

WELWYN HATFIELD COUNCIL  
STANBOROUGH CAR PARKS TASK AND FINISH GROUP – 25 AUGUST 2009  
BRIEFING NOTE BY HEAD OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

STANBOROUGH CAR PARKS CONSULTATION RESULTS

**1**     **Executive Summary**

- 1.1     At the meeting of the Task and Finish Group on 29 June 2009 the working group finalised and approved the questionnaire to be used for the consultation process. Residents were given options on the replanting of the south car park, the management of the north car park and whether both car parks should be replanted with the same scheme. This report is to inform members of this group with the results of the consultation.

**2**     **Explanation**

2.1     The Process

Information panels, 2,000 questionnaires, posters and flyers were printed and available to the public from 8 July, the consultation period closed on 7 August.

The consultation was the main item on the home page of the Council's website throughout this period, with a web form available to be completed and emailed back to the Council.

The local press gave good coverage to the consultation and several interviews were given to local radio.

The information panels and questionnaires were available at Stanborough Park and Campus West, posters and questionnaires were available at the Council's Campus East and Bridge Road East offices. Posters were on display at other council sites across the borough. Flyers were used to notify motorists using the car parks. Stanborough School, Sir Frederic Osborn School and Monk's Walk School were offered questionnaires but only a few were taken.

Visitors to the annual Kaleidoscope Festival on Saturday 18 July had the opportunity to meet officers and complete questionnaires.

We either posted or delivered questionnaires to the following stakeholders:

Welwyn Garden City Society

WHEN

Finesse Leisure Trust

Tree Council

Herts & Middlesex Wildlife Trust

Welwyn Hatfield Sea Cadets  
 Stanborough Sailing Club  
 Stanborough Angling Club  
 Stanborough Model Boat Club  
 All WHBC Councillors

## 2.2 The Results

We received 217 completed questionnaires (including 25 via email). Appendix A shows the full results in chart format. Here is a summary:

Question 1: What should we plant in the south car park?	Option 1: exotic mix, result 28 Option 2: native mix, result 190
Question 2: How should we approach the management of the north car park?	Option 1: phased felling, result 159 ( 3 phases, result 99. 2 phases, result 60) Option 2: fell all the trees at the same time, result, 55)
Question 3: Which planting scheme should be selected for the north car park?	Option 1: same as the south car park, result, 177 Option 2: a different scheme, result 37

We also asked why people visited the park; the most popular activities were walking, water sports and the play area.

We received a large range of positive comments, though there were a few negative comments regarding the south car park.

## 2.3 Current Condition of the trees in the north car park

The first annual inspection has just taken place. The report highlights a substantial amount of dead wood that needs to be removed. These findings should not influence any decisions which members of the group may make.

## 3. Financial Implications

A capital budget for the work to the car parks has been allocated within the current financial year.

4. Recommendations

4.1 Following the results of the consultation and previous information presented to the Task and Finish Group, members of the group are requested to determine recommendations to the Environment and Overview Scrutiny Committee on the following matters:

- a) The replanting scheme for the south car park
- b) The management of the trees in the north car park
- c) The replanting scheme for the north car park
- d) Any other recommendations members of the group feel should be put forward for consideration.
- e) Ongoing communication

Name of author	Carol Rigby 01707 357114
Title	Head of Community Services
Date	17 August 2009

Background papers to be listed (if applicable)



**STANBOROUGH PARK CAR PARKS CONSULTATION RESULTS****Period of Consultation: 8 July 2009 to 7 August 2009****QUESTION 1:*****What should we plant in the south car park ?*****Option 1:**

Totally ornamental exotic species ( for example Gingko Biloba ( Maidenhair tree), Pin oak and Yashino cherry.

**Result : 28****Option 2 :**

A mixed scheme with a selection of native wide crowned trees ( for example oak, cherry, hornbeam and birch ), interspersed with cherry .

**Result : 190****QUESTION 2:*****How should we approach the management of the north car park ?*****Option 1: Phased felling**

a) Fell in three phases, one block every five years starting in 2010 ( pending review of all remaining trees in 2015 and annual inspections). Block A – 2010, Block C – 2015, Blocks B and D – 2020.

**Result :99**

b) Fell in two phases, at five year intervals, Blocks A and C – 2010, Blocks B and D – 2015.

