

LOCHWINNOCH PUMP TRACK

WHAT THE COMMUNITY TOLD US

138 people have given us their views. Not one has objected. They tell us the old bike track is no longer fit for purpose, that families are already driving out of the village to ride, and that a replacement would be used by every age from four upwards.

REPORT

Community feedback

PERIOD

26 April to 29 August 2026

VERSION

1.1, September 2026

PREPARED BY

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One number matters more than the rest. Across 138 responses on an open form that anybody could use to object, **not one person opposed the proposal.**

SECTION ONE

01 At a glance

We asked the village what it thought of replacing the worn-out bike track in Lochwinnoch Public Park with a modern pump track. Between late April and the end of August 2026, 138 people answered.

138

Responses in total, across three channels

0

Objections received, on any channel

73

People asked to be kept informed

46

Postcodes on file, 40 of them Lochwinnoch

FIGURE 1 · RESPONSES BY CHANNEL



"Replacing the outdated, and pretty much unused and potentially no longer very safe, BMX track with a modern pump track would be a strong investment in the whole community."

WILLIAM MACLEOD, WHOSE FAMILY LIVE IMMEDIATELY NEXT TO THE PARK

The four things the feedback establishes

- **The existing track is no longer fit for purpose.** The single most common thing people say, raised in 39 responses without being asked. After more than twenty years it has reached the end of its life, and people describe it as unusable, unsafe in the wet, or simply never used.
- **Demand already exists, and is being met elsewhere.** 20 responses describe travelling out of the village to ride, some as far as Glasgow, some weekly.
- **It would draw people in.** 17 responses come from, or describe, people who would travel to Lochwinnoch to use it, including an outdoor instructor who brings school groups to the area.
- **Support is local.** 40 of the 46 postcodes on file are PA12, Lochwinnoch.

SECTION TWO

O2 How we listened

DATE	ACTIVITY	RESPONSES
26 April to 29 August 2026	Project website open for feedback, unmoderated, no account required	90
May to June 2026	Posts and comment threads on the Lochwinnoch community Facebook page	24
13 June 2026	Staffed stand at the Lochwinnoch Gala, with paper feedback forms	24
Total responses to 29 August 2026		138

How we read it

Nobody was given a list of options to tick. Every response was read in full, and the themes set out in this report are the ones people raised themselves, in their own words. Many people made more than one point, so the same response can appear under more than one theme.

Criticism was invited on every channel, and none came. The website prompt asks in terms for what worries people. The paper form offered "No" and "Not sure" as options on equal footing with "Yes". Across all three channels no response has opposed the proposal, and **24 of 24 paper forms ticked "Yes"**.

What we asked

Nobody was asked to agree. The invitation was open on every channel, and the website asked for doubts as well as support.

