

Barrowford Parish Council

Offices
Holmefield House, Gisburn Road,
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barrowfordpc@barrowford.org.uk

Mr. K. Roberts
Neighbourhood Service Manager
Pendle Borough Council
Town Hall
Market Street
Nelson
BB9 7LG
3rd September 2015

Dear Mr. Roberts,

The proposed Pump Track was discussed at last night's council meeting and I have been instructed to write to you on behalf of the council requesting some answers regarding the proposed track. You are well aware that the Parish Council sought the funding for the junior mountain bike track and are keen not to lose a well-used junior facility in preference to a competitive adult facility. The Parish Council feel that they cannot make a decision whether to support the proposal or not until the following issues and questions are resolved.

- 1. Is there a local need for a large competition class Pump Track which could potentially draw users and competitors from a 30mile radius?
- Who will run the site?
- 3. What will be the access to local youngster particularly at weekends?
- 4. Will the facility be available free of charge?
- 5. Will there be adequate parking with 12 spaces as provisions for the Steven Burke Track are wholly inadequate particularly at weekends?
- 6. How many trees will be lost on the existing site as these are what the Parks determined would be the parameters for the construction of the existing track?
- 7. Who will maintain the facility in future years?
- 8. How will this be ensured?
- 9. What facilities will be created as compensation for the more junior riders who will lose a facility aimed at their age group?
- 10. How will road safety for both pedestrians and cyclists be addressed at both where the road runs under the motorway bridge and the bridge over Colne Waters onto Swindon?
- 11. What provision will be given on non-competition days for possible injury to potential casual users?
- 12. Who will be responsible for any accident claims arising from unsupervised use of the facility?

Until all these questions are answered and a public consultation open to more than just pump track riders and members of cycling clubs are undertaken the Parish Council will be wary of giving tacit support for a facility which in reality may have little or no benefit to the residents of Barrowford whilst resulting in the loss of a currently used local facility and increasing traffic problems in and around Bullholme.



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Yours sincerely

lain A. Lord

Clerk of the Council

JA. Rord

Response to issues outlined by Barrowford Parish Council regarding Steven Burke Phase 2 proposals

In response to a letter (dated 3rd September 2015) sent to Pendle Borough Council's Neighbourhood Services by Barrowford Parish Council regarding issues relating to the Phase 2 proposals, I have tried to answer the questions outlined individually.

I have also provided a revised plan/drawing and costs that has been produced in response to some of the issues highlighted by the Parish Council and Barrowford & Western Parishes Committee members particularly around access, vehicular movement and car parking.

Revised draft plans for phase two will include the development of a BMX Pump Track through the refurbishment of the existing off-road track, a multi-purpose tarmac area that can be used as car parking for the Cycle track and/or the new Pump track, for events and as a safe bike skills learning area for toddlers and young children. In addition, some access/traffic movement improvements have been included, e.g. passing places, appropriate signage, etc.

The revised estimated costings for phase 2 currently come in at circa £120,000.

1. Is there a local need for a large competition class Pump Track which could potentially draw users and competitors from a 30 mile radius?

This was never the main intention for the upgrade of the existing Mountain Bike trail and has never been mentioned as the priority use of the Pump Track. Potentially, it could hold races and events for more experienced BMX riders but on the other hand it would also be used by beginners and total novices to the Sport. The track would be like the Cycle track in that it has a good mixture of free casual use from all ages and abilities, organised use by local cycling organisations and one off events, for example the Tour of Britain event, Nelson & Colne College 24 hour charity ride, etc.

2. Who will run the site?

Pendle Council would manage and maintain the site in partnership with Cycle Sport Pendle (CSP). We would look to put in place similar arrangements we have now for the Steven Burke Sports Hub whereby we would work in co-ordination with CSP regarding bookings for the track and day to day management issues (this would be in the form of a legal agreement between PBC and CSP). We would work on the same premise as the existing Sports Hub in that the track would be open to all free of charge when no organised sessions were in place but if organised sessions take place then the track could be secured and exclusivity achieved.

