

MANNINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

# Draft Koonung Park Management Plan

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July 2016



**PROPOSED CHANGES**

## Executive Summary

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Koonung Park is located in Bulleen and is 3.5 hectares in size and adjacent to Koonung Creek Linear Park with street frontages to Kampman Street, Furneaux Grove and Bulleen Road.

Koonung Park is identified in the Manningham Open Space Strategy as a district reserve with an important function in Manningham's open space network as a sporting and recreation facility.

Manningham City Council prepares Management Plans for complex recreation areas that accommodate a range of facilities and services and/or open space areas with a range of uses and purposes. Such areas are important community assets and due to competing priorities and limited funding for development, it is crucial to plan and prioritise the use, development and management of these areas. This is the first management plan completed for Koonung Park.

The overarching goal for the Koonung Park Management Plan is to provide high quality recreation services that respond to community demand, respect the natural environment and are maintained effectively into the future.

Koonung Park is highly valued by the local community and this plan strives to ensure there is a balance of sports club based activity and flexible recreation opportunities to cater for all local residents and their diverse recreation pursuits.

The objectives of this Plan are set out in Figure 1 and the resulting key recommendations of this plan include;

- Three new synthetic training nets that are enclosed, lockable and available for club use only, plus one training net accessible to the community
- Cyclone mesh fence around sportsground
- Protective netting behind northern goals
- New paths improving access through the Park to specific community facilities
- Options for the community tennis courts
- Improvements to the carpark
- Upgrade to the playground
- Landscaping and planting throughout the Park to improve amenity

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# 1. Introduction

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## 1.1 Purpose

Publicly owned open space and reserves improve our physical and psychological health, strengthen our communities and make our cities and neighbourhoods more attractive places to live and work. Manningham City Council prepares Management Plans for complex recreation areas that accommodate a range of facilities and services and/or open space areas with a range of uses and purposes. Such areas are important community assets and due to competing priorities and limited funding for development, it is crucial to plan and prioritise the use, development and management of these areas. This is the first management plan completed for Koonung Park.

The purpose of the Management Plan is:

- To document and protect the key values of Koonung Park by providing a framework for future planning.
- To establish short, medium and long term, objectives and actions for the future development of the Park.
- To develop a masterplan for improvements over a 10 year period.
- To provide a guide for the management of sport and recreation facilities in the Park.

The endorsed Koonung Park Management Plan will be used by Council Officers involved in planning, development and management of the Park and will help the community understand Council's vision, objectives and specific plans for the Park.

## 1.2 Goals and Objectives

The overarching goal for the Koonung Park Management Plan is to provide high quality recreation services that respond to community demand, respect the natural environment and are maintained effectively into the future.

Koonung Park is currently used by sports clubs and residents for various recreational pursuits including cricket, football, tennis and hall hire. Other facilities used by local residents include the playground, exercise equipment and open spaces for walking, exercising and dog walking.

Koonung Park, given its location in Bulleen where open space is generally less accessible, is highly valued by the local community. This plan strives to ensure there is a balance of sports club based activity and flexible recreation opportunities to cater for all local residents and their diverse recreation pursuits.

The five objectives for this Management Plan are set out in Figure 1 and actions pertaining to these objectives are detailed in Section 9 – Strategic Direction – Objectives and Actions.



Figure 1 - Objectives

### 1.3 Key Stakeholders

There are a number of stakeholders that have an interest in the upgrading and ongoing management of Koonung Park. These groups have been consulted during the preparation of the Plan. Stakeholders' involvement will continue as required throughout planning, construction and management phases.

#### Sports clubs

Sports clubs and their volunteers provide sport and recreation opportunities for the Manningham community. Their commitment contributes to the Manningham goal that community spirit is strengthened through an involved and well connected community. Manningham's partnership with these clubs is crucial to enable and support future improvements.

- Bulleen Cricket Club
- Manningham Cobras Football Club

#### Local residents

Local residents enjoy the visual amenity of Koonung Park and the neighbouring Koonung Creek Linear Park. They use the playground, outdoor exercise equipment, sportsground and community tennis courts. Ongoing communication with these residents is crucial to ensure that they are considered as part of the development and implementation of the Management Plan.

#### Koonarra Hall hirers

Community groups and businesses hire the hall for meetings and exercise classes on a weekly or monthly basis. The volunteers in these groups contribute to community spirit in the same way that sports clubs do. Regular hall hirers will also be considered as part of the development and implementation of the Management Plan.

## 1.4 Facilities and Features

In summary, existing facilities and features of the Park include:

- Sports pavilion
- Sportsground used for cricket (turf wicket) and football (AFL Rules)
- Cricket training nets (three turf and two synthetic)
- Tennis courts (two plexipave and one synthetic grass)
- Koonarra Hall (community hire)
- Playground
- Exercise equipment
- Toilets
- Council curator's shed
- Floodlighting (tennis courts and sportsground)
- Carpark
- Group of mature River Red Gums (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*) in the south west corner.

## 1.5 Methodology

The methodology for development and implementation of the Management Plan includes:

- Review and analysis of existing use and facilities
- Initial consultation with stakeholders
- Background studies / reports
  - Site opportunities/ constraints analysis
  - Landscape assessment
- Development of a draft Management Plan
- Public exhibition and community consultation on draft Management Plan
- Consideration of submissions and adoption of final Management Plan by Council
- Implementation of recommendations

## 1.6 Community Consultation and Engagement

Community consultation and engagement to date has included:

- Community feedback form through 'Your Say Manningham' website and meetings with club stakeholders, November – December 2015

There were a total of 54 survey responses from the local community and the feedback suggests that the park is well used, highly valued and is a park where local residents feel safe. Results include;

- 74% of the respondents visit the Park at least once a week
- 69% of the respondents visit the Park on both the weekend and on weekdays
- 73% of the respondents walk or run to the Park



- 90% of the respondents feel safe when visiting the Park, commenting that there are generally other people around also using the Park, it feels very open and there is good surveillance from nearby houses
- The most popular activities at the park are using the Park to access the Koonung Trail, exercise equipment, other exercise (unspecified), walking the dog, playground and tennis courts

Further details of the community consultation are included in Appendix 1 and Appendix 2.

## 1.7 Monitoring and Review

Ongoing monitoring of the Plan will be undertaken to ensure that the objectives and actions remain relevant and meet the needs of the community. A full review of the Management Plan will be carried out by Council five years after the completion of all the capital works recommended in the Plan.

## 2. Planning/Policy Context

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### 2.1 Related Strategies

Whilst the Management Plan draws upon a number of Council strategies and policies, the documents that mainly influence the Plan are described below.

#### 2.1.1 Open Space Strategy 2014

This is a 10-year plan that sets priorities and guidelines for the protection, development and use of public open space in the municipality. It has been developed to achieve the following goals:

- Value, expand and enhance the open space network
- Make the most of existing open spaces
- Attract more people, more often, to open space

The Strategy is divided into 3 parts; which include; key directions, the 15 precincts across the municipality and an inventory of Manningham's open space. Koonung Park is located in the Bolin Bolin Precinct (Figure 2) and there are a number of recommendations for this Precinct that relate directly to Koonung Park; Refer to section 4.1 for details.

#### 2.1.2 Active for Life Recreation Strategy 2010-2025

This strategy was developed to provide a strategic framework for the management and development of recreation provision in Manningham. Major gaps, challenges and synergies are addressed, with the aim to increase participation in a broad range of recreational activities for the improved health and wellbeing of our community.

#### 2.1.3 Koonung Creek Linear Park Management Plan 2011

Koonung Creek Linear Park runs along the south boundary of Koonung Park and is generally identified as the secondary Koonung shared path to the Eastern Freeway sound wall. Facilities in the south-west corner of Koonung Park such as public toilets, drinking fountain, exercise equipment and playspace also service the Linear Park. Actions from the Koonung Creek Linear Park Management Plan that directly affect Koonung Park include;

- Install a barbecue and drinking fountain in the playground vicinity
- Install bike hoops at toilet



- Construct footpath on the west side of Balwyn Road to link to Koonung Creek Linear Park.

The drink fountain has been installed and the remaining items are referenced in this Management Plan.

#### **2.1.4 Manningham Tennis Strategy 2003**

This Strategy is a framework for the operation and management of tennis facilities in Manningham based on a not for profit community tennis club model where clubs provide competition, coaching, programs and other tennis opportunities for the community.

#### **2.1.5 Manningham Council Community Facilities Resourcing Plan (currently underway)**

This Plan is being developed to identify current and future community facility needs. The plan will recommend the future capital and operational directions for community facilities to 2035. The availability of other community facilities in the area with regard to consolidating, expanding or upgrading current facilities will be explored.

#### **2.1.6 Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Guidelines 2015**

Council has a role in providing sports facilities that benefit the community through increasing participation and encouraging active, healthy lifestyles. These guidelines identify the funding responsibilities for identified core and optional infrastructure relating to specific sports.

#### **2.1.7 Outdoor Advertising on Council Owned and Managed Land Policy 2015**

This Policy informs organisations seeking to erect advertising signs on Council owned or managed property and provides guidance for decision making for Council Officers in determining applications for signage on Council owned or managed property, regulating the display of signs and associated structures.

#### **2.1.8 Manningham Urban and Park Design Guideline 2010**

The main purpose is to provide advice for the planning and selection of smaller facilities, furniture and other elements in open space and streetscape situations. This Guideline aims to provide practical advice for the design and provision of public furniture in public roads, carparks and shopping centres and in public open spaces, including parks and recreation reserves.

### 3. Site Analysis

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#### 3.1 Location

Koonung Park is located in Bulleen and is 3.5 hectares in size and adjacent to Koonung Creek Linear Park with street frontages to Kampman Street, Furneaux Grove and Bulleen Road.



Figure 2 - Koonung Park location in a Manningham context



Koonung Park Location

## 3.2 Context

Koonung Park is identified in the Manningham Open Space Strategy as a district reserve with an important function in Manningham's open space network as a sporting and recreation facility (Refer Figure 3).

The Park is close to bus stops along Thompsons Road providing public transport access along five bus routes, with two bus stops located within 200 metres of the Park. The Eastern Freeway is a major barrier for the City of Boroondara residents although there is a footbridge across the freeway 500 metres east of Koonung Park.

Koonung Park is also accessed from the Koonung Creek Linear Park secondary trail.

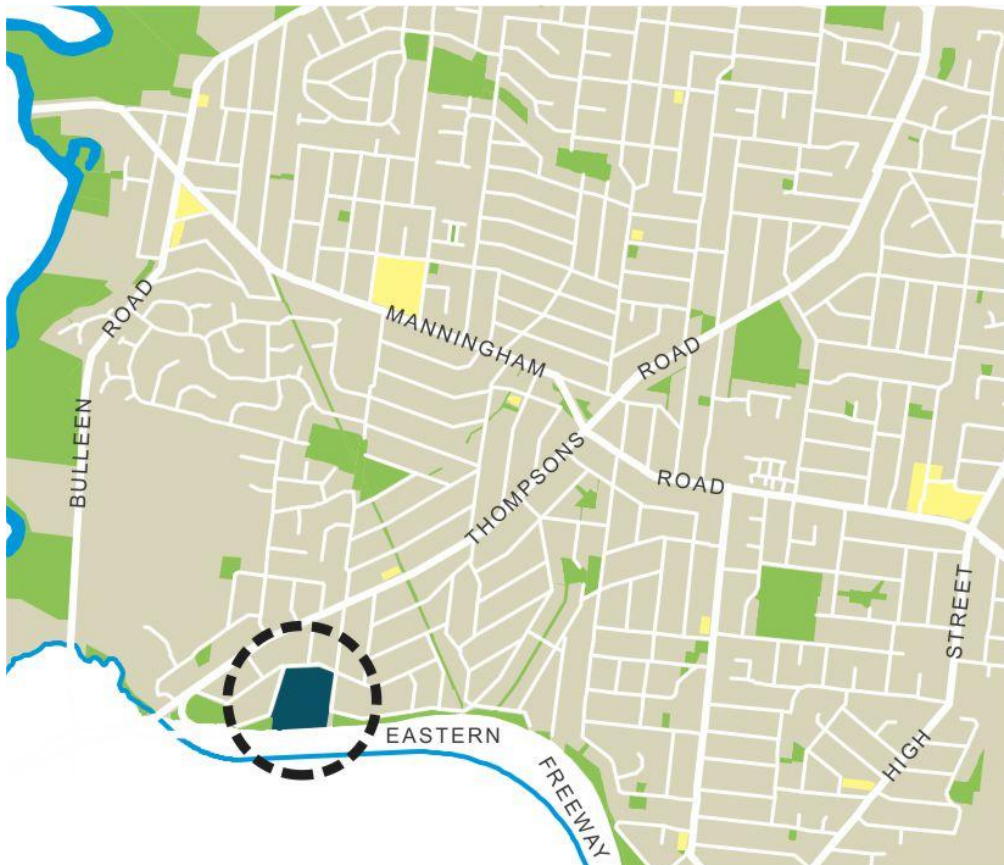


Figure 3 - Koonung Park Context Plan

## 4. Precinct Analysis

### 4.1 Bolin Bolin Precinct

The Open Space Strategy 2014 has 15 precincts and Koonung Park is located in the Bolin Bolin Precinct. This Precinct is at capacity in relation to its ability to provide additional public open space, so the focus on future provision is to ensure quality facilities are provided at the larger district parks, which include Koonung Park.

The Precinct map below (Figure 4) illustrates that residents east of Bulleen Road do not have ideal access to larger areas of public open space with the areas marked in red indicating they are beyond reasonable walking distance of a sizeable park. The large area directly east and west of Bulleen Road (marked as a block of pale green) is private open space (school sporting grounds) and is not accessible to residents. This creates a 'gap' in Council's open space provision standards. There are only two other reserves within practical walking distance from Koonung Park that provide a large area of open space; Harold Reserve (1100 metres) and Morris Williams Reserve (700 metres).

Residents in the vicinity of Koonung Park do have access to quality open space and the three pedestrian crossings with traffic lights on Thompsons Road, (plus Yarraleen Walkway and Harold Link) improve access to Koonung Park for the residents who live further away and provide options for safe travel. An improved bicycle/pedestrian connection between Thompsons Road and Bulleen Road would increase the use of the shared path through Koonung Park.