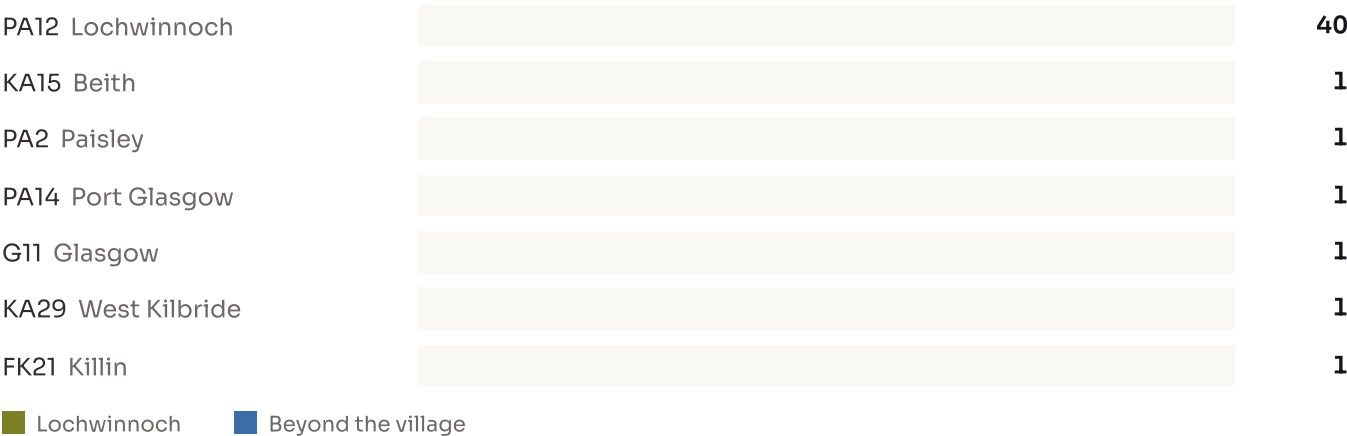
Website	Headed <i>"Tell us what you think"</i> , introduced with <i>"Support, doubts, suggestions, questions, ideas, criticism. Any of it useful."</i> The comment box prompts <i>"Anything that's useful: what you'd love, what worries you, what's missing."</i> Unmoderated, and no account needed.
Facebook	<i>"I've been looking at the old BMX track and I think it's time for an upgrade. What do you think about a pump track?"</i> On the wider village page, <i>"Genuinely just sounding it out. Would love to hear what folk think."</i>
Gala paper form	A closed question, <i>"Do you support a pump track for Lochwinnoch?"</i> , offering Yes, No and Not sure , then <i>"Your comments: anything you'd like to see, or any concerns, ideas or suggestions?"</i>

SECTION THREE

O3 Where the feedback comes from

Support is overwhelmingly local. A small number of responses come from further afield, from people who say they would travel to use it.

FIGURE 2 · POSTCODES ON FILE, BY DISTRICT



The website form did not ask for a postcode until 12 June 2026, which is why 46 of the 138 responses carry one. **Since that date, every single person who has used the form has given one**, as did all 24 who filled in a paper form at the Gala.

87%

Of postcodes given are PA12, Lochwinnoch

21 of 21

Website responses since the postcode question was added have all given one

6

Responses from beyond the village, across four council areas

People would travel to use it

Postcodes tell only part of the story, because most responses came in before the question was added. What people wrote fills the gap. Respondents identify themselves as writing from **Houston, Saltcoats, Beith, Clydebank, Port Glasgow, Glasgow and Killin**, and several describe visiting family in Lochwinnoch or coming into the village for clubs and work. One respondent is moving here. Another wrote in specifically because their own village built one.

SECTION FOUR

04 What people told us

Eight things came up again and again, in the order people raised them. We have chosen six responses to share for each category.

A No longer fit for purpose

39 RESPONSES

The thing people say most, and they say it without being asked. After more than twenty years the track has reached the end of its life, and people describe it as **unusable in its current condition, unsafe when wet, and in practice unused**. Several report injuries, and confident adult cyclists report being unable to ride round it at all.

"The current facility is NEVER used by bikes as it is unusable. Even Danny MacAskill would struggle to do the course successfully. There is deep scores on the boards where bikes have ground into them. **Multiple injuries have happened there.** A redesign is long overdue and this proposal sounds brilliant."

Jane McIlroy-Fawcett

Website · 4 May 2026

"I've always looked at the current facility and wondered what it actually was. As a confident cyclist I thought I'd try and ride round it to see if it was actually for bikes. It's so badly designed that I'm still unsure that it is for cycling! I challenge anyone to get round it! This is evident by it never being used. The proposed pump track is absolutely what this space needs. These facilities are multi use, multi age, all ability and their 'track record' speaks for itself (see what I did there). One thing I would say is that the design and build is utterly crucial, as the one that was installed in Knightswood (next to the BMX race track) has major design flaws and as a result gets nowhere near the usage it should. Velosolutions are the only company I would use. They are the gold standard in pump track construction."

WEBSITE · 8 MAY 2026

"This is a great idea. The existing track is not fit for purpose, too slippery and dangerous when wet. It's never used by bikes, it's occasionally used by small kids falling over it and getting ankles stuck between the logs. A pump track would be great for everyone. The park draws so many people to the village and this would be another great addition."

