

Update on Skatepark Floodlighting Proposals

Summary - To note the outcome of the Acoustic Survey and Skatepark Floodlighting Consultation and agree a way forward

Background

At a meeting of the Amenities and Open Spaces Committee on 3rd February 2020, Members noted an update report by the Assistant Town Clerk and the next steps in the process which would include an acoustic survey and a public consultation exercise.

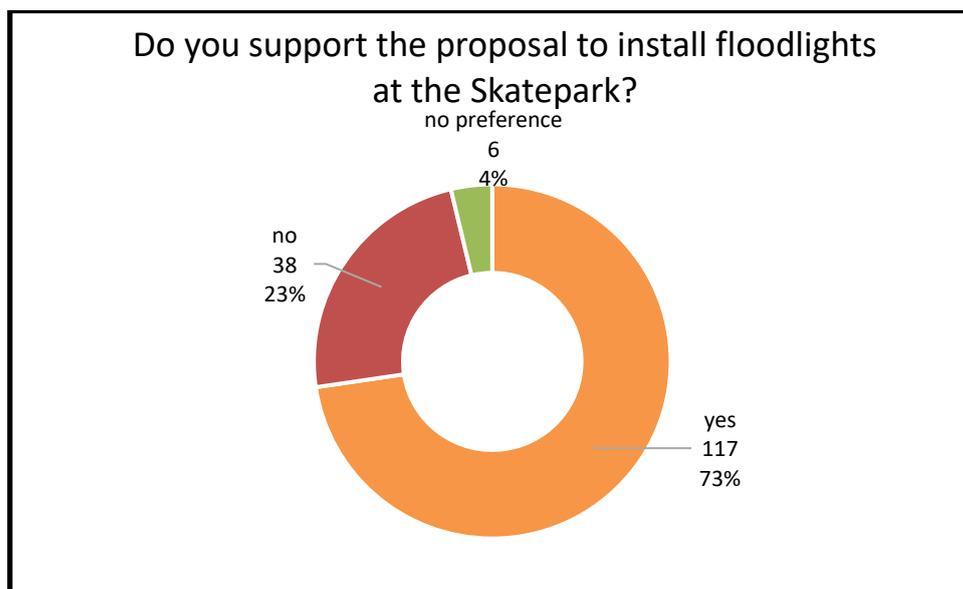


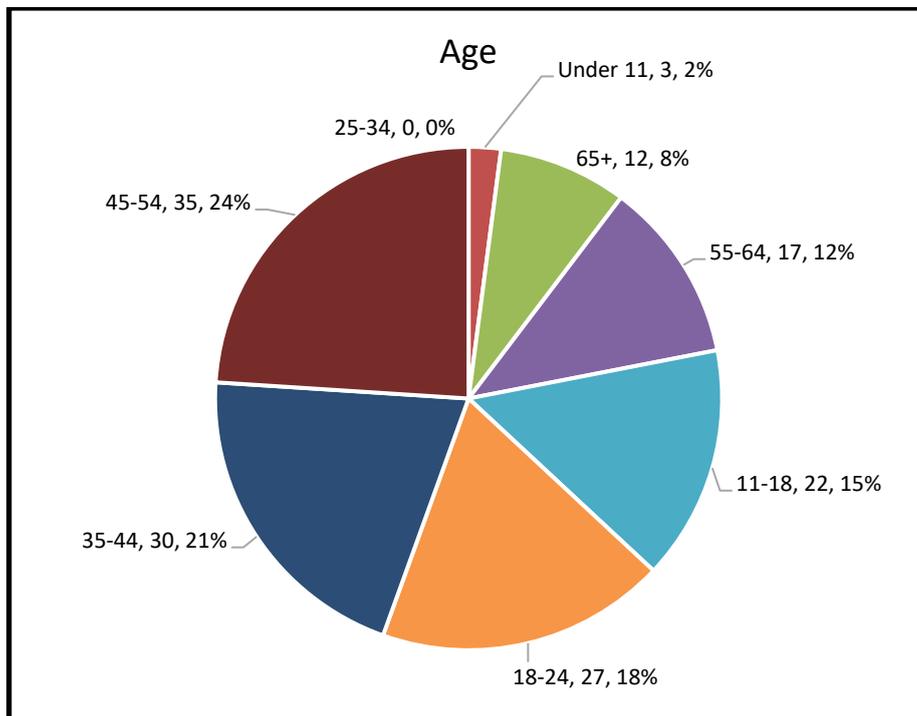
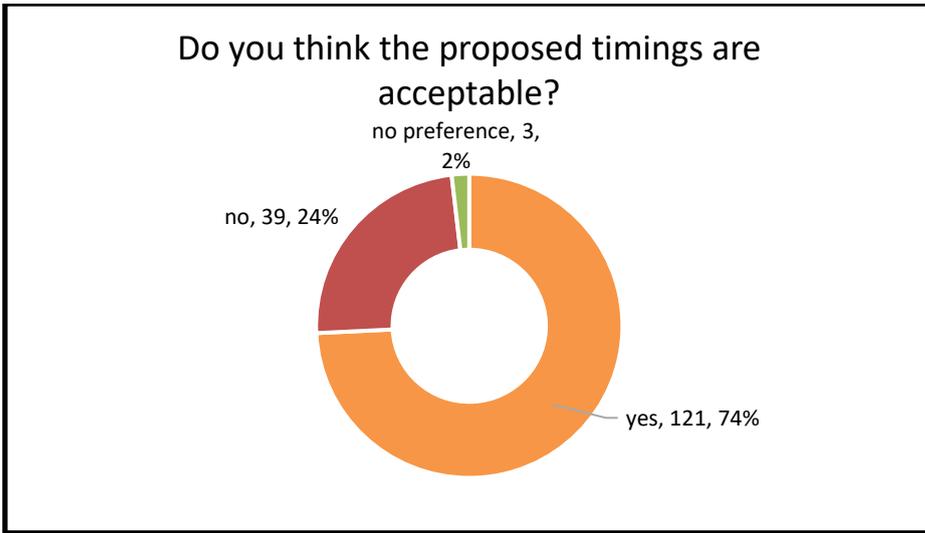
Current Situation