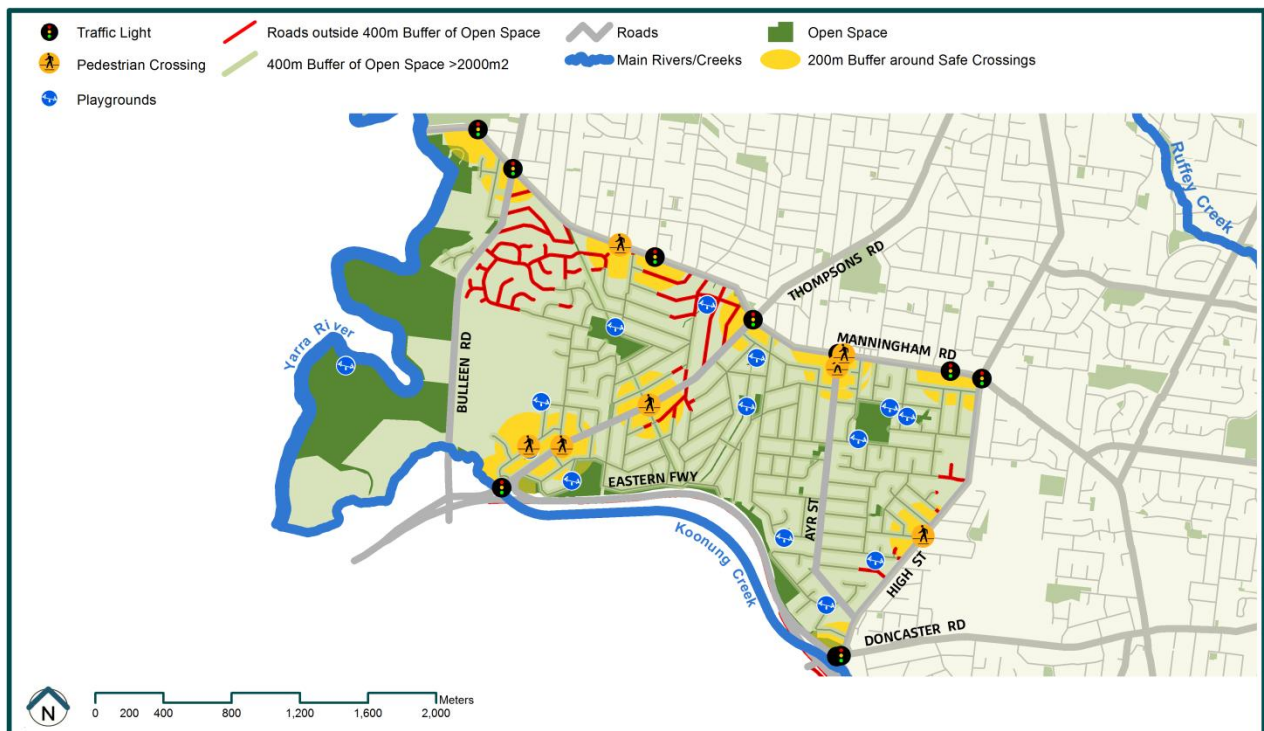


Figure 4 – Residential proximity to open space in Bolin Bolin Precinct



## 4.2 Demographic Analysis

The Bolin Bolin precinct has had a slightly declining and ageing population with a small increase in population expected over the next 20 years. The over 70s age group is particularly dominant, perhaps due to substantial retirement village accommodation in the area. There are also more 25-34 year olds and more young children in Bolin Bolin than the Manningham average which may indicate some regeneration of the area. Significant growth in the number of people in their 20s is expected in Bulleen, with an increase in higher density properties and the attractiveness of being in close proximity to Melbourne and the Heidelberg rail line on the northern side of the Yarra River. There is an increasing trend to smaller households, with over half comprising lone person and couples without children. The precinct has a very large, but declining, Italian and Greek community with an emerging Chinese affiliated community.

Open space considerations in Bolin Bolin are likely to be affected by the much higher levels of older population, including those with regularly visiting grandchildren, but also a small but increasing number of young parents with young children (reference: Open Space Strategy 2014 Part 2).

## 4.3 History

Photographic records show that the four remnant River Red Gums in the south west corner of the Park are more than 100 years old and potentially in excess of 200 years old, dating pre European settlement of Manningham. The 1945 aerial photo also indicates that the area was open pasture with woodland along the Koonung Creek.

The land was originally subdivided in 1931. Council started acquiring the land from various owners starting in 1946 and took some time to acquire the 33 separate lots that make up Koonung Park. The internal road reserves were not closed until 1977.

The oval was built in the early 1960s with the pavilion, carpark and tennis courts built by 1970. With the construction of the Eastern Freeway in late 1970s, the second oval (junior) located 300 metres west of the existing oval was lost. There has been minimal major change at the Park since the 1970s. The biggest more recent change has been the disbandment of the Koonarra Tennis Club in 2001 and conversion of the former tennis pavilion into a community hall for hire. This is outlined further in Section 5.2.

## 4.4 Existing Conditions

Entry points into the Park include carpark entrances on Furneaux Grove and Kampman Street, and various pedestrian access points from Balwyn Road, Furneaux Grove, Kampman Street and the Koonung Creek Linear Park.

The main facilities include a sportsground for football and cricket, three community tennis courts, Koonarra Hall for hire, playground and outdoor exercise equipment.

A group of four mature *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* (River Red Gums) in the south west corner provide the Park's main natural landscape feature.

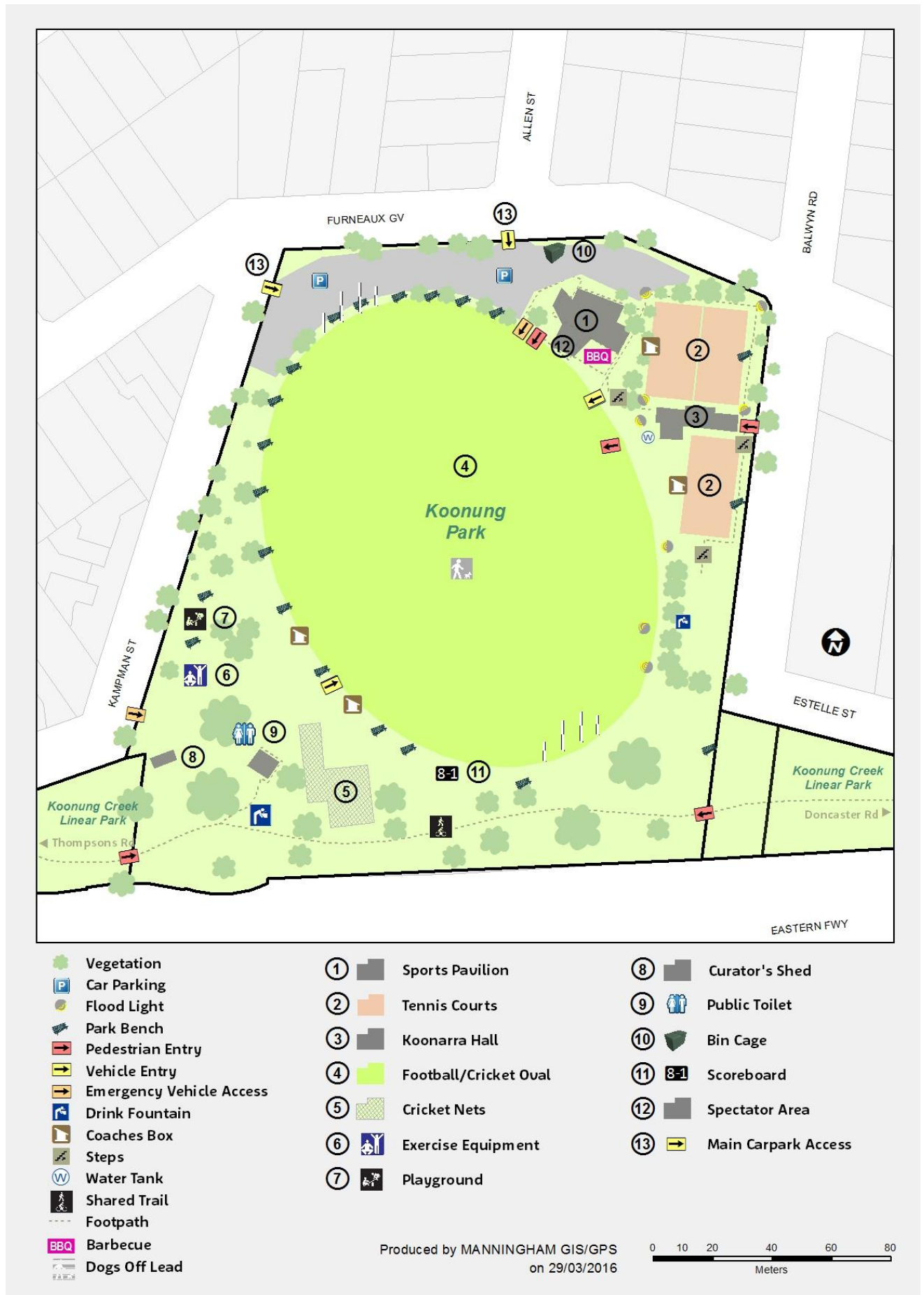


Figure 5 - Koonung Park existing conditions

## 4.5 Land Tenure and Management

Koonung Park is owned and managed by Manningham City Council. The Park is made up of 36 separate small titles and consolidation of these into **two titles** was completed in 2016.

## 4.6 Manningham Planning Scheme Provisions

### 4.6.1 Zoning

Koonung Park is included in Public Park and Recreation Zone (PPRZ) (refer to Figure 6). The purpose of this zone is:

- To recognise areas for public recreation and open space
- To protect and conserve areas of significance where appropriate
- To provide for commercial uses where appropriate.

### 4.6.2 Overlays

There is one planning overlay that affects the Park. A small portion of the south west corner of the existing title located on the south side of Estelle Street is currently affected by the Land Subject to Inundation Overlay (LSIO). The purpose of the LSIO is:

- To identify land affected by the 1 in 100 year flood or any other area determined by the floodplain management authority
- To ensure that development maintains the free passage and temporary storage of floodwaters, minimises flood damage, and will not cause any significant rise in flood level or flow velocity
- To ensure that development maintains or improves river and wetland health, waterway protection and flood plain health

A planning permit is required for most building works. All planning permit applications are required to be referred to Melbourne Water

Amendment C109 to Manningham Planning Scheme (underway)

Amendment C109 proposes to increase the area of the flooding overlays as shown in Figure 6. This amendment is a result of revised flood modelling which has been done to identify properties that are subject to overland flooding in a severe 1 in 100 year rainfall event.

The Melbourne Water LSIO extends over the southern part of the Park including some of the oval. The Council Special Building Overlays (SBO2 and SBO3) extend over the western part and south east corner of the Park. 60 per cent of the Park is affected by the proposed flooding overlay.





Figure 6 - Koonung Park planning overlays

## 4.7 Cultural Heritage

Many sites within Manningham's open space network hold Aboriginal cultural heritage values, particularly those in close proximity to our rivers and creeks. These have been mapped to comply with the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* and are identified as culturally sensitive areas. When upgrading open space within these areas, Council must consider the need to develop a Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP). A Cultural Heritage Management Plan seeks to protect and manage Aboriginal cultural heritage, with the involvement of Registered Aboriginal Parties.

Part of the Park is within an area of cultural heritage sensitivity as it is located within 200 metres of the Koonung Creek. Cultural Heritage Management Plans are mandatory for proposed high impact activities on undeveloped sites or sites that have not undergone major disturbance. As there is no evidence of significant ground disturbance in parts of this area, proposed works may require a Cultural Heritage Management Plan at the design stage.

## 5. Sporting Facilities

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The Park accommodates two sports clubs - Bulleen Cricket Club and Manningham Cobras Football Club. Both clubs share the WJ Montgomery Pavilion and the sportsground alternating use during the winter and summer sports seasons. Both clubs have an agreement with Council that allows them seasonal use of the ground and pavilion. The sporting facilities also extend to the three tennis courts that are currently free for community use.

**Bulleen Cricket Club** fields both junior and senior teams in the Eastern Cricket Association (ECA). Its junior program fields teams in U10, U12, U14, U16, U18 plus a girl's U15 team competing for the first time in 2016. Players aged five years to eighteen years can take part in a structured cricket program at the club. There is one cricket ground at Koonung Park which has a turf wicket suitable only for senior cricket competition. All junior cricket competition is played on a synthetic wicket. The club's junior cricket program trains at Koonung Park but their competition is played at other Manningham cricket grounds.

**Manningham Cobras Football Club** fields two senior teams that train and play at Koonung Park and compete in the Victorian Amateur Football Association (VAFA). The ground is made available on an informal basis to Yarra Junior Football League (YJFL) for a range of activities including training for their representative teams and for finals matches.

During consultation both sports clubs and the local community prioritised various opportunities and issues which are outlined under the respective headings that follow.

Refer Action No: 5.1.2

### 5.1 Sportsground

The well maintained sportsground representing a large portion of flat open space within the Park is an important feature for both local residents and the tenant sports clubs. During the year the ground is used for local football and local cricket competition and is maintained to a good standard. This is one of six turf wickets maintained by Council.

In addition to being used for formal sport, the sportsground is also well used for dog walking and exercise by local residents. Feedback from community consultation indicates that the ground is in good condition and well maintained by the curator. The closest sportsgrounds are Bulleen Park, Bulleen (1500 metres) and Timber Reserve, Doncaster (2000 metres).

#### 5.1.1 Junior cricket ground

Bulleen Cricket Club has proposed expansion of the ground in the south east near Balwyn Road, including the installation of an off centre synthetic wicket to enable additional use of the

ground by the junior teams and establish a junior cricket base at Koonung Park. This proposal isn't supported by Council and other options are being pursued to find a suitable ground to establish a junior cricket base. The main reasons the proposal isn't supported include:

- The synthetic wicket would be too close to the turf wicket table
- The ground would be too close to Balwyn Road
- Effective drainage for both grounds would not be achieved
- The level of development is inappropriate for the size and usage of the Park

Refer Action No: 2.1.1

## 5.1.2 Cricket training nets

There are currently two existing synthetic cricket nets and practice turf wickets all located together in the southern area of the park. The senior teams use the turf nets and both the junior and senior teams use the synthetic training practice nets.

The turf wickets are in good condition and are maintained by Council. However, they do require extended overhead netting for improved safety of park users, especially for those in the playground, exercise equipment and proposed barbecue area precinct. This is the only recommendation for the turf cricket nets.

The synthetic wickets are old and no longer meet the needs of the Club. It is recommended to remove the two existing cricket nets and replace them with four new cricket nets in a more suitable location. **The reasons for removing the existing nets are twofold:**

- A safety concern has been identified by the Cricket Club due to their with cricket balls being hit within close proximity to the playground. Conflict between the sporting and informal recreation activities should be avoided. The new location will be closer to other sports infrastructure creating an informal recreation zone and a sports zone within the Park.
- The number of synthetic wicket training nets will increase from two to four and taking into account the existing turf nets, this is considered sufficient practice nets to meet the needs of the club.

Consideration has been given to the location of the new cricket nets on both of the old tennis court sites but the facility is recommended to be built on the eastern park boundary south of the third tennis court (Refer to Masterplan). The reasons for this site in preference to further south include:

- Sits well in the park's landscape and retains formal sport activities together allowing for continuity of informal open space next to the Koonung shared path
- Closer to power access for ball machine used in training sessions
- Closer to carpark and pavilion for cricketers' convenience
- Ease of moving cricket covers from the centre of the ground into storage facility
- Access to a drink fountain (refer 8.7)

All of the proposed synthetic training nets will allow full usage by the community when the nets are not being used by the club. The final size and configuration will be confirmed at the detail design stage but cricket club storage (refer 5.1.8) is also proposed to be included. ~~The amount of publicly accessible open space would be reduced due to the locked club facility and it is essential that community~~ This area of Balwyn Road frontage and access into the Park will change with the new cricket infrastructure and the improvements will include a new path from

Balwyn Road. The path will direct pedestrians between the southern tennis court and cricket nets through to the sportsground. The steps and disused path will be removed. The size of the proposed training facility would be 35 metres (maximum length) by 12 metres (including community net). Depending upon space required for Balwyn Road pedestrian access, the length of the training facility may be compromised a little to enable the storage facility to be included.