WEBSITE · 25 MAY 2026

"A wee pump track is a great idea. The current jump track is basically unrideable with any sort of flow or enjoyment for riders of any age and stage. It basically an obstacle course. Upgraded facilities that ride well will be popular, keep kids coming back and develop interest in the sport."

WEBSITE · 7 MAY 2026

"Such a great idea. The current ramp track isn't fit, or safe, for purpose so is a waste of space. A safe, user friendly track suitable for different ages and abilities would be a really great addition to the current play park outdoor space. And perfect for encouraging our kids to be outdoors and active and off screens!"

WEBSITE · 9 MAY 2026

"I absolutely love the idea! The current track was installed when I was around 8 years old and now 35, I feel it isn't used much and is showing signs of significant wear. Our kids would love this track and I imagine it would be very popular."

WEBSITE · 10 MAY 2026

B All ages, and more than bikes

27 RESPONSES

Respondents consistently expect the **new** facility to serve a range of ages and more than one wheeled sport. Scooters, skateboards and rollerblades are all named, several times, without being asked about. Grandparents write about grandchildren; adults write about themselves.

"My family and I live immediately adjacent to the park and make use of it on an almost daily basis. Replacing the outdated, and pretty much unused and potentially no longer very safe, BMX track with a modern pump track would be a strong investment in the whole community. **Pump tracks are accessible to a much wider range of users, children, teenagers, families, and even older residents like myself, whether they're on bikes, scooters, roller-blades or skateboards**, encouraging more people to get active and supporting health and well-being in an inclusive way. The recently introduced open-air gym has already been very well received, showing clear demand for high-quality, accessible outdoor facilities. Building on that success, a pump track would further enhance the park's appeal and usability, particularly as it is proposed for an underused corner of the space. A modern pump track would provide a safe, purpose-built area for riding, helping to reduce the spectre of any anti-social behaviour elsewhere while giving young people a positive outlet. It has the potential to become a social hub, bringing together different age groups and strengthening community connections, while increasing pride in a park that continues to evolve to meet local needs. The knock on economic impact of having more people attracted to the local area can only benefit local businesses too. Let's make it happen!"

William MacLeod

Website · 7 May 2026 · lives next to the park

"This looks brilliant! Both my kids age 12 and 7 would use this on skateboards, scooters, bikes and probably on foot! The existing set up is disappointing and not user friendly and this suggestion would really serve the village well. It means the kids would have the freedom to use this village resource independently and without cost as they grow. I know that kids who skate continue to do so into adulthood so it could be a lifelong healthy and fun pursuit! Thanks for offering such a detailed and informative website. This is really exciting!"

WEBSITE · 7 MAY 2026

"Brilliant idea! I know my two would love it. We often visit my parents in Wishaw and the track there is well used by all age groups. Often older children have helped and advised my kids when they've been using it at the same time too. It's something that could really bring the community together."

WEBSITE · 7 MAY 2026

"The current track is unusable, which is a real shame. We'd love to have a space where our 5 year old could learn to skate, bmx and scoot properly."

WEBSITE · 7 MAY 2026

"Great idea. Can be used by bikes, scooters, rollerblades. Will attract visitors to the village."

WEBSITE · 4 MAY 2026

"This is a brilliant idea and I fully support it. I am a mother of children aged 5 and 7, and they will absolutely love it. Important for the final design to accommodate all ages and abilities and weather conditions."

WEBSITE · 7 MAY 2026

C What to build, and what to avoid

21 RESPONSES

A substantial number gave specific design input. The strongest steer is towards a **flowing, accessible track rather than an aggressive one**, with named reference points at either end of the scale. A smaller group wants bigger features. Both views are recorded here rather than reconciled, because the design has to choose deliberately.

"Great idea. I am moving to Lochwinnoch in the next few weeks and commented exactly the same after looking at what is currently there. In my opinion the right balance would be somewhere between what is currently in place at Cuningar Loop, too small to really develop skills, and Cathkin Braes, great as part of a biking facility but too big to be accessible in a general use park."