3. What will the access to local youngsters particularly at weekends?

As per the Cycle Track, access would be for anyone when the track was not booked out for Club use or other events. We would look to ensure that there is a period of

time every day of the week when the Pump Track couldn't be booked out for organised sessions so that the general public could use it. We have done this at the Cycle Track from 7.00am – 10.00am. It is more than likely that CSP may book the Pump Track on a Saturday morning until 12.30pm (to tie in with their other sessions on the Cycle Hub) but if you look at the usage from organised groups in terms of the Cycle Track at weekends this is fairly minimal. I would imagine there would be sporadic events whereby access to the Pump Track may be limited but if members felt strongly that there should be more 'public time' allotted at a weekend then I'm sure this could be negotiated.

4. Will the facility be available free of charge?

We would work on the same premise as the existing Sports Hub in that the track would be open to all free of charge when no organised sessions were in place. There would be a charge for organised sessions where there is a necessity for the track to be closed and exclusivity wanted. We have a charging mechanism for the Cycle track that we would look to replicate for the Pump Track. The fees are extremely reasonable per hour session and any income derived from organised use is then put in to an income code and then off set against expenditure to hopefully achieve a profit at the end of each financial year. With the cycle track, any profit is then put back in to improving the track and surrounding area and/or a sinking fund for long term management/maintenance issues.

5. Will there be adequate parking with 12 spaces as provision for the Steven Burke Track are wholly inadequate particularly at weekends?

The original version of the scheme only provided for 12 car parking spaces. The scheme has now been revised (see attached drawing/plan) and there is now provision for 30 cars. A tarmac area 34.5m x 28.5m will be created on a triangular piece of grassed land adjacent to the existing Cycle Track. This area will be multi-functional in that it can be used as a car parking area, as a hard standing area for cycle events and also an additional area for toddlers/juniors to use for skills training, etc.

Apart from special events, we envisage that users of the Pump Track will be fairly local and as such we will be encouraging people to ride to the facility.

6. How many trees will be lost on the existing site as these are what the Parks determined would be the parameters for the construction of the existing track?

The original artists impression contained within the report that went to Barrowford & Western Parishes Committee (and then on to the Parish Council) was misleading. It looks like all the trees would be taken out but this is not the case. Most, if not all of the existing trees contained within the curtilage of the Pump Track area will remain. Some may be thinned out and the odd one may have to come out but this would be done as a last resort. We want to maintain the natural element to the track and do not want to unnecessarily take trees out. We would liaise with the Council's Tree Officer on any trees identified for removal. We aim to show trees on the artist's impression

but until this time will stipulate in any consultation we do that any existing trees will remain.

As part of the revised drawing, we are looking at taking out some trees and shrubs near to the Swinden Bridge end of the Pump Track area. This is to provide a larger area for the Pump Track to operate in. The land that previously wasn't in the scheme will now be contained within the newly fenced area.

The removal of these trees/shrubs has been given the go ahead by the Council's Tree Officer. There is neither any Tree Preservation Orders nor conservation area extant and the trees/shrubs are of limited amenity. As part of the proposed scheme, we would look to compensate the loss of these trees with the planting of some new ones.

7. Who will maintain the facility in future years?

For the short term, Pendle Borough Council – Neighbourhood Services would be the lead Service Area in the strategic management of the facility with help from Environmental Services (grounds maintenance).

Obviously, work is ongoing in terms of the transfer of services to Town/Parish Councils with Parks and Playing Fields scheduled to be looked at in the next 2-3 years. Whether this facility and the Sports Hub will be looked at and transferred is open for debate but for the time being we would continue to manage/maintain the facility.

8. How will this be ensured?

As mentioned previously, the financial management model that will be implemented will replicate the Cycle Hub one. Revenue budgets are already in place for grounds maintenance of the site. In addition, the profits made per year will be used to carry out any repairs and improvement works with a sinking fund for long term management/maintenance issues.

9. What facilities will be created as compensation for the more junior riders who will lose a facility aimed at their age group?

There is no need for additional facilities as compensation as the existing users be it young or old could use the track. The track would not be a specialist one and all ages and abilities would be able to use it. Children as young as 3 up to pensioner age could use the track on either a BMX bike, children's bike or Mountain Bike.

10. How will road safety for both pedestrians and cyclists be addressed at both where the road runs under the motorway bridge and the bridge over Colne Water on to Swinden?