Before the proposed new synthetic training nets are constructed, an interim measure on the old nets of extended overhead soft netting is proposed to improve the safety of park users near the playground area.

Refer Action Nos: 1.1.1, 1.1.2 and 1.1.4

### 5.1.3 WJ Montgomery Pavilion

Manningham Cobras Football Club and Bulleen Cricket Club share this pavilion which was upgraded in 2013. Both clubs were involved in the design detail of the new building and the building accommodates them satisfactorily. The building upgrade did not extend to landscaping, improved path connections around the pavilion and seating under the sheltered spectator area. These improvements are proposed to be included as actions in this Management Plan.

### 5.1.4 Protective nets behind goals

The Football Club has requested protective netting behind the football goals at the northern end of the ground to prevent the football carrying into the carpark when players are kicking for goal. Players chasing balls in a carpark during training sessions and balls potentially hitting parked cars are a safety issue and it is recommended that this request be supported.

Refer Action No: 1.1.5

### 5.1.5 Cyclone fence and spoon drain around perimeter

The existing sportsground fence meets requirements for both cricket and football. The Cricket Club has requested 1.2 metre cyclone fence around the sportsground perimeter to replace the pipe tubular fence and a concrete spoon drain around the perimeter of the ground to improve drainage. It is proposed to construct the perimeter fence allowing minimum 20 percent gaps for easy access through the ground for sports spectators and local residents.

Refer Action No: 1.1.6

### 5.1.6 Floodlights

In order to meet Australian Standards for lighting for Australian Rules Football training, the floodlighting infrastructure obtained an upgrade in 2016. This project was separate to the management plan process. Council, in partnership with Sport and Recreation Victoria, the Manningham Cobras Football Club and the Yarra Junior Football League installed a 4 x 25 metre pole floodlighting system around the sportsground. It is anticipated that there will be increased usage of the Yarra Junior Football League boys and girls representative competition as a result of the upgraded floodlights.

### 5.1.7 Scoreboard

The sports clubs use a standalone scoreboard located at the southern end of the sportsground. Both clubs have indicated that upgrading the existing manual scoreboard to an electronic scoreboard is a priority. United Energy have advised infrastructure requiring power must be located on the title that contains the power supply. The title where the existing

scoreboard is located does not contain a power supply. An electronic scoreboard will need to be relocated, most likely on the western boundary of the sports ground.

The funding and maintenance of scoreboards is the clubs' responsibility and provision of any scoreboard infrastructure requires Council approval. Clubs need to refer to Council's *Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Guidelines* and Council's *Outdoor Advertising on Council Owned and Managed Property Policy*.

Refer Action No: 1.1.7

### 5.1.8 Storage

Council has met the requirements to fund sports club storage in the pavilion according to Council's *Outdoor Sports and Infrastructure Guidelines*. Many sports clubs find the issue of storage challenging and the Cricket Club has been using the convenience of the space underneath Koonarra Hall to store its cricket covers. This space is proposed to be closed to public access (refer no. 7 – Koonarra Hall) so the club will no longer have storage access.

It is proposed for Council to fund extra storage for the turf wicket cover and training items, including the ball machine, in a separate storage facility built as part of the proposed synthetic cricket nets.

Refer Action No: 1.1.8

### 5.1.9 Flagpole

There is a flagpole located in front of WJ Montgomery Pavilion. Feedback from Bulleen Cricket Club was that the flagpole would be utilised if it was relocated further east of the pavilion for improved vision from the spectator area. Flagpoles are not Council's responsibility and any relocation will need to be financed by the Club.

Refer Action No: 1.1.9

### 5.1.10 Curator's building

This building, located in the south west area of the Park, serves as a store for the curator's machinery and is maintained by Council. While there are no recommendations for the short term, it is recommended that the siting of this building be located closer to other buildings when it is due for an upgrade in the future.

Refer Action No: 5.1.7

## 5.2 Tennis Courts

The Koonarra Tennis Club disbanded in 2001. At the time there were five en-tout-cas tennis courts and substantial works were required at the facility. The clubrooms were redeveloped to become Koonarra Hall. Two courts were returned to open space and the top three courts were resurfaced with plexipave and synthetic grass in 2004/05, making them suitable for community use. The lower court is also line marked for futsal (modified soccer).

In 2006, Manningham YMCA entered into an occupancy agreement with Council to manage the tennis courts at set times with a community program. The courts were available for community use at all other times. This arrangement continued until 2013 when the arrangement between Council and Manningham YMCA was officially rescinded.

The tennis courts are a popular facility at Koonung Park. Community consultation indicates 64% of respondents are aware of the tennis courts and 27% of the respondents include it as their main reason for visiting the Park. 73% of these respondents are aged between 35 - 59 years, whose regularity of use mainly ranges from everyday to once a month. Of the 36% of respondents who were not aware of the tennis facility prior to the consultation, 71% said they



are now likely to use the tennis courts in the future. Other community feedback commented on the popularity of the courts, the need for general maintenance and complaints about the private coaches restricting community use, through extended blocks with clients, at no cost. Professional tennis coaching is currently not permitted at the facility.

Signs **disallowing** private coaching at the facility were installed in late 2015. Since the initial consultation, tennis court nets have been replaced and other cyclic maintenance undertaken. The surfaces of the tennis courts are in good condition but the fencing requires upgrading to meet safety standards.

The floodlights **are in working order and feedback from the consultation process suggests that at least one group who hires Koonarra Hall has been regularly using them. A 2016 external audit states that the poles and fixtures are in poor condition and recommends that the existing system be decommissioned to ensure no further use.** Two of the poles are poorly located on pathways and a significant amount of money is required to replace the floodlights. It is recommended to remove existing tennis floodlights.

While tennis is a popular activity at Koonung Park, maximising participation at the Park and providing quality facilities is a Council priority for the Bulleen community. Feedback from community consultation indicated people currently use the Park to practice soccer and would make use of soccer goals if installed in the Park. Feedback also indicated that there was not a high use (perhaps awareness) of the futsal soccer already available. Aside from tennis, it is known the tennis courts are currently also used for children's birthday parties through Koonarra Hall bookings **(Refer 7. Community Facilities – Koonarra hall)**, futsal soccer and other activities, such as learning to bike ride. **The three courts are not often all used at the same time. There is an opportunity to make the tennis courts multi use and combine tennis with other activities.**

In the short term it is recommended that the three courts are maintained by Council **for multi use purposes** for the community **(including tennis)** and professional tennis coaching continues to be **prohibited disallowed**.

Community feedback suggests basketball and netball would be popular activities at the Park and the tennis court area is the preferred location. It is recommended to include netball and basketball rings on the top courts and retain the futsal soccer line marking on the southern court to play soccer. The tennis poles and net can be removed and reinstated according to the activity. **There is no need to remove tennis nets on the top courts as basketball and netball will run east – west; adjacent to the tennis nets.**

There are options as to how the tennis courts can be managed in the future and it is important as for all of our community tennis venues (and clubs) that these courts remain accessible and **provide multi use benefit to the community.**

In the long term, a recommendation of this Plan is to explore options for use and management of the courts that could include:

1. Continued community use **as a multi use facility** with the current model; or
2. Second venue for a community club to potentially offer **an extra venue for competition, coaching and other community tennis programs. This would be undertaken through an expression of interest process with the intention to assist community based clubs maximise potential for their programs that are currently capped at their existing facility due to not enough courts available for specific programs. If a club was interested to pursue this option, these courts would still remain available to the community; however, some restrictions of usage may be imposed.** New floodlights could be considered as part of this option.

Refer Action Nos: 1.2.0, 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.3, 2.1.2, 5.1.3 and 5.1.4

## 6. Informal Recreation Opportunities

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Informal recreation opportunities mainly occur along the Park's southern boundary with the Koonung Creek Linear Park, including the Koonung Trail, playground and exercise equipment.

### 6.1 Walking and Cycling

Walking is the most popular recreation activity in Manningham, with 54% participation levels, as reported in the *Active for Life Recreation Strategy 2010*. Community consultation for this Plan indicates that walking (and running) is the most popular mode of transport to Koonung Park (71.2%), while cycling represents 11.5% and travel by car is 17.3%. As the Park is situated adjacent to the Koonung Trail, there are extensive opportunities for walking, dog walking, cycling and running. Opportunities to improve path connections are outlined in 8.5.

### 6.2 Dog Walking

40% of the community consultation survey respondents said they walk their dog at Koonung Park. Dogs are allowed in the Park off-lead provided they are under effective control at all times. Dogs must be on-lead within 15 metres of the playground, BBQ and organised sporting event. No issues have been identified with dogs at Koonung Park and there are no actions recommended relating to dogs.

### 6.3 Exercise Equipment

Outdoor exercise equipment provides adults of all ages and abilities with the opportunity to participate in physical activity at no cost. The equipment at Koonung Park was installed in 2015 with assistance from the State Government's Community Facility Funding Program.

Community consultation indicated that 25% of respondents visit the Park specifically for the exercise equipment and 38.5% indicated they visit the Park for other exercise that was not related to the existing sports infrastructure. Initial community programs conducted to introduce the equipment to the community had low participation rates, but with the number of people using Koonung Park for exercise there is potential for future community programs to encourage people to combine their exercise regime with the exercise equipment.

Refer Action No: 2.1.4

### 6.4 Play (including basketball, netball and soccer)

Consultation indicated that 29% of respondents visit the Park to use the playground and these people identified support for the existing playspace to be upgraded with family activities and improved access to the Koonung Creek Linear Park. Suggestions included the installation of basketball and netball, soccer goals, additional seating, picnic shelter and a barbecue area located near the playground.

The existing playground, developed in 2003, provides play opportunities for children aged 2-7 years. The playground is well used but is now outdated and requires replacement. An opportunity exists to introduce some interesting themes and landscaping to this area. A proposed path to link the playground, barbecue area and exercise equipment to Koonung Creek Linear Park is one of these improvements.

Other playgrounds nearby include: Sandra Reserve (300 metres), Stanley Reserve (490 metres), Morris William Reserve (660 metres), Harold Reserve (1100 metres) and Riverview Reserve (1200 metres). There are basketball / netball facilities at three of these reserves (Sandra, Morris Williams and Harold Reserves) but community feedback strongly supported basketball and netball as sports that would be popular for local residents at Koonung Park. These activities will be provided at the tennis courts and along with tennis and Futsal soccer



(which is already line marked on the third court), this area of the Park will become a multi use ball sport area. Refer 5.2.

Refer Action Nos: 2.1.3 and 1.2.3

## 6.5 Barbecue and Picnic Area

Two barbecues are located next to the pavilion. While only 4% of respondents from the community consultation stated that they use these barbecues, the cricket club and football club use them regularly, especially over the summer months. These barbecues will be retained.

An action from the *Koonung Creek Linear Park Management Plan 2011* is to install a barbecue in the playground vicinity. This received support through the recent community consultation process, with four residents stating that a barbecue with a picnic shelter near the playground would encourage them to use the Park more often. It is recommended to include a picnic shelter as part of the barbecue area. As recommended in *Manningham Urban and Park Design Guideline* for a barbecue area, a litter bin will also be installed.

Refer Action No: 2.1.5

## 6.6 Toilets

The toilets are located in the south-west corner of the Park and cater for users of both Koonung Park and the Koonung Creek Linear Park. The four toilets (including one disabled toilet) were built in approximately 2001 to replace the original toilets and have been assessed as part of development of this management plan to be in good condition. There are no recommendations relating to the toilets.

## 6.7 Seating

The provision of park seating provides an important resting and viewing function for the community to enjoy. Koonung Park provides many seating opportunities around the sportsground and the tennis courts but the existing seats are ageing and need replacement. Options for spectators to sit near the pavilion are also limited.

While the Football Club has indicated that its spectators do use the seats all around the ground, the total number of these seats is in excess of 26. It is recommended to remove these as they require repairs, rationalising replacements with a lesser amount around the ground and near the pavilion. It is also recommended that the old seat in the garden bed overlooking the tennis courts be replaced with some bench seating outside the entrance to Koonarra Hall.

Refer Action No: 3.1.3

# 7. Community Facilities – Koonarra Hall

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Koonarra Hall was originally the clubrooms for Koonarra Tennis Club but is now a multipurpose venue for hire, suitable for meetings, seminars and private functions, including family gatherings and children's parties. It is a suitable venue catering for functions with 80 guests. Permanent bookings are currently for small groups and include yoga, tai chi, senior citizen groups and club meetings.

*Manningham Council Community Facilities Resourcing Plan* is currently underway and includes an audit and long term resourcing plan for upgrades and improvements including Koonarra Hall. This is estimated for completion in 2017. Until then, the Hall will be maintained as per Council's Building Maintenance Cyclic Program, and general / reactive maintenance.

Koonarra Hall features an outdoor deck and current access to the three community tennis courts. While the tennis courts cannot be booked, hall hirers do make use of them on a 'first

come, first served' basis, especially for children's birthday parties. A recommendation as outlined in Section 5.2 is to retain tennis on all courts and combine multi use activities that include futsal soccer, basketball and netball over the three courts. Use by Koonarra Hall birthday party hirers will continue as per the current 'first come first served' basis.

There are two points of access into Koonarra Hall. The stairs on the western side of the hall are old and require an upgrade. There is also a tennis floodlight located in the middle of this pathway and this is recommended for removal in Section 5.2 Tennis Courts. The other access to Koonarra Hall is from Balwyn Road on the eastern side and reference is made to this in Section 8.1.3 Disabled Carpark regarding disability access and carparking for users of Koonarra Hall.

Currently the public can access underneath the verandah of Koonarra Hall and it is recommended to prevent any public access to ensure the community's safety.

Refer Action No: 3.1.1, 3.1.2 and 1.2.0, 5.1.5 and 5.1.6

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## 8. Park Infrastructure

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High quality infrastructure such as sports pavilions, lighting, carparking, amenities and clear signage contribute towards a positive experience when visiting the Park.

### 8.1 Carparking

Options for carparking at Koonung Park include an off street carpark and the local streets. Both carparking options are used by Koonarra Hall users, commuters accessing Thompsons Road bus routes via the Koonung Park Trail and the sports clubs for training and competition.

#### 8.1.1 Off street parking

The Park has a large unmarked asphalt carpark which accommodates all users. The current informal layout allows up to 90 parked cars. The eastern end of the carpark is narrow and doesn't allow for good pedestrian circulation. It is recommended to remove a small part of the asphalt and include landscaping to improve pedestrian access in this section. More shade planting throughout all sections of the carpark is also recommended as is removing some asphalt where the asphalt is wider than required for carparking. Line marking the carpark is not recommended as it will ultimately result in less car spaces than currently achieved through informal carparking arrangements.

#### 8.1.2 Street parking

Some people drive to the vicinity of Koonung Park and commute by bus along Thompsons Road. Street parking in Kampman Street and Furneaux Grove fluctuates and occasionally this spills over into the west end of the carpark. Since January 2015 bus travel from all areas in Manningham is the same price and the demand for parking in this specific area has significantly reduced.

