

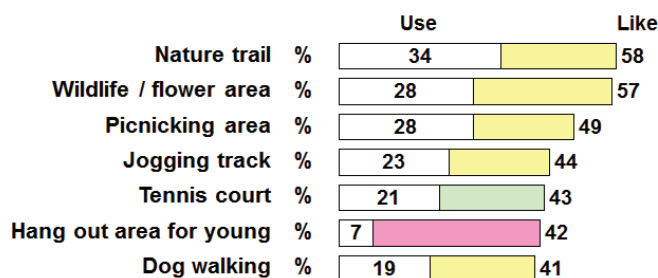
Long Itchington Leisure And Community Project – Nov 2015 update



About 15 years ago the Parish Council purchased the **LILAC Field** to create additional recreational facilities for the benefit of all in our community. Originally, it was expected that the Cricket Club would relocate to the field but they later decided to remain at their pitch by the river. With good football match and practice pitches, a skateboard ramp and a multi-purpose sports surface already existing in the **Green End** sports playing field, an excellent children’s play area and tennis courts at the school, this then created the opportunity to provide wider and different outdoor facilities.

LILAC Facilities – Summary of Interests

The Parish Council therefore decided to ask residents what they would most like to see established in the **LILAC Field**. The responses that were given in the 2011 Village Opinion Survey (which had a response rate of over 80%) are shown here.

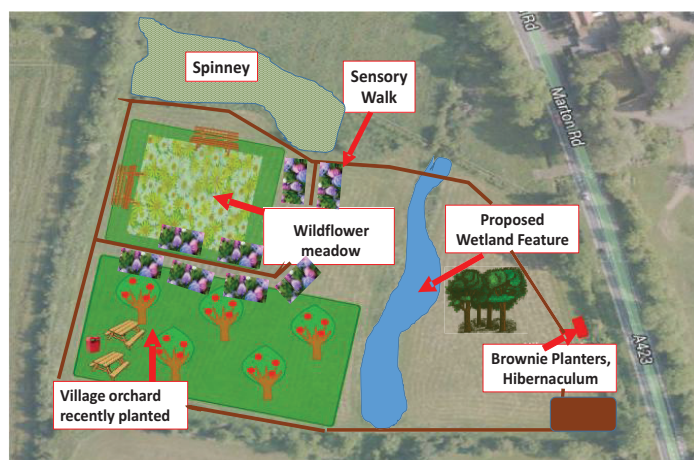


The Parish Council established **LILAC** as a working party to implement these wishes for the **LILAC Field** and to also improve amenities in the **Green End** Playing Field. Over the last few years the **LILAC** team has worked hard to raise around £80,000 from various sources to successfully deliver, at no cost to the parish, the following projects.

For the **LILAC Field** :- establishing a new Spinney; reinstating the Dew Pond; building a wider safer Matty's Bridge; providing a Jogging Track and a Dog Walking Circuit; new Picnic Tables; planting the Village Orchard, the Jubilee Oak Tree Circle, English Elms, and a Sensory Walk and building a Hibernaculum for Great Crested Newts. For the **Green End** Playing Field: - planting Holly Hedging; building a new Circular Track; new Outdoor Gym and Exercise Equipment and a Youth Shelter.

LILAC also worked with the Village School who have helped seed a Wildflower Meadow and the Village Brownies who have established their flower beds, planted spring bulbs and built a Bug Hotel.

Future projects planned include re-establishing a larger wildflower meadow; creating a wetland /wildlife feature along the line of the existing ditch; camouflaging the blue storage container; completing the youngster’s mural wall and regenerating / replanting the main hedge between both fields to improve the wildlife habitat. This is the current plan for the **LILAC Field**.



LILAC is also seeking to raise the additional significant funds that will be required to repair and upgrade the **Green End** toilets and changing pavilion. So there is plenty more to do! Volunteers are always welcome - please let Liz Bonney (the Parish Clerk - 815216) know if you would like to join and / or support the **LILAC** team.