

Public consultation on proposals for Temple Newsam 2019 - 20

Methodology and Findings

1. Methodology

1.1. Consultation timeline

Date	Consultee	Format
Oct - March 2019	Leeds City Council colleagues as relevant to the proposals. Included site based staff, golf staff, Highways, Active Leeds, road safety team.	In person & in meetings
4 Oct 2019	Friends of Temple Newsam Chair & Vice-Chair	Meeting
24 Oct 2019	Temple Newsam Community Forum	Meeting
3 Dec 2019	Leeds City Council Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing and Communities)	Meeting
Oct 2019, Dec 2019, Feb 2020	Temple Newsam Golf Club	3 meetings
Dec 2019 - March 2020	Online public survey	Proposals & survey online
Dec 2019 - March 2021	Paper versions of proposals and survey available on site and by email	Online survey
Jan 2020	Historic England	Meeting
13 Jan 2020	Leeds Cycling Partnership	Meeting
Feb 2020	Temple Newsam Golf Club	Meeting
8 - 9 Feb 2020	Public Open Days at Temple Newsam	Open Days with display and presentation
March 2020	Consultation with local school children	School council meeting
April 2020	Yorkshire Gardens Trust	Phone conversation

1.2. Promoting the consultation

To ensure as many people as possible could get involved in this consultation it was promoted widely as follows:

Online:

- On front page of Temple Newsam website and on the Leeds City Council, Parks & Countryside consultations web page
- On Temple Newsam, Leeds Parks and local community committee social media

On site:

- Posters in notice boards
- Paper copies available in shop and café

In the community:

- Letter sent to local residents
- Local community groups were approached directly
- Local schools were approached directly.
- Posters in local shops and other community centres like libraries.

Stakeholders:

- Leeds City Council officers and key stakeholders were approached directly

2. Findings

2,164 surveys were completed, with the majority of these completed online and 258 received as hard copies.

2.1 Demographics and characteristics of survey respondents

The following section outlines the characteristics of the people who filled in the survey.

2.1.1 Locality

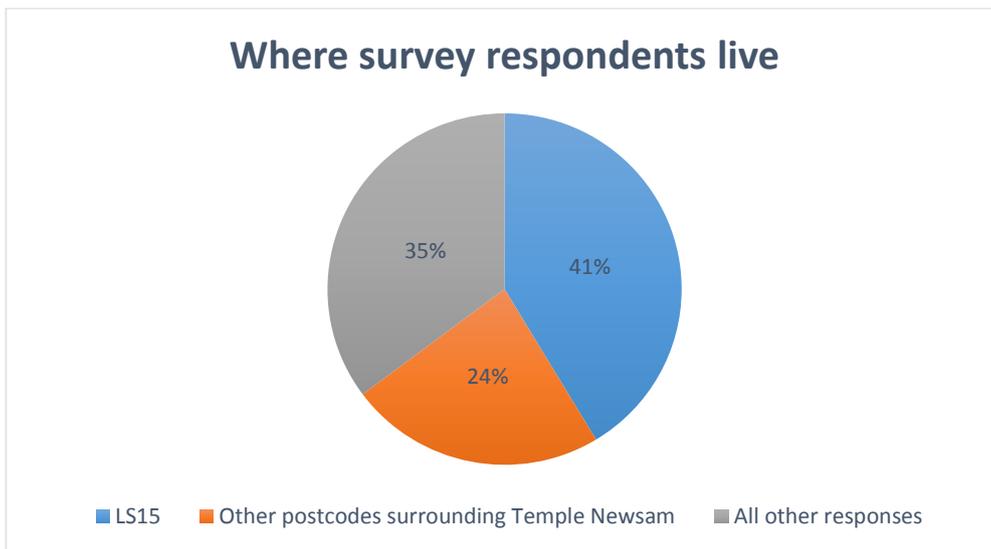
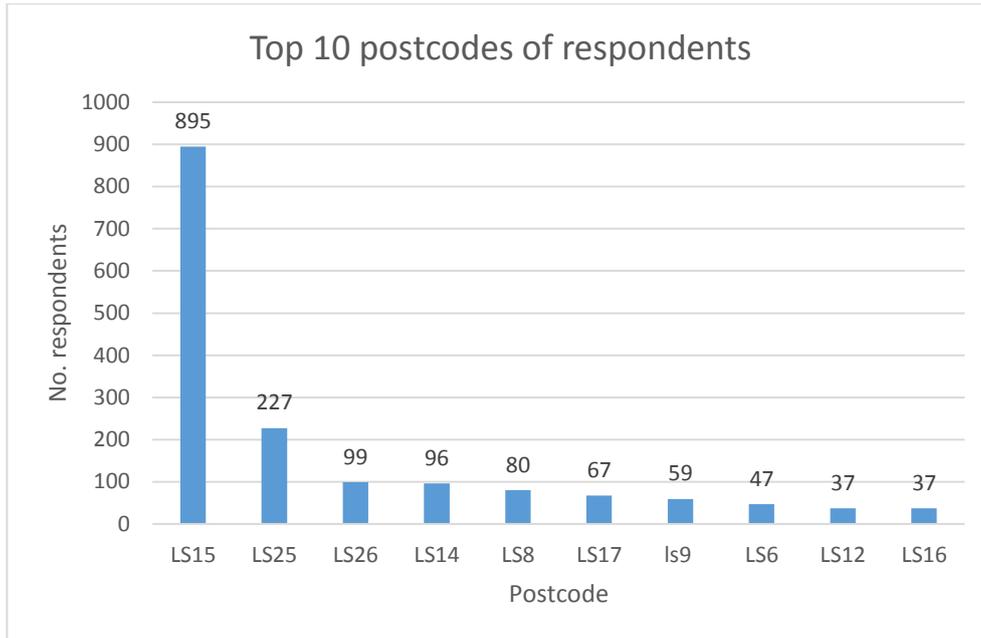
The postcodes surrounding Temple Newsam are LS9, LS10, LS14, LS15, LS25 and LS26.

The largest number of survey respondents came from LS15 (895 respondents). LS15 is the postcode of Temple Newsam itself and most of the housing that is close to the site.

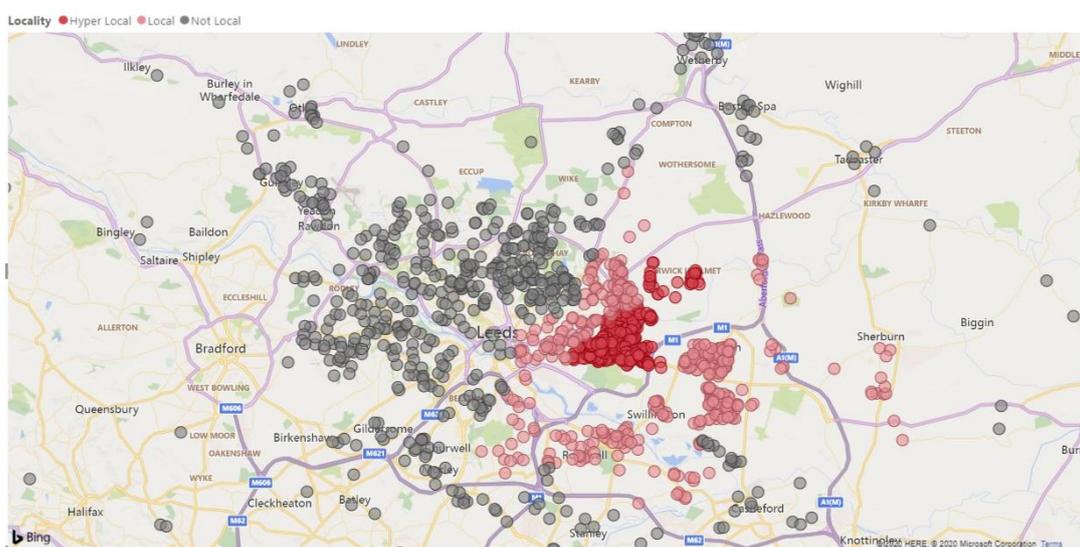
However, with Temple Newsam being one of the major city parks in Leeds, there were also a number of responses from further afield, including Wakefield, Otley and Wetherby.

55% of respondents indicated that Temple Newsam is their nearest park.