An acoustic survey was carried out in early March to determine the noise levels associated with the skatepark, to address concerns flagged by Wiltshire Council during the pre-application planning stage. The full report is available should members wish to view it, however, the report did not raise any serious issues in terms of increased/unacceptable noise levels. Measurements were taken from 6 locations around the skatepark during periods of inactivity and activity.

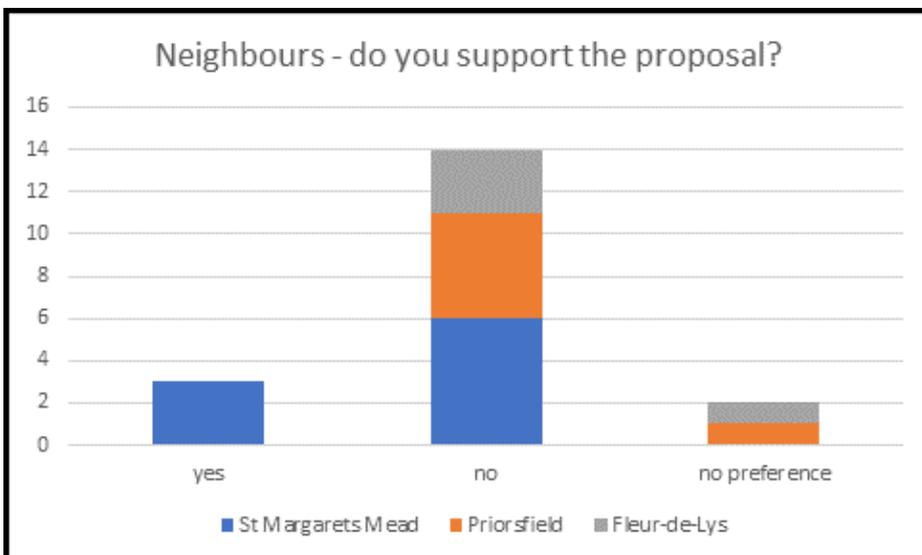
A 'face to face' public consultation at the MC&YC was planned for late March, however due to COVID 19 and the subsequent restrictions, this event had to be cancelled. An online (and paper) consultation was produced, and this ran from 13th May until 12th June 2020. This consultation was posted on our website and Facebook page (and was subsequently shared on Marlborough Notice Board). Marlborough News Online published the details, links were shared with Marlborough St Mary's and St John's Academy and other organisations/groups within the town. Paper copies of the consultation were also hand delivered to residents, whose properties adjoin the Skatepark, to include St Margaret's Mead and Priorsfield.

A total of 119 online responses were submitted and a further 42 paper/email/text responses received. A summary of the main question responses is shown below. Please note that whilst these results demonstrate support of the proposals, members are requested to consider the comments made, many of which share similar concerns in relation to existing anti-social behaviour in that area.