There are parking restrictions on one side of the road while the other side is unrestricted parking along Kampman Street and Furneaux Grove to prevent traffic congestion and improve safety.

#### 8.1.3 Disabled carparking and access

Currently there are no disabled carparks at Koonung Park. Feedback from the community consultation identified that while there is disabled access into Koonarra Hall from Balwyn Road there is not the opportunity to provide a disabled carpark. It is recommended that a disabled bay be constructed in the off street carpark and disabled access from the carpark will be directed around the tennis courts to Koonarra Hall. A ramp will replace the two steps near the Hall.

Refer Action No: 3.1.9 and 4.1.9

### 8.2 Lighting

There were very few concerns related to lighting expressed in the community consultation. Assessing the area, the following has been observed in relation to the level of illumination:

- Tree foliage is casting a shadow within the carpark. The effectiveness of the existing spotlights on power poles as street lights along Kampman Street could be improved by trimming branches that are casting the shadow in the carpark.
- There are noticeable dark spots at the eastern and western extremities of the carpark. It is recommended that lighting in these areas could be improved.
- Kampman Street and Furneaux Grove are both relatively dark and additional lighting or upgrading of the existing street lights would enhance lighting conditions in the surrounds. It is recommended that a closer assessment of the lighting conditions be undertaken.

Refer Action Nos: 4.2.0, 5.1.1

## 8.3 Signage

The *Manningham Outdoor Signage Guidelines 2011* applies to the sign at the Furneaux Grove entrance which names the Park, facilities and the tenants. Over the years, there has been some inconsistency in the naming of this Park; it has correctly been referred to as Koonung Park and incorrectly as Koonung Reserve. The existing sign naming it Koonung Reserve is inaccurate and requires updating.

Signage at other entrances is also recommended, including way finding signage throughout the Park, in particular directing users to the Koonung Trail and the newly upgraded Thompsons Road 'Kiss and Ride' interchange.

Refer Action No: 3.1.5

## 8.4 Open Space and Landscape Values

The landscape character of Koonung Park is largely defined by the flat open space shared by sport and informal recreation activities. The four large remnant River Red Gums (*Eucalyptus caladulensis*) in the south west corner and the Paperbark Melaleuca (*Melaleuca linariifolia*) windbreak planting remain from the tennis court infrastructure. The Melaleuca trees are not indigenous and do not have heritage value.

The site of the old tennis courts requires landscaping improvements. Aside from removing the two tennis courts when the club disbanded, very little work has occurred in this area. It is recommended that the new cricket training nets be located in this area, with associated new landscaping and access. Actions include removal of Melaleuca tree windbreak on the western boundary of old tennis court site and up prune and thin out Melaleuca trees on the southern boundary. The synthetic cricket pitch will be removed from the south eastern corner with the areas returned to open space and reshaped to a more natural form.

There are a number of recommendations made for landscaping improvements throughout the reserve including protecting significant trees, additional planting as well as the removal of some vegetation to improve sightlines and create a more consistent landscaping theme. Specific vegetation removal includes the Evergreen Alders (*Alnus jorullensis*) in the Kampman Street area and Photinia hedges (*Photinia fraseri*) in the carpark area.

Refer Action Nos: 4.1.1, 4.1.2, 4.1.3, 4.1.4, 4.1.5, 4.1.6, 4.1.7, 4.1.8, 4.1.9, 4.2.1 and 4.2.2

## 8.5 Path Connections

Community consultation revealed that 40.4% of respondents visit Koonung Park in order to access Koonung Creek Linear Park. This highlights the importance of paths not only connecting to the shared path but also throughout Koonung Park to ensure pathways of travel are accessible and well constructed and encourage people to walk and/or cycle. There are a number of recommendations that will improve access through the Park to specific community facilities.

Refer Action Nos: 3.1.4, 3.1.6, 3.1.7, 3.1.8 and 3.2.0

## 8.6 Water Tank

The water tank located on the side of Koonarra Hall was located as a contingency measure during the recent drought to allow recycled water to be used for irrigation of the cricket wicket area. The tank is not being used and it is recommended to relocate it to the Council depot where it can be added to an already extensive network of tanks collecting water from roof areas for operational purposes.

Refer Action No: 4.2.3

## 8.7 Drink Fountains

There are three drink fountains servicing Koonung Park. There is a recently installed drink fountain on the Koonung Creek Linear Park shared path and there are two old drink fountains on the east side of the oval. Only one of these is in working order. It is recommended to remove both of these drink fountains and replace with one new fountain northwest of the proposed synthetic training nets.

Refer Action No: 1.1.3

## 8.8 Litter

The sports clubs have a bin cage with four recycling bins and four rubbish bins. These are emptied by Council and remain locked while not in use. Feedback from consultation suggests these bins are poorly located on Furneaux Grove at the park entrance. Rubbish bins should be well sited (in this case to the pavilion) and easily accessible. The disability carparking space proposed in this area and sufficient turnaround space required (from parked cars) for the rubbish truck have been considered. The current location is the only suitable location in the pavilion vicinity but the bin cage should be screened to make it visually less unobtrusive. The recommendation is to screen the bins on Furneaux Grove with planting.

There are no other litter bins in the park. However, as per Council's Urban and Park Design Guidelines, a bin will be sited as part of the proposed barbecue area.

## 9. Strategic Direction - Objectives & Actions

The following table provides a summary of all recommendations. The table includes the reference in the Management Plan document, the Council service unit or stakeholder responsible for implementation, costing and a priority rating.

| Action No.  | Action   | Reference     | Unit responsible     | Council \$         | Priority Level |
|---|--|---------------|----------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| <b>Objective 1. Maintain and improve the infrastructure for formal sport and community facilities</b> |  |               |                      |                    |                |
| 1.1.1   | Extend overhead protective netting on the turf practise nets (may require additional support posts) and existing synthetic training nets (until they are replaced with new facility).              | 5.1.2         | Parks and Recreation | 8,000              | High           |
| 1.1.2   | Remove existing synthetic cricket nets in the south east area of the Park and reinstate as informal open space   | 5.1.2         | Parks and Recreation | 2,500              | High           |
| 1.1.3   | Remove two old drink fountains on east side of oval and replace with one new fountain northwest of the proposed synthetic training nets.   | 8.7           | Parks and Recreation | \$4,500            | Low            |
| 1.1.4   | Construct four new synthetic cricket nets (35 metres length) accessible to the community on the eastern side of the Park (includes removal of old tennis court path and a new cage over services). | 5.1.2 and 8.4 | Parks and Recreation | 120,000            | High           |
| 1.1.5   | Install protective netting behind the football goals at the northern end of the sportsground.  | 5.1.4         | Parks and Recreation | 40,000             | Medium         |
| 1.1.6   | Construct 1.2 metre cyclone fence and concrete spoon drain around sportsground perimeter leaving 20 per cent gaps for access onto ground.  | 5.1.5         | Parks and Recreation | 66,000             | Medium         |
| 1.1.7   | Upgrade and relocate scoreboard in line with <i>Council's Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Guidelines</i> and <i>Council's Outdoor Advertising on Council Owned and Managed Property Policy</i> .     | 5.1.7         | Club                 | N/A                | Low            |
| 1.1.8   | Increase the sports clubs' storage capacity by including a separate storage facility as part of the proposed synthetic cricket nets.   | 5.1.8         | Parks and Recreation | Refer Action 1.1.4 | High           |
| 1.1.9   | Relocate flagpole further east of pavilion.  | 5.1.9         | Club                 | N/A                | Low            |

| Action No.   | Action   | Reference                        | Unit responsible                    | Council \$        | Priority Level |
|--|--|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| 1.2.0  | Remove tennis court floodlights.   | 5.2                              | Parks and Recreation                | 10,000            | Medium         |
| 1.2.1  | Retain tennis on all three courts in a multi use area that includes futsal soccer on the southern tennis court and basketball and netball on the top two courts.               | 5.2                              | Parks and Recreation                | Nil<br>\$1,000    | Medium         |
| 1.2.2  | Replace fencing and shelters around tennis courts as required to meet public safety standards.   | 5.2                              | Parks and Recreation                | 25,000            | Medium         |
| 1.2.3  | Include netball and basketball rings on the top two tennis courts (as part of new fencing if possible)   | 5.2 and 6.4                      | Parks and Recreation                | \$6,000           |                |
| <b>Objective 2. Provide high quality recreation opportunities for the community</b>  |  |                                  |                                     |                   |                |
| 2.1.1  | Support Bulleen Cricket Club in finding a suitable ground to establish its junior cricket program.   | 5.1.1                            | Parks and Recreation                | N/A               | High           |
| 2.1.2  | Continue to monitor private tennis coaching on tennis courts to ensure it is not permitted and community access is maximised.  | 5.2                              | Local Laws                          | N/A               | High           |
| 2.1.3  | Upgrade the playground introducing some interesting themes and landscaping to this area.   | 6.4                              | Economic and Environmental Planning | Playspace program | Medium         |
| 2.1.4  | Continue to implement community programs that promote the use of the exercise equipment.   | 6.3                              | Economic and Environmental Planning | Operational       | High           |
| 2.1.5  | Provide barbecue facility (including bicycle parking, litter bin and picnic shelter) near playspace as recommended in Koonung Creek Linear Park Management Plan (KCLPMP) 2011. | KCLPMP recommend. Area A7 and A8 | Economic and Environmental Planning | KCLPMP budget     | Medium         |
| <b>Objective 3. Ensure facilities are easily accessible by all community members</b> |  |                                  |                                     |                   |                |
| 3.1.1  | Replace the two steps north east of Koonarra Hall with a ramp to improve disability access to carpark and engage an engineer to inspect the retaining wall for any defects.    | 8.1.3 and 8.5                    | Parks and Recreation                | 7,000             | Medium         |



| Action No.  | Action   | Reference                 | Unit responsible                    | Council \$                    | Priority Level |
|---|--|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| 3.1.2   | Upgrade stairs that provide western access to Koonarra Hall.   | 7.0                       | Economic and Environmental Planning | 15,000                        | Medium         |
| 3.1.3   | Replace and consolidate seating throughout the Park.   | 6.7                       | Economic and Environmental Planning | 22,500                        | Low            |
| 3.1.4   | Create path connection to link people entering the Park near the corner of Furneaux Grove and Balwyn Road to the carpark.  | 6.1 and 8.1.1             | Economic and Environmental Planning | 3,500                         | Medium         |
| 3.1.5   | Update the main sign and replace other signs as necessary.   | 8.3                       | Economic and Environmental Planning | 6,500                         | High           |
| 3.1.6   | New path access and landscaping from Balwyn Road (between tennis court and cricket training net facility) to pavilion. Design new seating and paved space around pavilion. | 5.1.2 and 5.1.3           | Economic and Environmental Planning | <del>12,500</del><br>\$35,000 | Medium         |
| 3.1.7   | Construct new path linking the Koonung Creek Linear Park to the playground, barbecue and exercise equipment area.  | 8.5                       | Economic and Environmental Planning | 15,000                        | Medium         |
| 3.1.8   | Install new kerb and channel at the corner of Estelle Street and Balwyn Road.  | 8.5                       | Engineering & Technical Services    | 30,000                        | Low            |
| 3.1.9   | Provide line marking for a disabled carpark in close proximity to the sports pavilion and Koonarra Hall.   | 8.1.3                     | Engineering & Technical Services    | 2,000                         | High           |
| 3.2.0   | Extend the west side of Balwyn Road footpath to the Koonung Creek Linear Park shared path.   | KCLPMP recommend. Area A9 | Economic and Environmental Planning | KCLPMP budget                 | High           |
| <b>Objective 4. Enhance the landscape and protect the environment</b> |  |                           |                                     |                               |                |
| 4.1.1   | Remove the Photinia hedge located between the carpark and sportsground to improve sightlines to the sportsground.  | 8.4                       | Parks and Recreation                | 1,000                         | Low            |

| Action No. | Action   | Reference | Unit responsible                    | Council \$          | Priority Level |
|------------|--|-----------|-------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| 4.1.2      | Replace small section of cypress pine fencing on Kampman Street with bollards.   | 8.4       | Parks and Recreation                | 3,000               | Low            |
| 4.1.3      | Install new garden beds to create a planted barrier between the playground, exercise equipment, barbecue area and Kampman Street.                | 8.4       | Parks and Recreation                | 8,500               | Medium         |
| 4.1.4      | Create a garden bed in the grassed area above the tennis courts retaining wall to improve the safety of people walking in this area.             | 8.4       | Parks and Recreation                | 20,000              | Medium         |
| 4.1.5      | Infill planting along the shared path in the vicinity of the Koonung Creek Linear Park sound wall.   | 8.4       | Parks and Recreation                | 12,000              | Low            |
| 4.1.6      | New street trees on Kampman Street, Furneaux Grove and Balwyn Road and screen plant the switchboard and rubbish bins on Furneaux Grove.          | 8.4       | Parks and Recreation                | Streetscape Program | High           |
| 4.1.7      | Remove synthetic cricket pitch located in the south eastern corner of the Park and return to open space.   | 8.4       | Parks and Recreation                | 2,000               | Low            |
| 4.1.8      | Remove Melaleuca trees on the eastern side of the former tennis court site and thin out and prune some melaleucas on the southern boundary.      | 8.4       | Parks and Recreation                | 1,500               | High           |
| 4.1.9      | Landscape carpark and provide shade planting throughout.   | 8.1.1     | Economic and Environmental Planning | 16,000              | Low            |
| 4.2.0      | Prune foliage from trees that are casting shadows within the carpark. Improve lighting in dark spots at the eastern and western ends of carpark. | 8.2       | Parks and Recreation                | Operational         | Medium         |
| 4.2.1      | Protect the existing River Red Gums as significant landscape features within the Park.   | 8.4       | Parks and Recreation                | N/A                 | High           |
| 4.2.2      | Additional tree planting through park and removal of vegetation as marked on the Masterplan.   | 8.4       | Economic and Environmental Planning | 8,000               | High           |

| Action No.  | Action  | Reference | Unit responsible                    | Council \$                         | Priority Level |
|---|---|-----------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------|
| 4.2.3   | Relocate water tank to Council depot.   | 8.6       | Parks and Recreation                | N/A                                | Low            |
| <b>Objective 5. Manage facilities and associated sports clubs effectively into the future</b> |   |           |                                     |                                    |                |
| 5.1.1   | Assess the lighting conditions in Kampman Street and Furneaux Grove.  | 8.2       | Engineering & Technical Services    | Operational                        | Medium         |
| 5.1.2   | Continue to support tenant agreements with existing sports clubs.   | 5.0       | Parks and Recreation                | N/A                                | High           |
| 5.1.3   | Continue to maintain infrastructure for multi use area including court surface, nets and other infrastructure required for tennis, basketball, netball and futsal soccer.   | 5.2       | Parks and Recreation                | AMS                                | Ongoing        |
| 5.1.4   | Explore the following options for both daytime and evening tennis use:<br>- Continued community use with the current model; or<br>- Expressions of interest process for a community club to use the courts as an extra venue for competition, coaching and other community tennis programs. | 5.2       | Parks and Recreation                | N/A                                | Medium         |
| 5.1.5   | Maintain Koonarra Hall as per Council's Building Maintenance Cyclic Program.  | 7.0       | Building Maintenance                | N/A                                | Ongoing        |
| 5.1.6   | Close off public access to area underneath Koonarra Hall to ensure community safety.  | 7.0       | Building Maintenance                | 4,000                              | Medium         |
| 5.1.7   | Review location of Curator's building in the long term  | 5.1.10    | Economic and Environmental Planning | N/A                                | Low            |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  |   |           |                                     | <b>467,000</b><br><b>\$494,500</b> |                |

*\*High priority = 1-3 years, medium priority = 4-7 years and low priority = 8 years + from time of funding*



# Koonung Park Management Plan

**Council is developing a management plan for Koonung Park in Bulleen and is seeking your feedback on what you would like to see for the future of this district reserve.**

To support participation, health and wellbeing in our community, we encourage residents to get involved and be active in our local parks and reserves.