Appendix A



Map showing where respondents came from



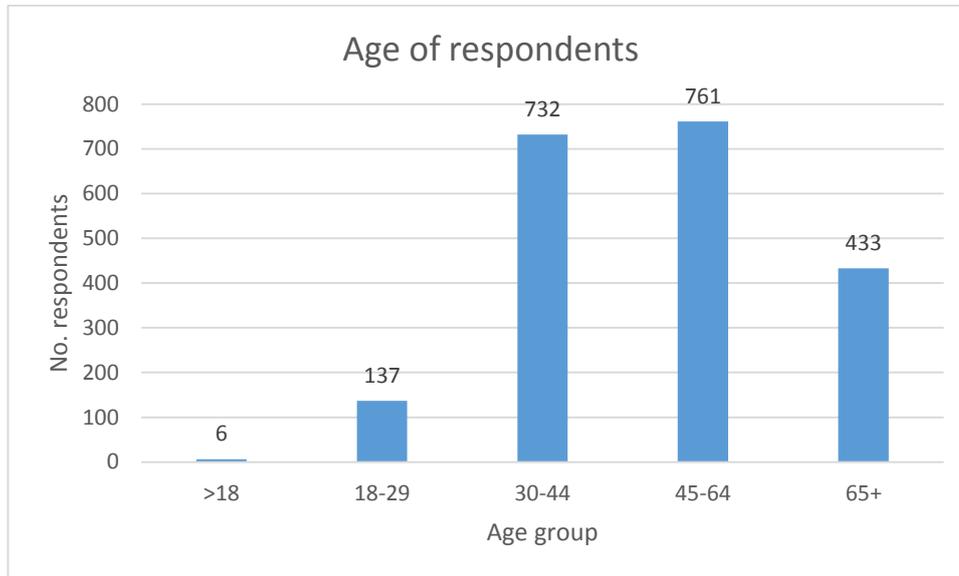
2.1.2 Gender

Female- 49%

Male- 45%

Other or 'prefer not to say' - 6%

2.1.3 Age



2.1.4 Ethnicity

94% of respondents described themselves as White English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British. Other respondents were from a wide range of backgrounds with no other particular ethnicity making up more than 1% respondents.

2.1.5 Disability

7% of respondents consider themselves to have a disability.

2.1.6 Children:

40% of respondents have children under the age of 16.

2.1.7 Golfers:

- 25% of respondents indicated that they play golf
- 24% play golf at Temple Newsam,
- 6% (116 people) respondents indicated that they are members of Temple Newsam Golf Club.

2.1.8 Cyclists:

54% of respondents indicated that they cycle.

2.1.9 Friends of Temple Newsam

Appendix A

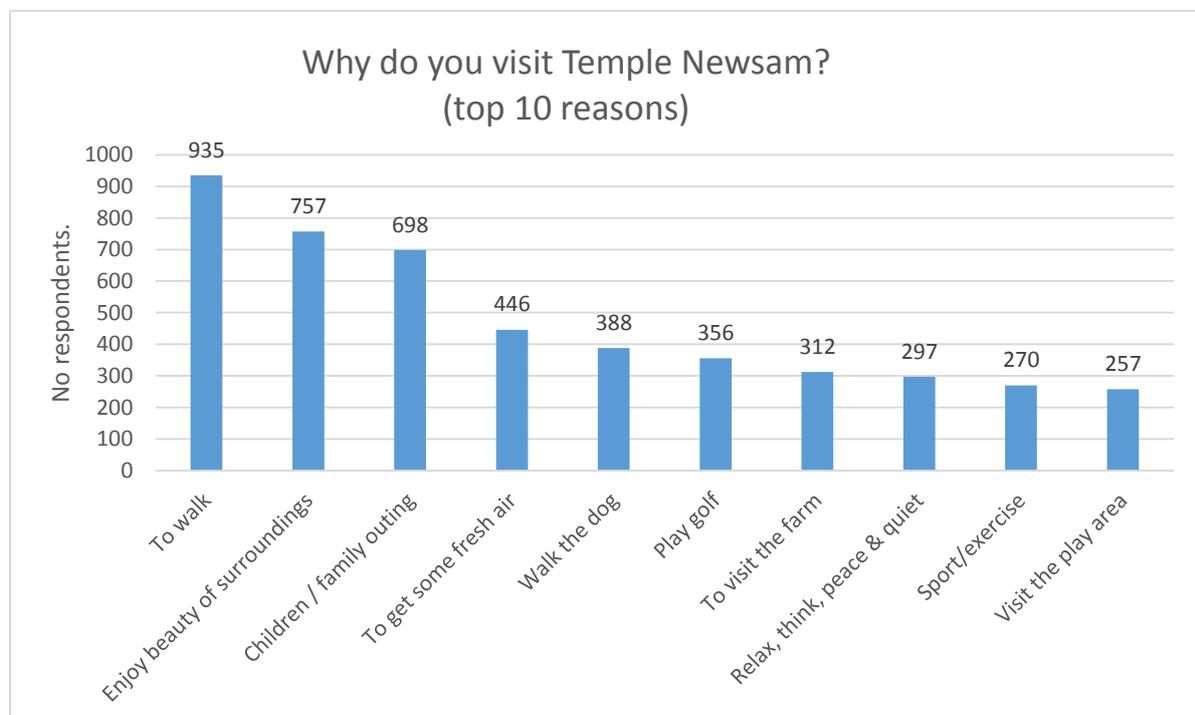
4% of respondents were members of the voluntary organisation, the Friends of Temple Newsam.

2.1.10 Use of Temple Newsam

Most of the respondents are regular users of Temple Newsam with the majority of respondents (86%) visiting at least four times a year, and 40% visiting weekly or more. 16% of respondents visit the estate most days.



Why respondents visit Temple Newsam



2.1.11 Events

61% of respondents indicated that they attend events at Temple Newsam.

33% of respondents who are local residents indicated that they are affected by events held there (e.g. traffic/noise)

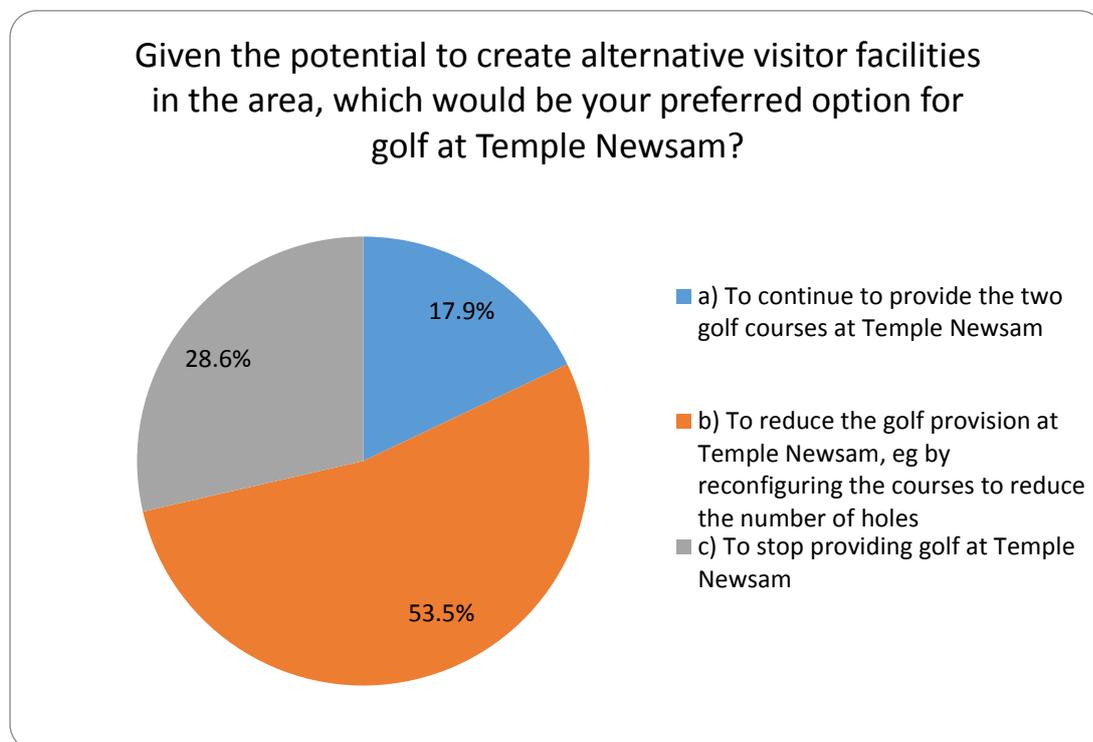
2.2. Results of the Survey

This section of the document explores the responses to questions about the proposals for Temple Newsam.

2.2.1 Overall opinion on the proposals

Question 9: Given the potential to create alternative visitor facilities in the area, which would be your preferred option for golf at Temple Newsam?

82% of respondents support a change to the golf provision at Temple Newsam with the majority of respondents (53%) indicating they would prefer golf provision to be reduced and 29% saying they'd prefer the council to stop providing golf at Temple Newsam altogether.



Reasons for answers to question 9

When asked to give reasons for their answer it was evident that many respondents on both sides of the discussion had strong feelings on the subject.