The statistics have been filtered (using the postcodes supplied) to highlight the responses received from residents who live adjacent to the skatepark, and therefore most affected by the proposals.



Recommendation

Members are requested to note the results of the Acoustic Survey and Public Consultation report and agree the next steps.

Author – Assistant Town Clerk

23rd June 2020

Do you support the proposal to install floodlights at the Skatepark?

1. Concerns about anti-social behaviour

My Garden backs on to the skate park and I can see it from my window, I also know the amount of antisocial behaviour, with loud music, DRUG taking and swearing (which unfortunately I have to call the police about quite regularly) makes me very unhappy about the lights potentially extending this behaviour well in to the night. I know for a fact the drug dealers deal from the small car park at the youth Center and the kids keep using the old tennis courts to skate more than the park itself.... in fact they are on it now and the half pipe is empty!!!! They quite often make my garden unusable which is not fair for a family that has lived in this house since it was build in the 40s! If you could stop them using the tarmac patch behind the old peoples home and make them JUST use the skate park I would say yes to the lights! If someone would like to contact me my name is **REDACTED**

Lights are not necessary. In the summer it is light unto late and in the winter very few skaters are using the park. In fact it becomes a gathering point for boy racers and drug dealers. Certain councillors lied when the park was built, so I have no confidence that lights are needed or worth wasting money on.

Noise, more drug selling.

The area already attracts young people who are taking/smoking/selling drugs and having supportive lights will enable this to happen for longer periods during the day

I would love to support this initiative however whilst the skate park is an epicentre of antisocial behaviour I cannot. Frequently I see drug dealing here and most days as I walk past with my kids I can smell drugs. Providing extra lighting will only serve to encourage this. It is so visible I wonder why the police don't try to do something about it.

Skate Park Floodlighting Marlborough, Wiltshire As a resident of a property which over-looks the Salisbury Park recreation ground and the skate park, I would like to contribute to the consultation for floodlights at the park. I do not want the floodlights to be erected there for the following reasons, which I hope will be taken into consideration by the council. The lights would be too close to residential areas, causing light pollution. The lighting in the car park is already causing light trespass, it is on all night and shines in on kitchen, living room, and bedrooms. Floodlighting is un-environmentally friendly, causing light pollution of the general environment.

<https://thecrimepreventionwebsite.com/external-lighting-for-the-home-and-garden/622/light-pollution-and-annoyance-and-their-effects/> The negative effects of polluting lights extend beyond us humans as they can confuse night flying birds, kill millions of insects each year and can cause other negative ecological effects. Poorly directed light also wastes money and adds to our carbon footprint. I am assuming that the lights will be triggered on when someone is there to use the skate park, otherwise the lights will be on for hours, regardless of the weather or if anyone is there to use the skate park. For example during dark evenings : 4pm to 9pm = 5 hours. Even if lights are directed away from the houses on all sides of the park. The lights will be directed at the concrete which will bounce the light back up. The back of my house and that of my neighbours will be lit up all evening/when in use. It should not matter if we are trying to sleep or not, it will be unpleasant to be in the house with the whole back lit up. This can potentially also cause health issues, dazzling floodlights will personally be the cause of migraine. The skate park is there for all to use all day and night, every day, already. If more people use it for longer = more noise, more cars, more litter, more drugs, more foul language, for longer. When looking into complaints about light nuisance, councils should assess the following: • whether it interferes with the use of a property • how it's likely to affect the average person (excluding unusual sensitivities) • how often it happens • how long it lasts • when it happens • the character of the area Unfortunately my answers to the above questions the council would need to ask when considering the lights are: • whether it interferes with the use of a property : YES • how it's likely to affect the average person (excluding unusual sensitivities) • how often it happens : EVERY DAY/EVENING • how long it lasts : 4/5 HOURS A DAY • when it happens : ALL WINTER • the character of the area **REDACTED**

To whom it may concern I have written a number of times before on the topic of the skatepark, and more specifically, the car park for the youth centre. I have no objection to the skatepark itself but rather the secondary problems that installing lighting will cause. By this I am referring to the congregation late at night of local teenagers who display little regard for local residents. This has been, and will continue to be a source of irritant to residents in

the area, and the extending of visibility till late into the evening will merely encourage greater numbers and greater disturbance. As I am sure you are starting to realise, my gripe is not really with the lighting itself. It is what follows from the installation of the lighting.