To ensure our parks can be enjoyed today and in the future, we need to plan for them.

**What is a management plan?**

A management plan provides direction for the future use, development and management of a park or community facility. For Koonung Park the management plan will ensure it continues to meet the needs of the local community.

Koonung Park is located on the corner of Fumeaux Grove and Balwyn Road and has a range of sport and recreation facilities, including a sports ground, three community tennis courts, exercise equipment and a playground for children aged 2 to 8 years.

Koonung Park also includes a hall for hire, Koonarra Hall, and links to the adjacent Koonung Creek Linear Park and the popular Koonung Trail.

The Koonung Creek Linear Park Management Plan was endorsed in 2011. Some of the actions outlined in that plan, that will benefit Koonung Park, include a new barbecue near the playground, bike rails at the public toilets and a footpath linking Balwyn Road to the Koonung Trail.

Existing plans for the park include upgrading the four floodlights around the sports ground to meet Australian standards for Australian Rules Football training. That project is in partnership with the Victorian Government and will be completed in April 2016.

**How can you get involved?**

To provide direction for its future use, we are seeking feedback on how you currently use Koonung Park and what you would like to see included.

**To have your say, please complete this survey by 5.00 pm on Monday 14 December 2015.**



**For more information call our Economic and Environmental Planning Unit on 9840 9171 or to complete the survey online, visit [www.yoursaymanningham.com.au/koonung-park](http://www.yoursaymanningham.com.au/koonung-park)**



**9840 9355**

**1. How often do you visit Koonung Park?**

- Everyday/most days
- 2 – 3 times a week
- Once a week
- 2 – 3 times a month
- Once a month
- 2 – 3 times a year
- Once a year
- Less often
- Never – go to question 14

**2. When do you usually visit the park?**

- Weekdays
- Weekends
- Both

**3. Do you feel safe when visiting the park?**

- Yes
- No

**4. Why do you say that?**

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**5. How do you usually get to the park?**

- Walk/run
- Cycle
- Car
- Public transport

**6. What are your main reasons for visiting Koonung Park?**

(please choose up to three)

- Cricket ground
- Cricket nets
- Football ground
- Tennis courts
- Koonarra Hall
- Playground
- Exercise equipment
- Other exercise
- Access to the Koonung Trail
- Access to public transport
- Barbecue
- Walk the dog
- Other (please specify)

**Koonung Park has three community tennis courts, which are available to the community free of charge. One of these courts is line marked for futsal soccer.**

**7. Before today were you aware of this free community facility?**

- Yes
- No – go to question 11

**8. Do you use this facility?**

- Yes
- No – go to question 12

**9. How often do you use the tennis courts?**

- Everyday/most days
- 2 – 3 times a week
- Once a week
- 2 – 3 times a month
- Once a month
- 2 – 3 times a year
- Once a year
- Less often

**10. How do you mainly use the tennis courts?**

- Training
- Playing matches
- Coaching
- Futsal soccer
- Other (please specify)

*Please go to question 12*

**11. Now that you are aware that the community tennis courts are free, are you likely to use them in the future?**

- Yes
- No

**12. How would you rate Koonung Park overall?**

- Very good
- Good
- Neutral
- Poor
- Very poor

**13. Why do you say that?**

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**14. Is there anything Council could do to encourage you to use the park more often?**

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**15. Do you have any further comments?**

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**16. Which of the following best describes your household?**

- Couple with children at home
- Couple with no children at home
- Single parent with children at home
- Lone person household
- Group household
- Other household

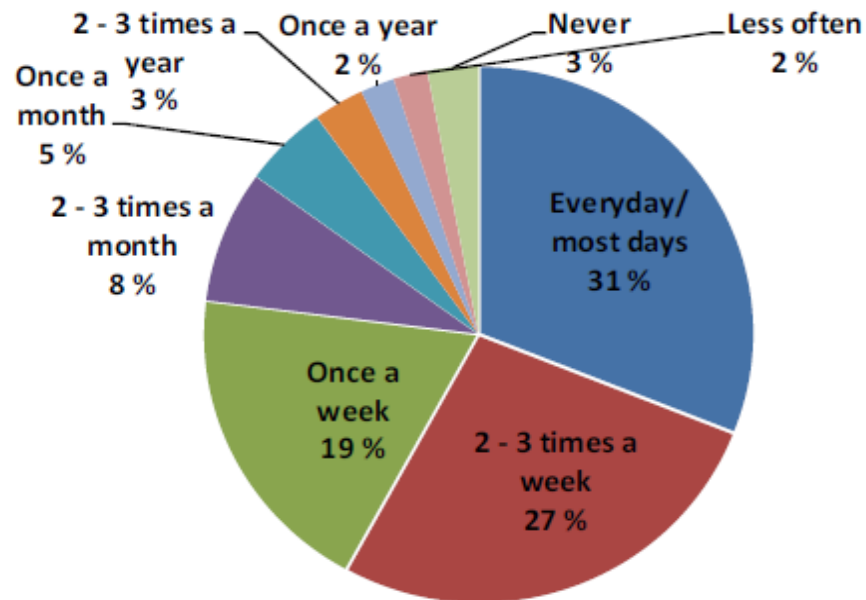
**17. What is your age group?**

- 15 – 17 years
- 18 – 24 years
- 25 – 34 years
- 35 – 49 years
- 50 – 59 years
- 60 – 69 years
- 70+ years

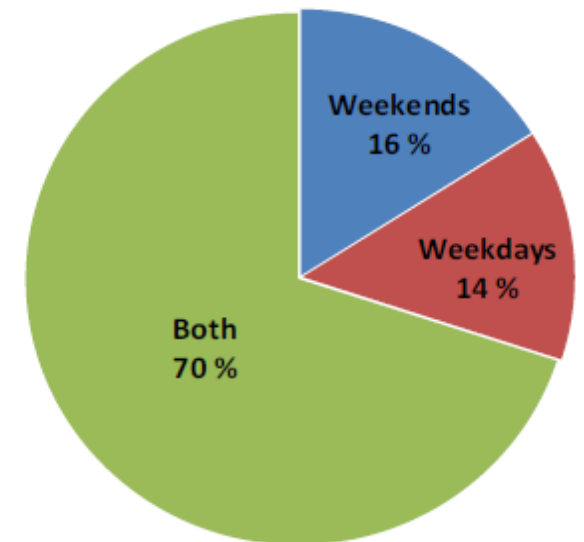
**Thank you for completing our survey. Your response is very important to us.**

## Summary Report for 2015 Community Consultation

### 1. How often do you visit Koonung Park?

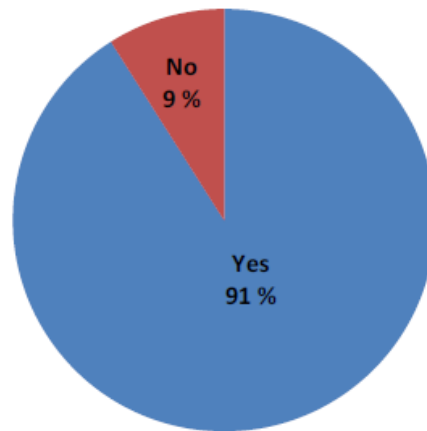


### 2. When do you usually visit the park?

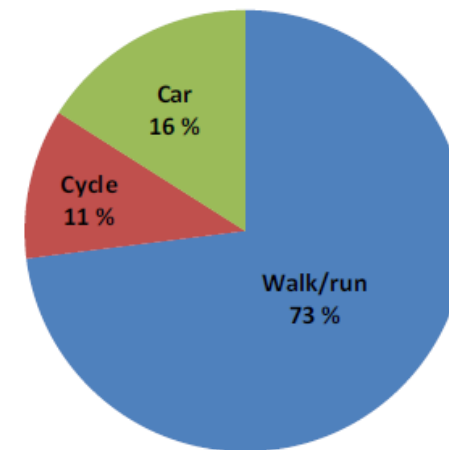


## Summary Report for 2015 Community Consultation

### 3. Do you feel safe when visiting the Park?



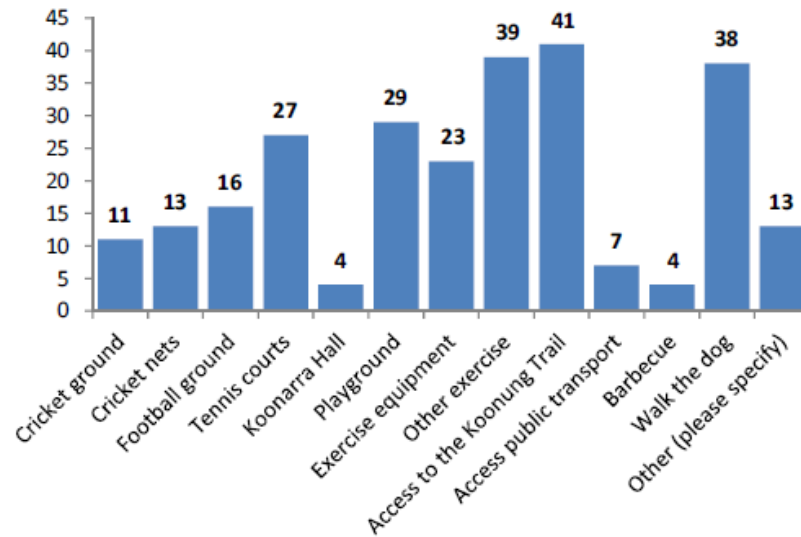
### 5. How do you usually get to the Park?





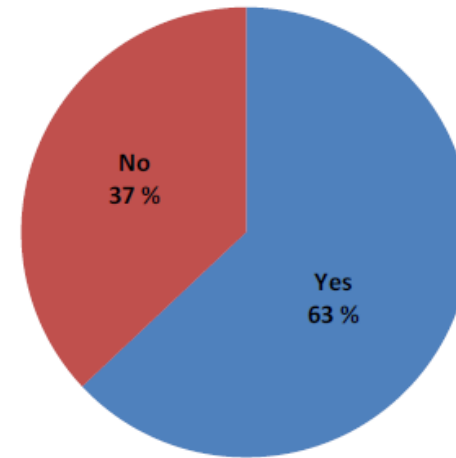
## Summary Report for 2015 Community Consultation

**What are your main reasons for visiting Koonung Park?** (Please choose up to 3)



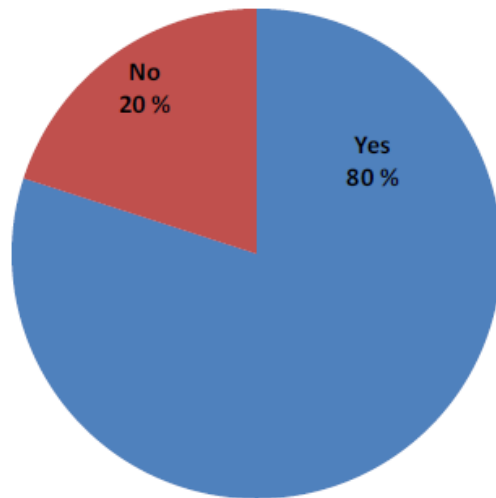
Koonung Park has three community tennis courts, which are available to the community free of charge. One of these courts is line marked for futsal soccer.