Appendix A

The ten most frequently cited reasons for ceasing to provide golf courses (in order of popularity) were:

Reason for wanting to close golf courses and provide proposed facilities	Example quote from survey
The proposed facilities would be used by more people	<i>I think the other family friendly options are much better use of the space and would attract more people</i>
There are lots of other places to play golf in Leeds	<i>Plenty of other courses in Leeds</i>
Golf is too costly for the authority to run	<i>Too costly for how many people use it.</i>
Golf isn't popular/the course isn't well used	<i>Does anyone use it? Don't see people on course at all. If they do it's a small minority.</i>
The respondent prefers the proposed scheme to golf	<i>Love the plans outlined!</i>
The proposed facilities are more family/child friendly	<i>More local off road cycle paths we could use safely as a family with children to get exercise & fresh air would be very welcome.</i>
Golf takes up too much space	<i>Currently a vast amount of green space....is being wasted serving a tiny minority of people.</i>
Golf is not an inclusive sport	<i>Golf isn't inclusive enough and doesn't appeal to a broad enough cross section of society to justify council expenditure</i>
The proposals are better for wildlife/the environment	<i>I feel that golf courses are very bad for biodiversity and that instead we should create diverse habitats - shrubs, trees, wild flower meadows to create more homes for nature.</i>
Golf is an expensive sport to play	<i>Golf is an expensive hobby and one I cannot afford. I would prefer activities that are free or lower cost e.g. bike hire.</i>

The ten most frequently cited reasons for wanting to continue to provide two golf courses (in order of popularity) were:

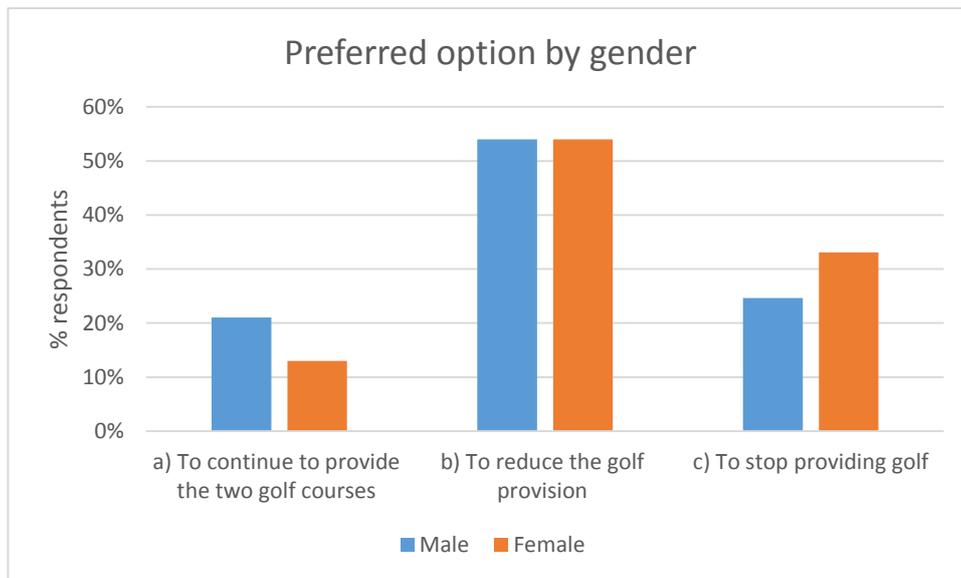
Reason for wanting to continue providing golf at Temple Newsam	Example quote from survey
The respondent plays golf or has another personal, family or emotional connection to the golf course	<i>I have played golf at Temple Newsam 60 years and a course of this quality is a must for Leeds.</i>
The health and wellbeing benefits of golf	<i>Golf is a great exercise for the members and a place for them to meet up and socialise. Closing the club would be detrimental to the health and wellbeing of all the members.</i>
The history and heritage of the golf course	<i>Golf has been a part of the local community for almost 100 years and should remain so</i>
Temple Newsam is a particularly good golf course (including because it has an 18 hole, and a choice of courses)	<i>Magnificent golf courses which would be criminal to lose.</i>
The proposed facilities are not needed	<i>There are enough facilities for families / cyclists across Leeds. We don't need another one. People can already cycle around Temple Newsam if they wish. We already have a playground and cafe so don't see the benefit of introducing more.</i>
The course provides affordable golf	<i>Not everyone can afford to join a private golf course</i>
If you invest in/promote the golf courses more people will use them	<i>I believe the golf resources are still commercially viable subject to more extensive and improved facilities, for example, a fully equipped and 21st century all weather driving range offering professionally graded tuition available all year round</i>
Golf is beneficial for people of all ages and older people in particular	<i>This gives pleasure and health benefits to a lot of the older residents</i>
The golf course provides social and community value	<i>It's not just about hitting a ball but the social aspect.</i>
It is important for municipal golf to be provided in Leeds	<i>As one of the largest cities in the UK it would be a disgrace if we only had one municipal golf course (9 holes at Roundhay GC)</i>

Variations in responses by demographic characteristics

Further analysis was undertaken of the responses to this question to find out if there was any variation between different groups of people. All groups prefer the option of reducing, but not stopping providing, golf at Temple Newsam. Variations in responses are outlined below.

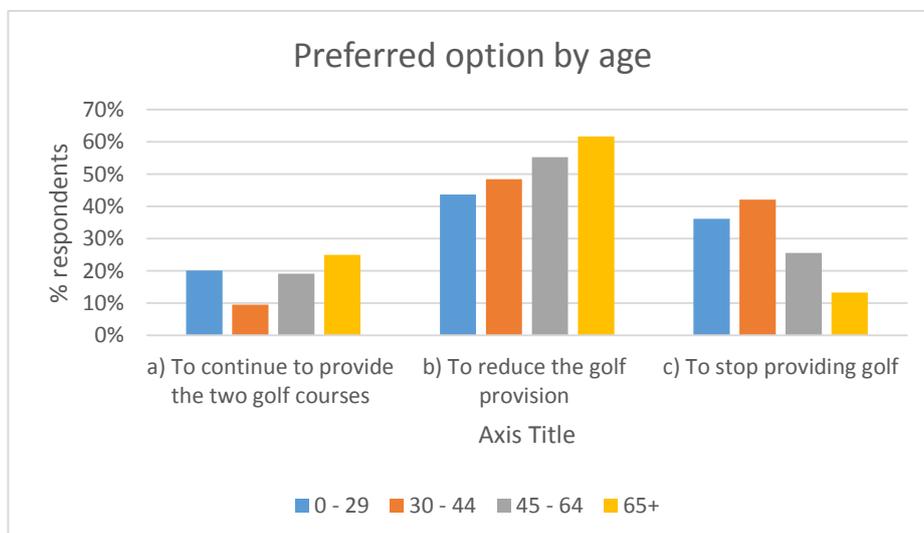
Male/Female

The favoured option for both men and women in equal measure is to reduce the golf provision but men are more likely than women to say they'd prefer to keep both golf courses.



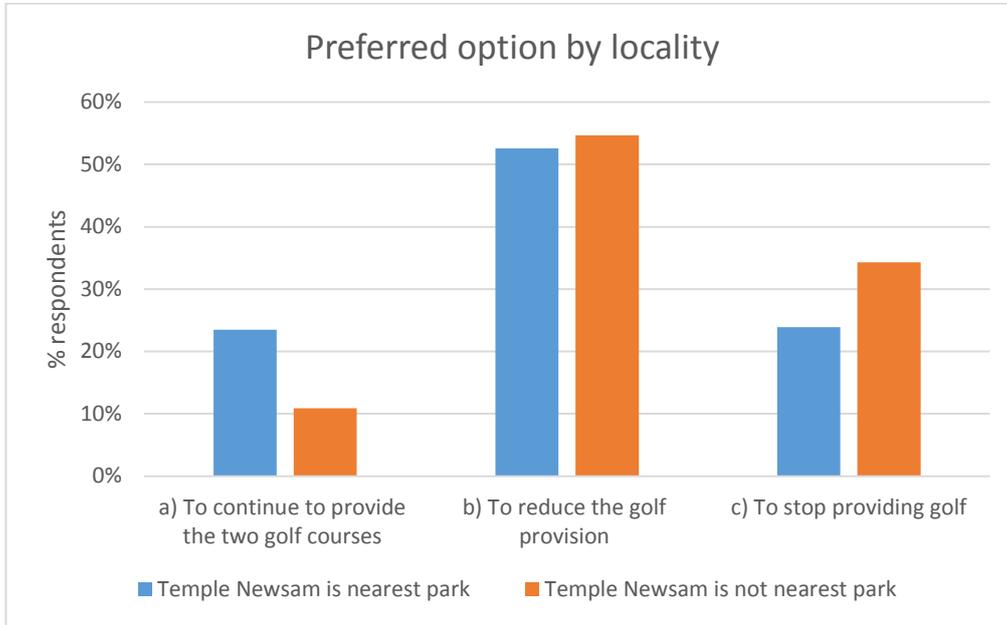
Age group

All age groups showed a preference for option b, to reduce the golf provision, with 30 – 44 year olds least likely to support continuing to provide two golf courses and people over 65 being least likely to support stopping providing golf altogether (the 0 – 18 category was combined with 18 – 19 because there were only 6 respondents in that age category).