1. Teenagers in cars The major issue is the number of teenagers arriving in cars in car park till late in evening long after the youth centre is closed. I am not talking about local people using the car park for use of the building for evening classes etc. I am talking about the use of the car park by teenage boys and girls for meeting, playing music, smoking drugs etc until way after 9pm. I have complained about this numerous times over the past 5-6 years and very little has been done. I KNOW all of the above to be a problem, as I have seen it, time and time again over the 5 years. It follows a pattern - worse in summer months, slightly better in winter due to the cold and darkness. What is being proposed here, lighting the skatepark will negate the darkness issue and lead to many more teenagers in their cars late into the evening, with all that this entails.
2. The noise from the skatepark. The constant clack of skateboards isn't too much of an issue and we live with that. We chose to live here and it is the nature of skateboards. This is fine. No problem. What is particularly unbearable is the language that comes from the skatepark. I'm not sure what can be done. Teenagers will be teenagers all will say - but this is not a solution. Why are there are no signs, at least, asking for consideration of residents?? The language can be intolerable, and we may add to this the music during the summer months. Sure, grime and drill music isn't my particular bag, but fine if the local teenagers like it - but do we have to have it cranked up so we can clearly hear the unbearable braggadocio of another run-of-the-mill rapper. Goto Hackney...please. There are families in the area with kids, who do not want to be subjected to this day in day out.
3. gate on the car park. For the love of God, please take some notice of the residents. I have been requesting this for years. I have attended meeting with Cllr Lisa Farrell and local police officials and other residents affected, in the community centre. Again, the idea of a gate across the car park to prevent the usage of it late into the night was raised. Again it was dismissed with the, frankly absurd excuse, that it was too costly. The council is about to spend £13000 putting lights up on the skatepark for the kids. What of the resident who pay council tax and live here? Where is our consideration? Put the lights in if you must, but cars are not needed to skate. A gate across the car park which locks at a given time preventing loitering and disturbance in the car park in the late evenings would go some way to addressing residents' grievances over the seemingly dismissive nature of those who do not have to live by the skatepark. As an addendum - it has been quite astonishing to note the disdain with which the local teens have treated the social distancing over the past 3 months. Not that this has been noticed on the basis there has been minimal police presence in what must be one of the most widely used meeting places to smoke drugs in Marlborough. If this all sounds like a general moan about everything - to some extent it is. But the majority of these issues are as a result of the skatepark's proximity to my house. All that lighting the park will achieve for local residents is extend the periods that we will have to put up with undesirable behaviour in the car park. This could be solved with a gate across the car park and / or a more visible police presence. I fully expect my comments to be passed over, yet again. I never seem to get any sort of a response. I am hoping that on this occasion, given this is a consultation, some response may be forthcoming. **REDACTED**

The skatepark is already a central point for drug dealing, graffiti, littering and antisocial behaviour. It is an unfortunate scab on the face of our beautiful town, and to increase the hours for which it is usable into the evening will only worsen these problems and aid criminality further. Demolishing the skate park would be a more constructive endeavour

Will attract anti social behaviour and late night drinking and drug taking. Dangerous in wet months. Houses are very close and are overlooked by park. No privacy for families. Light pollution into all surrounding property. Care home, retirement flats, family homes

My Garden backs on to the skate park and I can see it from my window, I also know the amount of antisocial behaviour, with loud music, DRUG taking and swearing (which unfortunately I have to call the police about quite regularly) makes me very unhappy about the lights potentially extending this behaviour well in to the night. I know for a fact the drug dealers deal from the small car park at the youth Center and the kids keep using the old tennis courts to skate more than the park itself.... in fact they are on it now and the half pipe is empty!!!! They quite often make my garden unusable which is not fair for a family that has lived in this house since it was build in the 40s! If you could stop them using the tarmac patch behind the old peoples home and make them JUST use the skate park I would say yes to the lights! If someone would like to contact me my name **REDACTED**

Lights are not necessary. In the summer it is light unto late and in the winter very few skaters are using the park. In fact it becomes a gathering point for boy racers and drug dealers. Certain councillors lied when the park was built, so I have no confidence that lights are needed or worth wasting money on.

Noise, more drug selling.

The area already attracts young people who are taking/smoking/selling drugs and having supportive lights will enable this to happen for longer periods during the day

I would love to support this initiative however whilst the skate park is an epicentre of antisocial behaviour I cannot. Frequently I see drug dealing here and most days as I walk past with my kids I can smell drugs. Providing extra lighting will only serve to encourage this. It is so visible I wonder why the police don't try to do something about it.

