

Bidford-on-Avon Big Meadow Consultation Responses: Results for Bidford Parish Residents Only

The consultation took place from Friday 24 May to Friday 21 June 2024. The questionnaire was available online or available in hard copy format from the Parish Council. There were 774 responses in total. These show the results for the 729 residents of Bidford Parish who completed the questionnaire.

1.0 Profile

36% of respondents were in the 50 to 64 age group.

Table 1: Age Group

1.	In which age group do you belong?	
	11 (2%)	Up to 18 years old
	34 (5%)	19 to 29
	238 (33%)	30 to 49
	260 (36%)	50 to 64
	123 (17%)	65 to 74
	60 (8%)	75 plus

63% of those completing the questionnaire were female.

Table 2: Gender

2.	Gender:	
	243 (33%)	Male
	460 (63%)	Female
	20 (3%)	Prefer not to say
	3 (0%)	Prefer to self-describe below
	2 comments – non-binary	

These results are for those from the parish only.

Table 3: Live in Parish

3.	Do you live in Bidford-on-Avon Parish?	
	729 (100%)	Yes
	0 (0%)	No

Table 4: Postcode

4.	What is your Postcode?
	700 postcodes were received.

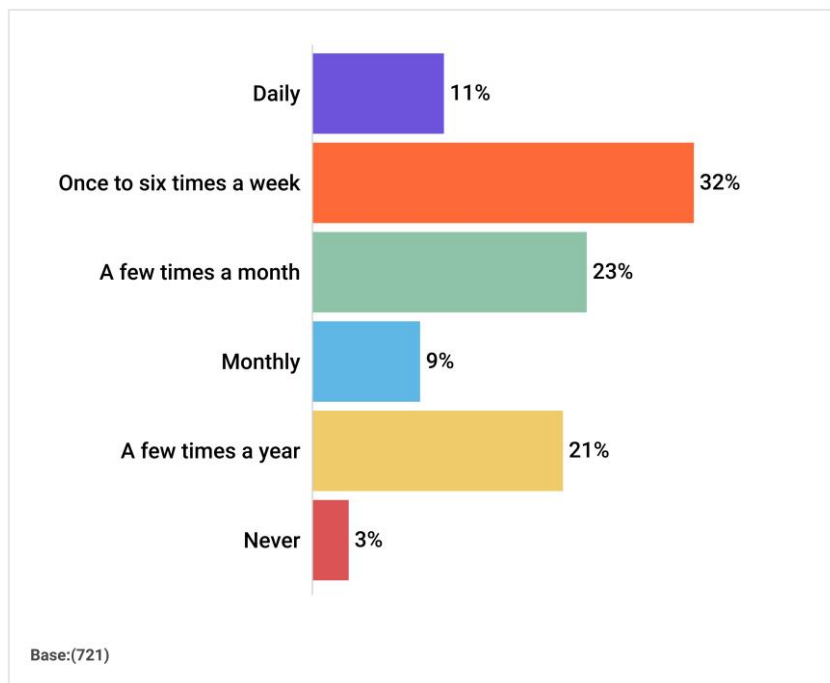
2.0 Park Usage

11% of residents visit the Big Meadow on a daily basis, one in three once to six times a week and a further quarter a few times a month.

Table 5: Frequency of Visit to Big Meadow

5.	How frequently do you visit the Big Meadow?	
	81 (11%)	Daily
	233 (32%)	Once to six times a week
	168 (23%)	A few times a month
	67 (9%)	Monthly
	149 (21%)	A few times a year
	23 (3%)	Never

Figure 2: How frequently do you visit The Big Meadow?

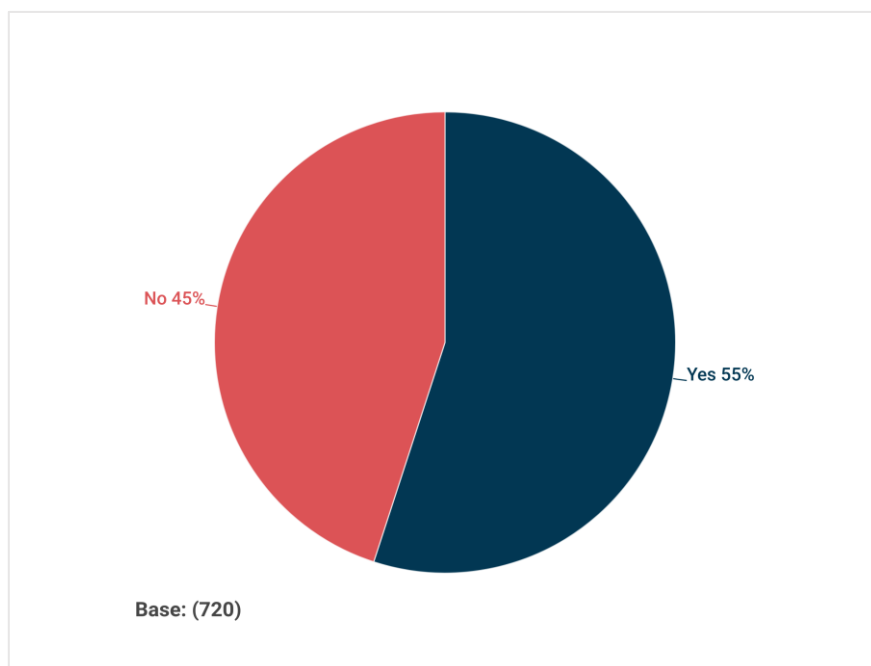


55% of residents have brought children to the park.

Table 6: Whether Bring Children to Park

6.	Do you ever bring children to the park?	
	397 (55%)	Yes
	323 (45%)	No

Figure 3: Do you ever bring children?

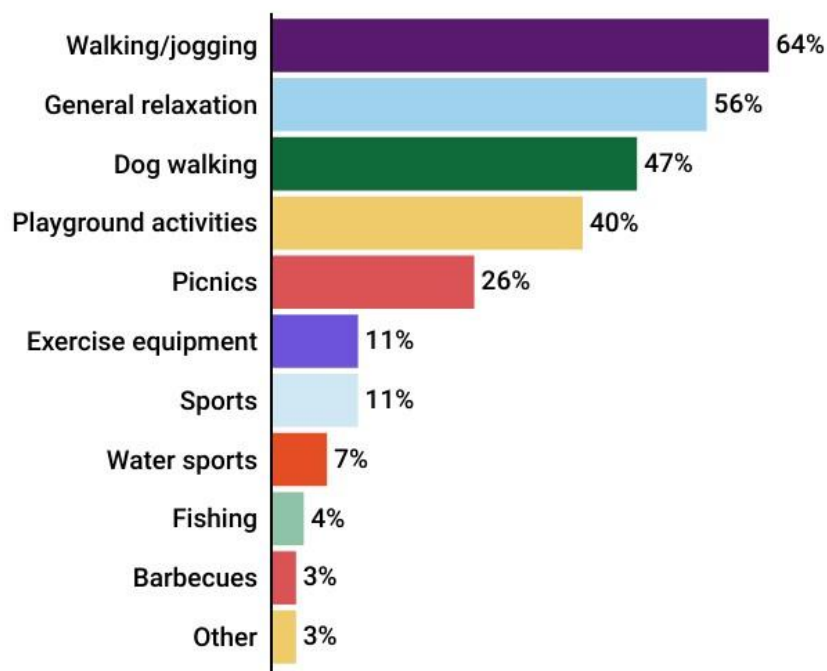


The top four typical activities undertaken at the park, were walking/jogging (64%), general relaxation (56%), dog walking (47%) and playground activities (40%).

Table 7: Activities Undertaken in Park

7.	What activities do you typically engage in at the park? (Select all that apply)	
	469 (64%)	Walking/jogging
	408 (56%)	General relaxation
	344 (47%)	Dog walking
	290 (40%)	Playground activities
	190 (26%)	Picnics
	78 (11%)	Exercise equipment
	77 (11%)	Sports (specify below)
	51 (7%)	Water sports
	28 (4%)	Fishing
	22 (3%)	Barbecues
	24 (3%)	Other (specify below)
	Please specify Sports or Other below	
	100 responses listed in Appendix A	

Figure 4: What activities do you typically engage in at the park?