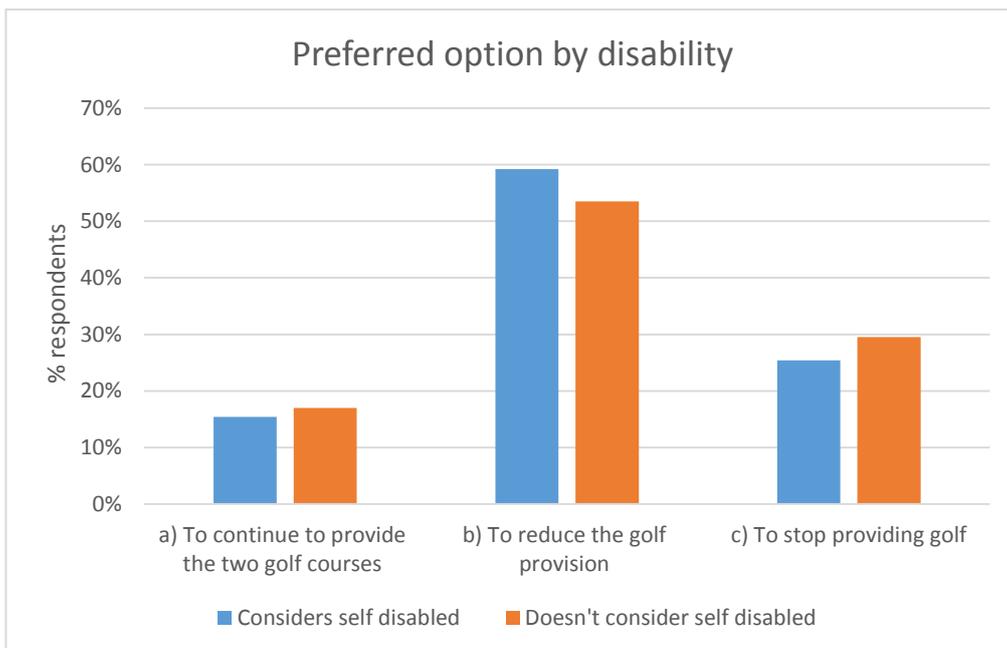
Locality

Again option b (to reduce golf provision) is the most popular option for those for whom Temple Newsam is, or isn't, their closest park. However, more local people would prefer to continue to provide two golf courses than those from further afield – more of those agreed with the option to stop providing golf.



People with disabilities

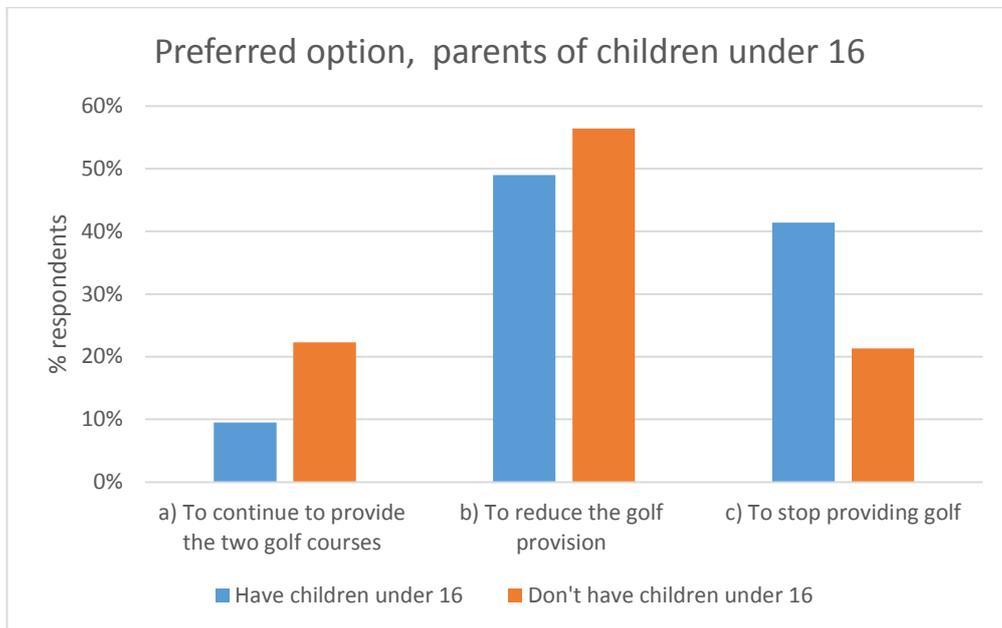
Respondents with disabilities were more likely to favour the option to reduce golf provision than respondents who don't consider themselves disabled.



Appendix A

Parents of children under 16

Parents of children under 16 were more likely to favour the option of stopping providing golf altogether than respondents without children under 16.



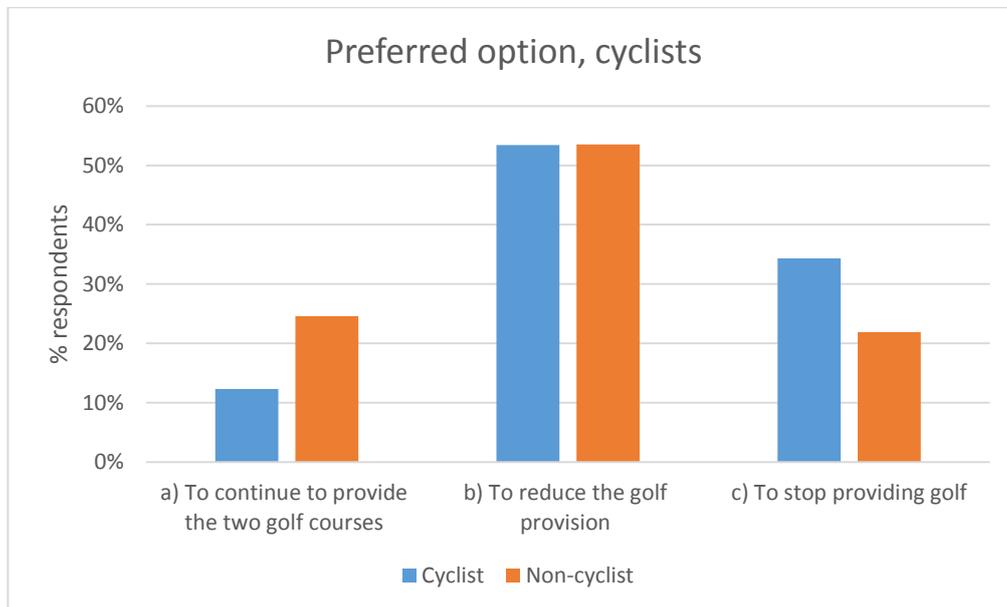
Temple Newsam golfers

Temple Newsam golfers were much more likely than other respondents to express a preference for keeping both golf courses at Temple Newsam and only 1% of them supported closing the golf courses at the site altogether.



Cyclists

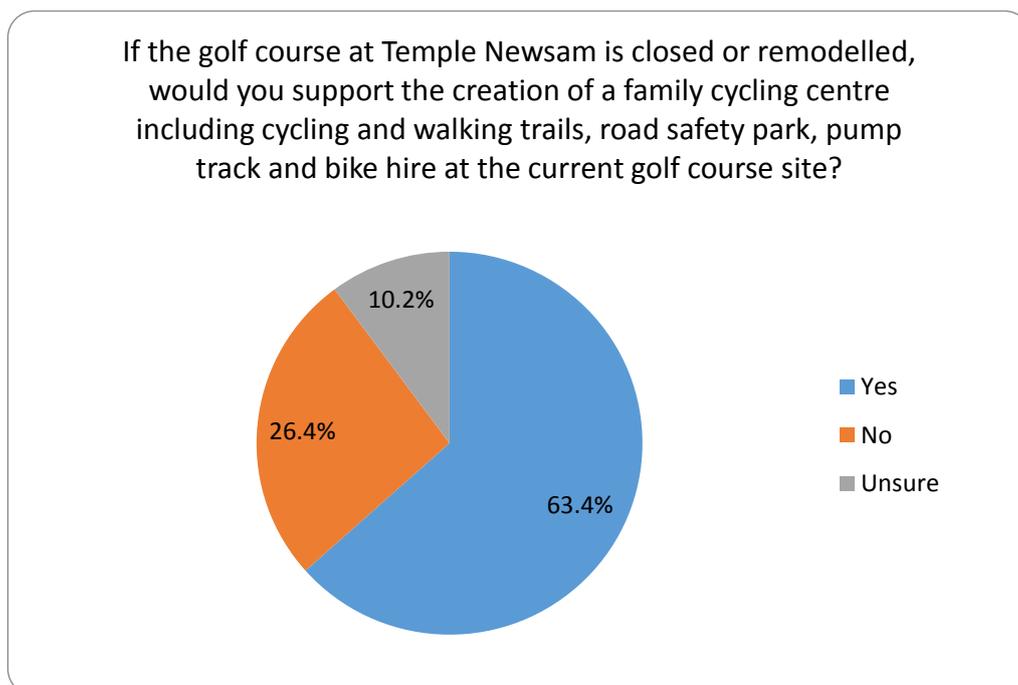
Cyclists (54% respondents) were more likely to support the proposals to stop providing golf altogether than non-cyclists.