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2. All comments

a) Comments and suggestions from people who said YES

greetings, not really
Excellent idea. It will enable the skaters to use the ramps in winter when the weather is good.
Having lights turn off at 9 seems quite late. Maybe 8 would be better, allowing time for the users to disperse?
I think the whole skatepark could be made a much nicer place for young people. Perhaps a few trees around it and a couple of benches (at a safe distance from the ramps obviously). The other end of the rec is lovely with the mature trees but the skatepark end is really grey and uninspiring and I don't think this sends a message of encouragement and inclusion to our young people, on the contrary it looks like we think they don't deserve a nice space in which to spend time, which I believe encourages low self esteem and antisocial behaviour.
I think the proposed timings should be changed so that they turn off earlier in the evening to discourage the youths staying out late and causing noise pollution, particular when nearby houses have parents trying to get their children to sleep earlier than this.
It is necessary that the council supports the various activities for youth and children in Marlborough. Outdoor sports facilities with flood lighting is not very accessible in The town and with the increasing number of developments in Marlborough we can expect the number of youth increasing. It is important that we plan for the activities the youth needs and enjoys! Skateboarding, football etc
Supporting youth initiatives for my town
When attending the youth club from the mid 1970's until the early 1980's there were floodlights for the then tennis courts, the young people of the town deserve to be able to use the skatepark until as late as possible, 2100 seems a very reasonable time to switch off.
good luck, great idea
Although I no longer live in Marlborough, I am from Marlborough and know that myself and my friends would have greatly benefited from this as teenagers. It is for safety aside from anything else. As long as there are no noise complaints or anti social behaviour expected I don't see why this shouldn't happen.
This will be safer for people coming home from work as half the lights never work in the rec
I personally go to the skatepark and think it is a very good idea
I think this is a fantastic idea and will give the kids that bit more freedom. I also welcome it as it will be an area of town I previously haven't enjoyed walking back from work through but with lighting it makes it safer so win win. Good luck!!
No concerns at all. Anything for the kids. In the past they have never had anything to do In Marlborough. I am glad that the town Council are now doing more for our young people. Thank you to you all especially Lisa Farrell who continues to work hard for this cause.
I would like it to be on until 10 pm
It's a great idea

Great idea
Skating is a great sport to keep young people active. It is great that they have such a good skatepark in Marlborough. The lighting will make it safer in the evenings, not only so they can see what they are doing, but so we can see if they need medical assistance!
Having grown up in Marlborough, I would like to support any initiative that gives additional facilities for young people. There are residential homes (and I guess the care home) fairly close, so the young people will need to be considerate of other people, and, as you suggest, lighting times kept under review.
The skate park is one of the precious few things in Marlborough that kids and people alike can do for free. So i think it would be great to be able to skate past four o'clock in the winter months so that younger people skate and exercise after their school hours.
I applaud any effort to create spaces for teenagers in this area - there aren't enough of them, and this is a great initiative.
My son uses the skatepark frequently and finds it frustrating that he can't do so in the winter months. It is not always possible to get him into Swindon for the alternative. Additionally, I would suggest that more lights in the park at night can only make it a safer place for all. The skatepark makes a huge difference to my sons mental health and happiness and I would support anything that gets him outside and being physically active. Thank you for considering their request
Great idea, it's been pending for years now. Please progress it so the kids have the facility! Lights off a 9pm sounds fair. Plenty of other lights and noise going on elsewhere! This is a town facility that will be enhanced, it's not about 1 or 2 people who have financial agendas in the local area. Our kids, our town - let's get on with it please!
think if this is a great idea and a long time coming but can see people complaining about the noise but this is something that goes hand in hand with having the skatepark backing onto peoples gardens
allowing skatepark users to use the flatground next to he skatepark for a diy skatespot
Some means to discourage vandalism and littering and for the perpetrators to repair any damage must be considered.
no we have waited a long time for this thank you town council for doing this
About time they were put up
Would it be possible to fence in the skate park with the aim to prevent dog poo & non skaters/BMX just hanging out on the park & leaving litter? It is rarely the skaters/BMXers who trash the place but constantly get bad press. This will also make it safer for those using the park, my children have to remove glass from it before they use it.
This will be a great facility for the kids. The lights go off at 9pm so that's good. There is a lot of ambient light and noise in that area anyway. If we can provide a facility that helps keep the youth occupied then it should be supported!
We fully support the proposal of floodlights as parents of a teen who uses this regularly. He has to be home by 9pm as a 14 year old so the timing sounds great too! If the lights go off, he knows he's late!! ;) Be great for them to have somewhere to play safely if its lit up
None at all. It's good to see the local council doing something for the younger people
Are you the contact for questions and queries?
I feel this is a fantastic idea for all the children in the area and further afield. (We are from Oare, near Pewsey). It is a great place to have a skate-park and the fact you are considering intelligent LED lighting is even better as it will cost very little to run
The young people of Marlborough are fortunate to have such a facility and should be encouraged to make use of it, provided it doesn't encourage a load of hooligans late at night. Perhaps automatic switch of at 10.00pm
Suggest 7pm/8pm switch off. 9pm a bit late. Plus would be concerned about bad weather
No concerns, good idea to make the skatepark more usable in winter months
Opposite the skatepark. 2 floodlight stands only needed. Make better use of the other tarmaced area with a basketball court/netball it could easily be fenced off to accommodate a court of some sort