Base: (729)

3.0 Proposed Improvements to The Big Meadow

3.1 Accessibility

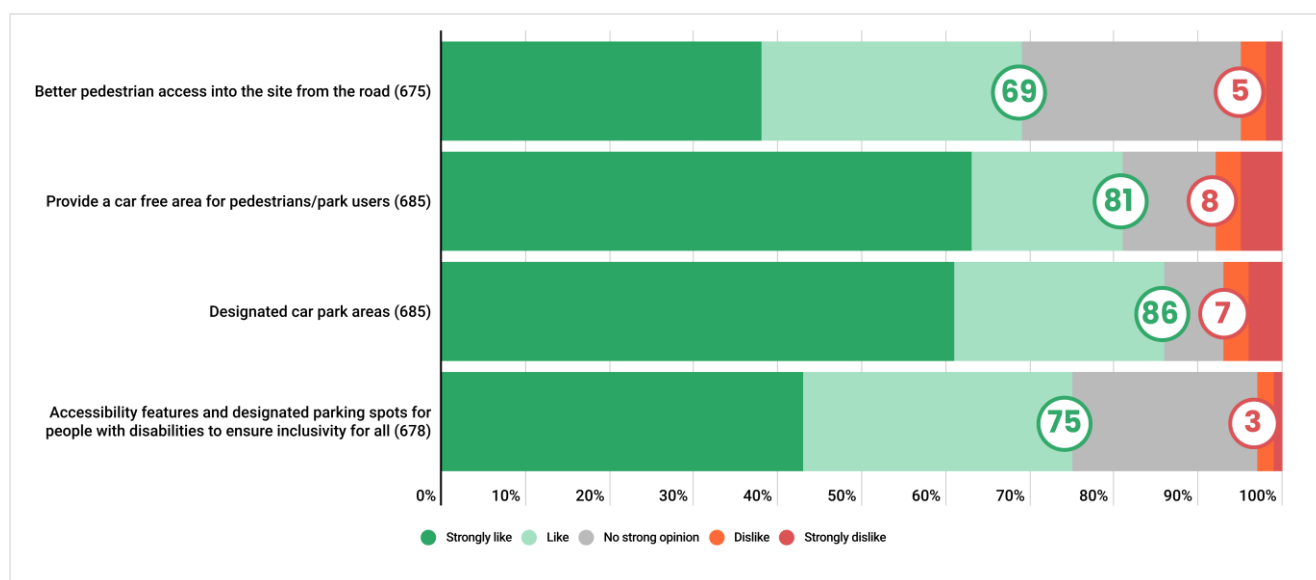
86% of Parish residents wished to see designated parking areas. 81% would like a car free area provided for pedestrians or car users.

Exactly three quarters were in favour of accessibility features and designated parking spots for people with disabilities to ensure inclusivity for all visitors. 69% wanted better pedestrian access.

Table 8: Improvements - Accessibility

8.	How much would you like to see any of the following improvements? Accessibility					
		<i>Strongly like</i>	<i>Like</i>	<i>Dislike</i>	<i>Strongly dislike</i>	<i>No strong opinion</i>
	Better pedestrian access into the site from the road	244 (38%)	197 (31%)	18 (3%)	14 (2%)	163 (26%)
	Provide a car free area for pedestrians/park users	405 (63%)	115 (18%)	22 (3%)	35 (5%)	70 (11%)
	Designated car park areas	393 (61%)	163 (25%)	19 (3%)	28 (4%)	43 (7%)
	Accessibility features and designated parking spots for people with disabilities to ensure inclusivity for all visitors	274 (43%)	207 (32%)	11 (2%)	7 (1%)	142 (22%)

Figure 5: How much would you like to see the following improvements to accessibility?



9. Please give your reasons for your response around accessibility.

416 responses provided.

Table 9 below contains a summary of the themes in the comments around accessibility. These are discussed in more detail below.

Table 9: Themes on improvements to accessibility

Theme	Number of comments	%
Needs of disabled/parents with prams etc	88	21
Dangers to pedestrians from cars	82	20
Inclusivity is good	76	18
Cars/groups are ruining The Big Meadow	72	17
Designated area for parking a good idea	54	13
Parking should be away from river/people	42	10
Cars should not be allowed on The Big Meadow	36	9
Limit the number of cars coming in	31	7
Too many cars at the moment	21	5
Cars/groups causing chaos	21	5
Works as it is	21	5
Entrance causes issues	18	4
Parking charges (should be higher)	15	4
Bridge is dangerous	12	3
Impacts of proposals may be negative	12	3
Policing would be necessary	11	3
Needs of residents	7	2
Toilets need improvement	4	1
Total number of comments	416	

A common theme across the comments was that of **inclusivity** and taking into account the **needs of people with disabilities or specific mobility needs**, such as parents with small children. Almost 20% commented that being more inclusive and ensuring The Big Meadow was open and accessible to all was very important:

“All people regardless of ability/disability should be able to access the facilities easily”

“Accessibility is a human right”

Over 20% talked about the importance of making improvements to **facilitate better accessibility** to those with additional needs. Many of these mentioned better surfacing to the paths, which were felt to be currently difficult to use:

“I have parents with poor mobility who moved here 6 years ago and who have never been to the big meadow because they are wheelchair users and there is no smooth track available”

“The footpath is inaccessible for people with walking disabilities. A flat footpath would make it far safer”

“The surface on the road is unsuitable for wheelchair and pushchairs”

A large number of these comments mentioned the need for **more disabled parking**, and for it to be nearer to facilities such as toilets and play area, and to enable easy access to the river front:

“As a registered disabled woman I feel that there needs to be specified areas just for blue badge holders, such as close to the river, close to the play area so it’s easier to take children to play”

“Disabled parking and Child/Parent parking is non-existent and needs to be implemented and monitored”

“Need disabled accessibility near the toilets”

A handful of comments mentioned a need for improvements to make the Meadow better for **children with disabilities**:

“Safety of those with non-visible disability I.e. autistic child who has no danger awareness and can be a flight risk”

“Accessibility for the disabled - especially disabled children who may be encouraged to use the playground - is a highly desirable feature in itself. This redesign is an opportunity to set a standard of provision for other villages to match. The park should be available and welcoming to everyone”

Another common thread in the comments was the issue of cars on The Big Meadow. A significant number of respondents felt that cars presented a clear **danger to pedestrians**:

“I am elderly and frail, although I do enjoy walking. I have learnt that I just cannot access the lovely river and don't even try any more as it is far too dangerous for me with too many cars and I cannot get near the river as groups of people 'claim' the area by the bank and I cannot get near. It is far too dangerous for me to enter the Meadow due to the traffic and never take the short walk there on the weekend”

“Currently allowing cars to drive on the meadow is dangerous, I have been walking along the river with

my children to look for ducks and have to avoid cars coming in. Cars need to be banned from the meadow itself and there needs to be a safe route to walk, there's a free car park really close"

"Cars mix with people too much. It is not safe"

The **chaotic** nature of the parking on The Big Meadow was felt to present a real danger:

"The parking currently in the Meadow is currently very haphazard. Large groups of cars coral together making it difficult to walk through the area without intruding in their 'space' The cars make the place look crowded and restricts the view of the river. The random way some cars drive into the area to park means someone could easily be knocked down - a lot of young children are often running over to the play area. Ideally cars should be moved far away from the riverside"

"Visitors from outside the village have little regard to the area or the local people or each other, they park indiscriminately and it is generally unsafe"

There was a strong feeling that cars should **not be allowed** on The Big Meadow at all:

"Ban parking on the Meadow...offsite parking in adjacent field...or increase parking fee to £10minimum"

"Ideally no cars would be better or family / disabled parking only and more use of the car parks"

"Cars should be banned from the Big Meadow entirely"

Or at least the number of cars should **be limited**:

"Parking on the big meadow itself must have its capacity drastically reduced. A limit of 40 cars would be a reasonable limit"

"Less cars on the meadow reduce risk of accidents and limit the damage caused to the grass"

Increasing parking charges was thought to be a good way to limit how many cars parked there:

"I live within walking distance. But would like to see the parking costs increased to at least £10 to stop disruptive visitors"

"1. Identify the safe number of cars/vehicles for the area. 2. Increase parking fee to a minimum of £15 per day. 3. Introduce an on-line booking system for number of parking spaces. 4. Install vehicle recognition barrier"

There was some feeling that parking should be provided in areas well **away from the river front**:

"More orderly parking is required away from the river bank to give families a safe place to relax"