2.2.2 Family Cycling Centre

Question 12: If the golf course at Temple Newsam is closed or remodelled, would you support the creation of a family cycling centre including cycling and walking trails, road-safety park, pump track and bike hire at the current golf course site?

The majority of respondents (63%) were in support of creating a family cycling centre if the golf course was closed or remodelled.



Main reasons given for supporting a family cycling centre:

1. Would provide a safe environment for children to learn how to ride a bike e.g. *'This sounds like an excellent idea, would be good to have somewhere safe, where children can practice their cycling skills'*.
2. Would provide recreation for families e.g. *'I like the idea of a safe and beautiful space for the whole family to enjoy a healthy, active outdoor activity together'*
3. General enthusiastic support e.g. *'Would be a really useful way to use the space. We'd definitely make use of this facility'* and *'It would be a great visitor attraction'*.

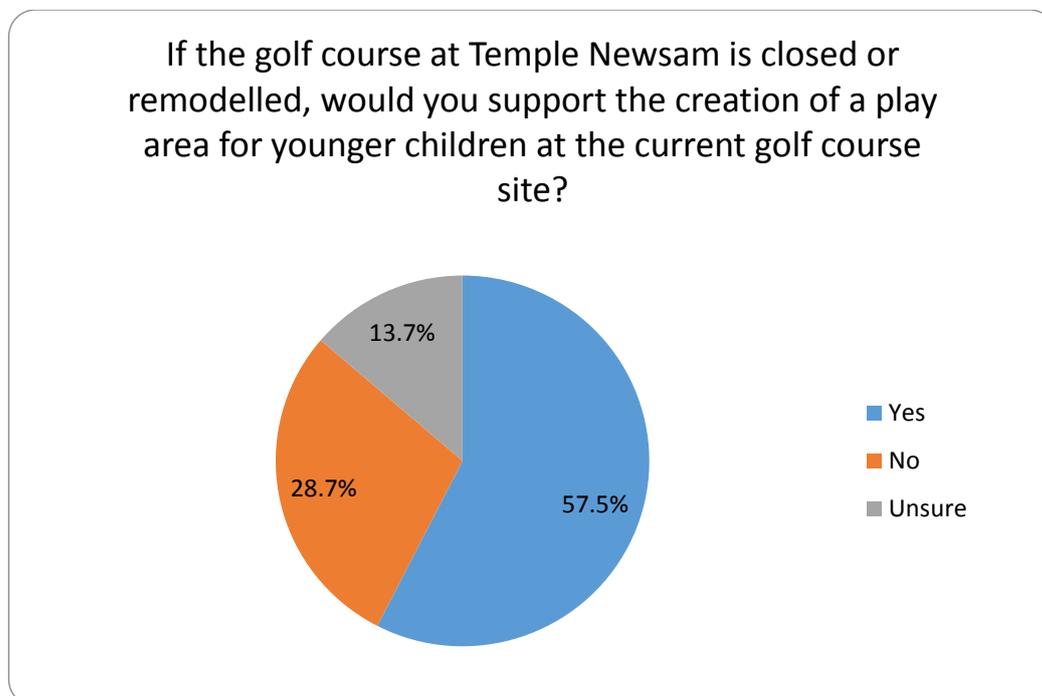
Main reasons given for not supporting a family cycling centre:

1. Would prefer to retain golf or combine golf/cycling e.g. *'I would not wish to see the golf course closed as it is a historic area and would prefer the golf course to remain, however, I feel golf can be played alongside other facilities - this would be my preference'*.
2. Cycling routes are already available at Temple Newsam/in local area e.g. *'It would serve no purpose to me. There are plenty of other places to cycle in the area. The Temple Newsam Estate itself has many areas that children can cycle without the need for a designated cycling centre'*.

2.2.3 Play

Question 13: *If the golf course at Temple Newsam is closed or remodelled, would you support the creation of a play area for younger children at the current golf course site?*

The majority of respondents (57%) were in support of creating a play area if the golf course is closed or remodelled.



Main reasons for supporting the creation of a new play space:

Appendix A

1. Generally supportive e.g. *'Improved facilities are always a good thing for the community.'*
2. More play is needed in area e.g. *'my children love the existing play area but it does get busy.'*
3. Benefits of outdoor play e.g. *'Anything to get children outdoors is good'*

Main reasons for not supporting the creation of a new play space:

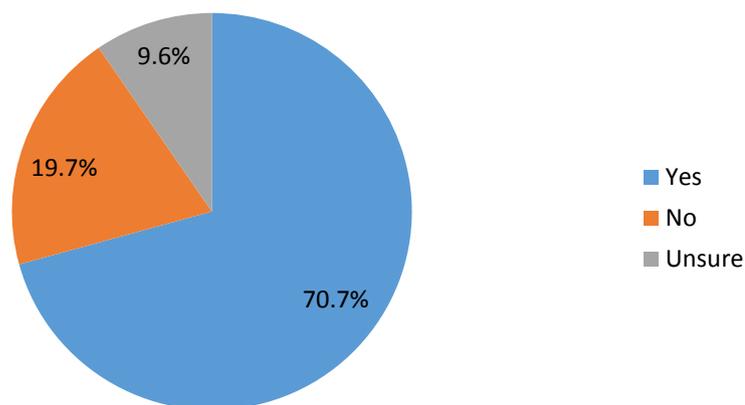
1. There are already play facilities nearby e.g. *'There's Halton Park & a play park at Temple Newsam - better to improve & maintain those.'*
2. Would prefer to retain at least some element of golf e.g. *'Would be unfair to close golf, but if course and house stayed open that would be ok. There are plenty of play areas in local vicinity, but no golf'.*

2.2.4 Cafe

Question 14: *If the new visitor facilities were developed as described above, would you support opening a café at the current golf buildings, overlooking the park and some of the new facilities?*

A majority of respondents (71%) were in support of opening a café if the golf course were closed or remodelled. 62% of respondents indicated that they would personally use such a café.

If the new visitor facilities were developed as described above, would you support opening a café at the current golf buildings, overlooking the park and some of the new facilities?



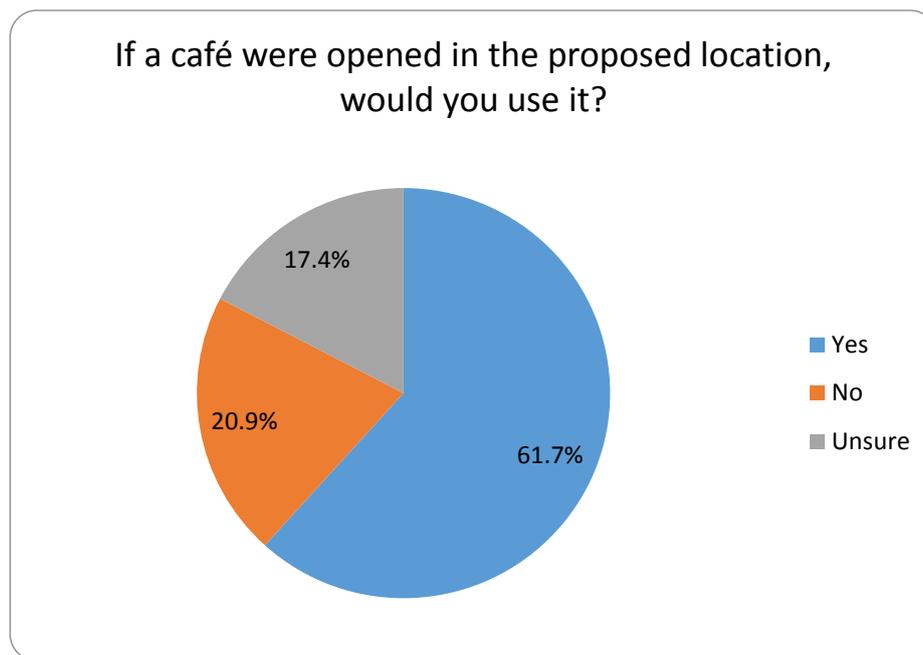
Main reasons for supporting a cafe:

1. Generally supportive e.g. *'It would be nice to have somewhere to enjoy a drink and a snack after a nice walk/cycle and is a change of scenery from the other TN café'*.
2. Other café is small/gets busy e.g. *'The cafe that is already there does get busy and it would be nice to have the option of another cafe at a different location'*
3. Would increase revenue e.g. *'Cafes are always popular and a great way of making more money for the council'*.

Main reasons given for not supporting the idea of opening a cafe:

1. There is already a café at Temple Newsam and others in the area. E.g. *'There is already a cafe and shops at Temple Newsam and plenty of shops and cafe bars and eateries in Halton Village'*
2. Prefers to retain golf (includes quite a few people saying they would support it alongside golf) e.g. *'I do not want the golf courses to close so would not support the café' or 'I would only support if the current golf facilities stayed open'*.

Question 15: If a café were opened in the proposed location, would you use it?