b) Comments from people who said NO

Switch off time needs to be earlier
Excellent idea. It will enable the skaters to use the ramps in winter when the weather is good.
Having lights turn off at 9 seems quite late. Maybe 8 would be better, allowing time for the users to disperse?

LED Lighting can cause harm to eyesight-there is a wealth of evidence that suggests this. I also think there are too many lights everywhere/harmful to bats. Might I suggest an alternative lighting system?
Waste of tax payers money
Why are all the Marlborough play areas focussed on the Salisbury Road area? There is nothing in North and East Marlborough!
When attending the youth club from the mid 1970's until the early 1980's there were floodlights for the then tennis courts, the young people of the town deserve to be able to use the skatepark until as late as possible, 2100 seems a very reasonable time to switch off.
My Garden backs on to the skate park and I can see it from my window, I also know the amount of antisocial behaviour, with loud music, DRUG taking and swearing (which unfortunately I have to call the police about quite regularly) makes me very unhappy about the lights potentially extending this behaviour well in to the night. I know for a fact the drug dealers deal from the small car park at the youth Center and the kids keep using the old tennis courts to skate more than the park itself.... in fact they are on it now and the half pipe is empty!!!! They quite often make my garden unusable which is not fair for a family that has lived in this house since it was build in the 40s! If you could stop them using the tarmac patch behind the old peoples home and make them JUST use the skate park I would say yes to the lights! If someone would like to contact me my name is NAME AND ADDRESS SUPPLIED
There is an old people's home directly behind the skate park. Light pollution would affect the residents as well as increased noise.
Although I no longer live in Marlborough, I am from Marlborough and know that myself and my friends would have greatly benefited from this as teenagers. It is for safety aside from anything else. As long as there are no noise complaints or anti social behaviour expected I don't see why this shouldn't happen.
This will be safer for people coming home from work as half the lights never work in the rec
I personally go to the skatepark and think it is a very good idea
Lights are not necessary. In the summer it is light unto late and in the winter very few skaters are using the park. In fact it becomes a gathering point for boy racers and drug dealers. Certain councillors lied when the park was built, so I have no confidence that lights are needed or worth wasting money on.
Anti social behaviour is already an issue with regard to fowl language, loud noise and smoking of illegal substances. This development is likely to exacerbate the problem and is therefore strongly opposed.
They may get stolen
I think this is a fantastic idea and will give the kids that bit more freedom. I also welcome it as it will be an area of town I previously haven't enjoyed walking back from work through but with lighting it makes it safer so win win. Good luck!!
No concerns at all. Anything for the kids. In the past they have never had anything to do In Marlborough. I am glad that the town Council are now doing more for our young people. Thank you to you all especially Lisa Farrell who continues to work hard for this cause.
Yes, the anti social behaviour around the skatepark should be curtailed, not elongated. There is a number of houses due to built right next to the park this spring, this will impinge on their quality of life with skateboarders using the park at all times of the year and day. These houses will be for young families and local people and we do not want it. Have you spoken with the developers of that site or seen the plans? Please do. You can speak to NAME AND CONTACT SUPPLIED
Lights could be a visual pollutant and distractive of the passers by and park users
During the summer months we have to deal with antisocial behaviour such as loud music and foul language from the car park. This affects our childrens sleep as it goes on past their bed time. With flood lights this will continue through winter. The weather November to March is often terrible with the skate park deserted during the day anyway. If the lights are off at 9pm then the cost of this is for just 4 hours a day for 4 months. The playground in the park is in need of urgent maintenance with some of the rides fenced off. Hardly seems worthwhile expense and priority should be to what already exists before adding new. If access to the car park was to be controlled then this would solve the antisocial aspects and reduce the impact on the police. Until the proposal includes something to manage this problem, I can't support it.
Noise, more drug selling.
Our house backs on to the skatepark, and we already suffer from loud music, car horns being beeped Repeatedly and kids shouting swearwords late into the evening in the summer months. This proposed floodlight will only extend the problem into the winter months, because more kids will be attracted to hang out in this 'social hub' - especially with no plans to put a gate on the car park next to it. If there was a gate to lock out the cars which cause the antisocial behaviour, then it would get our full support.