The revised drawing shows the changes we have made in relation to road safety and access issues. We will install traffic management improvements including priority signage before and after the motorway bridge in addition to a couple of passing places along the tarmac track that leads to the bridge that goes over Colne Water to

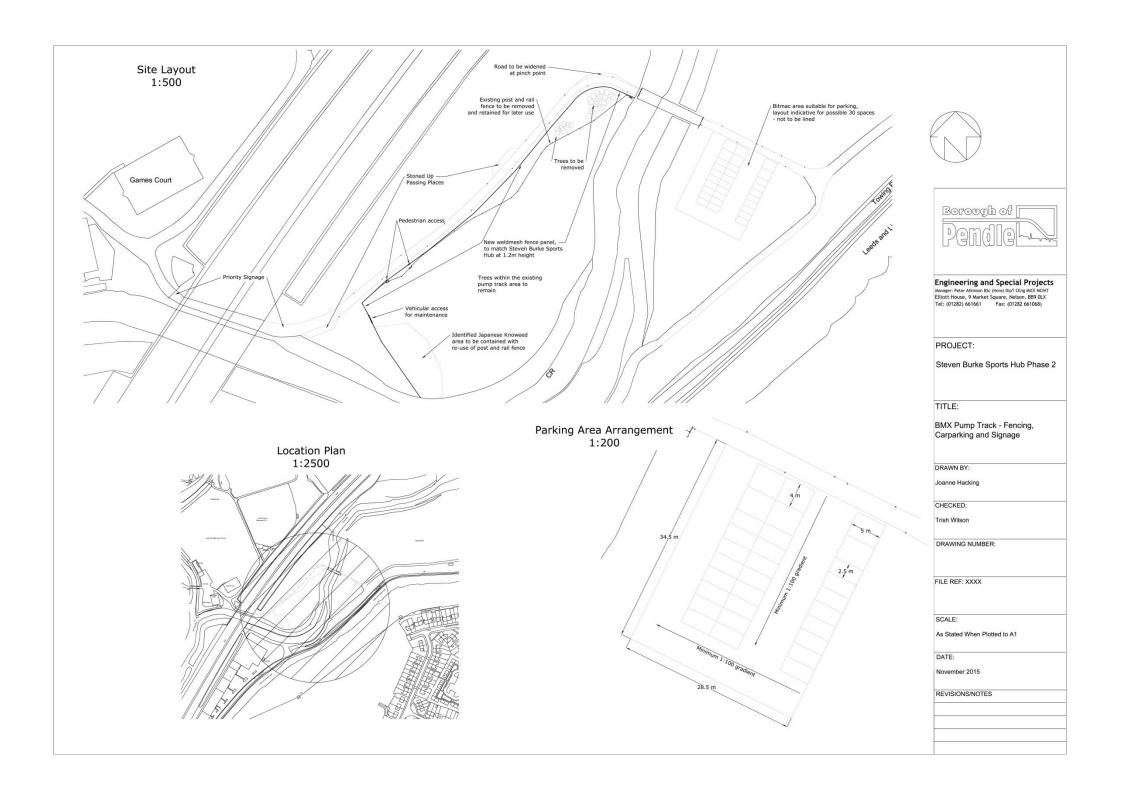
Swinden. We will also widen an area of the road near the Swinden Bridge due to there being a pinch point.

11. What provision will be given on non-competition days for possible injury to potential casual users?

None – as per the Cycle Hub, cyclists would use the facility at their own risk. This would be displayed on notice boards at each entrance. For organised sessions or events, clubs/organisations would need to provide evidence of their own insurance cover (as set out in the terms and conditions).

12. Who will be responsible for any accident claims arising from unsupervised use of the facility?

As per the Cycle Hub, cyclists would use the facility at their own risk (see above). If there was a claim for an injury/accident, it would go to the Council's insurance company Zurich and they would deal with it. The Council would have the facility on their public liability insurance cover schedule. Most claims would probably be refuted though as users are warned via the entrance signs that they use the facility at their own risk. We would only be liable if something had not been repaired properly or something faulty on the track.