WEBSITE · 5 MAY 2026

"Wish you the best of luck bringing this to fruition. We would certainly travel from Saltcoats to use the facility. Ayrshire is also missing a pump track. Hopefully the Stewarton one comes together. Personally, I find the Velosolutions tracks quite aggressive. The Clark and Kent track at Zetland, Falkirk is nice and flowy. Good luck!"

WEBSITE · 5 MAY 2026

"I love this idea! Could the design be done to maximise the use by all the wheeled activities? As a skateboarder I would probably still go to Beith most of the time. Is there such a thing as a half-skatepark-half-pump-track? Maybe a pump track with some extra flat planes, open space, banks and a rail?"

WEBSITE · 7 MAY 2026

"Make some big transfers for big jumps and tricks."

WEBSITE · 5 MAY 2026

"The current track is worn and useless, and not actually fit for purpose. It's never used. Local children lack somewhere safe to skateboard and scoot: the proximity of the cycle track actually means that cyclists come past at high speeds and is not suitable. Local teenagers need something to do in the village. This is a great idea that will keep them active."

WEBSITE · 7 MAY 2026

"Would absolutely love this, my wee boy loves the current one but a bit scared to use some of the bigger ramps sadly. He mainly just rides his bike around the tracks instead."

WEBSITE · 6 MAY 2026

D People leave the village to ride

20 RESPONSES

Demand is not hypothetical. It already exists and is currently being served somewhere else. Respondents name **Cuningar Loop, Cathkin Braes, Barshaw Park, Wishaw, Aviemore and Beith** as the places they drive to. One does a thirty-minute journey so a five-year-old can ride BMX.

"I think this is a brilliant idea, and would encourage a lot more people, old and young alike, to get on their bikes and head outside. I know a good amount of people who currently either don't have an option of using a pump track, or have to regularly drive quite a distance to use one. **Given the cost of fuel right now, I also know just as many who are unfortunately having to stop making these journeys.** I would personally like to see a pump track as well as a smaller concrete skateboard and scooter area, as the most successful examples I've visited in the past always seem to provide both and as such create a really mixed and vibrant community around them. I appreciate these are two separate things in and of themselves, but I'd love to see a similar kind of community of people of all ages, being excited and enthused to be outside rather than in front of a screen, in Lochwinnoch. Keep up the good work, cheers."

Craig Gray

Website · 7 May 2026

"Definitely a missing facility in Renfrewshire! My 5 year old does BMX and we currently have to travel around 30 mins to get to a track."

FACEBOOK · MAY 2026

"We end up travelling to Cuningar Loop or even Cathkin Braes, so would be amazing to have something a bit closer!"

FACEBOOK · MAY 2026

"We would definitely use this and come from Houston. We have no pump track near us and they are very well used in other areas."

WEBSITE · 4 MAY 2026

"We take our son to Barshaw Park and Cuningar Loop, would be great to have something like this locally."

WEBSITE · 5 MAY 2026

"Great idea, we also need to travel far to go to other pump tracks."

WEBSITE · 4 MAY 2026

E It would draw people in

17 RESPONSES

The other side of theme D, and the one most relevant to the village economy. Respondents from outside Lochwinnoch say they would travel to use it. A resident of a Perthshire village that built one wrote in unprompted to describe the effect it had there.

"I think it's a great idea. **I'm an outdoor instructor based in Glasgow working with schools and will often bring students out to the area for mountain bike sessions.** I was there with a colleague last week at the current skills area and was saying to them how much better it would be if it was a pump track. I'm sure there would be funding available through DMBinS, Velosolutions, Scottish Cycling or similar organisations. **I'm also a keen mountain biker myself and live in Howwood and would probably use it multiple times a week if it was there.**"

Andrew McCreath

Website · 4 May 2026 · outdoor instructor, Glasgow

"Spoke to yourselves at the Gala day. We are from Killin and had a Velosolutions pump track built in the village. The impact it has had on the local community and wider tourism has been massive. Feel free to reach out and I can put you in touch with the individuals who were involved with the project."

