
DROP-IN SESSION SUMMARY – FUTURE USE OF FRANK SMITH PARK

28 May 2022 between 12 – 3pm at Frank Smith Park, Coromandel Valley

IN ATTENDANCE

Staff: Jeremy Bell, Andy Smith, Nick Carr, Paula Bugden, Gail Burns and Taylor Eglinton

DROP-IN SESSION PURPOSE

To seek community feedback about the future use of Frank Smith Park for organised sport

PUBLIC ATTENDANCE

Approximately 70 people attended

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

To what extent do you support the use of Frank Smith Park for organised sport?

- Strongly support x 12
- Support x 3
- Neutral x 7
- Do not support x 5
- Strongly do not support x 24

What are the main considerations with regards to potential increase of Frank Smith Park for organised sport? (select top 3)

- Vehicle access from surrounding roads x 13
- Parking x 14
- Oval surface/turf quality x 12
- Oval capacity/conflicting use x 8
- Supporting infrastructure/amenities x 15
- Noise levels x 17
- Compatibility with current use x 29
- Natural environment x 45

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

- Support junior sport / don't want any more infrastructure
- Additional tree plantings: under story plantings, wetlands best thing that has happened, passive organised sport
- Day time use over night-time use
- No night-time, not safe, particularly in summer, no lights
- Have the sports clubs thought about using school ovals? A lot of already developed, fit for purpose school ovals available – this should be considered
- FSP not compatible for long term organised sport – it lacks the required infrastructure to support it – will ruin the park and take away from the local community's current use of the area
- Leave wetlands alone – great habitat for birds
- I'd support low impact sport, not heavy-duty usage. Better play equipment would be good (less basic and antique)
- Would like to see oval improved with irrigation. Up to 40 dog walkers use it at any one time 'crossing the creek issue'
- Cricket nets need to be improved, including run up
- Organised sport is different to school sport. Upgrade of oval surface ok, but no more. Fire hazard in summer – difficult to get out if sport is played
- With increased use comes alcohol use. Entertainment with alcohol. Happy to support junior, not senior. Infrastructure – no more
- Keep FSP available for school sport and general community use. Let the dogs run free and people to walk and enjoy the natural surroundings. I do not support more organised sport or clubhouses
- Frank Smith donated the land for the purpose of sport. The local cricket club needs a facility – makes sense
- This is a precious habitat for koalas and there are fewer and fewer areas left for them. Therefore there should be no increase in oval use – we already have enough use by schools. More cars, increased noise will be incompatible with the natural habitat, which is wonderful particularly since wetlands were built.
- Other areas in Mitch/Onka council areas do not allow the community to safely walk dogs off lead. Belair Natural Park & DEWNR areas, dog walking off lead is not permitted
- Please keep this beautiful area open for all of our community to use, not only these in an organised club. Endangered wildlife living in the wetlands require out protection. There are

many better alternatives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - I feel very strongly about the natural environment. There are often tawny frogmouths nesting in the gum trees alongside the oval. More people/organised sport/noise etc. Will drive these, and other animals away. This is a nature reserve.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Keep as natural as possible. Should not reduce use for other people - Local community cricket club needs local facility to play during summer on Saturday afternoons. It's the 3rd largest cricket club in Onka council but has not enough ovals to support seniors/juniors despite extensive efforts at other facilities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Worried about increased noise
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local cricket only using it a couple times a week, many other opportunities to walk a dog elsewhere. Big cricket club that is asking for a little support from the council
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Protect and improve wetland. If it becomes formalised I worry about car parking. Don't want lights for night-time – protect the environment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Known endangered species inhabiting adjacent wetlands requiring our protection
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Frank Smith bequeathed this space for organised sport
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Have lived in the street for 20 years and noticed massive changes already to the area. We have big concerns about increased traffic and impact on safety (kids, dogs, cars, bikes, environment). The street already struggles with this and an increase would make it worse. The area also deserves to have its environment protected. The council has done a great job conserving it
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - I have supported strongly existing junior sport only
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - I'm worried about noise pollution and rubbish. I have already been picking up on the way
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - I strongly believe no more infrastructure is needed, just a better playing surface for the children. Toilets are fine and plenty of parking
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improved playing surface for both summer and winter sports would be excellent regardless of any extra use. It already gets used most weekends both summer and winter on Saturday mornings for soccer and cricket
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How many paces in the area are already allocated to sporting? HEAPS! In contrast, how many areas in Onkaparinga are allocated to dog use? Limited!
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Have you liaised with local emergency services? SES & CFS? FSP is regularly used for training members to respond to the community
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - I would like council to keep in mind the sensitive sharing of the space, e.g. cricket (low impact) alongside walking, nature reserve etc.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clear definition of organised sport. I support sport and sports day fully. Repair the water fountain

- Protect and preserve this beautiful park. This is not the right location for organised sport & development. My family of 2 young boys use this park regularly. Please leave this park alone
- Consider developing advisory group of surrounding residents moving forward. Road use outside park needs to be expanded – very narrow
- As a local resident on Magarey Road I am concerned about increased traffic and noise level in the area. Another major concern is the impact on the natural environment. Development and infrastructure would impact negatively. Support in favour of current use and cricket
- Speed, Eden Hills bridge to get over the creek. Speed and cars. Concerned about change to the peaceful nature. Don't want to change peaceful area
- Happy to support junior sport if it doesn't impact on the passive natural environment. Infrastructure should only be improved where it currently sits. Also don't want it used all the time as it would impact on the local community using the area
- Remain exactly as is. Clean/maintain current. More dog bags. Would support increased local school use
- Consider widespread existing informal use by dog walkers and casual visitors. Will increased sport impact this use? It's extremely valuable and it's rare to have a place that lends itself to informal social connection by people who are sometimes socially isolated, e.g. older people, single people
- The oval is for all, not privileged clubs. The park must remain as is
- Ensure that Sturt FC don't get preferential treatment and get all the rights to use the ground during winter. Other clubs should be given same support
- Wetlands area in total disrepair. Paths dangerous. River crossing washed away. Wetlands beautiful when first done – left now to be overgrown
- I believe the oval surface could be invested on but no buildings. There is a beauty in having a place just for nature play (pure nature play) & dog walking. Sighting bandicoots and owls truly magical. I am concerned for the trees at the entrance