**Result: 60**

**STANBOROUGH PARK CONSULTATION**

**8 July 2009 to 7 August 2009**

**Question 2 continued:**

***How should we approach the management of the north car park ?***

**Option 2: Fell all the trees at the same time**

**Result : 55**

**QUESTION 3:**

***Which planting scheme should be selected for the north car park ?***

**Option 1 :**

The same trees as the south car park so the two areas reflect one cohesive area at Stanborough Park

**Result : 177**

**Option 2:**

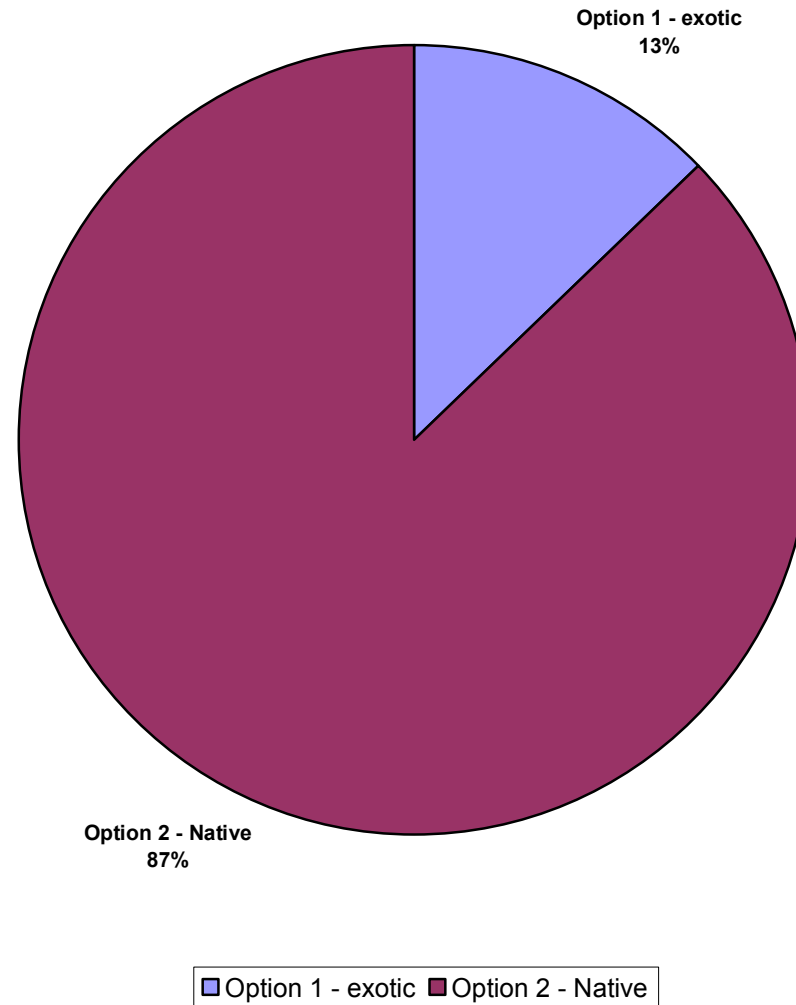
A different scheme so that the car park has its own character