Top 3 reasons given for why respondents would use such a café:

1. Generally would like to use a cafe (if not too expensive and good quality) e.g. *'Always happy to travel around for a cafe with good food and coffee.'*
2. They would use the café in conjunction with other activities like walking or cycling e.g. *'Having a coffee with friends/family is always a pleasant break in a walk around the park. Having a cafe at the golf course site would mean an extra area in which to walk.'*

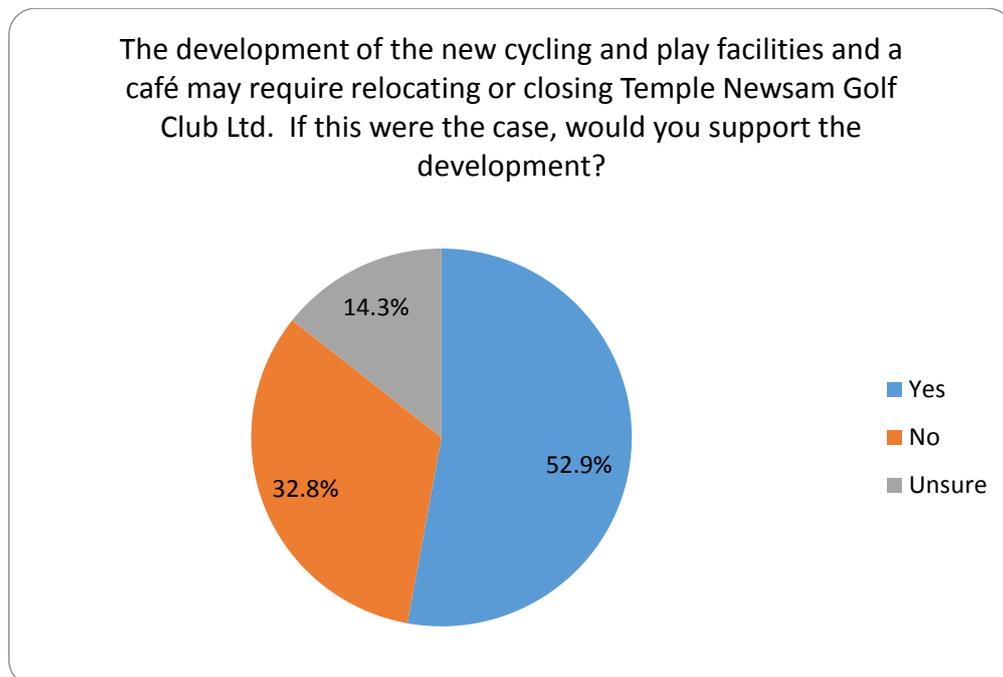
For those that would not use a new café, the following explanations were given:

1. There is already a café at Temple Newsam and others in the area e.g. *'I would still use the perfectly good existing one in the courtyard'*.
2. General no e.g. *'I very rarely go to cafes.'*

2.2.5 Golf club

Question 16: *The development of the new cycling and play facilities and a café may require relocating or closing Temple Newsam Golf Club Ltd. If this were the case, would you support the development?*

53% of respondents felt that they would support the development of new facilities even if it meant relocating or closing Temple Newsam Golf Club.



Amongst those who would support closing or relocating the golf club if needed, the main reasons given were:

1. Would like to see more people using the area e.g. *'I feel that the play area, cafe and cycling tracks would benefit a wider variety of people than it just being catered to golf'*
2. The golf course is not well-used e.g. *'The golf course does not seem to be greatly used and there is ample provision in other parts of Leeds.'*
3. The respondent does not play golf e.g. *'I don't play golf. I don't know anyone who plays golf.'*

Amongst those who opposed closing or relocating the golf club, the main reasons cited were:

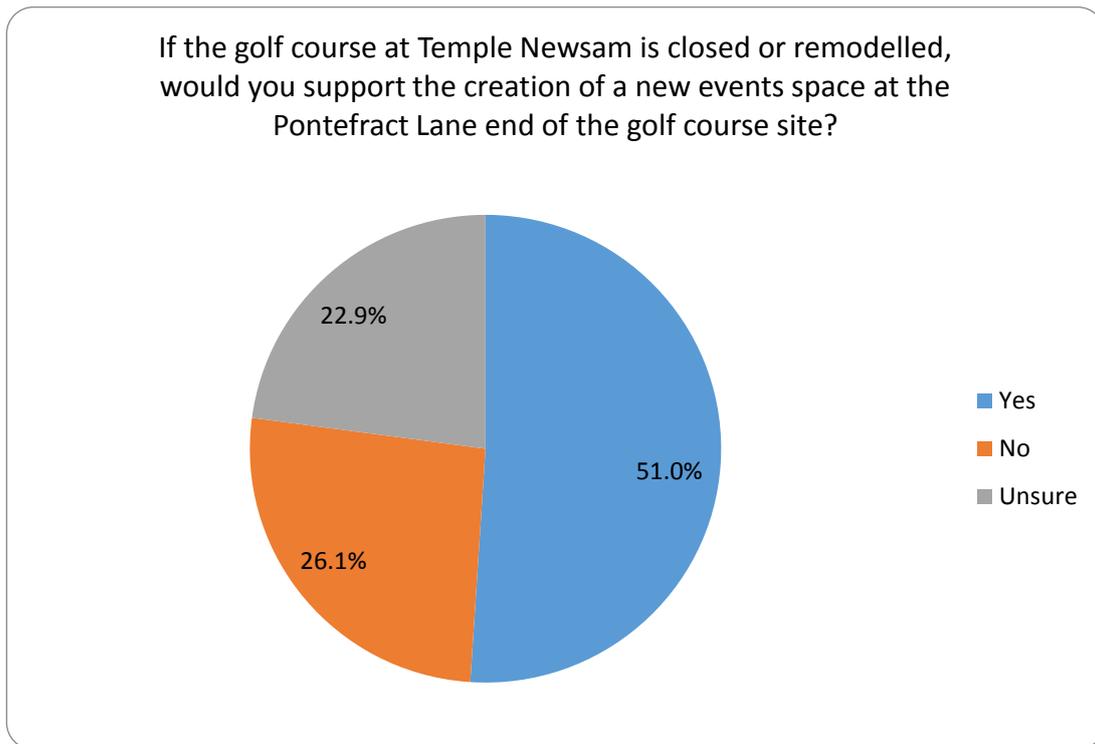
1. The respondent prefers to retain golf as is e.g. *'I want the golf course to stay open'*

2. The golf club can remain alongside any new facilities e.g. *'There is enough ground and space for both these options to run side by side and not for one to close so the other can be built.'*

2.2.6 New events space

Question 18: *If the golf course at Temple Newsam is closed or remodelled, would you support the creation of a new events space at the Pontefract Lane end of the golf course site?*

51% of respondents supported the creation of a new event space at Temple Newsam.



Main reasons for supporting a new events space:

1. It would improve access to events e.g. *'Would be great access for out-of-region visitors, just off Junction 45 of the M1 and greatly reduce congestion on local roads. If I wanted to attend, it would be easy for me to walk or cycle.'*
2. It would have less impact on local residents e.g. *'My grandma is a local resident to temple newsam and can often hear things from her house, this would make her feel safer and more secure and ease parking around her street'*

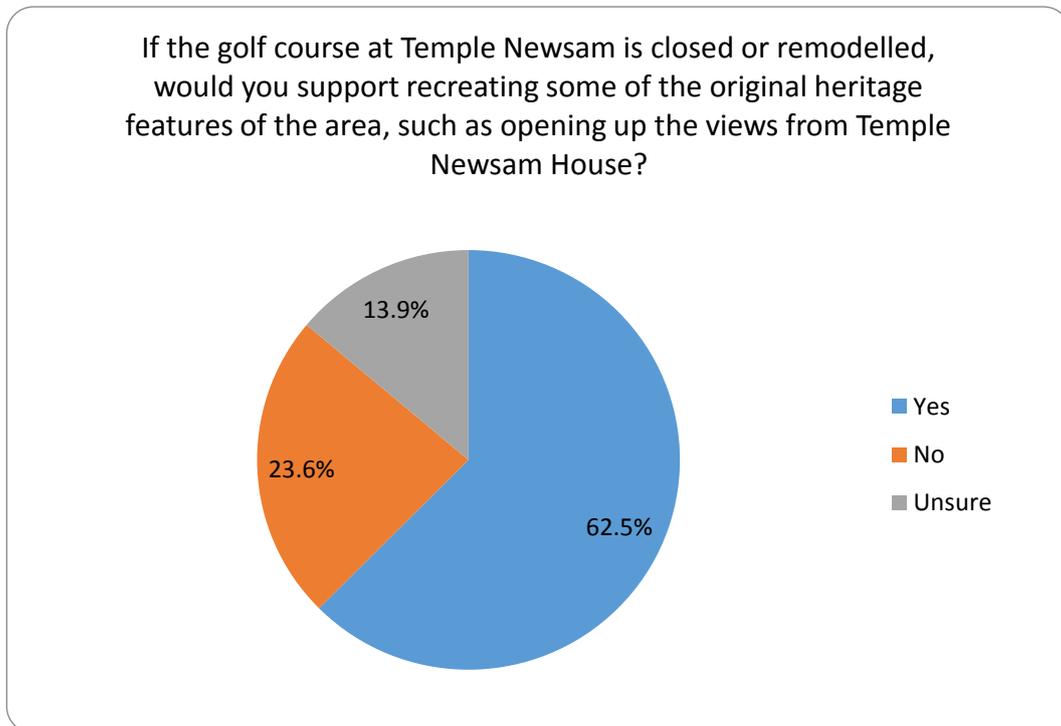
Main reasons for not supporting a new event space:

1. The respondent prefers to retain golf e.g. *'No I won't support the closing of the Golf course to enable these being created'*
2. There is already sufficient event space at Temple Newsam e.g. *'There is enough events space already at Temple Newsam'* and *'Leeds already has plenty of event spaces, I don't think it's necessary to create another one.'*

2.2.7 Re-creating heritage features

Q19. If the golf course at Temple Newsam is closed or remodelled, would you support recreating some of the original heritage features of the area, such as opening up the views from Temple Newsam House?