"Cars should be parked away from river frontage in designated car parking area making it safer for children to play and for people walking"

Or **use adjoining fields**:

"we need to move the cars off the meadow and put in the two fields next to the cricket pavilion. it is far too dangerous as it is for people. I have a disabled grandson and I am unable to bring them to the park for this reason"

"I can't see why parking can't be in Monie Meadow, the Recreation ground in Stratford does not have random parking by the river at all, visitors have to walk away to access it, this would alleviate clashes with cars and pedestrians and leave all the area free for recreation, you will still get silly/selfish parking. Residents avoid the area"

The unlimited parking meant that there were, according to a number of responses, **too many cars**:

"Far too many cars on there. I would take my children there through the week but not on a weekend as it essentially becomes a car park with some benches and a playground"

"At weekends there are far too many cars and people on the meadow. Cars have precedence over people"

The amount of parking (and subsequent crowds of people) was felt to be **ruining the feel and look of The Meadow** for residents and other visitors who were there to enjoy the natural beauty of the place:

"The meadow is a beautiful natural environment to walk in. Having a lot of cars parked within a place of beauty makes it less of a place of beauty"

"Would like to see more open areas along the riverside to enable clear walk way. Currently multiple cars park in groups which make it impossible to walk along the river pushing pedestrians onto the hard path area and spoiling enjoyment"

"Cars take up too much space and are parked irresponsibly or too close to the riverbank, stopping people being able to walk and potentially causing damage"

Providing **designated parking** was therefore felt to be a good idea to improve safety, as well as to limit the number of cars and people accessing The Meadow:

"Designated parking spots would keep the park safer and more organised and would keep the number of visitors to an acceptable level every day"

"I think the car park should be where the play park is now and move the playground further in to the meadow. This would keep cars away from people and could be ring with hedge / fence with disabled parking as well"

The **entrance** to The Big Meadow and the **bridge** were both felt to be dangerous as they were:

"Having the volume of traffic and pedestrians entering at the same area is a accident waiting to happen"

"The entrance to the meadow doesn't separate cars and pedestrians. The car exit from the meadow isn't the easiest Perhaps a marked pedestrian footpath to guide people away from the car access via a gate nearer to the river"

"Car bridge way too busy and chaotic"

"Bridge is dangerous and slow to cross. No enforcement of red lights or speed limits"

There were a few respondents who were worried about the potential **impacts of the proposals** on the feel of The Meadow, or how achievable the proposals were, or who felt that **it worked as it was:**

“If current pedestrian access is considered unsafe, then improvements may be necessary, but I don't want to see more man-made structures taking away from the natural beauty”

“As much as it would be great to have a car free area and designated car park where would this be? There is not the room for all these ideas!”

“I believe current pedestrian access works adequately”

“Why waste un necessary money, when the access to the park for pedestrians from the road. Has NEVER been a problem since the day it opened ????”

3.2 Park Use

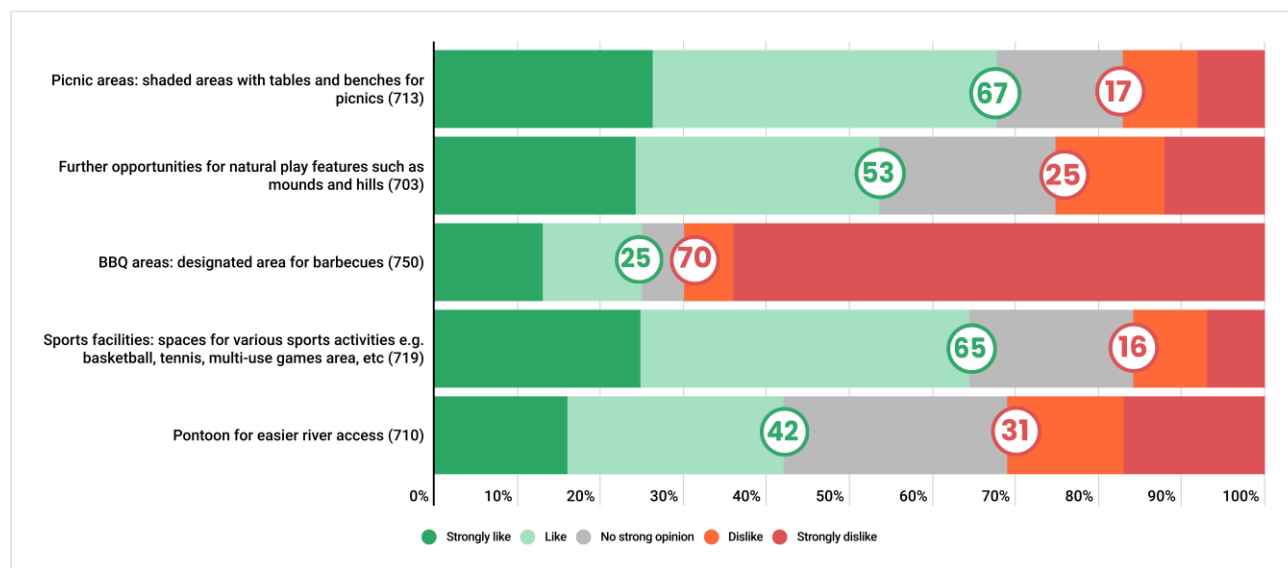
Two-thirds of residents (67%) wished to see picnic areas in the park, 65% more sports facilities and just over half (53%) wanted further opportunities for natural play features such as mounds and hills.

42% of residents wants a pontoon for easier river access. Exactly a quarter of residents would like a designated area for barbecues. 70% strongly disliked the idea.

Table 10: Improvements: Park Use

10. How much would you like to see any of the following improvements? Park Use						
		Strongly like	Like	Dislike	Strongly dislike	No strong opinion
	Picnic areas: shaded areas with tables and benches for picnics	172 (26%)	278 (41%)	61 (9%)	57 (8%)	104 (15%)
	Further opportunities for natural play features such as mounds and hills	161 (24%)	195 (29%)	88 (13%)	80 (12%)	140 (21%)
	BBQ areas: designated area for barbecues	91 (13%)	82 (12%)	45 (6%)	453 (64%)	37 (5%)
	Sports facilities: spaces for various sports activities e.g. basketball, tennis, multi-use games area, etc.	167 (25%)	271 (40%)	60 (9%)	45 (7%)	138 (20%)
	Pontoon for easier river access	105 (16%)	177 (26%)	96 (14%)	111 (17%)	181 (27%)

Figure 6: How much would you like to see the following improvements to park use?



11.	Please give your reasons for your response around <u>park use</u>.
	476 responses provided.

Table 11 below contains a summary of the themes in the comments around park use, showing those themes which had 5 comments or more.

Table 11: Themes on improvements to park use

Theme	Number of comments	%
No BBQs should be allowed – ban them	241	51
Keep The Big Meadow natural/open spaces – no need for more	71	15
BBQs cause damage to the environment	58	12
No pontoon – too dangerous	53	11
The Big Meadow is ruined for local people/no help to local	53	11
People are irresponsible/abuse the site	41	9
Too busy	39	8
BBQs lead to mess/litter	37	8
No to a designated BBQ area	34	7
BBQs are dangerous	31	7
Yes to more picnic benches/a shaded picnic area	30	6
Proposals would need policing/a warden would help	29	6
Yes to a designated BBQ area	29	6
Get rid of blue benches	22	5
No more picnic facilities	22	5
Yes to pontoon/better river access	22	5
No to the mounds or hills	21	4
BBQs are banned in other parks	20	4
BBQ smell/smoke is a nuisance	19	4
Yes to additional sports facilities	18	4
Already sports facilities enough	17	4
Yes to designated BBQ area but only if there HAS to be BBQs	17	4
No cars should be allowed/parking issues	15	3
No additional sports please	14	3
The Big Meadow should be a good place for families and fun	12	3
BBQs lead to anti-social behaviour	12	3
Yes to a better play area	10	2
BBQs bring crowds which are a problem	10	2
The Big Meadow is too busy	10	2
Yes to the mounds/hills	9	2
Proposals would just encourage more visitors	6	1
Enough play facilities already	5	1
Increase parking charges	5	1
Total number of comments	476	

The overwhelming theme that emerged from the responses here was that of banning BBQs. Over half the responses (51%) wanted to see an **outright ban**, and a further 4% would only be happy with a **designated area for BBQs if** the Parish Council felt an outright ban was impossible:

"I marked "like" for BBQ area because I prefer to ban BBQ as there are so much burned grasses and rubbish after it everywhere and it was a few cases of fire in the park. If you don't want to ban BBQ so make an area for this"

"If BBQs cannot be banned, their use should be restricted to the area depicted in the proposed plan"

There were many reasons given by respondents for wanting to ban BBQs. The most commonly cited reason was the **damage** which BBQs caused (or led to) **to the environment or the facilities**:

"BBQs are a must not! Polluting our lovely river and the wildlife within it when people from outside the area come and dump their rubbish and happily leave for someone else to clear up or worse kill our wildlife"

"I've seen the damage caused by BBQ's. Therefore I think BBQ's should be banned - families who wish to eat can bring picnics"

"BBQ are being lit throughout the Meadow on the grass areas as well as the table tops. The spent ashes are left in the hedges or washed down the river causing environmental issues. The food wastage that is left presents a severe health and safety issue in the fact it will encourage vermin, animals can eat wastage causing stomach problems"

The **danger** presented by allowing BBQs and open flame cooking was highlighted:

"We don't need bbq's. What's wrong with picnic-ing? They are encouraging larger & larger bbq's and open fire cooking. This in itself is dangerous for children playing and the potential for vehicle fires with the way cars are allowed to park"

"Just ban barbecues. They are a major fire hazard, and now you propose to confine it to one area"

Some people cited the **mess/litter** which people using BBQs left behind as being a particular problem:

"BBQs are causing so much mess, and people are either leaving on tables as too hot to take home. .. so leave.. throw in bin before there cold causing fires. Throwing on grass areas where people and children walk..."

"It's clear to all that BBQ's are not suitable for the meadow. Evidence of this is all the bins which aren't used and the amount of food and other waste chucked on the river bank or in the river"

A number of responses felt that users of BBQs were **not responsible enough** and were **abusing the site** rather than taking care and treating it with respect:

"The meadow should not be used for bbq's. Once the bbq area becomes full, they will spill out onto all of the other areas. I am happy for all to enjoy, but the meadow is now disrespected, abused and left in a sorry state every weekend and bank holiday. Local residents can no longer enjoy the tranquil scenery or facilities"

"No BBQs. It's simple. People are not respecting the meadow. Ban them"

The inability of people to stick to the rules was often cited as a reason for **not having designated BBQ areas**:

“Unfortunately I don't believe people would exclusively use the designated area for BBQs; people will continue to sit where they want and light their barbeques wherever they want because it's an unfortunate fact of life that people don't like being told what to do and will in all probability just ignore the signs”

To make this work, there would need to be a warden to **police usage**, and very clear rules and restrictions in place:

“Unless there is onsite supervision, I very much doubt that 'all' visitors will be compliant with a dedicated BBQ area”

“Dedicated bbq areas are important but would likely only work if there was a weekend warden enforcing non-compliance”

The **smoke and smells** caused by BBQs were felt to be undesirable:

“I'd like my grandson to be able to enjoy his local park without choking smoke!!!”

“I'm not sure people would just sit in designated areas for barbecues. Would be really nice not to be smoked out while eating a picnic”

A number of respondents did not like the way that BBQ usage brought **large crowds** of people who were often in large groups, often making it difficult to access the riverside:

“I have a rollator for walking and on Sunday 12th May, it was difficult, sometimes impossible to be able to walk riverside. This was due to very inconsiderate family groups spreading their blankets and picnics all across the river frontage”

“Bidford is attracting far too many visitors purely for barbequing and large family gatherings”

There was also some feeling that BBQs led to problems with **anti-social behaviour**:

“Playing of loud music and having bbqs should not be part of the attraction for coming to the Meadow”

“BBQ and cooking must be banned it has turned the once peaceful park into a disgusting overcrowded slum, there was even a mass fight on Sunday”

Generally, BBQs were felt by a good number to be **ruining The Meadow** for residents or those wanting a more peaceful time:

“BBQs have ruined the pleasure for some locals. I can't walk dogs there after a busy weekend as I know there will be food, coals and rubbish (I have come across human excrement before) scattered around”

“Barbeques have stopped me from visiting the meadow because of the vast amount of people in a very small area on the meadow”

“It would be lovely for my family to be able to go and take a picnic, play on the park or go for a walk but this is only possible in the colder months or very early in the mornings before it is too overcrowded”

And a number pointed out that BBQs were **banned in other similar parks** and open spaces:

“BBQ's should not be allowed at the meadow. No other local park allows them”

“BBQ's should be banned in line with other parks within Warwickshire district”

Other improvements saw more diversity of opinion. A number of respondents highlighted some **dangers with installing a pontoon** as per the proposals:

"A pontoon would encourage people to swim in the river! The undercurrent/ debris/ boats/ contaminants all lead to an accident waiting to happen unless you are providing life guards!"

"Extremely dangerous to have a pontoon where suggested. This really hasn't been thought through. The only navigable arch for motorised boats is right next to the proposed pontoon. It's a total blind spot for pleasure boats coming down stream and will be an accident waiting to happen. Really can't believe the lack of thought by Leaf Green when suggesting this. Also boats navigating up stream start to turn close in to the bank to be straight onto the arch, we can be talking 12 tons of barge coming past swimmers, paddle boarders etc. Propellers and people don't mix!"

A smaller number thought the **pontoon was a good idea**:

"..a pontoon would make it safer for people wanting to use the river"

"So many people launch vessels on the river now in Bidford that the river bank is paying the price. A pontoon will aid in keeping the river bank from further fast corrosion"

A number of people felt that **more picnic benches or a shaded picnic area**, as proposed, was a **good** idea, particularly as an alternative to BBQs or to prevent a crowded riverbank:

"Picnic areas would be great for families. BBQs should be banned"

"Picnic areas would benefit visitors more than myself but are a good idea if they also prevent random parking"

"Tables and benches for picnics are what public parks are all about"

However, a smaller number felt there was **enough provision or too much** already:

"I believe there are already enough (too many) picnic tables and benches - and more would not be particularly welcome"

"We need to reduce the amount of metal posts, tables, bins & benches & install something more natural & in keeping with the riverside setting"

Particularly problematic were the **blue benches** that had already been installed along the river front. A number of people wanted to see these replaced or got rid of altogether:

"Remove some of those awful BLUE seats, or at least paint them a different colour"

"To be honest, anything is an improvement on blue metal benches"

"Picnic areas I like but no blue benches- more natural In keeping materials to be used"

The **mounds/hills** were felt by some to be **unnecessary** or would **attract unwanted usage**:

"Mounds would encourage BMX bikes"

"Have seen mounds and hills in other parks and have never seen a child use them, only dogs lifting their legs on them and they look quite unsightly"

Although some **liked the idea** of them as a more 'natural' addition:

"Agree mounds and hills would/could be used to define areas"

"Picnic areas and natural play areas encourage families to enjoy the area"

Additional sports facilities were welcomed by some to improve health and provide exercise opportunities, seen by some as being beneficial for younger members of the community:

“Bidford is very much a friend family orientated village - would be good to have some facilities for young children and teenagers alike: basketball court, crazy golf, table tennis , tennis to be able to participate in such activities”

“To encourage use of the meadow as an exercise opportunity”

While others felt there were **already adequate sports facilities**:

“Prefer the area to be open for leisure activities. There are already designated sports fields within the parish and cricket and football are played in areas leased by them in the Big Meadow”

“There is already a well-endowed play space for sports and personal use”

And some were **not keen** to see sports facilities added as they were not appropriate to The Big Meadow:

“It should not be taken over by specific sports facilities other than what is currently in place and which blends in well with the current look and use of the meadow. Specific facilities can take away from the current open nature of the meadow and there is plenty of grass to take up small game activities. The meadow is not a sports facility”

“Designated areas for tennis and basketball would occupy too big an area for this “picnic” and leisure area”

A few respondents would be happy to see improvements to the play area, particularly updating what was there already, or providing different play opportunities:

“More play equipment and a skate park which could be used by kids on scooters/bikes would be good”

“To be honest, it’s not asked but all of the park play equipment needs updating. I have primary age children and we also go to the park in Salford Priors which has much, much better equipment than the Meadow”

“Also a kids outdoor water play”

There were others who felt what was there was **adequate**:

“Can’t see any reason to increase or move the current play area or add more sport facilities as I think these are ample as they are”

“I think Children have enough play areas”

3.3 Facilities

Questions around the facilities were then asked.

