

## Appendix 8 Summary of relevant previous public engagement in Poole Park

### 1. 2021 BCP Council 'Rethinking the future of parks and open spaces' public consultation.

Insights Team report July 2021. Residents were asked 'what would they change about one open space in the BCP area'.

**"The most commonly mentioned space was Poole Park (55 times) and more than half of these mentioned traffic and vehicles (32 times)".** Specific comments:

- "Poole Park, please stop through traffic at all times..."
- "Stop cars driving through Poole Park (as done previously in Meyrick Park and Kings park)..."
- "Poole Park: remove through traffic"
- "Poole Park should be traffic free..."
- "I would stop through traffic in Poole Park..."

### 2. 2021 Poole Park Life Evaluation report,

Resources For Change consultants, employed to deliver the evaluation and monitoring of the Poole Park Life project, November 2021.

Summary comments:

**"There was general feeling that through traffic should be further reduced in the park, if not eliminated, with one saying, "It's a park not a road". Concern was expressed that not enough had been done for pedestrians and that many of the paths along the improved road and around the lake had not been improved."**

Survey Findings:

"People were keen that the improvements and the activities in the park did not stop now the project had come to an end. Their aspirations were varied but key themes emerged as follows.

- The most common response to this question was to 'maintain well what we have got'. There was a sentiment in the responses that past improvements had not always been well maintained and therefore this was an area for future improvement.
- **Car/ roads/ access and parking was perhaps the biggest area of comment in this section. As has already been mentioned there is a range of opinions on the topic but there seem to be a consensus around the idea that this issue was not yet satisfactorily addressed and work in this area needed to continue. There is a strong feeling that this is unfinished business.**
- Miniature Steam Train. There used to be a narrow-gauge railway operating in the park. This was closed in 2018 and is a much-missed attraction.
- Ongoing support for volunteers and a continued programme of events was also seen as important as these had been popular activities during the life of the project and were seen as providing a key link with the local community.