



Working together for Limpsfield Common

An update from the Friends of Limpsfield Common
Annual Public Meeting 2024
3 things to share with you all!



A follow-up survey about Limpsfield Common - 2024

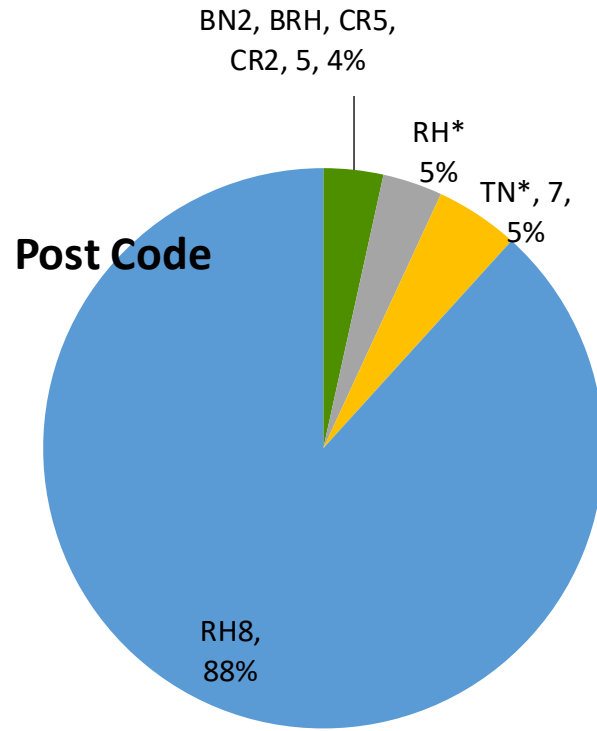
- To recap, in 2020 the FoLC canvassed local people opinions about Limpsfield Common and had a massive response (around 1000 responses!)
- The 2020 survey told us that 99.9% of people really appreciated the Commons, and enjoyed living close to and using this natural space
- Respondents asked for:
 - More dog poo and litter bins
 - More up-to-date information and maps
 - Some places to sit
 - A family trail and an accessible trail

Determined to respond to our local community, we have

- Installed dog poo and litter bins in every car park
- Replaced every notice board with new maps, information and a space for notices
- Created a family activity trail and an easy access trail
- Installed seating in several areas
- Signposted public rights of way and NT permitted paths
- Increased the capacity of some car parks