**7. Before today were you aware of this free community facility?**

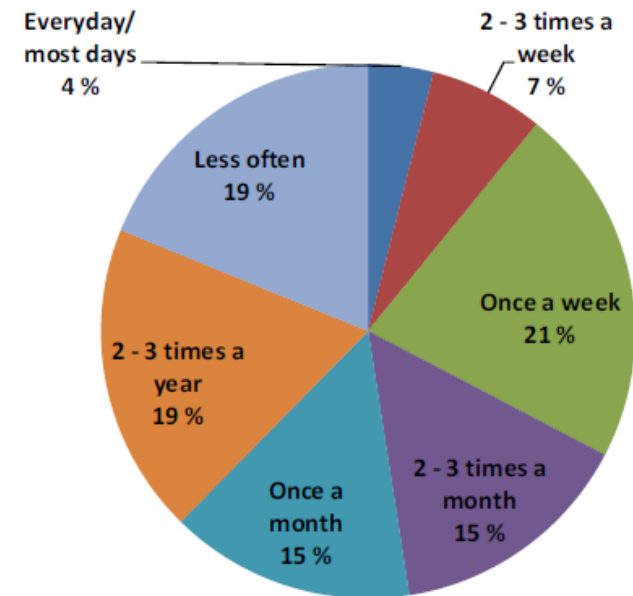


## Summary Report for 2015 Community Consultation

8. Do you use this facility?

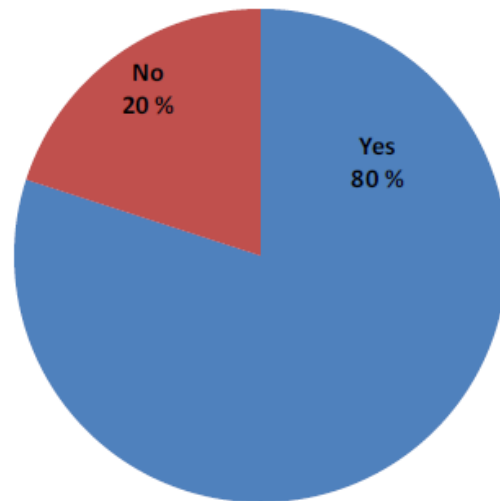


9. How often do you use the tennis courts?

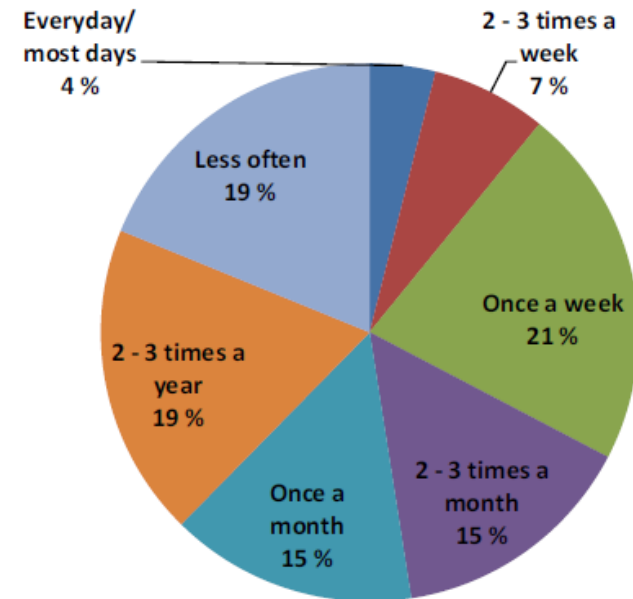


## Summary Report for 2015 Community Consultation

8. Do you use this facility?

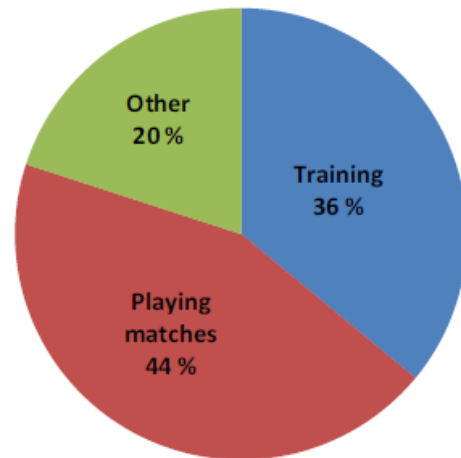


9. How often do you use the tennis courts?

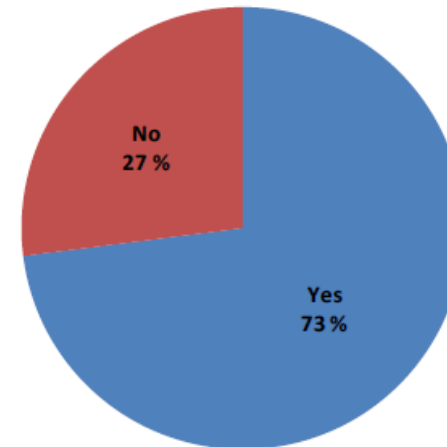


## Summary Report for 2015 Community Consultation

10. How do you mainly use the tennis courts?

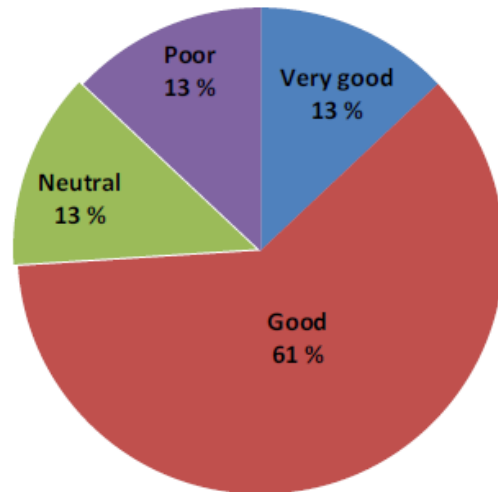


11. Now that you are aware that the community tennis courts are free, are you likely to use them in the future?

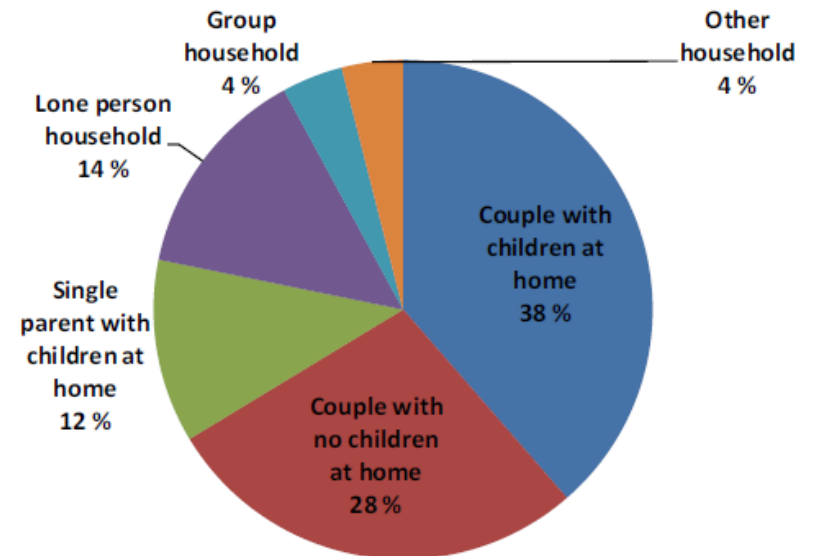


## Summary Report for 2015 Community Consultation

12. How would you rate Koonung Park overall?

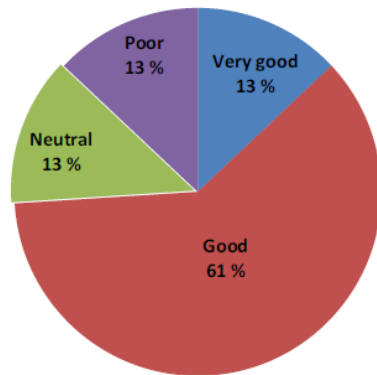


16. Which of the following best describes your household?

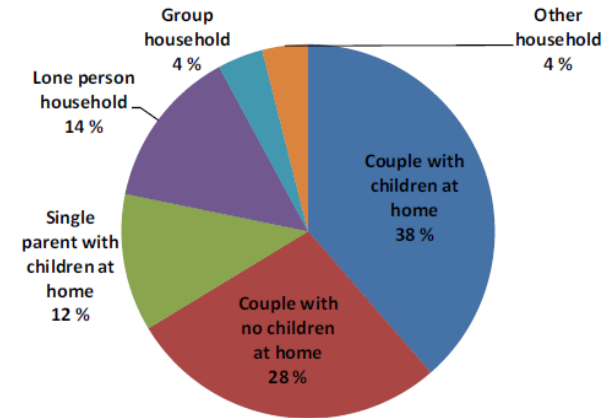


## Summary Report for 2015 Community Consultation

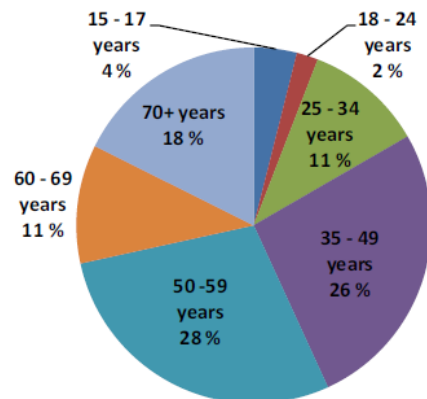
12. How would you rate Koonung Park overall?



16. Which of the following best describes your household?



17. What is your age group?







- New street trees (4.1.6)
- Replace entrance sign (3.1.5)
- New path connection (3.1.4) Convert unusable car spaces to garden bed (4.1.9)
- Replace tennis court fencing (1.2.2)
- Inspect retaining wall (3.1.1)
- Maintain infrastructure for two tennis courts (5.1.3)
- Relocate flag pole (1.1.9)
- Landscape in front of pavilion (3.1.6)
- Upgrade stairs (3.1.2)
- Remove seat in garden bed (3.1.3)
- Replace steps with ramp (3.1.1)
- New seating (3.1.3)
- Remove all tennis court floodlighting (1.2.0)
- Landscaping along retaining wall (4.1.4)
- Block off access under verandah (5.1.6)
- Relocate water tank off site (4.2.3)
- Convert tennis court to multi use area with soccer goals (1.2.1)
- New perimeter fence with concrete spoon drain (1.1.6)
- New path access (3.1.6)
- New drinking fountain (1.1.3)
- New cage over services (1.1.4)
- Remove section of concrete path (1.1.4)
- Remove melaleuca trees (4.1.8)
- Remove drinking fountain (1.1.3)
- New cricket training nets. Includes storage area (1.1.4) (1.1.8)
- Thin out melaleuca trees (4.1.8)
- Install new kerb (3.1.8)
- New path (3.2.0)
- Reshape area to a more natural form (4.1.7)
- Remove drinking fountain and cricket pitch (1.1.3) (4.1.7)

- Prune foliage and assess street lights on Kampman Street and Furneaux Grove (4.2.0) (5.1.1)
- Improve car park lighting (4.2.0)
- New disabled car space (3.1.9)
- Install protective netting behind goals (1.1.5)
- Remove Photinia hedges. Replace with low level planting (4.1.1)
- Replace signage as required (3.1.5)
- Upgrade seats (3.1.3)
- Remove post and rail and install bollards (4.1.2)
- Trees to be removed (4.2.2)
- Additional tree planting through park (4.2.2)
- New path connection to the trail (3.1.7)
- Upgrade playground (2.1.3)
- New low planting (4.1.3)
- Protect River Red Gums (4.2.1)
- Location for picnic tables and BBQs (2.1.5)
- Additional shade trees around fitness equipment (4.2.2)
- New bicycle hoops (2.1.5)
- Remove existing cricket nets (1.1.2)
- Review location of curator's shed in the long term (5.1.7)
- Upgrade scoreboard (1.1.7)
- Install additional overhead netting on turf practice nets (1.1.1)
- Infill planting along path (4.1.5)

| LEGEND |                                  |
|--------|----------------------------------|
| SYMBOL | ITEM                             |
|        | Extent of works                  |
|        | Existing tree to be retained     |
|        | Existing tree to be removed      |
|        | New tree                         |
|        | Garden bed planting              |
|        | Existing path                    |
|        | New path                         |
|        | Existing turf areas              |
|        | Existing seat                    |
|        | New seat                         |
|        | New table                        |
|        | New BBQ                          |
|        | New mudstone rocks               |
|        | Existing lightpole to be removed |
|        | New lightpole                    |

Notes :

1. All item drawn from an aerial so may not be accurate.
2. Numbers refer to actions from Section 9 Strategic Direction - Objectives and Actions

Figure 7 – Koonung Park Masterplan



# Koonung Park



The sportsground at Koonung Park – new cyclone mesh fence is one of the new features proposed as part of the management plan.



The existing cricket nets at Koonung Park – new synthetic cricket training nets are being proposed in a new location.



The playground at Koonung Park is proposed to be upgraded as part of the management plan.



The Red River Gum trees are a key feature of Koonung Park.

**For more information and to have your say on the draft Koonung Park Management Plan, visit [www.yoursaymanningham.com.au/koonung-park](http://www.yoursaymanningham.com.au/koonung-park) Submissions close on Monday 6 June 2016.**

**Enquiries to:**  
Stephanie Langton, Recreation Planner,  
Manningham City Council, 699 Doncaster Road,  
Doncaster  
p 9840 9171



**Interpreter services**  
9840 9355



Have your say about your city

## Draft Koonung Park Management Plan

**Council has developed a draft management plan to guide the future use, development and management of Koonung Park in Bulleen and is seeking comments from the community.**

Koonung Park is located on Furneaux Grove in Bulleen, adjacent to Koonung Creek Linear Park, and includes a sportsground, which is used for cricket and football, three community tennis courts, Koonarra Hall (for hire), a playground and outdoor exercise equipment. Within the park there are a number of significant River Red Gum trees, as well as a carpark, sports pavilion and public toilets.

The draft management plan includes recommendations for the future of this popular reserve, based on feedback received following consultation with user groups and the community during 2015.

Key actions outlined in the draft management plan include:

- Landscaping and planting throughout the park
- Creating new paths to improve access through the park to community facilities
- Installing three new synthetic cricket training nets that are enclosed, lockable and available for club use only, plus one training net accessible to the community
- Installing cyclone mesh fence around the sportsground
- Installing protective netting behind northern goals (near the carpark)
- Providing options for the management of the community tennis courts
- Improvements to the carpark
- An upgrade to the playground.

Feedback received in relation to the draft plan will help inform the final management plan for Koonung Park.

Once the final Koonung Park Management Plan is endorsed by Council, the actions will be scheduled for implementation as part of Council's future Capital Works Program.

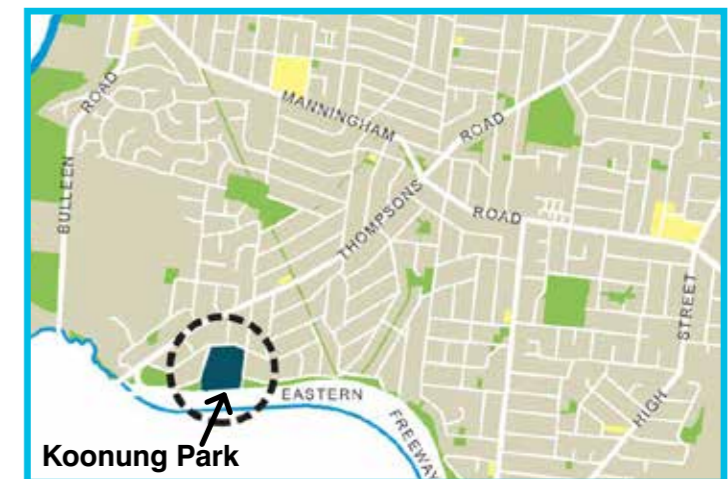
## Have your say

**Submissions on the Koonung Park Management Plan must be made in writing either:**

- **Online** at [www.yoursaymanningham.com.au/koonung-park](http://www.yoursaymanningham.com.au/koonung-park)
- **By mail** to Vivien Williamson, Manager Economic and Environmental Planning, PO Box 1, Doncaster VIC 3108
- **By posting** any questions about the Koonung Park Management Plan online at [www.yoursaymanningham.com.au/koonung-park](http://www.yoursaymanningham.com.au/koonung-park)

**The draft Koonung Park Management Plan, and its associated plans and images, are available for viewing:**

- **Online** at [www.yoursaymanningham.com.au/koonung-park](http://www.yoursaymanningham.com.au/koonung-park)
- **By visiting** the Bulleen, Doncaster, The Pines and Warrandyte libraries
- **By visiting** the Manningham Civic Centre, 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster.