**Result : 37**

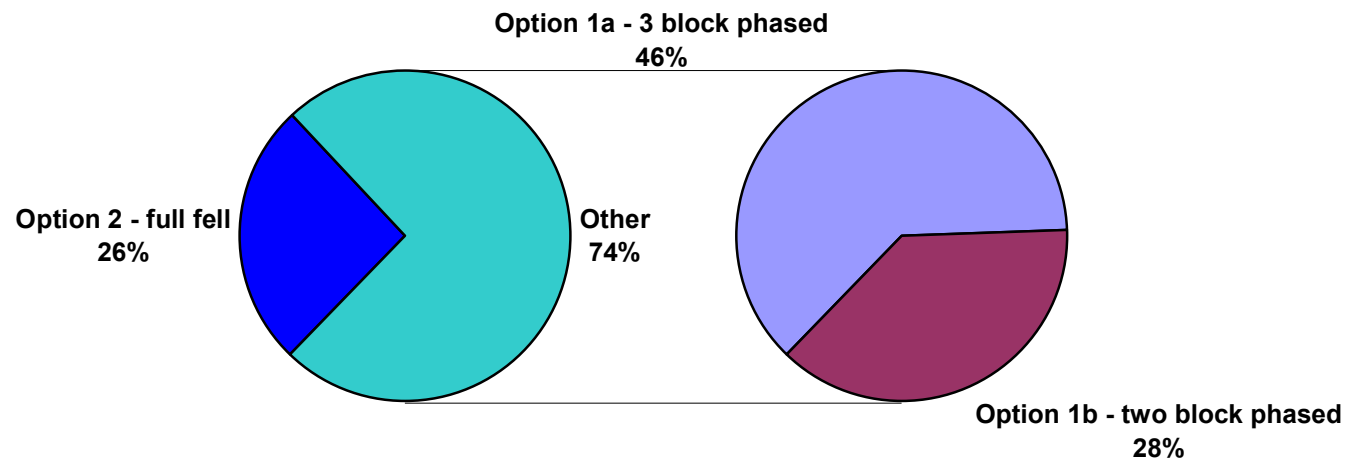
***Why do you use Stanborough Park ?***

The most popular activities listed were walking, water sports and play area

### South car park replanting options



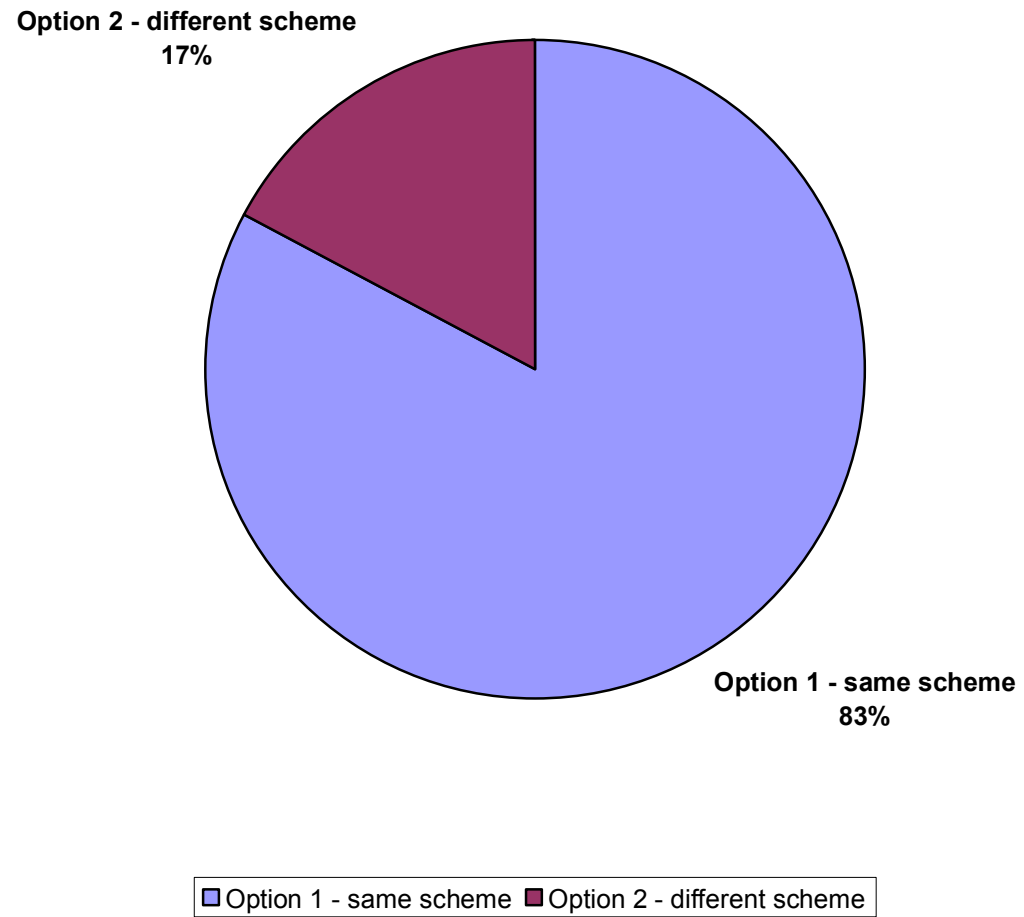
### North car park management options



Option 1a - 3 block phased Option 1b - two block phased Option 2 - full fell



### North car park planting options



Respondents