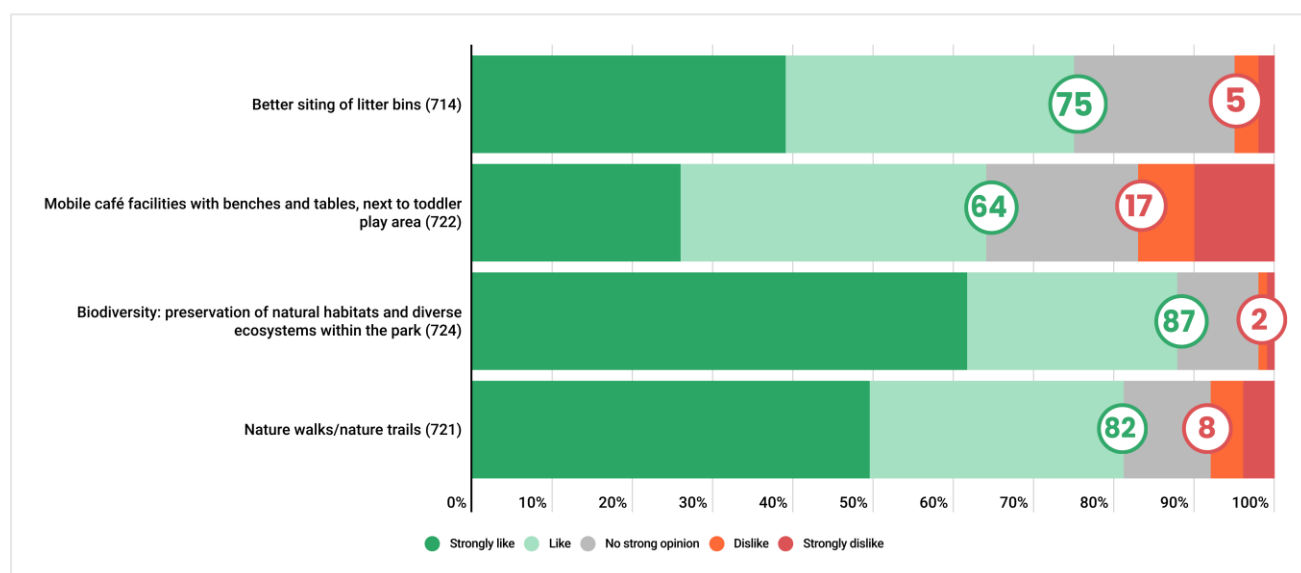
87% of residents wanted to see the preservation of natural habitats and diverse ecosystem with the park with another 82% wanted improvements to nature trails and walks.

Exactly three-quarters of respondents wanted to see a better siting of the litter bins and 64% wants some mobile café facilities with benches and tables, next to the toddler play area.

Table 12: Improvements: Facilities

12. Would you like to see any of the following improvements? Facilities						
		Strongly like	Like	Dislike	Strongly dislike	No strong opinion
	Better siting of litter bins	261 (39%)	240 (36%)	23 (3%)	12 (2%)	138 (20%)
	Mobile café facilities with benches and tables, next to toddler play area	177 (26%)	257 (38%)	48 (7%)	70 (10%)	131 (19%)
	Biodiversity: preservation of natural habitats and diverse ecosystems within the park	421 (61%)	179 (26%)	9 (1%)	10 (1%)	66 (10%)
	Nature walks/nature trails	338 (50%)	220 (32%)	25 (4%)	24 (4%)	75 (11%)

Figure 7: How much would you like to see the following improvements to facilities?



13.	Please give your reasons for your response around the <u>facilities</u>.
	The 365 responses were received.

Table 13 below contains a summary of the themes in the comments around facilities. These are discussed in more detail below.

Table 13: Improvements: Facilities

Theme	Number of comments	%
Bins	101	28
Café	88	24
Keep as natural as possible	75	21
Leave as is/have everything already/No more	44	12
Barbecues	35	10
Benches/Seating	32	9
Cars/Parking	28	8
Biodiversity related	28	8
Nature trails/Walks developed/Improved	28	8
No to nature trails	24	7
Good to have more facilities/Agree	23	7
Toilets	17	5
Wildlife area	12	3
Play area	4	1
Other	54	15
Total Responses	365	

101 respondents brought up the subject of litter bins. There was a variety of thoughts on the matter. Of the 101, 35 were generally happy with where they were located, felt there was the correct amount and it was users who were the problem for not using them.

I think the current litter bins are well positioned and there are plenty of them. The problem is lazy people and I don't know you police that. I only know I've never seen such a large problem in any other park/area of nature that I have ever visited.

There are already plenty of litter bins and dog bins it just needs people to use them properly, however a large skip type bin near the exit could perhaps help to stop people piling up there rubbish alongside the bins for those that do clear up properly.

There are more than enough bins, the problem is a lack of respect for the area.

22 of the 101 comments on bins referred to the fact that people felt they were an eyesore, ruined the view and the colour was wrong.

Colour of litter bins needs to be in keeping with the natural environment.

The current litter bins are an eyesore and their small aperture seems to discourage responsible clearing up.

Too many bins that spoil the view.

12 of the 101 specified a need to move the bins because they were too close to certain areas of the meadow, such as the picnic area for example.

Better siting of litter bins will hopefully reduce rubbish left by visitors.

11 comments on bins were about the need to actually remove some as there were too many spoiling the view and people did not have the courtesy to use them.

There are lots of bins, problem is people don't bother using them.

There are a ridiculous amount of bins and it looks awful along the river. They should be situated only where needed, near picnic benches or play areas, and other people can simply walk to a bin if needed or maybe they should be made to take any litter home with them or risk a fine.

There were half a dozen comments for each of the following revolving around bins; there are enough, some wanted more or to make them bigger.

88 responses mentioned the café in their response around facilities.

The main thrust of responses came between those wanting a café and those indicating it was not a good idea.

27 responses thought a mobile catering facility would be of benefit, characterised by the following comments:

A mobile cafe would be a good thing, presumably generating some revenue from rent for the local good.

A mobile cafe with benches and table next to toddler area would be an asset for all.

Mobile cafe would help in no need for BBQs along with better monitoring of waste & littering.

I would be in favour of mobile café facilities which could potentially lead to a revenue stream to fund the ongoing development of the Big Meadow.

Mobile cafe a good idea - no point having a permanent one as it would get flooded at some point.

25 responses referred to a more permanent structure:

I think having a cafe on there would be nice so people can enjoy food and refreshments.

A proper cafe building serving hot/cold food with decent on site toilets is a great idea.

A cafe with all its facilities - i.e. their own food, benches and bins - would hopefully discourage park users from lighting barbeques on the wooden benches by the river and might encourage them to bin their waste if the bins are right next to where they're sitting?

Would be nice to have a cafe as we used to.

10 mentioned a more informal arrangement for refreshments:

Offering more food/drink options is good for visitors.

Would welcome the chance to buy a coffee and relax at a table, especially before or after young family members' play in the play area.

25 respondents specifically mentioned they did not want a café. Some expressed concern it would detract from business in the village, others that it would attract rubbish.

Cafe facilities are not necessary as there is a cafe in the village already.

Don't need a cafe - would take the trade away from the village shops.

Cafe takeaway options not required, would also likely create more litter. Ideally people should be encouraged to use the existing cafe facilities in Bidford.

Mobile catering facilities often have questionable hygiene standards and provide additional scope for litter.

You can't mix toddlers and children with queues of people wanting a cuppa. Who clears up the mess when the mobile cafe has left.

75 respondents made comments that centred around the need for the meadow to remain as now as a natural habitat.

This needs to be a natural place to encourage wildlife & habitat

The meadow should be kept as natural as possible to preserve its beauty.

Preserving the environment and areas to teach children about nature would be wonderful

Keep the meadow as close to nature as possible for reservation, wildflower seeds could be planted as well.

It's a great riverside meadow and environment/nature would appear to be a natural progression for the site

44 people wanted the facilities to be left as they were. Most wanted the meadow not spoilt by over developing. More facilities would lead to more visitors which they did not want.

It's an open space, and always has been. Why are you trying to turn it into something it's not? Nature walks? Everywhere is nature.

More attractions means more people coming and destroying our lovely area

This is a place of beauty not a car park and festival site.

It is a very small area. We do not want overdevelopment which would then attract more visitors.