# Draft Koonung Park Masterplan



- Prune foliage and assess street lights on Kampman Street and Furneaux Grove (4.2.0) (5.1.1)
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| LEGEND |                                  |
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|        | New tree                         |
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|        | Existing path                    |
|        | New path                         |
|        | Existing turf areas              |
|        | Existing seat                    |
|        | New seat                         |
|        | New table                        |
|        | New BBQ                          |
|        | New mudstone rocks               |
|        | Existing lightpole to be removed |
|        | New lightpole                    |

**Please note:**  
**Numbers refer to actions from Section 9 Strategic Direction – Objectives and Actions in the Draft Koonung Park Management Plan.**  
 Refer to full report for additional details.  
**All items have been drawn from an aerial image so may not be accurate.**

**Koonung Park Management Plan  
SUMMARY OF SUBMISSIONS**

**ATTACHMENT 3**

| No. | Comment  | Council Officer Response  | Recommended change to Draft  |
|-----|--|---|--|
| 1.  | <p>Resident</p> <p>Very disappointed you are reducing the number of public cricket nets to one whilst increasing the private use nets and the no. of tennis courts also reducing from 3 down to 2. For my family, which practices cricket at Koonung Park and plays tennis, you are destroying the amenity of this park. If the only sole cricket net is taken, we will be forced to practice cricket elsewhere at the park, potentially placing the public in danger of flying cricket balls. Both the nets and the tennis courts are heavily utilised in summer on weekends and there are often lengthy waits for the tennis courts. Reducing both the nets and courts will place increased demand and increase public tension for these facilities. If the private use nets are kept locked, presumably they will only be open during training sessions, so even club members will suffer if they want to do additional practice outside of organised training times.</p> <p>Please reconsider keeping the public facilities at their current level rather than reducing them. It's particularly disappointing to see the public robbed of one cricket net in favour of private use.</p> <p>Does the location and orientation of the new nets allow for sufficient run ups and is the proposed multi use court protected from errant cricket balls hit in that direction?</p> | <p>The draft Plan increases the total number of cricket nets from two to four. Three of these nets are proposed to be a locked facility for cricket club use only which reduces the number of cricket nets available for community use from two nets to one net. Public facilities can be retained at their current level and in the case of cricket, increase them. It is recommended that the four new proposed synthetic wicket training nets will allow full usage by the community when not in use by the club.</p> <p>Currently there are three courts available for free community use. The draft Plan converts the third tennis court to a multi use court that includes soccer, reducing free tennis to the top two courts only. Tennis can be retained on three courts along with futsal soccer (already line marked on the third court) and netball and basketball on the top two courts – making the whole area truly multipurpose for the community.</p> <p>Orientation and location of cricket nets: The footprint on the Masterplan does allow for sufficient run ups. As cricket is played in the summer and training is usually in the afternoon, Cricket Victoria recommends hitting south towards the freeway. There are no changes proposed to the orientation or location of the new cricket nets.</p> | <p><b>1. Amend Section 5.1.2 <u>Cricket Training Nets</u> and Action No. 1.1.4:</b></p> <p>Construct four new synthetic cricket nets accessible to the community on the eastern side of the Park.</p> <p><b>2. Amend Section 5.2 <u>Tennis Courts</u> and Action No. 1.2.1:</b></p> <p>Retain tennis on all three courts in a multi use area that includes futsal soccer on the southern tennis court and basketball and netball on the top two courts.</p> <p>Orientation and location of cricket nets - No change.</p> |
| 2.  | <p>Resident</p> <p>Any chance of cctv around pavilion area that is frequently used between 2.00 - 4.00 am for what sounds like drug exchanges?</p> <p>The position of the garbage bins facing Furneaux Grove is an eyesore.</p>  | <p>Whilst CCTV (closed circuit television) can assist in the prosecution of a crime (if clear footage is taken), there is evidence it does not deter crime. CCTV is also resource intensive as the cameras require monitoring. The best action is to report the alleged crime by calling 000.</p> <p>The sports clubs have a bin cage with four recycling bins and four rubbish bins. These are emptied by Council and remain locked while not in use. Rubbish bins should be well sited (in this case to the pavilion) and easily accessible. The disability carparking space proposed in this area and sufficient turnaround space required (from</p>   | <p>CCTV - No change.</p> <p><b>3. Add: Section 8.8 <u>Litter</u> and amend Action No. 4.1.6:</b></p> <p>New street trees on Kampman Street, Furneaux Grove and Balwyn Road and screen plant the switchboard and rubbish bins on</p>  |

**Koonung Park Management Plan  
SUMMARY OF SUBMISSIONS**

**ATTACHMENT 3**

| No.       | Comment  | Council Officer Response  | Recommended change to Draft   |
|-----------|--|---|---|
|           | <p>Glad to see removal of allergenic and ugly trees around seating area. Otherwise looks good.</p>   | <p>parked cars) for the rubbish truck have been considered. The current location is the only suitable location in the pavilion vicinity but the bin cage should be screened to make it visually less unobtrusive. The recommendation is to screen the bins on Furneaux Grove with planting.</p> <p>Support noted – Trees around seating area.</p>   | <p>Furneaux Grove.</p> <p>Refer to Council Officer Response for proposed information in Section 8.8</p>   |
| <p>3.</p> | <p>Resident</p> <p>Thanks for your draft plan I think it is a great start to upgrading a local area.</p> <p>Linking in with the Koonung Park with footpaths is a good idea as it also means you have an extra loop that you can walk or run when the oval is fairly wet.</p> <p>The need for better and more interactive playground area. This is a rebuilding area with young families and there is a lot you could do with this space. Some of the more interactive playgrounds like the ones at Ruffey Lake Park would be great to get here locally. Great idea with the bbq at the playground and tables but can these have a shelter?</p> <p>Can I also suggest that the soccer turf pitch that is proposed can also have netball or basketball court markings? The inequality of use of this oval and court area by girls is quite obvious... And needs to be addressed by users.</p> <p>Drainage around the oval is sometimes an issue too.</p> | <p>When the playground is upgraded further consultation will be undertaken with local residents. However, as Ruffey Lake Park is a regional park catering for the whole of Manningham, the Koonung Park playground will always be on a smaller scale. A shelter can be added to the barbecue area, as will a litter bin – this is appropriate at Koonung Park.</p> <p>Basketball and netball rings can be included on the top two basketball courts.</p> <p>Drainage problems around the oval will be rectified with the proposed concrete spoon drain.</p> | <p><b>4. Amend Section 5.2 Tennis Courts and 6.4 Play. Add Action No. 1.2.3:</b></p> <p>Include netball and basketball rings on the top two tennis courts (as part of new fencing if possible)</p> <p><b>5. Amend Section 6.5 Barbecue and Picnic Area. Amend Action No. 2.1.5:</b></p> <p>Provide barbecue facility (including bicycle parking, litter bin and picnic shelter) near playspace as recommended in Koonung Creek Linear Park Management Plan.</p> |
| <p>4.</p> | <p>Resident</p> <p>Throughout the plan it talks about lack of nearby parks and it quotes the large number of people who walk to this area - 71% of respondents - but no improvement is made to the walking tracks and paths nearby for walkers to get to this area. E.g. Koonung Creek Linear Management 2011 needs to be started and Harold Link needs to be improved. If this path was more attractive locals would not use the bridge and cross to North Balwyn and walk to their wonderful parks.</p>  | <p>Implementation of the Koonung Creek Management Plan commenced in 2012 with \$380,000 invested to date. Additional money has been budgeted for 2017/18 for further improvements.</p>  | <p>No change.</p>   |



**Koonung Park Management Plan  
SUMMARY OF SUBMISSIONS**

**ATTACHMENT 3**

| No. | Comment   | Council Officer Response  | Recommended change to Draft   |
|-----|---|---|---|
| 5.  | <p>Resident</p> <p>Getting rid of the net on the bottom court is a major mistake. Almost all prefer the artificial grass to the hard courts because it's easier on the body. If the net was taken out I can see very little use being made of it, nothing like the use it gets as a tennis court. Letting a club take over the courts again is a bad idea. It would result in the courts being vacant all the time except for some coaching. I strongly dispute all 3 courts are not used at the same time. This is certainly not the case on either a Saturday or Sunday morning. Hard courts stay too wet to play for hours longer than artificial grass. A quick visit to the Koonarra courts after rain will show this.</p> <p>Note; the signs about no professional coaching have been very successful in stopping this activity.</p> <p>The bottom court for (informal soccer) when adjacent to an enormous oval which is used only on a Saturday arvo and one or two nights at after work hours for training. (Note; neither the football or cricket clubs have any junior teams). A couple of pieces of clothing can be put down for goals instead.</p> | <p>Refer to response to No. 1 for the changes relating to the tennis court area.</p> <p>The intention is to retain the tennis courts as a multi use community facility. However, it is also in Council's interest to ensure facilities are utilised to maximum benefit of meeting the needs of the community. The expression of interest process is an opportunity for existing tennis clubs to extend their program. One example could be if a club's usage is capped for Saturday morning junior competition and they require a second home base to meet the needs of their club.</p> <p>Private coaching signs – Residents should be informed that if any problems arise Council's Local Laws team can be contacted on 9840 9333.</p> <p>Bulleen Cricket Club has a strong junior program with six junior teams competing (including an all girls U. 15 team) plus a Milo in2cricket for the youngsters new to the game.</p> | <p><b>6. Amend <u>Section 5.2 Tennis Courts</u> to clarify Council's intention to retain tennis courts for community use and the expression of interest is an opportunity for a club to use the courts as an extra venue for competition, coaching and other community tennis programs.</b></p> |
| 6.  | <p>Resident</p> <p>Confusion between the 2015 consultation plan and the 2016 draft Masterplan – appears to be discrepancies and items that are not cross referenced – for example 'new light poles' and the 'location of picnic tables and BBQs.' In the previous 2015 plan an existing BBQ area was highlighted, adjacent to the 'sports pavilion. This same BBQ area, which still is used by the community, is missing among the items on the map of public assets in the 2016 'plan.' Reading the 2016 plan alone, a casual reader would assume the provision of a new, initial BBQ area, not a second BBQ area.</p> <p>New initiatives exclusively benefit sports club users, rather than 'Bulleen community.' It could be argued that some of the new initiatives in the 2016 plan benefit the rental users of 'sports pavilion.' These users have recently enjoyed a \$750,000 newly-</p>   | <p>The 2015 survey showed existing site conditions for Koonung Park to assist giving feedback. The information also explained the upgraded floodlighting project was separate to the management plan as external funding obligations had to be met by June 2015. Only the proposed changes are shown in the 2016 draft Masterplan and further information is given throughout the text in the Management Plan.</p> <p>The aim of the Plan is to obtain a balance between the provision of sports infrastructure and informal recreation opportunities. It is important to note that both types of activities are undertaken by local rate paying residents.</p>   | <p><b>7. Amend <u>Section 6.5 Barbecue and Picnic Area</u> to clarify the barbecues next to the pavilion will be retained.</b></p> <p>No change.</p>  |



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|     | <p>built 'Sports Pavilion.' Other municipalities have included the cost of such a pavilion, as part of their precinct 'Master Plans.' Manningham Council has split these capital works projects, possibly making the Koonung Park 2016 Plan total cost look cheaper than it could have as a total package. Residents were not informed of how much — if any — the State Government grants may have contributed to that pavilion cost. In the new 2016 'plan', to be paid for, presumably by ratepayers entirely, there are items which do not assist the passive recreation enjoyment of Koonung Park by local users: two plus practice nets; 'protective netting' behind goals; removed patriotic flag-pole; and new practice lights (mentioned in the map of the 2016 'plan')</p> <p>The 'infill planting along the path' and other 'new trees' make the location a new hazard for casual walkers, especially people on their own, wary of people lurking behind trees and bushes.</p> <p>Many of the proposed assets to be removed, and replaced, are less than ten years old, and are serving the community safely, fit-for-purpose, and well-used. These include the playground equipment; water-tank; two practice nets; oval-side seats; and security car-park lighting. If these items are at the end of their depreciation schedules, then the plan could have mentioned this.</p> <p>Heritage - Among the items to be removed are well-loved existing local park features. The local melaleuca trees, to be 'removed' are the last remnants of local vegetation referencing the original indigenous owners (first-nation.) The red-river gum trees do not feature in earliest photos of the land, when surveyed as part of Elgars' survey: those gum trees are, of course, valued in their own right, but the melaleuca deserves at least equal status. Then, there are the attractive Photinia hedges, due for removal. They</p> | <p>Koonung Park pavilion required refurbishment to meet current building and sporting association standards. Council funds the core components of sports pavilions and accordingly, the refurbishment was at Council's cost. Council prepares Management Plans for complex recreation areas with a range of uses and purposes. When the decision was made in 2012 to bring this pavilion up to various standards, there were no other issues pertinent to the site that required wider planning. The decision was made based on Council processes involving (but not limited to) the ten year capital works plan, asset management program and demonstrated ability for the clubs to meet community benefit and participation. The need for the management plan process arose when further issues, which included the need to upgrade cricket practice nets, install protective netting behind the goals, linking Koonung Park to the adjacent shared path and tennis court management, required resolution. It should be noted that the recent floodlight installation costs were shared 50/50 by the football club and AFL Victoria / Council.</p> <p>Planting is planned with the safety of pedestrians and park users in mind.</p> <p>The community and the sports clubs have requested the upgrade of these facilities which have been described in the Management Plan as ageing, unsafe or in the case of the water tank, better utilised at a different site.</p> <p>The Melaleucas (<i>Melaleuca linariifolia</i>) to be removed are indigenous to NSW and QLD. They were planted as a windbreak for the tennis courts that were removed about ten years ago. The River Red gums are examples of indigenous trees and more of these are planned for planting. The Photinia hedges are no more than 15 years old and have no heritage value. They are highly insect attractive, especially to a wide range of flies, so they will</p> | <p>Planting - No change.</p> <p>Removal of assets - No change.</p> <p><b>8. Amend Section 8.4 Open Space and Landscape Values to clarify species and heritage value of vegetation proposed for removal.</b></p> |

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|     | are well-loved, and often used by picnickers in summertime, and football/cricket spectators, on hot days. These hedges are part of the immediate recognition of the area, and are used as reference point.   | be replaced with a more suitable species for the spectators and picnickers on hot days.  |   |
| 7.  | Resident<br>I would like a mountain bike track going along the freeway in the bushes so it is quite technical but not on the freeway side so not dangerous.  | Mountain bike tracks are fun. The area referred to is Koonung Creek Linear Park and not Koonung Park. When the Management Plan is reviewed, there will be an opportunity to consider mountain biking.  | No change.  |
| 8.  | Resident<br><br>We are strongly against fencing of the park. Cyclone wire is an eye sore and will completely change the 'look' of the park. It won't be as open clearly, and in time the wire deteriorates and potentially vandalised. Managing weeds underneath will add further complexity and as the job of weed removal was so badly done (as per the picture in your brochure) last summer I don't have too much faith in how this will be managed in the future. If the park isn't broke why change anything.<br><br>New lighting is currently being installed around the oval for night football training, but you're removing tennis court lighting. One sport gets new (expensive) lighting and another one has it removed? Why? These courts are used a lot.<br><br>My wish list would be for a bmx track or skateboard facility on this side of the freeway along the Koonung trail...but I think that would be pie in the sky.<br><br>Love the idea of new BBQ and picnic tables, new trees, seating around the place, water taps. These are great improvements.<br><br>New concrete was laid in front of cricket nets only a couple of years ago, so I hope it will not all go to waste. Half court basketball/netball court could go here or the new proposed soccer goal area can also have basketball/netball incorporated into it. Bulleen is a big basketball and netball area which both boys AND | The primary reason for perimeter cyclone fencing is safety, preventing balls leaving the ground onto adjacent areas. This is especially important on the western side of the ground where there will be a hub of informal activities (playground, barbecue and exercise equipment). The concrete spoon drain under the fence will replace the need for weed removal. Some areas will remain open fenced to retain community access onto the ground.<br><br>There is tennis court lighting on the top two courts. These lights work but a 2016 external audit states that the poles, and fixtures are in poor condition and recommends that the existing system be decommissioned. The sportsground lighting involved several funding partners (including the football club) and usage of these lights is paid for by the football club.<br><br>Refer to the above comment in no. 7 about the mountain bike track<br><br>Support for improvements noted – barbecue, picnic tables new trees<br><br>Basketball and netball will be added to the Park and three tennis courts retained. Unfortunately the existing concrete area next to the turf wickets is unsuitable as it poses a safety risk for any activity nearby.<br><br>In the last couple of years, female only competitions | Cyclone fencing - No change.<br><br><b>9. Amend Section 5.2 Tennis Courts to clarify the current state of tennis court lights are in poor condition and a 2016 audit recommended they are decommissioned.</b><br><br>BMX – No change.<br><br>Basketball and netball: Refer to recommended change No. 4. |