I applaud any effort to create spaces for teenagers in this area - there aren't enough of them, and this is a great initiative.
My son uses the skatepark frequently and finds it frustrating that he can't do so in the winter months. It is not always possible to get him into Swindon for the alternative. Additionally, I would suggest that more lights in the park at night can only make it a safer place for all. The skatepark makes a huge difference to my sons mental health and happiness and I would support anything that gets him outside and being physically active. Thank you for considering their request
Great idea, it's been pending for years now. Please progress it so the kids have the facility! Lights off a 9pm sounds fair. Plenty of other lights and noise going on elsewhere! This is a town facility that will be enhanced, it's not about 1 or 2 people who have financial agendas in the local area. Our kids, our town - let's get on with it please!
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Would it be possible to fence in the skate park with the aim to prevent dog poo & non skaters/BMX just hanging out on the park & leaving litter? It is rarely the skaters/BMXers who trash the place but constantly get bad press. This will also make it safer for those using the park, my children have to remove glass from it before they use it.
I would love to support this initiative however whilst the skate park is an epicentre of antisocial behaviour I cannot. Frequently I see drug dealing here and most days as I walk past with my kids I can smell drugs. Providing extra lighting will only serve to encourage this. It is so visible I wonder why the police don't try to do something about it.
I think they should be solar powered
Skate Park Floodlighting Marlborough, Wiltshire As a resident of a property which over-looks the Salisbury Park recreation ground and the skate park, I would like to contribute to the consultation for floodlights at the park. I do not want the floodlights to be erected there for the following reasons, which I hope will be taken into consideration by the council. The lights would be too close to residential areas, causing light pollution. The lighting in the car park is already causing light trespass, it is on all night and shines in on kitchen, living room, and bedrooms. Floodlighting is un-environmentally friendly, causing light pollution of the general environment. https://thecrimepreventionwebsite.com/external-lighting-for-the-home-and-garden/622/light-pollution-and-annoyance-and-their-effects/ The negative effects of polluting lights extend beyond us humans as they can confuse night flying birds, kill millions of insects each year and can cause other negative ecological effects. Poorly directed light also wastes money and adds to our carbon footprint. I am assuming that the lights will be triggered on when someone is there to use the skate park, otherwise the lights will be on for hours, regardless of the weather or if anyone is there to use the skate park. For example during dark evenings : 4pm to 9pm = 5 hours. Even if lights are directed away from the houses on all sides of the park. The lights will be directed at the concrete which will bounce the light back up. The back of my house and that of my neighbours will be lit up all evening/when in use. It should not matter if we are trying to sleep or not, it will be unpleasant to be in the house with the whole back lit up. This can potentially also cause health issues, dazzling floodlights will personally be the cause of migraine. The skate park is there for all to use all day and night, every day, already. If more people use it for longer = more noise, more cars, more litter, more drugs, more foul language, for longer. When looking into complaints about light nuisance, councils should assess the following: • whether it interferes with the use of a property • how it's likely to affect the average person (excluding unusual sensitivities) • how often it happens • how long it lasts • when it happens • the character of the area Unfortunately my answers to the above questions the council would need to ask when considering the lights are: • whether it interferes with the use of a property : YES • how it's likely to affect the average person (excluding unusual sensitivities) • how often it happens : EVERY DAY/EVENING • how long it lasts : 4/5 HOURS A DAY • when it happens : ALL WINTER • the character of the area NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS SUPPLIED
Too close to gardens. Noise is a problem so later use will make the noise a real problem.the lights from the centre illuminate the area already. Anti social behaviour is a problem there now and this will get more of a problem with

longer use the new builds in 28a grounds will be very close to the lit area. As a neighbour I can say there is a lot of anti social behaviour in the area now and I am worried this will escalate