Steven Burke Sports Hub



For many years the residents of Barrowford and Nelson have enjoyed use of the Off Road Bike Trail at Bullholme (situated on land between the motorway bridge and Swinden Playing Fields). There is the chance to now improve and update this facility so that it can continue to be enjoyed by local users of all ages and abilities for many years to come.

Pendle Borough Council and Cycle Sport Pendle have come up with a design to modify the existing trail and layout in addition to providing additional parking (which could be used as an event space and junior training area) and improving traffic flow.

We need you!

Please look at the design and complete the survey using the information below. We will use this information to see if we have got it right, or make any changes to the plans to suit local people and <u>try to</u> get the funding needed to make the changes. We need to get a lot of completed surveys to help us make our case to get the funding!

Every comment helps!

Make this happen!

Please complete the survey online at www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/92TJJLQ

Plans and further information can be seen if you type in *Proffitts Steve Burke* into Google

PLEASE COMPLETE THE SURVEY MONKEY BY MONDAY 15th FEBRUARY 2016!

In completing this survey you will be automatically entered into a prize draw for vouchers worth £20 if you include your contact details.



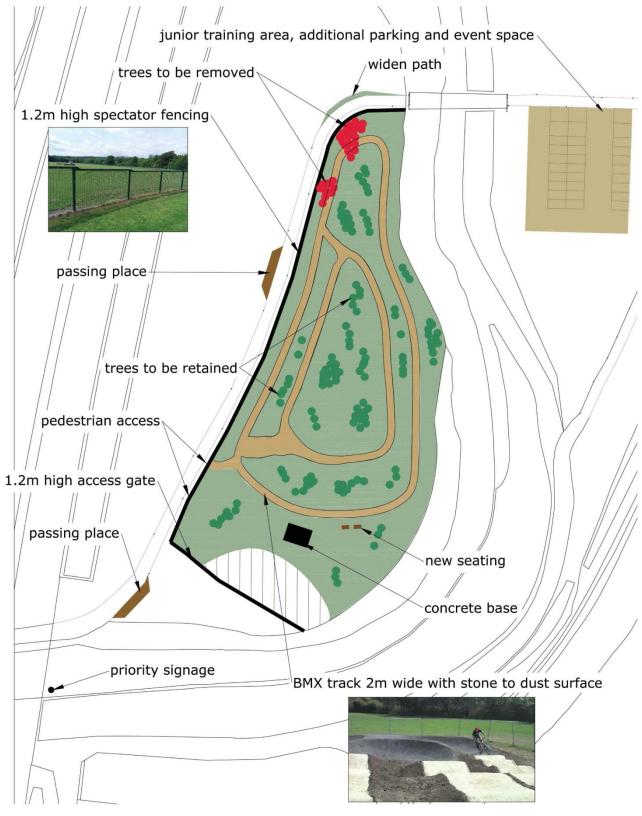




PENDLE BMX PUMP TRACK PROJECT
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TELL US WHAT YOU THINK? PLEASE TURN OVER.



FROM THIS...



TO SOMETHING LIKE THIS!





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Please look at the design and complete the short survey below. We will use this information to see if we have got it right, or make any changes to the plans to suit local people and **try to** get

the funding needed to make the changes. We need to get a lot of completed surveys to help us make our case to get the funding!

Do you support this project idea?

2. Why?

(Please circle) YES

NO NAME:

AGE:

ADDRESS:

3. What changes / improvements would you like to see on the project design? (Please see overleaf)

EMAIL:

Details will be used only for this project and will not be passed onto any third party.

Please fill in your contact

details here so we can

inform you of any developments.

4. If this project was to go ahead, would you or your family use it? (Please circle) **YES**

\$0

NO



5. If yes please circle the type of use you prefer - Casual Use / Organised Sessions OR Both

PENDLE BMX PUMP TRACK PROJECT
To keep up with whats happening here,
Visit our Facebook page:
www.facebook.com/PendleBMX

PLEASE RETURN / RESPOND BY MONDAY 15th FEBRUARY 2016!

In completing this survey you will be automatically entered into a prize draw for vouchers worth £20 if you include your contact details.

You can also complete the questionnaire online at www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/92TJJLQ

Plans and further information can be viewed at:

http://www.proffittscic.com/community-projects/steve-burke-pump-track-pendle-lancashire/

Thank you!