WEBSITE · 13 JUNE 2026 · FK21 8UY

"Would love something like this to happen. My nephew and daughter will sometimes use Robertson park for a little loop to do on scooters, but it isn't ideal, it's more just makeshift. Having a proper pump track would keep kids in the village, as well as make it a hub for kids in surrounding villages. Local businesses would no doubt benefit from it as well."

WEBSITE · 10 MAY 2026

"I'm parent of 3 children aged 6, 10 and 12. We live in Beith but often come to Lochwinnoch for kids clubs and work. Kids would love this. And it would be great to get them moving more."

WEBSITE · 9 JUNE 2026

"I think this would be a great thing to the community. There's a rise in people on bikes and a good quality pump track usually means having to go to Glasgow for this, but because it's more closer it would bring more people to the village."

WEBSITE · 10 MAY 2026

"Activity for all ages and abilities. Wasted space in park at present. Bring more visitors to village supporting local shops and businesses."

GALA PAPER FORM · 13 JUNE 2026 · PA12 4HB

F Nothing here for older children and teenagers

17 RESPONSES

The renovated play area is repeatedly praised, and repeatedly identified as serving only younger children. The gap people name is the one above it. **Several of the most direct responses came from young people writing for themselves.**

"This is a great idea, and **offers more options for children and young adults as they grow out of swings and roundabouts.** Considering local villages to Lochwinnoch have well used facilities it's strange that Lochwinnoch with its many wheel mad kids does not have such a resource."

Ben Richardson

Website · 4 May 2026

"I think this is a fantastic idea and would suit youngsters to teenagers in our village without the need of leaving the village and having to drive to other similar tracks. It would be great to have more variety of leisure facilities here for the teenagers of the village."

WEBSITE · 8 MAY 2026

"I think this is a brilliant idea. The current track is never used other than for wee kids to run round. There is very little in the park to engage older children. Something like this would bring people in from different areas and create a really unique feature. It's clear a lot of research has already been done. A true community-led initiative. I hope it comes to fruition."

WEBSITE · 7 MAY 2026

"I would absolutely love for this to happen! In 2021 when I was 15 I really wanted to get into skateboarding, I was too scared to go to any skatepark further afield alone so I tried around the village. Since the roads around the village aren't the best it was hard to learn and was very stop start, I was also really nervous of getting in the way of cars! I'm 20 now and never got very far, but I'd absolutely love to try and get back into it! Having a designated space for boards and bikes that isn't the current death trap would be so amazing!"

WEBSITE · 8 JULY 2026

"When I was younger I was unable to use the track due to the state of it, so I believe that it should be improved for the younger generation to get a bigger benefit out of it than mine did."

WEBSITE · 13 JUNE 2026 · PA12 4HB

"Please, the village is so boring and I love mountain biking but there is nothing to do nearby and I think it would be great."

WEBSITE · 29 AUGUST 2026 · PA12

G Health, outdoors and off the roads

13 RESPONSES

Parents in particular frame the proposal in terms of activity, time outdoors and somewhere safe to be. Several make the road safety point directly: children currently practise on village streets or build their own jumps in the woods.

"This is an invaluable resource for the community. A quality pump track encourages all the essential skills for bike riding for all abilities and creates community and sense of fun. What comes next is the uptake of the excellent bike tracks connecting Lochwinnoch to other areas encouraging, particularly in young people, the passion for using bikes as transport.

Pump tracks are the gateway drug for active travel!"

Lee Craigie

Formerly Active Travel Ambassador for the Scottish Government · website · 8 May 2026

"I think this would be a great idea. My son has also begun to really get into his scootering. He's 7 years old and something like this would get a lot of use by him for many years to come. This would promote fitness and exercise, being outdoors and socialisation which is everything we want as parents."

WEBSITE · 5 MAY 2026

"I think this a really exciting idea. The space is currently underused and the potential of a pump track to increase health and wellbeing of the young people in the village is huge. I think if it comes to fruition would be a brilliant addition to the village. It is a fabulous idea to utilise what is a relatively small piece of land. And I think the return on investment would be more than worth it, introducing a new and very accessible sport to the local area. Of course aside from all that it would be fun, encourage laughter and increase outdoor play which can only be a good thing. As I see it there is no good reason for this to not go ahead."