A majority of respondents (62%) supporting recreating some of the original heritage features of the area if the golf course was to be closed or remodelled.



Main reasons for supporting this proposal:

1. General support for the idea e.g. *'What a fantastic idea - would love to see this.'*
2. Preserving and/or sharing the history of the site is important e.g. *'At heart Temple Newsam is a historic site which should reflect its unique history'*.

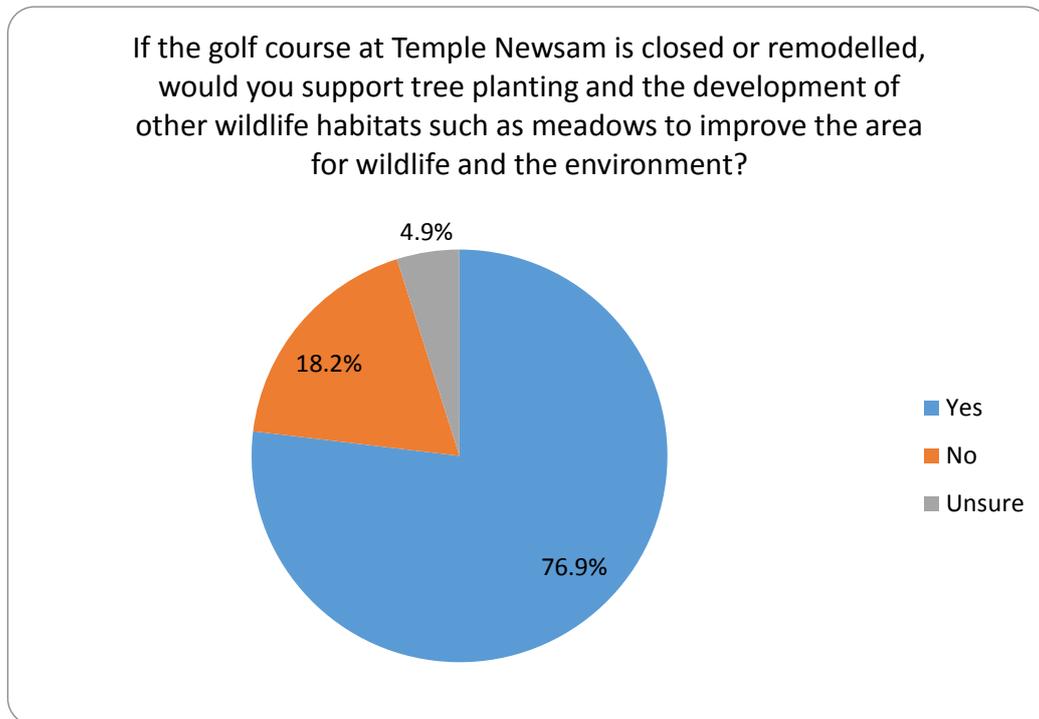
Main reasons for not supporting the proposal:

1. Prefers golf to remain as is (including references to the history of the golf course) e.g. *'The golf course is part of the heritage so why close it.'*
2. Already nice views there/not needed e.g. *'Unnecessary, the views are superb anyway.'*
3. You can re-create the heritage features without closing golf e.g. *'You can do this without closing the golf course'*.

2.2.8 Wildlife and the environment

Question 20: If the golf course at Temple Newsam is closed or remodelled, would you support tree planting and the development of other wildlife habitats such as meadows to improve the area for wildlife and the environment?

A majority of respondents (77%) indicated that they would support tree planting and the development of other wildlife habitats if the golf courses were closed or remodelled.



The main reasons given for supporting the development of wildlife habitats were:

1. The importance of protecting and enhancing wildlife and the environment e.g. *'It is very important to protect our natural environment and support the development of new habitats for wildlife in our parks.'*
2. General support e.g. *'How could anyone not support this? It's my biggest single reason for supporting the proposals.'*

The main reasons for not supporting the proposal were:

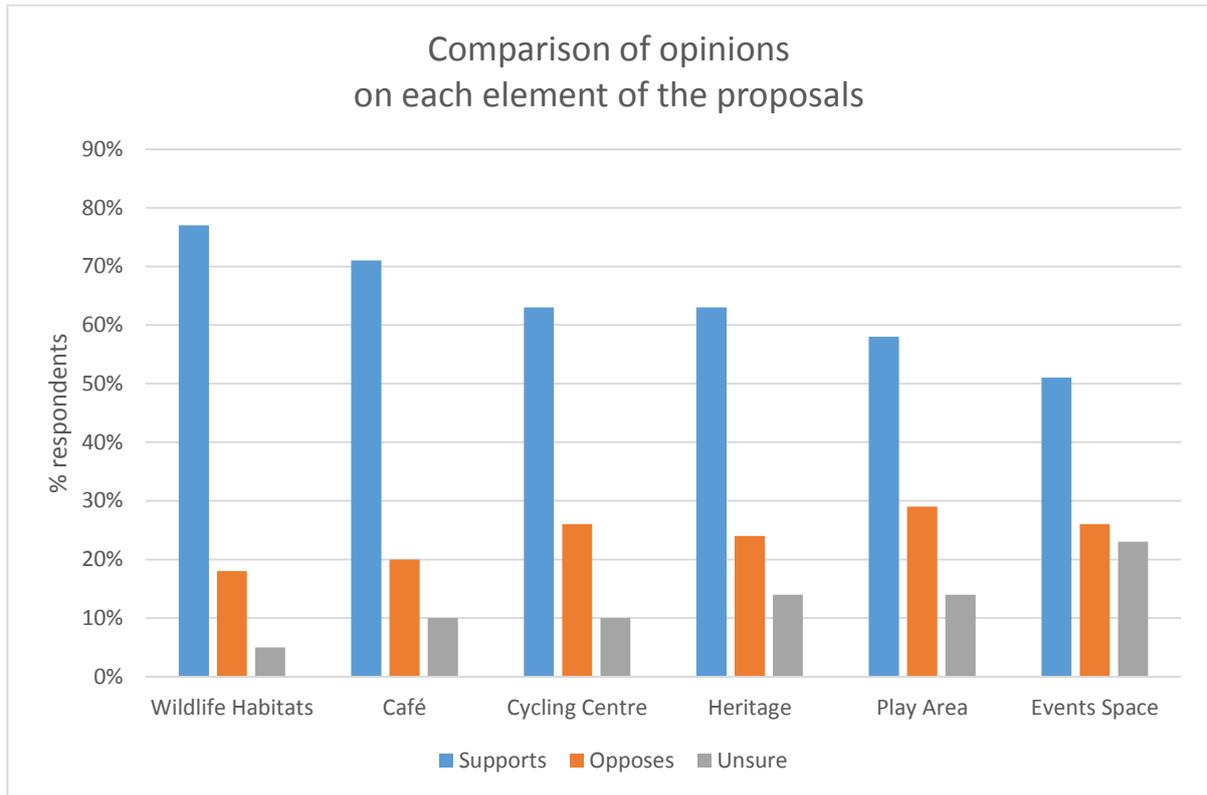
1. Believes these proposals can/should be done alongside golf e.g. *'All of the above can be carried out without closing the golf course.'*
2. The site is already good for wildlife e.g. *'We have plenty of wildlife already including deer, red kites etc.'*

2.2.9 Popularity of each proposal

Based on the responses gathered, it is possible to compare levels of support for each of the proposals

All of the proposals for alternative facilities had the support of over 50% of respondents.