We need to protect what we have but I do not feel much new needs adding.

35 responses referenced barbecues that are more specifically quizzed about in the next question. Having more catering facilities would lead to less need for a barbecue was mentioned more than once in the comments. The creation of litter and the need to preserve the look of the Meadow without barbecues were also points made.

Availability of hot food may go some way to reducing the need to BBQ I researched extensively the cost of putting a cafe/bistro area onto the meadow. It was prohibitive.

More bins ruins the landscape and scenery. No bbq's equals less litter!

By offering "more to do" visitors are less likely to need BBQs.

I think that the natural beauty of the meadow should be preserved. Stop people/cars/barbecues from destroying it and the river.

32 responses in this section gave mention to the benches. The most comments on this subject were on the look of them, especially the colour and where they are actually sited. However, there was a need for more seating in certain areas of the Meadow.

Blue benches are really not in keeping with the area.

Colour of litter bins needs to be in keeping with the natural environment.

More seating around the park and cafe facilities where parents can grab a coffee while children play.

I do think the present siting of seats and bin's look awful and show no imagination and do not in keeping at all.

A further 28 responses were made in relation to cars and parking. Where they were in relation to people on the meadow was an issue and being in a safer area.

No parking in the walking areas such as the riverside. The cars are parked that close that you can't walk along there at all.

Facilities based on people not parking cars. If money meadow could be developed into a car park it would provide separation between people and cars.

My issue is cars. Fill the area with picnic benches, cafe facilities, play areas for all ages. Cars to be placed off site and away people.

28 respondents were keen to see biodiversity encouraged, protected or enhanced.

Let's preserve and encourage the natural biodiversity. If we don't we'll lose it and it won't return

Nature and biodiversity is very important to me. It's one of the reasons why we moved into the area. But over the last few years (since the pandemic lock downs) the meadow has lost it's natural charm. We now go elsewhere, which is a shame as we used to be proud of the meadow.

I am hugely in favour of any nature/biodiversity initiatives that encourage low-impact use of the Big Meadow that recognises that it is a pleasant (semi) natural environment

28 respondents were keen to see walks or nature trails developed on the meadow. Some thought it would benefit children, some would like it designed so that the elderly or disabled could enjoy them and some felt the walks would see people put closer to nature.

Encouraging walking and appreciating the surrounding natural area engenders a healthy lifestyle. Signs displaying the breeds of birds and aquatic creatures would help children identify and enjoy spotting and maybe even taking pictures of what they see.

Walks and trails for elderly and disabled without blockage from cars, tents, chairs, blankets etc.

The suggestion of nature walks and encouraging natural habitats is much more in-keeping to where we should be focusing our efforts. I don't want to see any BBQ's but more nature and ways of encouraging it in this area. Where there is healthy river then the diverse ecosystems will be encouraged to flourish.

However on the other hand, 24 people made comments against the creation of nature trails/walks. These are typified by these comments.

Faked nature trails are not necessary especially if their creation involves the destruction of present ecosystems

I mean it's not really a place for nature walks or trails is it - it's a massive green field at the end of the day next to the riverbank. The walk through the fields around Marlcliff is lovely or to the lock, but that's not really a nature trail.

There would be no need for contrived nature trails...the river bank is perfect, just needs to be safe to walk by.

23 respondents were generally happy with the plans for more facilities and typified by the following comments:

Builds up area for better enjoyment for all.

The facilities mentioned above would all have a positive impact on the Big Meadow.

Love all of this for myself and my toddler.

17 respondents specified toilets and went into more detail. They generally centred on simply being improved and build more due to the increasing numbers visiting the meadow.

Improved toilet facilities and better opening times of existing toilets would be good

The toilets are an absolute disgrace and not equipped the number of people using the meadow.

12 responses included comments around wildlife areas, to encourage species to stay in their natural habitat.

The area should encourage local wildlife as much as possible.

Better we facilitate a preservation of the habitat and its wildlife

Other responses included the regeneration of the Sports Club, the creation of a pump track, a proper waste management system, educate people better on caring for the countryside and keep any changes simple.

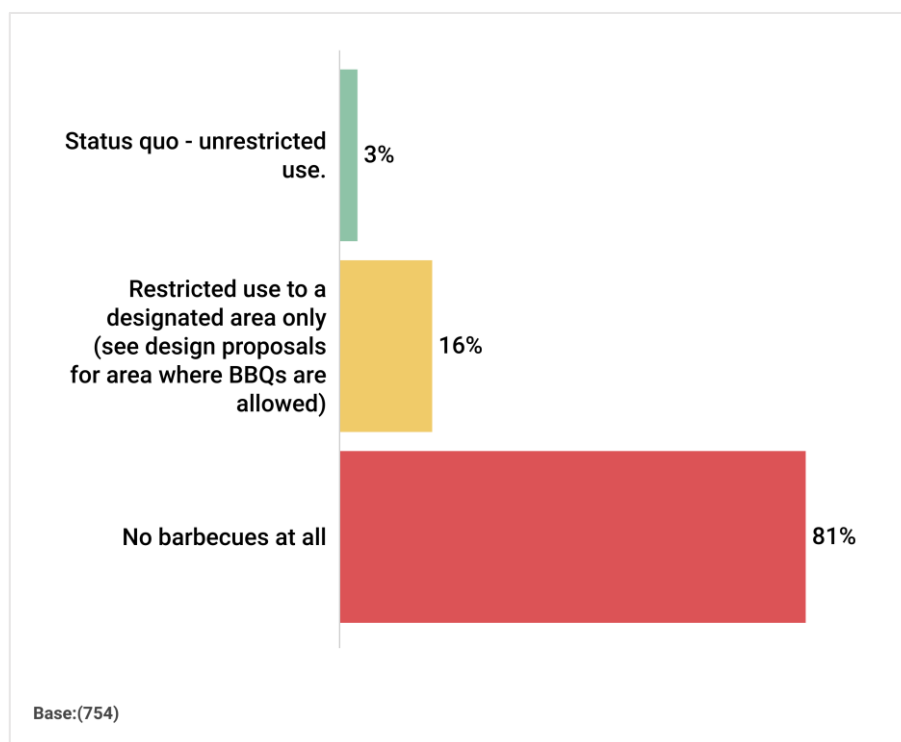
4.0 Use of Barbecues on The Big Meadow

81% of residents wished to see no barbecues at all on the Big Meadow. 16% wished to see restricted use and 3% wanted the status quo kept.

Table 14: Barbecues

14. There has been a lot of debate about the use of barbecues. What is your preference and why?	
24 (3%)	Status quo - unrestricted use.
112 (16%)	Restricted use to a designated area only (see design proposals for area where BBQs are allowed)
577 (81%)	No barbecues at all.
Please give a reason for your choice.	
The 591 responses were given	

Figure 8: What is your preference on BBQs?



The 591 responses received regarding barbecues have been split into three groups reflecting those who were happy with the status quo, those who wanted to see restricted use in a designated area, and those who wanted an outright ban, and analysed accordingly.

4.1 Those Happy With The Status Quo

There were 19 responses from people who were happy with the status quo. The themes arising from these responses are summarised in the table below.

Table 15: Barbecues – Status Quo

Theme	Number of comments relating to theme	% of total comments made to question
Need better disposal of waste & rules	7	32
People are not being/should be responsible	7	32
Who will police the site?	4	21
Freedom to do what you want	2	11
Not bothered	2	11
Tourism	2	11
Total Responses	22	

4.2 Those Wanting BBQs Restricted To Designated Area

There were 67 responses from people who wanted a designated area for BBQs or other restrictions on their usage. The themes which emerged from these comments are summarised in the table below.