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|     | <p>GIRLS participate in.</p> <p>Overall it seems traditional seasonal sports such as cricket, football and soccer and which are dominated by men is being catered for yet again. Sports in which girls are well represented basketball, netball, and tennis are either being curbed or not looked at. Thanks for the opportunity to comment.</p>  | <p>introduced to both football and cricket is having a big impact on traditional male dominated sport. Bulleen Cricket Club introduced its first all girls team in 2015 and is hoping to strengthen this in 2016. The two additional cricket nets will assist this.</p>   |  |
| 9.  | <p>Resident</p> <p>I live 100 metres from the park and many of my friends and family use Koonung Park daily for a jog around the oval, walking the dogs, kicking the footy or playing tennis.</p> <p>Whilst we think the outdoor gym was a great idea, we haven't really seen anyone using it since its completion. We all gave it a go once or twice but it hasn't seem to have taken off the same as the outdoor gym on Koonung trail. My theory is that the people in our community are more social and enjoy team orientated activities which explains why there are always people running around the oval together and also why it is so hard to get a free tennis court.</p> <p>Koonung Park is missing one key element that a lot of other parks all have; an outdoor basketball ring. Our sporting community would love the new edition of an outdoor court and it would get plenty of use from everyone of all ages.</p> | <p>It is difficult to anticipate how popular exercise equipment will be in parks. More programs will be implemented to assist increasing the uptake of the Koonung Park equipment. Once the barbecue area and paths linking the Koonung Creek shared path are established, the equipment may also gain more use.</p> <p>Basketball will now be included as part of the Plan - Refer to response to No. 1.</p> | <p>Exercise equipment - No change.</p> <p>Basketball and netball: Refer to recommended change No. 4.</p> |
| 10. | <p>Resident</p> <p>The playground needs to include more toddler friendly equipment, a fence along the road side to give parents more time to catch children wandering off or chasing balls near the road. Ideally this playground could be the location for Manningham mothers and children to meet/socialise and play safely. Can we include barbeques and picnic tables and a covered bulletin board for community meet up groups. For people to come to this area, I believe the playground needs to be different from every other standard metal/plastic playground around. Sand on the floor makes it perfect for those babies just starting to walk and is more enjoyable for children to play/dig/ explore/climb in a natural</p>  | <p>When the playground is upgraded further consultation will be undertaken with local residents.</p>  | <p>No change.</p>  |

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|     | <p>setting. Let this money give manningham its own little piece of paradise to connect new and existing families with small children.</p> <p>I'm hoping we may have one basketball ring put up in the new updated park, preferably near the playground so older children can still be supervised whilst the younger ones are on the playground.</p>   | <p>Basketball will now be included as part of the Plan - Refer to Council Officer Response to No. 1 and No. 3.</p>  | <p>Basketball and netball: Refer to recommended change No. 4.</p> |
| 11. | <p><b>Bulleen Cricket Club</b></p> <p>The Bulleen Cricket Club is appreciative and excited at being involved throughout all stages of the Koonung Park Management Plan. The club strives to be a very strong club in the Eastern Cricket Association while providing the opportunity to play competitive cricket to all age groups across the local community. The club is also committed to increasing the female participation it has already established.</p> <p>In order to realise our vision, the club is committed to fully utilising its home base at Koonung Park. To do this we need to maximize the efficiency of the resources we have at our disposal both with facilities and the people that volunteer their time to coach, organise and run the club.</p> <p>With no junior base or playing ground we see the utilization of Koonung Park as the clubs only option and key facility to developing a strong club. Ideally the placement of an overlapping ground and an increase in practice facilities was seen as a key to delivering this. We understand the position of the council in not supporting the overlapping junior ground, but would like to re-emphasise that a junior home ground base remains a high priority. The development of the extra training facilities, as proposed in the management plan, is fully supported and extremely important to the club. We see this as necessary to maximizing both cricketer development and community involvement both at a player and more importantly volunteer assistance level. The lack of training facilities forces the club to spread the training times of all our sides over every day of the week and over different venues. There are several volunteers, which because of this, are spending 6-7 days at the club helping</p> | <p>The Bulleen Cricket Club's first all girls team in 2015 is noted. Hopefully the new cricket practice nets will assist and more local junior girls will be recruited for future cricket seasons.</p> <p>All junior competition is played on a synthetic centre wicket. Koonung Park has a turf wicket which makes it unsuitable for a junior home ground base. Council will continue to work with the club to determine a suitable outcome for a junior base.</p> | <p>No change.</p> <p>No change.</p>                               |

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|     | <p>out – this does not help maintain or encourage people to be involved.</p> <p>The proposed extra net facility will allow the club to better coordinate and synergise its operations, as well as allow for the expected increase in female cricket participation. The key point to this is that the existing facilities need to remain as they are. The Club does not want the two synthetic nets adjacent to the turf facilities removed when the new facility is added. The senior club fields sides in both turf and synthetic competitions and to successfully maximize the coaches and volunteer organisers, it is essential that the senior side trains together. Not on opposite sides of the ground. The new net facilities will be used to enable the junior sides to simultaneously train at the same time as seniors. This will create a great community group that will encourage continued participation of players and volunteers throughout the whole club. The club believes if the current nets design was altered that the synthetic nets could still be fully utilized while maintaining the community's safety.</p> <p>The Bulleen Cricket Club supports all other aspects of the Koonung Park Management Plan and is keen to work co-operatively with Council in developing a junior base for our club.</p> | <p>A key outcome to this Management Plan is to ensure there is a balance between sporting infrastructure, informal recreation opportunities and amenity, such as trees for habitat and shade and a path network creating pedestrian links. The number of synthetic cricket nets will increase from two to four practice nets and taking into account the existing turf practise nets; this is considered sufficient to meet the needs of the club. Other reasons include the safety issue identified with the nets being located close to the playground and proposed barbecue area and separating the sports infrastructure from the informal recreation activities.</p> <p>Council officers will work closely with the club in the implementation of this plan.</p> | <p><b>10. Amend Section 5.1.2 Cricket Training Nets to clarify the reasons for removing the existing cricket practice nets which are outlined in the Council Officer Response.</b></p> |
| 12. | <p>Resident</p> <p>The playground needs to accommodate younger children. My husband plays cricket at the club and we often have to take cover from balls hit out of the nets during training nights. There is also limited shelter around the grounds/ playgrounds for spectators as the new pavilion is used by the club for scorers.</p> <p>The mesh fencing is a great idea to stop stray kids and dogs accessing the grounds during play.</p>   | <p>When the playground is upgraded further consultation will be undertaken with local residents. The two existing cricket practise nets will be removed and returned to open space.</p> <p>Koonung Park is a typical local football/cricket ground which the only shelter is generally at the pavilion. A shelter is now proposed to be included in the barbecue area.</p> <p>Support noted – mesh perimeter fencing.</p>   | <p>Playground - No change.</p> <p>Shelter: Refer to recommended change No. 5.</p>  |
| 13  | <p>Resident</p> <p>Item 2.1.5: Nature of park as structured sport and passive recreation does not support need for picnic tables and BBQs b/x Exercise equipment and Play space.</p>  | <p>Picnic tables, barbecues and exercise equipment adjacent to a playspace complement the use of the area as they add another element to encourage visitors to extend their stay at the Park.</p>   | <p>Barbecue area - No change.</p>  |

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|     | <p>Many park users are local and other users that drive, so question need for bicycle hoops.</p> <p>Items 4.1.3 and 4.2.2: To ensure after hours safety, playspace and exercise equipment should be highly visible and not planted with trees</p> <p>Item 5.1.3: Tennis courts should be maintained to good standard, including nets</p>   | <p>Local people also like to ride their bikes to the park (especially children) if there is somewhere safe to leave bikes. Bicycle hoops will also encourage cycling families using the Koonung Creek shared path to stop and play at Koonung Park and perhaps use the barbecue.</p> <p>Planting around the playspace and exercise equipment will be designed to ensure the area remains highly visible.</p> <p>Community tennis courts are maintained to ensure sufficient public safety. The playing conditions of community tennis courts are not maintained to the same level as club based tennis courts.</p> | <p>Bicycle hoops - No change.</p> <p>Planting - No change.</p> <p>Tennis court standards - No change.</p> |
| 14. | <p>Resident</p> <p>This is an amazing proposal and will be well-used and appreciated by us all in our local community, especially my three children! We frequent this park all the time as we live in walking distance and love the space there. It will be more loved with its improvements.</p>  | <p>Support noted.</p>  |   |
| 15. | <p>Resident</p> <p>We would be very happy for any kind of parkland improvement to take place for the betterment of the community</p>   | <p>Support noted.</p>  |   |
| 16. | <p>Resident</p> <p>Currently there are two existing cricket nets at Koonung Park which are for public use. On a Saturday and Sunday and during the school holidays both of these two nets are always utilised by families practicing cricket bowling and batting with their children. My issue and concern is that you are planning on creating three new training nets however, only one will be accessible for public use. Could I please urge Council to reconsider this idea and perhaps have two public training nets that can be used as is currently available for families? It would be a shame if the well known and publicly utilised cricket oval only had use of one training net for children to learn and practice their cricket skills.</p> | <p>Cricket nets - Refer to Council Officer Response to No. 1.</p>  | <p>Cricket nets: Refer to recommended change No. 1.</p>   |



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| 17. | <p>Resident</p> <p>We strongly advocate an outdoor walking track with shock absorbing material and a UV protected top cover and sufficient lighting at night or an indoor walking track open till late so that people can enjoy the walk in an all weather proof environment.</p>  | <p>It is not possible for a facility of this type to be provided at Koonung Park. Walking groups are offered at both The Pines and Doncaster shopping centres. The Tom Kelly athletics track in Doncaster is also open 24/7 to the public for walking.</p>   | <p>No change.</p>  |
| 18. | <p>Resident</p> <p>Our family is supportive of the Plan. We do have one item that we feel has been overlooked and would like it to be considered as part of the plan.</p> <p>The rubbish bins have recently been re-located to the Furneaux Grove entrance to the Reserve without any form of screening - not only is this un-sightly "first impression" to the Park, it is particularly ugly from a neighbours' view point.</p> <p>Additionally, the illegal rubbish dumping has increased markedly - it is almost as though dumpers' consider Council has done them a favour. There have been a number of quite nasty incidents when dumpers are confronted. It is our suggestion that a more secure bin facility be installed with landscape screening. We now additionally have another un-sightly structure in the form of a large sub-station installed as part of the lights up-grade - we request that landscaping screening also be considered as part of the plan.</p> | <p>Support noted.</p> <p>Refer to the response in no. 2 about the rubbish bins. The new structure nearby is the new main switchboard for the Park. While access is required to the switchboard, it will be screened with planting from Furneaux Grove.</p> <p>These bin cages are designed so they have to be unlocked and opened before putting rubbish into them. Council has not received any complaints about illegal rubbish dumping in these bins. Council will investigate any reports.</p> | <p>Rubbish bins: Refer to recommended change No. 3.</p>  |
| 19. | <p>Resident</p> <p>Your own statistics indicate the popularity of the tennis courts, and that it is likely to increase as more people are now aware of their existence thanks to the survey. In light of this it seems odd to remove the net from the third tennis court to use it as a futsal venue. As the majority of users of the courts are in the 36-59 year age group, the third court is more valuable as it is a synthetic surface and much easier on the body compared to the upper courts, which are hard courts. Also, contrary to your own findings, my experience, whilst limited to Saturday, Sunday and Monday, is that whenever I have been using a court, all 3 are in use simultaneously. As a local ratepayer, it is difficult for me to see</p>   | <p>Refer to response to No. 1 for the changes to the tennis court area.</p>  | <p>Tennis courts: Refer to recommended change No. 2.</p> |

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|     | <p>how converting a tennis court to a futsal venue will be beneficial for the community. As for the long term plans, I sincerely hope you choose option 1. One only has to look at the dearth of activity and falling member numbers most existing tennis clubs are currently experiencing to see how option 2 would work out, not to mention taking away a valuable community resource.</p>   |   |   |
| 20. | <p>Probus Club of Doncaster</p> <p>All members were in accordance with the Draft Plan and especially the proposal for a Disabled Park to be included in the parking area at Koonarra Hall. The removal of the steps to a ramp leading to the Hall is of great advantage.</p>   | <p>Support noted – disabled carparking.</p>   | <p>No change.</p>   |
| 21. | <p>Resident - Question from Your Say Manningham</p> <p>Will there be shelter over the new proposed bbq area near the children's playground? Also is there a draft of what the playground will be upgraded to include? Or design?</p>   | <p>When the playground is upgraded further consultation will be undertaken with local residents presented with a draft concept design. A picnic shelter will be included in the barbecue area</p>   | <p>Shelter: Refer to recommended change No. 5.</p>                |
| 22. | <p>Resident - Question from Your Say Manningham</p> <p>A cyclone mesh fence will limit access to the oval. Why is it necessary to install a cyclone mesh fence?<br/>How many access points will there be around the perimeter of the oval? Will there be any provision for a netball/(basketball) posts in the new "multi use area with soccer goals</p>   | <p>Cyclone fencing is a safety measure; preventing balls leaving the ground onto adjacent areas. Refer to Council Officer Response to no. 8 for more detail. There will be enough access points to retain ample community access onto the ground.</p> | <p>Basketball and netball: Refer to recommended change No. 4.</p> |
| 23. | <p>Resident - Question from Your Say Manningham</p> <p>I would like to request the addition of a basketball court or half court, separate from the multi-purpose area with soccer goals. I have lived in the area for 10 years, grew up here. I am now 27 and have to travel to local primary schools to practice shooting. When I go to primary schools there are lots of teenagers and pre-teens practicing shooting and it gets crowded. I propose that it is positioned around new path 3.2.0, remove drinking fountain and cricked pitch 1.1.3, 4.1.7 or just anywhere in the park area would be great! Teenagers would love this and so would adults. I know I would go down every day to blow off some steam and get fit.</p> | <p>Basketball will now be included as part of the Plan - Refer to response to No. 1.</p>  | <p>Basketball and netball: Refer to recommended change No. 4.</p> |
| 24. | <p>Advice from United Energy</p>   |   | <p><b>11. Amend Section 5.1.7 Scoreboard. Amend Action</b></p>    |

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|     | <p>Power supply regulations stipulate infrastructure requiring power must be located on the title that contains the power supply. The title where the existing scoreboard is located does not contain a power supply.</p> | <p>Koonung Park was consolidated from 36 separate small titles to two titles in 2016. The location of the existing scoreboard is located on a title that does not have a power supply. An electronic scoreboard will need to be relocated to the title that does contain the electricity supply. The new location will most likely be on the western boundary of the sports ground.</p> | <p><b>No. 1.1.7:</b><br/>Upgrade and relocate scoreboard in line with <i>Council's Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Guidelines</i> and <i>Council's Outdoor Advertising on Council Owned and Managed Property Policy</i>.</p> |