WEBSITE · 13 JUNE 2026 · PA12 4BH

"I think this is a great idea. I have 2 boys 11 and 13 and love the everything bikes. A new pump track would be amazing for them to practice on instead of having to go into the woods and making their own."

WEBSITE · 5 MAY 2026

"Great addition, will be ideal for promoting exercise and getting those out doors as well as complementing the cycle network work."

WEBSITE · 5 MAY 2026

"I see this as an amazing thing for all ages. Anything that gets people outside moving their bodies can only be positive."

GALA PAPER FORM · 13 JUNE 2026 · PA12 4LA

H Offers of help

11 RESPONSES

A number of responses did more than express support. They offered practical help, contacts or information the project did not have. **Several have since become active conversations.** A local business offered to contribute. A specialist track builder offered its help publicly and unprompted. A sitting councillor responded in the comments and has supported the project since.

"Sounds like a great idea. Would improve the park space and get kids off the roads. I'm sure local businesses would be happy to contribute, but sounds expensive? Love the website too. Love the website too."

WEBSITE · 5 MAY 2026 · A VILLAGE BUSINESS OWNER

"This idea is fantastic! I'm sure my granddaughter would love wizzing around it! Let me know if there is anything I can do to help."

WEBSITE · 4 MAY 2026

"Brilliant idea, I know my kids and I would all get good use out of it. You've got my full support and I'll be sure to share this with many others, hopefully we can make it happen!"

FACEBOOK · MAY 2026

"Hi Chris, I'm one of the local councillors. What a great idea! Happy to have a chat."

FACEBOOK · MAY 2026 · A LOCAL COUNCILLOR

"Get Velosolutions UK involved."

FACEBOOK · MAY 2026

"Not sure if you've seen this great Scottish Pump Track promotional video: youtu.be/w8JwuvBMAq4"

WEBSITE · 11 JUNE 2026

SECTION FIVE

05 The groupings

The same eight themes, side by side, showing how often each was raised across the 138 responses.

FIGURE 3 · HOW OFTEN EACH THEME CAME UP



THEME	RESPONSES	WHERE IT CAME UP MOST
A No longer fit for purpose	39	All three channels
B All ages, and more than bikes	27	Website
C What to build, and what to avoid	21	Website
D People leave the village to ride	20	Website and Facebook
E It would draw people in	17	Website
F Nothing here for teenagers	17	Website
G Health, outdoors and off the roads	13	Website and Gala
H Offers of help	11	Facebook

Many people made more than one point, so a response that says the track is unusable *and* that the family drives to Cathkin Braes appears under both A and D.

SECTION SIX

O6 What we were asked to get right

These are the specific things the community asked for in the design.

THE STEER	WHAT WAS SAID, AND WHAT IT IMPLIES
Beginners first	The clearest and most repeated steer. People want something flowing rather than aggressive, explicitly placed between Cuningar Loop, described as too small to develop skills, and Cathkin Braes, described as too big for a general use park. A minority want bigger features. The design has to choose, and the weight of feedback is towards accessibility.
Design for more than bikes	Scooters, skateboards and rollerblades were each raised unprompted. One skateboarder asked directly whether a hybrid layout was possible. This should be a deliberate decision rather than one left to a contractor's default.
Mind the cycle path	Riders pass the corner of the site at speed on the National Cycle Route. How the track is bounded and sited relative to that path is a safety point raised by a resident, not by us.
Build it to be maintained	Raised directly: surfaces and features that can be inspected and repaired without a long wait.
All-weather use	The single most repeated complaint about the existing track is that it is unusable when wet. Whatever is built has to work in Scottish weather, and be seen to.
Think about staying, not just riding	One respondent asked for basic amenity, a toilet or a coffee van, so that families with young children can stay longer. Outside the track itself, but relevant to the park and to any future phase.

One tension worth naming. A small number of people want large jumps and transfers. A larger number want something deliberately un-extreme. These are reconcilable in a well-designed track with more than one line, but only if the design says so explicitly.