Table 16: Barbecues – Restricted to Designated Area

Theme	Number of comments relating to theme	% of total comments made to question
Policing/controlling the usage	17	25
BBQs are good	13	19
Disposal is problematic/needs facilitating	12	18
Nuisance of BBQ – smoke, litter, damage	9	13
Fire safety issues	8	12
Restriction needed	8	12
People aren't responsible/need to be	6	9
Current use is poor	6	9
Location issues	5	7
Booking system/charges	5	7
Don't want to ban them outright	4	6
One place would be easier to manage	4	6
Would limit the damage	3	4
Would be better for visitors and residents	2	3
Cafe	2	3
Site in one place only	2	3
Miscellaneous	3	4
Total Responses	67	

The need for **policing** of BBQ usage and good management was brought up by a quarter of the respondents:

"Bbq area needs to be patrolled and 'policed' otherwise visitors will just do as they please with no respect for other users"

"They don't bother me so long as they are managed in some way"

However, many of these wondered **how this could be done**:

"I feel there should be a designated area but cannot see how this could be policed, seeing how barbecues are currently enjoyed along the riverside by so many folk. These should have been controlled last summer when the problem became obvious"

"This would be good but how will it be policed and what authority will they have if someone is bbq-ing in the wrong location"

Just under a fifth of respondents said that they thought **BBQs were good** and the use of them should be permitted within The Big Meadow, albeit in a designated area, with certain restrictions and policing of the rules:

"The opportunity for residents and visitors to enjoy a day out by the river and, if they want, have a BBQ should not be discouraged"

"I believe people should enjoy having barbecue but the current issue is that people make a mess and leave. I think the area should be monitored better and if people don't follow the rules then we can stop it"

"I feel it's nice to have a bbq but it needs to be in a designated area away from areas where children play"

The **disposal of BBQ waste** was highlighted by just under one in five comments as a key problem in current usage, and necessary to make BBQs work on The Big Meadow:

"Encourage responsible use and disposal, safer for all"

"I think some bbqs are fine. I think a hot coal disposal bin and scrutiny of use would enable enjoyment for all"

This was also true for the other elements of **nuisance** which BBQs caused, such as smoke, smell and anti-social behaviour:

"Using a designated area means that it is safer. Persons going for relaxation etc. can do so without the noise and food smells from a BBQ and its associated visitors. Everyone gets a chance to enjoy the surroundings"

"Not everyone wants the rubbish litter smoke and smells that come with a BBQ"

"I like the possibility of a BBQ, but i do not like the antisocial behaviour that comes with it"

These were therefore good reasons for keeping BBQ usage in just one area, as it would then be **easier to manage**:

"Avoidance of bbq litter and waste being left anywhere other than the designated area"

"Having it confined to one area gives the chance of having more obvious bbq disposal bins and places to put disposable bbqs so they don't burn the grass"

The issue of **fire safety** and the need to control this was highlighted in some responses:

“Need to survey actual users of BBQ facilities / % of locals to visitors having BBQ's / if allowed, fire safety equipment will have to be provided and sited suitably”

“Fire risk / foolish behaviour to be restricted to area with suitable precautions taken in it”

Some respondents felt that the **current usage of BBQs was poor and problematic**:

“BBQs can make for a great day out, but not as they are currently being used”

“Unsure how this will be monitored. Current situation is not good”

This was generally thought to be because people were not being **responsible and respectful** enough while BBQ-ing, which respondents wanted encouraging:

“BBQ's are popular. However, inconsiderate use and disposal (throwing them in the hedge or river) is both a fire & environmental risk”

“Encourage responsible use and disposal, safer for all”

It was felt by some that there was a need for some **restrictions and safety measures** put in place to support their safe usage:

“Nice to have a choice but restrictions, NO DISPOSABLE and proper bins to take hot coals”

“Need to survey actual users of BBQ facilities / % of locals to visitors having BBQ's / if allowed, fire safety equipment will have to be provided and sited suitably”

4.3 Those Wanting No BBQs At All

There were 502 responses from those who said that they did not want BBQs to be allowed at all. The themes which emerged from these comments are summarised in the table below.

Table 17: Barbecues – Wanting No BBQs At All

Theme	Number of comments relating to theme	% of total comments made to question
BBQs damage the environment	184	37
BBQs create mess – litter, food waste, human	177	35
BBQs are dangerous – fire, crowds	167	33
People are being too irresponsible	83	17
Burnt grass	68	14
Smoke	68	14
BBQs have ruined Big Meadow for locals	61	12
Ash	60	12
BBQs are banned elsewhere	44	9
No need for them	44	9
Bring too many people	42	8
Smell	38	8
Policing	35	7
ASB	34	7
Attracts people from across West Midlands	28	6
Local economy not benefiting/ideas	24	5
People won't stick to a designated area	19	4
Loud music	14	3
Just ban them	12	2
Toilets needed	7	1
Miscellaneous	21	4
Total Responses	502	

The main issue which led people to want BBQs to be banned completely on The Big Meadow – mentioned in over a third of all comments – was that BBQs are **damaging to the environment and their surroundings**:

“Whilst some visitors are conscientious there leave litter and cause damage to the environment”

“Result in damage to benches, environment, enjoyment and use of park by majority”

Some of these comments talked about the problem of **river pollution** or BBQs and food waste or ashes being thrown into the river:

“River pollution, encourages all day drinking and human/food waste going into the river”

“Destroy grass and tables also throwing unwanted BBQs in river it's absolutely appalling they need to be banned”

“Prefer none at all as not environmentally friendly and the tipping of ashes into the river, burning the grass, smoke etc is not good for wildlife”

Others talked about the damage to **wildlife and habitats**:

“Too much destroyed already because of BBQ and harmful for the wildlife. The people can't behave and do a lots of mess around”

“Danger to the public and wildlife”

Harm was also being done to **park benches**:

“Too much damage is being done by bbq's to the grass and the tables”

“There has been a massive abuse - damage to tables, damage to grass and trees, smoke, pungent smells, detritus and rubbish left behind, remains of BBQs disposed of in the river”

Alongside the damage to the environment many comments also spoke about the **mess** which BBQ users were leaving behind:

“The mess left by the barbecues after a sunny weekend/bank holiday, is indescribable”

“The mess that gets left and damage to the surrounding areas”

The **mess** often included **food waste**:

“People do not respect the meadow littering with food and charcoal everywhere”

“Ban all outdoor cooking food waste thrown in river surrounds and I'm not just thinking about the odd chicken drumstick!”

Or **litter**:

“Litter not taken home. I would like them banned altogether as they are in many other parks”

“The amount of litter and dumping of waste into the river”

Ashes and coals being left behind and not disposed of properly were highlighted by 12% as a particular problem:

“A large amount of people don't dispose of the coal even though there are bins”

“Hot ashes and burning coals have no place along a river bank and disposal is causing damage to the grass and trees and so far I haven't heard of any injuries but I am sure it is only a matter of time”

In addition to this, 14% mentioned **burnt or damaged grass**:

“Scorched grass, rubbish in meadow and river. Hot ash is discarded, this surely is a hazard”

“Hate burning of grass and coals left by tables and dumped in the river also awful smell”

BBQs were considered by third of all respondents to pose a **danger** to others:

“ They are dangerous and they are not monitored in a safe way by the general public”

“They are a danger and cause damage and pollution which is not in line with preserving the natural habitat and nature”

Their danger as a **fire hazard** was highlighted in many of these comments:

“Fire risk smoke and smell invades space for other people. Coals and ashes are left all over the meadow”

“Dangerous - fires and fires in bins due to incorrect disposal”

“Bar B Qs have been left burning which is dangerous as t could start a fire with them sited on wooden benches the bench would then be burnt and then the fire brigade would be needed”

Smoke was seen as a severe problem by many, if not significantly harmful to health and wildlife:

“The smoke is harmful for the wildlife and rather than encouraging nature to the area, it is completely destroying it”

“Smoke is obnoxious and smelly for other users including the allotment holders”

“Risk of fire/smoke inhalation. Proximity to vehicles including camper vans with gas bottles”

Not only were issues of health and damage highlighted, but some respondents mentioned the ways BBQs caused an anti-social nuisance to residents and other visitors to the meadow. **Smells** caused by BBQ-ing were one of these:

“too much smoke, disgusting smell, too much rubbish and charcoal”

“Antisocial in every way (smoke, smells)”

Loud music was another:

“Groups arriving with tents, large BBQs, loud music is not what the Meadow is about”

“The constant foul language, booming music and bbq smell and smoke make me feel ill”

General anti-social behaviour was said by some to be a real problem, with issues of large crowds gathering and cars being parked in such a way as to cause a real nuisance:

“The unrestricted use of BBQs is a key attraction for the large number of visitors in the summers months. There use has led to groups of cars parked encircling a BBQ and taking up a large area and restricting access, burning of vegetation and permanent benches, disposal of hot coals and ashes in the river, burning of waste bins, and in some cases antisocial behaviours”

“Very simple answer, litter and vandalism have ruined this area completely for families”

Often the respondents’ worries about BBQs were allied to a feeling that people were being **irresponsible** and **not respectful** of the site when using their BBQs:

“Whilst I personally like the idea of the BBQ area, I feel visitors are too disrespectful to the impact they have on a local amenity”

“Eliminates the irresponsible behaviour of some regarding food and ash disposal”

“Unfortunately people behave badly and the risk of damage and littering is too great”

There was some feeling that even if BBQ usage was restricted to a designated area, **people were not likely to stick to this:**

“Whilst a bbq area sounds like a good compromise, there will be people who ignore it and bbq elsewhere in the park”

“If you allow BBQs in a designated area then people will disregard this rule and have them wherever they like”

This, allied with the problems of damage, danger and nuisance which BBQs were causing, meant that 7% respondents felt that **policing** and monitoring of BBQ usage or of any rules/restrictions put in place to ensure that people were behaving correctly:

“There needs to be someone to keep an eye on this and make sure people are adhering to safe rules and practices”

“Damage caused by BBQ will cease, but rubbish and litter will still need monitoring”

And even then, some of these respondents were not convinced that that was possible:

“I don’t believe it would be possible to police the safe use of BBQ’s”

“For the reasons I have given above, it would be impossible to police”

“Barbeques have proven to cause lots of trouble and has prevented me and many others from visiting the meadow at all where we used to go on walks”

As a number pointed out, **BBQs had been banned** in other Warwickshire (and other UK) parks:

“I believe Bidford Meadow is the only park that allows BBQ's”

“It would be good to be in line with other outdoor spaces i.e. no BBQs and not have all the mess to contend with”

“Get rid of the bbq brings nothing but trouble. No other park nearby lets bbq so why allow them here”

And that this had led to The Big Meadow being **very busy**:

“Many BBQs are banned in public parks so plenty of people from the city come to the meadow and overcrowd it”

“Other local parks don’t allow bbq's so this means bbq users flock here”

And tended to **attract people from across the West Midlands**:

“Allowing BBQs attracts visitors from miles away and turns the meadow from a public green space into a holiday park”

“The influx of visitors from cities is leading to locals unable to use and enjoy the meadow”

Altogether this left respondents feeling that BBQs had **ruined The Big Meadow for them** and that they now avoided it during busy times:

“BBQs are destroying the meadow and driving away the locals. I will no longer go to the meadow on a nice day”

“Causing great distress to many local people and damage to the environment by some irresponsible BBQ”

“The bbqs are ruining the meadow and causing a lot of local anger”

Partly this was because they felt that **mobility/walking** around the Meadow was **restricted** by groups of BBQ-ers:

“Too much abuse of riverbank, preventing walkers to get near to river”

“An elderly person like myself cannot walk there as riverside is taken over and would have to walk down track which is far too dangerous with all the cars”

Indeed, almost 10% felt that there really was **no need** for there to be BBQs on The Big Meadow, and that people could just have picnics or eat food bought from local businesses:

“There is no reason to allow BBQ's it doesn't provide money for shops they stay on meadow. People can have picnics nowhere else allows them because of the damage caused”

“No need for them. Just bring ready prepared food or go and eat in the cafes etc in the village”

A further 5% comments underscored this fact that BBQ users were **not bringing money to the local economy** by purchasing food and drink from local businesses:

“They draw huge families and don't help the Bidford economy at all”

“There is no reason to allow BBQ's it doesn't provide money for shops they stay on meadow”

5.0 **Other Improvements or Suggestions**

15.	Are there any other specific suggestions you have for improving The Big Meadow? Please provide details and be as specific as possible.
	The 478 responses were provided.

This question asked for any improvements or suggestions for improving the Big Meadow.

142 comments referred to some sort of presence in the form of a warden, parking attendant or security. 105 residents wished to see parking charges increased. A ban on barbecues was wanted specifically by 98 respondents. 85 wished to see a limit on the number of cars and 61 a designated parking area for vehicles.

128 “other” includes one-off comments or there were only a couple made for a topic. Suggestions included within “other” were an outdoor cinema, exercise facilities, running track, dog free area, a volunteer ranger service, climbing equipment or a Padel court.

Table 18: Summary of Improvements/Suggestions

Topic	Number of comments
Warden/Security	142
Other	128
Increase parking charges	105
Ban/No BBQs	98
Limit number of cars	85
Designated parking area	61
Barrier/Height barrier	28
More toilets/Cleaner/Permanent toilets/Remove portaloo	28
Accessible/Improve pathways/Keep clear	26
Upgrade/Improve toilets/Accessible	26
Keep natural/Make more natural	24
Remove/Update blue benches	22
Play equipment/Play area improvements & additions	21
Ban cars/Stop Parking	16
Stop anti-social behaviour/Make safer place	15
Better signage	14
Ban loud music	13
No camping	13
Booking system for cars	12
Limit parking	11
Miscellaneous parking comments	11
Change to access for pedestrians or cars	10
Clear litter	9
Consider Café	9
Use car park only	9
Bins general	8
CCTV	8
Improve river bank/Create a buffer	8
Wilderness area/Nature area	8
Biodiversity	7
Close meadow at specific time	7
Tree planting/Protect trees/Woodland	7
Limit visitors	6
Replace/remove bins	6
Visitor Information/Centre/Information boards	6
Car free area	5
Cars away from bank/river	5
Fines/Fines for litter	5
More police/patrols	5
Move benches	5
Risk assessment	5
Specific BBQ area/Rent out	5

Update road surfaces	5
Use wood/Natural/Sympathetic	5
More/Improve seating	5
Alternative entry point	4
Designated BBQ area	4
Dog waste bins	4
Dogs on leads	4
Free resident parking	4
PC Responsible/Listen	4
ANPR	3
Better wheelchair access	3
Location of bins	3
Make better for residents	3
Mobile café	3
More events	3
More/Better bins	3
Move/Replace picnic tables	3
Nature trails/Wilderness walks	3
No drones	3
No pontoon	3
Pump track	3
Restrict numbers	3
Traffic light priority on bridge	3
Use parking in the village	3
Wooden benches/Picnic area	3

Appendix A:

What activities do you typically engage in at the park? Name sports and other.

Art & design
Attend events
Ball games
Basketball
Basketball
Bidford Juniors Football
Bidford Juniors football support
Bird watching
Canoeing
Checking ANT mooring and general condition of the riverbank, bridge navigation arch etc
Children's cricket and football training
Cricket
Cricket
Cricket
Cricket
Cricket
Cricket
Cricket
Cricket / football
Cricket and football
Cricket Club/Football
Cricket only. We used park a lot but not anymore as this is very dirty and damaged place.
Cricket spectator
Cycling
Cycling
Cycling through to Marlcliff
Enjoy the peace bird watching.
Enjoying the unspoilt vista of trees and the avenue
Enjoying this long standing natural aspect of this meadow first enjoyed in the 1960's
Feeding ducks
Feeding the birds
Football
Football
Football
Football
Football
football
Football
Football
Football
Football

Football
Football
Football
Football
Football
Football
Football
Football
Football
Football
Football
Football
Football & cricket
Football and cricket
Football goals and courts
Football, cricket and Basketball
Football, table tennis
Frisbee
Grandson football training
Grandson's play football for local team.
I never visit the big meadow now as it is not a nice place e to go now due to the actions of some of the people who seem intent on ruining it.
I no longer visit the meadow.
I used to fish on the meadow but not anymore due to anti-social behaviour
Kayak
Kicking a ball back and forth with toddler grandson
Launching an electric powered boat.
maybe fly kite/ride bike
Nature immersion, Mindfulness, Peace and Relaxation, Wildlife spotting.
None, cars and bbqs are dangerous for children and dogs
Not fishing because it's now impossible in warmer months
Occasionally paddle/swim
Paddle board
Paddle boarding
Paddle boarding
Paddle boarding
Paddle boarding
Paddle boarding, boot camp
Paddleboarding
People watching. Mainly city rats rolling in their own filth.
running
Skateboard park basketball
Soccer viewing
Steam Fair
Swimming
to socialise

Used to but don't any more due to rubbish faeces (human and dog) and the amount of smoke from bbq.
Watch football
Watch cricket
Watch the football and cricket
Watching cricket
Watching cricket matches
Watching football
we have stopped using the meadow for picnics & relaxation because the joy has been taken out of it for us as a family
We take our 3 and 2 year out of season when the 'visitors' aren't there
Wildlife photography
Wildlife watching & photography