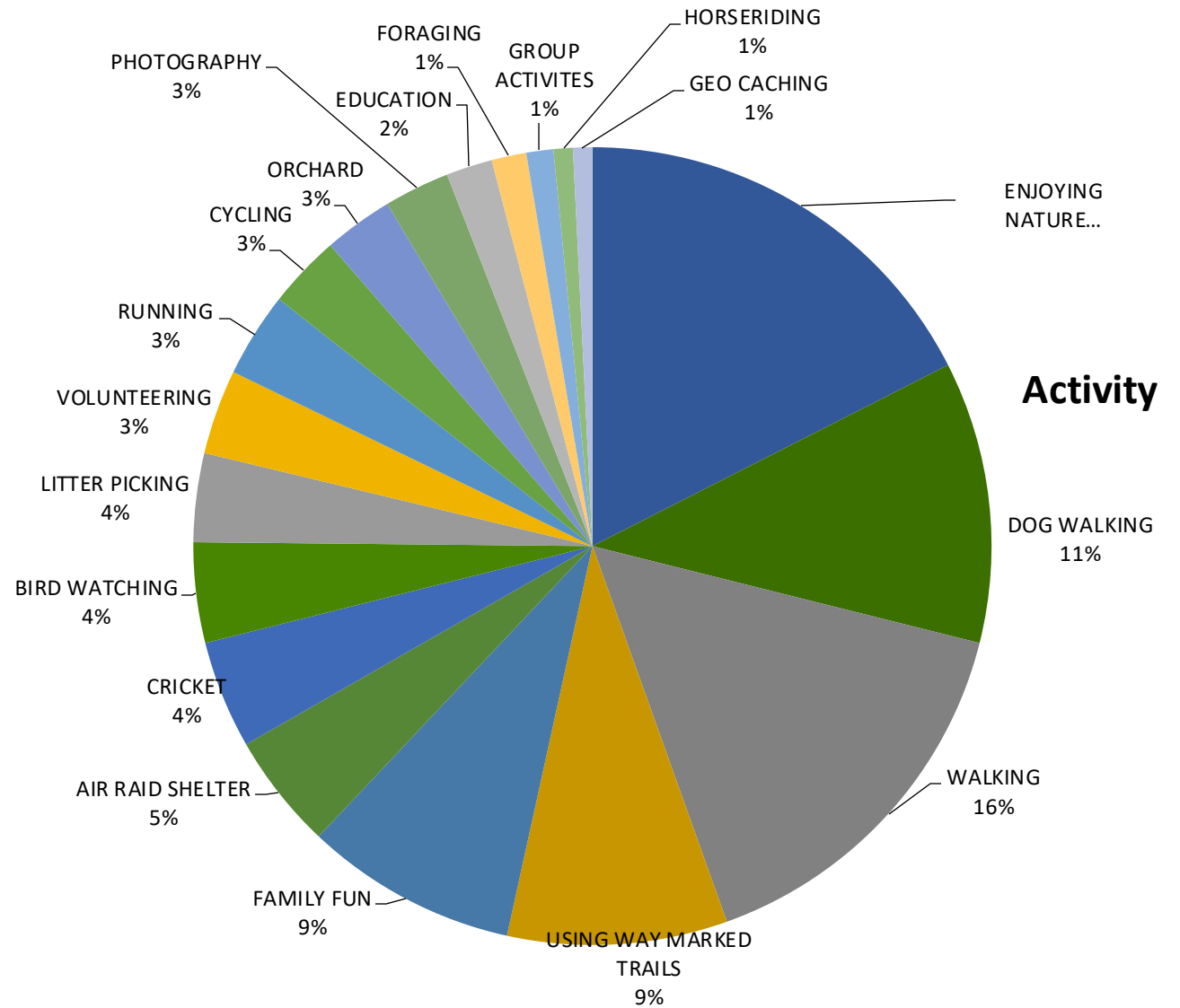


4 years later.....a follow up survey



- DURING 2024 We decided to check in with the local community again !
- Summary of the responses:
 - 150 responses (representing families, couples or individuals)
 - 88% live in the RH8 Postcode
 - 86 responded online
 - 64 responded in person at the Chart Fair/Limpsfield Village Fete
 - 26 responses expressed an interest in joining FoLC

What did responders like about the Common?



These responses help the FoLC and the NT understand what local people appreciate about the Common...



Peace and quiet and natural beauty



Variety of flora and fauna (i.e. mix of woodland and open spaces)



Activities such as walking, running, dog walking, photography, horse riding



Cricket, golf, air raid shelters



Volunteering opportunities



Safe and easy to access from home

What did local people ask for in 2024?

- Main footpaths need to be better maintained
- More information about flora and fauna
- Local people get fed up that litter and dog poo is left on trails...
- More seating
- More interactive areas for children and families
- Most people said that that the Commons are perfect and don't need any changes!!!



What are we doing in response?

- From funds held by the NT, the FoLC has secured £20k, each year over the next 3 years for strategic footpath maintenance work
- We will be looking at where we can position a few more 'natural style' benches around the Common, and particularly at points where people walk and gather
- We will be posting more information on flora & fauna on noticeboards, local websites and social media
- We will remind people to look after the Commons, to pick up dog poo and litter and report anti-social behaviour via noticeboards, local websites and social media



Air Raid Shelters!

- We are incredibly lucky to have the WW2 shelters and spigot mortar mounts on the common
- Led by Rob Davey, the Air Raid Shelter Volunteers help the National Trust keep an eye on the shelters and oversee their upkeep
- And are doing a great job bringing this local landmark to life through events and activities

Air Raid Shelter Experience

We've held two events in 2024:

1. A visit by 120 pupils from St Mary's School in June

Volunteers demonstrated what it was like for school pupils to be inside an Air Raid Shelter during a WW2 raid

The pupils loved the stories and asked thoughtful questions...



Air Raid Shelter Experience

2.

Our Open Day on 28th July, attended by 120 visitors enjoying a tour of the shelters and spigot mortars with lots of entertaining stories

In 2023 we had 2 visits by Cub Scouts and 2 Open Afternoons





We now have a team of
12 volunteers
supporting the Air Raid
Shelter experience

Photo: Peter Wade in the Spigot Mortar!

Friends of Limpsfield Common

Working with the National Trust to preserve Limpsfield Common for future generations

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and finally,
OUR NEW
WEBSITE!

Flora & Fauna

We are incredibly lucky on Limpsfield Common to have a vast array of wildlife, and some very rare species, which is why we are so dedicated to preserving their habitats.

Volunteer secretary required

**You are warmly invited to the FoLC
2024 Annual Public Meeting**

Please don't dismantle our dead

Full of information, including...

- “About” the FoLC and committee
- Volunteering opportunities
- Links to the National Trust and other local partners
- News, updates and profiles
- Info on Flora & Fauna and spotter sheets
- Info / Maps for trails and walks
- *And of course, your suggestions are very welcome!*



Meet our NT Ranger, Conor McNeil

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www.friendsoflimpsfieldcommon.org



Thank you