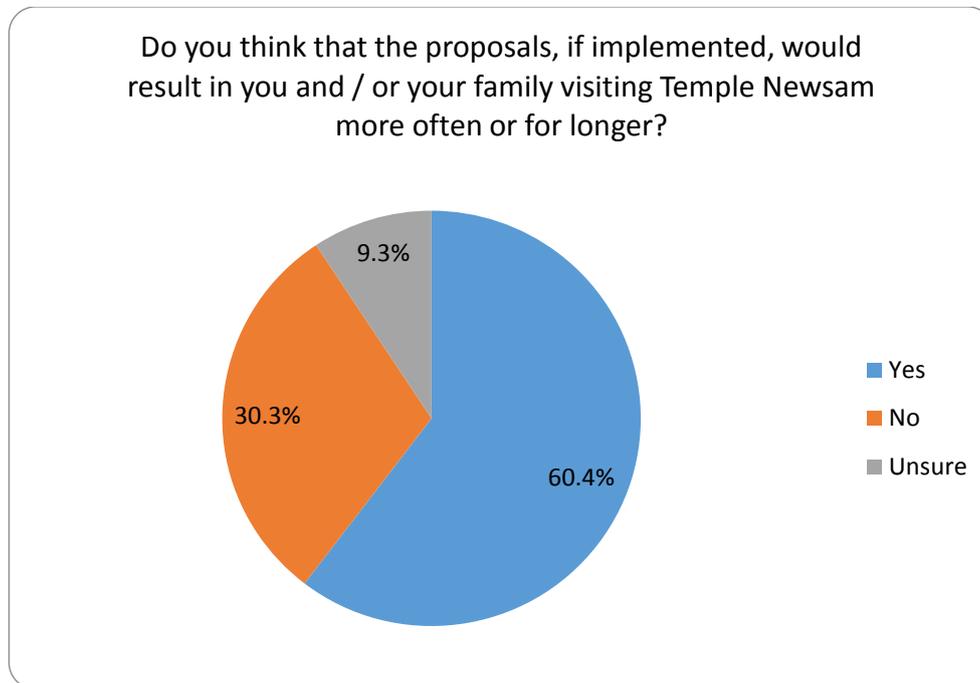
The most popular proposals are the wildlife habitat development (77% support), followed by a café (71%).



2.2.10. Likelihood of visiting

Question 21: Do you think that the proposals, if implemented, would result in you and / or your family visiting Temple Newsam more often or for longer?

60% of respondents felt that, if implemented, the proposed changes would result in them, or their family, visiting the estate more often or for longer.



For those that answered 'yes' to this question, the main reasons given were:

1. There would be more to do on offer e.g. *'We visit temple newsam a lot and have done all my life. I'm finding my children are getting a bit bored of seeing the same things and are a bit older now to enjoy the farm as much as they once did. These changes sound great, inject a new lease of life into the estate and find us a reason to visit more often'*
2. They would use the cycling facilities e.g. *'I feel the changes if done correctly would lead me to visit more. I hold Temple Newsam close to my heart due to its beauty and would love to travel round on my bicycle on the proposed new trails, especially in the summer.'*

For those that answered 'no' to this question, the main reasons given were:

1. They would prefer to retain golf e.g. *'I would end up visiting less by having to travel elsewhere to play golf.'*
2. They already visit the site frequently e.g. *'We already visit TN on a daily basis to walk our dog, take our granddaughter to the farm and/or playgrounds. We also attend football matches on a weekend.'*
3. The proposals do not appeal e.g. *'We are a retired couple who value the Temple Newsam estate as a place to enjoy the countryside. We do not need development for its own sake!'*

2.2.11 Other comments

Appendix A

The final survey question gave respondents the chance to express any other comments about the proposals, or suggestions for Temple Newsam estate. 712 people added further comments, covering a wide range of topics. Many of these were a repeat of the responses to the questions above, so the section below highlights recurring themes that *have not been mentioned already*.

Themes

Recurring themes (*not mentioned previously*) from any other comments section.

General

- There was concern about anti-social behaviour on the site and that any new developments may suffer as a result.
- The need to improve accessibility for disabled people in any developments, including providing accessible play/café/cycling/toilets, was highlighted
- Need for better public transport (buses mainly) to the site was highlighted
- The need to provide suitable amount of parking if developments go ahead
- Some concerns were raised that proposals will increase traffic to the site if implemented
- Request that fees and charges (e.g. for parking/café) are kept affordable.
- Concern about costs to council of the proposed facilities (some respondents questioned whether the costs in the proposal are correct).
- Please make provision for horse riding at the site by maintaining/increasing the number of bridleways.
- Several people suggested the proposals are implemented in a different location (away from Temple Newsam)
- Request to take older (as well as young) children into account if the proposals are implemented.

Community engagement

- Suggestion to involve communities in any new developments through volunteering opportunities like tree planting
- Request that activities (like nature trails) are provided for communities, families, children and schools
- Request for events like Leeds Festival, Opera in the Park and Party in the Park to return to Temple Newsam

Golf

- Suggestion to diversify the golf offer, e.g. by providing pitch n putt, crazy golf or adventure golf

2.3 Results of face to face meetings

Consultee	Feedback
Leeds City Council colleagues as relevant to the proposals.	Site based staff have fed into the proposals; Road Safety Team thought the scheme would complement their work well; Active Leeds keen to deliver maximum health benefits to people of Leeds and indicated that there might be opportunities to provide cycling events and activities at the site to help people of all ages gain confidence in cycling; Highways had no concerns re: event proposals.
Friends of Temple Newsam Chair & Vice-Chair	Meeting was just for information. Members responded to the consultation as individuals.
Temple Newsam Community Forum	Meeting consisted largely of golfers from Temple Newsam (many of whom who don't normally attend) who expressed their opposition to the proposals to close the golf courses. However, around 15 members of the public who were also in attendance expressed their support for the proposals.
Leeds City Council Scrutiny	Minutes of meeting can be found here (item 58): http://democracy.leeds.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=1091&MId=8621&Ver=4
Temple Newsam Golf Club	The outcome of these meetings was the formal written response available in appendix 1.
Historic England	This meeting was for information but they did express support for the idea of re-creating some of the heritage features to make the most of the landscape and Grade 1 listed House.
Leeds Cycling Partnership	Various suggestions were made at this meeting with regards the proposals, particularly in relation to a compromise option of providing good quality golf and cycling facilities in tandem at the site. It was suggested that any new facilities be aimed at younger age groups with play facilities and easy cycling routes to complement, rather than reproduce, the cycling facilities at Middleton Park. In addition, it was suggested the scheme has potential as a base for a bike library for people who don't own bikes and to provide adapted bikes for people with disabilities to use.
Public Open Days at Temple Newsam	It was requested that responses to the open days be given in survey form on paper or online so are picked up by the survey results.
Consultation with school children at Colton Primary.	Unfortunately, due to the Covid 19 lockdown coming into place it was only possible to visit one of the three schools that an appointment had been arranged with. The consultation workshop was kept fairly generic with the aim of finding out how children use Temple Newsam and what they would like to see there in future. The children liked the idea of most of the

	facilities including golf - they weren't asked to choose between the different facilities just to rate them on how much they liked them. Details below.
Yorkshire Gardens Trust	This meeting was mainly for information but they did express support for the idea of re-creating some of the heritage features, particularly opening up the vistas to/from the House, and they also indicated that a heritage impact assessment would need to be undertaken before the design could be approved.

School children

12 school children attended the consultation workshop. Half were female and half were male, ages ranged from 5 – 10 years.

When asked to say how much they liked the ideas for Temple Newsam, by scoring them out of 5 '0 means you don't like the idea and 5 means you love the idea!', the scores came out as follows in order from most popular to least:

Idea for Temple Newsam	Average score out of 5
Create a road safety park	4.25
Build a new playground	4.25
Make it better for wildlife	4
New café	3.6
Pump track	3.5
Create cycling & walking trails	3.4
Show more history	3
Keep the golf courses	2.4

2.4 Submissions

2.4.1 Summary of Submission from Temple Newsam Golf Club

2.4.2 Temple Newsam Golf Club has provided a detailed submission contained in Appendix C. Notwithstanding a number of concerns raised about the process to date, the golf club wish to retain golf at Temple Newsam as part of an integrated solution incorporating a café, road safety park, cycling and play facilities by reducing the number of holes from 27 to 18 (with the option of two 9 hole offers included). The submission includes a new proposed layout on page 12.

2.4.3 Summary of Submission from Leeds Urban Bike Park

2.4.4 The submission from Cycle Pathway Community Interest Group based at Leeds Urban Bike Park at Middleton Park support any proposal to give more people access to cycling activities particularly people within the local area. They would like to have been consulted at an earlier stage and are concerned in particular about a shared

walking and cycling trail. Their wish is to work in collaboration to seek funding from Sport England and British Cycling to complement the facility at Middleton and deliver cycling focussed activities that connect both sites.

2.4.5 Petition

- 2.4.6 A 'Stop Leeds City Council potential closure of Temple Newsam Golf Club / Course' petition was also submitted to Leeds City Council ahead of the executive board meeting in October 2019. This was before the formal consultation process began and therefore did not include the information about the scheme that accompanied the questionnaire. The petition included 725 signatories.