What you said last time

We would like to thank everybody who took part in the previous consultation in December 2014. Your views were really useful and have shaped the design.

- The project was popular, with only a very small percentage of respondents disliking the two concept designs.
- Of the two design concepts presented, concept two was more popular, so we have based the new design on concept two.
- More respondents to the survey mentioned that they were in favour of integrating the Rust Square with the rest of the park rather than keeping it separate. However at the public meeting the majority wanted Rust Square to be separate.
- Nobody objected to having a play area but some thought it was not the correct location, so we have relocated it further into the park so that properties do not overlook it.
- Opinion on the water feature/fountain was divided, with slightly more people preferring not to have a water feature/fountain, so we have not included a water feature in the new design.
- Some people preferred winding pathways as they felt it would make cyclists travel more slowly. Others preferred straight pathways as they felt it would be better for safety, with clear sightlines of who is coming. Therefore pathways in the new design are a mixture of both straight and meandering pathways.
- Slightly more respondents mentioned that they think cyclists and pedestrians should share paths, but there was also support for separate paths. Generally people did not want additional paths, so in the new design we have kept pathways to a minimum.
- From experience, the best way to make pathways safe for both cyclists and pedestrians is to make them wide enough so they can pass by at a distance, so we’ve suggested 5m wide pathways.
- There is concern from nearby residents about antisocial behaviour. Attracting well-behaved visitors to an area with facilities such as play equipment and an outdoor gym is likely to encourage social behaviour, in turn discouraging antisocial behaviour.
- Results clearly show support for a new large pond. There was also support for removing New Church Road from within the park.
- More than 80% of respondents were opposed to the idea of the Wells Way underpass being reserved for cyclists’ use only, so it will be kept for use by everyone.
- There was support for a new crossing on Wells Way and for a new bandstand or performance space, but the support was not overwhelming.
- Although there was some support for a new BBQ area, many people objected to it, and comments reflect that the location is an important factor, so we have suggested a new location at a good distance from nearby properties.