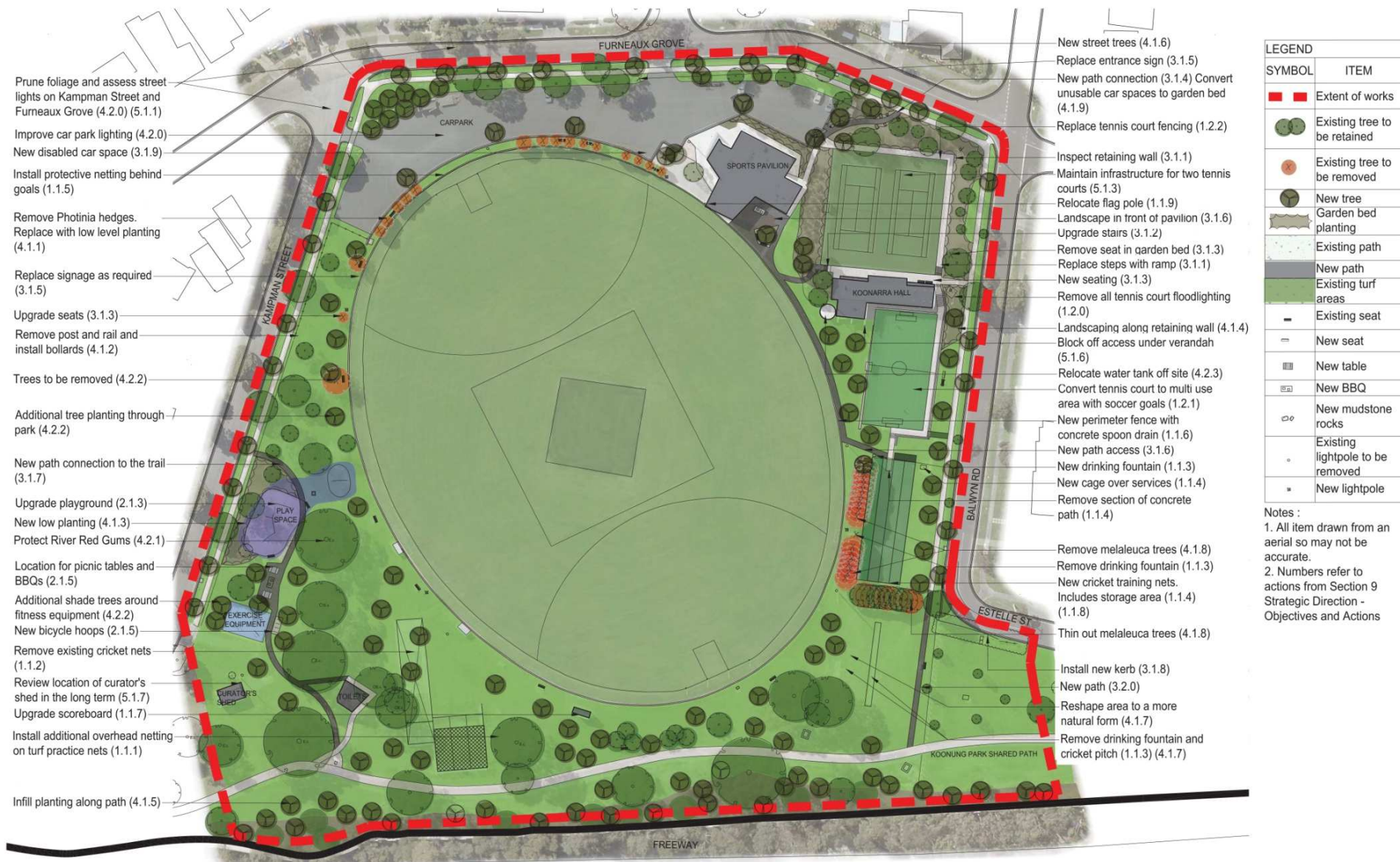


Figure 7 – Koonung Park Masterplan