To whom it may concern I have written a number of times before on the topic of the skatepark, and more specifically, the car park for the youth centre. I have no objection to the skatepark itself but rather the secondary problems that installing lighting will cause. By this I am referring to the congregation late at night of local teenagers who display little regard for local residents. This has been, and will continue to be a source of irritant to residents in the area, and the extending of visibility till late into the evening will merely encourage greater numbers and greater disturbance. As I am sure you are starting to realise, my gripe is not really with the lighting itself. It is what follows from the installation of the lighting. 1. Teenagers in cars The major issue is the number of teenagers arriving in cars in car park till late in evening long after the youth centre is closed. I am not talking about local people using the car park for use of the building for evening classes etc. I am talking about the use of the car park by teenage boys and girls for meeting, playing music, smoking drugs etc until way after 9pm. I have complained about this numerous times over the past 5-6 years and very little has been done. I KNOW all of the above to be a problem, as I have seen it, time and time again over the 5 years. It follows a pattern - worse in summer months, slightly better in winter due to the cold and darkness. What is being proposed here, lighting the skatepark will negate the darkness issue and lead to many more teenagers in their cars late into the evening, with all that this entails. 2. The noise from the skatepark. The constant clack of skateboards isn't too much of an issue and we live with that. We chose to live here and it is the nature of skateboards. This is fine. No problem. What is particularly unbearable is the language that comes from the skatepark. I'm not sure what can be done. Teenagers will be teenagers all will say - but this is not a solution. Why are there are no signs, at least, asking for consideration of residents?? The language can be intolerable, and we may add to this the music during the summer months. Sure, grime and drill music isn't my particular bag, but fine if the local teenagers like it - but do we have to have it cranked up so we can clearly hear the unbearable braggadocio of another run-of-the-mill rapper. Goto Hackney...please. There are families in the area with kids, who do not want to be subjected to this day in day out. 3. gate on the car park. For the love of God, please take some notice of the residents. I have been requesting this for years. I have attended meeting with Cllr Lisa Farrell and local police officials and other residents affected, in the community centre. Again, the idea of a gate across the car park to prevent the usage of it late into the night was raised. Again it was dismissed with the, frankly absurd excuse, that it was too costly. The council is about to spend £13000 putting lights up on the skatepark for the kids. What of the resident who pay council tax and live here? Where is our consideration? Put the lights in if you must, but cars are not needed to skate. A gate across the car park which locks at a given time preventing loitering and disturbance in the car park in the late evenings would go some way to addressing residents' grievances over the seemingly dismissive nature of those who do not have to live by the skatepark. As an addendum - it has been quite astonishing to note the disdain with which the local teens have treated the social distancing over the past 3 months. Not that this has been noticed on the basis there has been minimal police presence in what must be one of the most widely used meeting places to smoke drugs in Marlborough. If this all sounds like a general moan about everything - to some extent it is. But the majority of these issues are as a result of the skatepark's proximity to my house. All that lighting the park will achieve for local residents is extend the periods that we will have to put up with undesirable behaviour in the car park. This could be solved with a gate across the car park and / or a more visible police presence. I fully expect my comments to be passed over, yet again. I never seem to get any sort of a response. I am hoping that on this occasion, given this is a consultation, some response may be forthcoming. **NAME SUPPLIED**

The skatepark is already a central point for drug dealing, graffiti, littering and antisocial behaviour. It is an unfortunate scab on the face of our beautiful town, and to increase the hours for which it is usable into the evening will only worsen these problems and aid criminality further. Demolishing the skate park would be a more constructive endeavour

loud music concerns

Spending money on floodlight used at night in colder winter not good. Thinking of moving in this area and floodlight at nighttime wouldn't be good for family sleep

Noise and light at night time/bed time

Will attract anti social behaviour and late night drinking and drug taking. Dangerous in wet months. Houses are very close and are overlooked by park. No privacy for families. Light pollution into all surrounding property. Care home, retirement flats, family homes

Floodlights at night shining in windows. No night sky

noise late at night

Thank you for your questionnaire re the possibility of lighting the above. I am a little bemused by this proposal as it hardly seems necessary in the summer when it stays light til 9pm or so whilst in winter it is hard to imagine

anyone wanting to brave the cold damp evenings of a typical British winter; lighting or no lighting. Perhaps the impetus behind this is more to do with the social needs of the younger generation and requires a quite different solution altogether. If in the event that this proposal is accepted, I think you will need to be prepared for problems that may arise in the future. In particular why stop at the skatepad, why not the rest of the facilities on the site, and what would be the response to allow football matches? What might seem a trivial matter at this stage may turn out to be rather more of a problem later and I suggest this request needs further serious consideration by Council. **ADDRESS SUPPLIED**

light pollution into the surrounding homes will be intrusive. Encourage late night anti-social gatherings. In inclement weather it might be dangerous. Floodlighting it makes it yet more so. Moths to light - bad behaviour magnet

Antisocial behaviour, noisy, dangerous

Why aren't you doing something for girls? Always stuff for boys