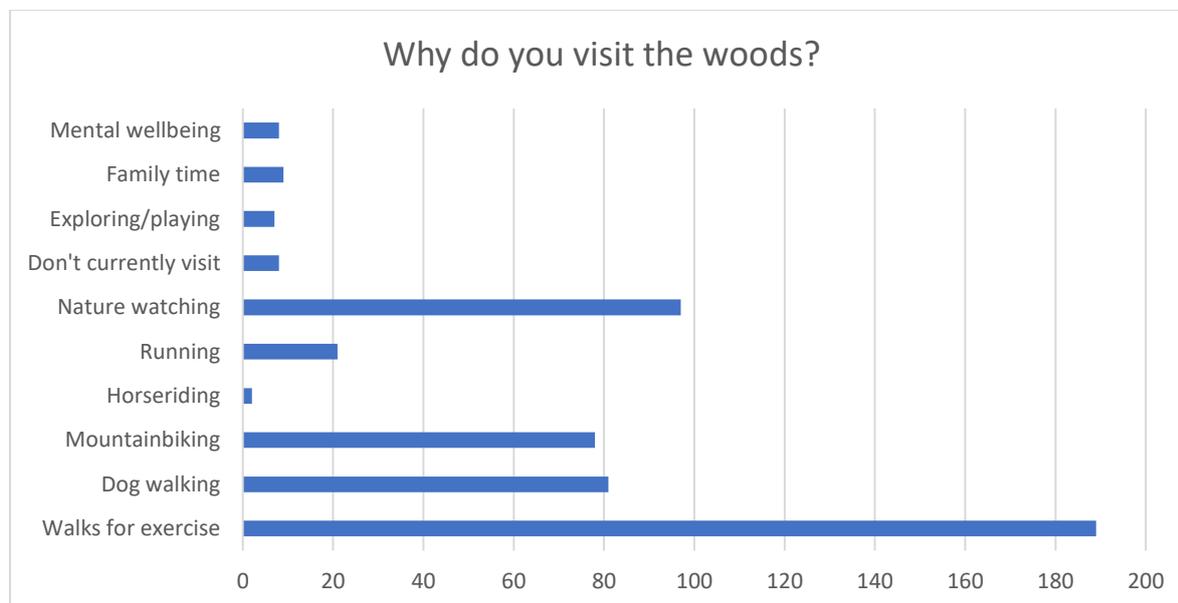


Gillies Hill Woods Survey

Results

The survey was promoted on Facebook and via the CCDT email address and was open for responses from 24th May to 11th June 2020.

257 people responded. 62% of respondents live in Cambusbaron and 38% live elsewhere.



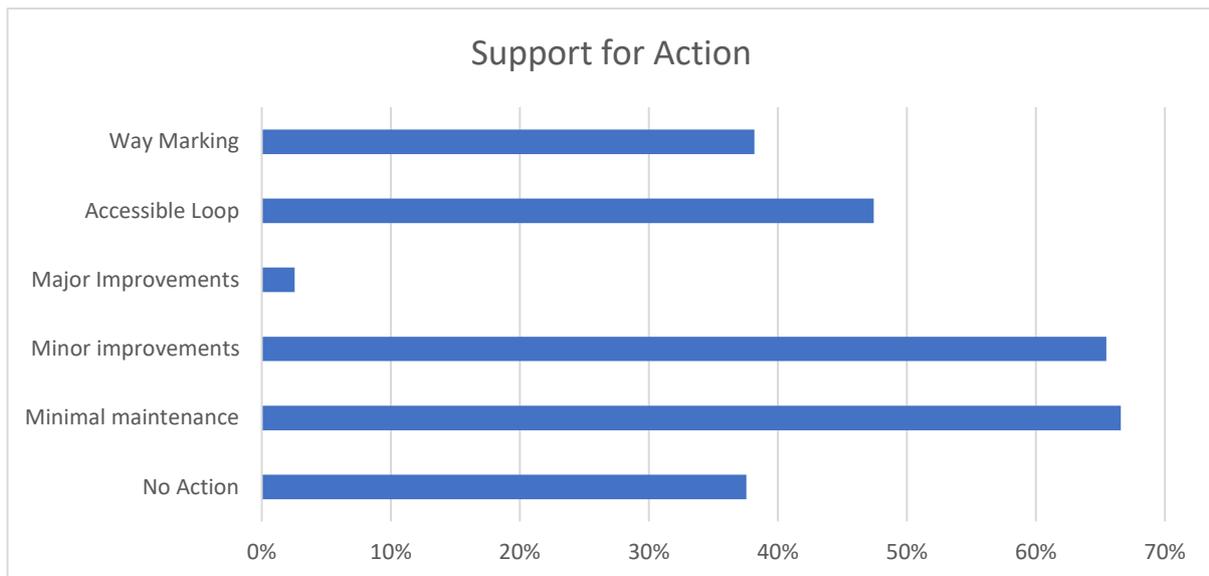
Respondents were asked to give the reasons they visit the woods. Many respondents gave more than one response – i.e. people who use the woods for mountainbiking may also use it for dog walking.

When asked to rate the current paths from 1 (poor) to 7 (excellent) the average score was 4.73. 66% of respondents scored a 4 or 5.

Respondents were asked whether they strongly support, support, oppose or strongly oppose a set of proposed actions for improving/maintaining the paths in the woods. These responses were assigned a score as shown below

Strongly Support	+2
Support	+1
Oppose	-1
Strongly Oppose	-2

For each action the scores from all respondents were added together and then turned into a percent of the maximum possible score (i.e. if all respondents had chosen 'strongly support'). A negative score would suggest more people opposed than supported an action, a score of 0 a balance of views and a positive result support for an action. The results are shown below. There is evidence of strong support for minimal maintenance and minor improvements. Major improvements scored 3% showing that there are as many people against this idea as support it. Creating an accessible loop scored just under 50%.



Respondents were able to leave comments. The majority of these comments expressed a desire to keep the positive aspects of the woods and paths – that the woods feel natural/wild, the ability to explore/get lost and the mountainbike trails – but also acknowledged that some path improvements would help make the woods more accessible to others. Several respondents made similar suggestions for an accessible route in the woods. There was a mix of comments on providing signage – some saying it would be a good thing, others saying it would take away from the opportunity to explore and get lost. It was also noted that several comments mentioned work that community members had done over the years relating to path and mountain bike trail maintenance.

Conclusions

The survey was carried out to understand the views of the community of Cambusbarron about what work, if any, should be carried out to maintain and improve the paths in Gillies Hill Community Woodland. The response rate was good, giving us confidence that the results are likely to be representative, even though the online nature of the survey means some people would have been missed from the consultation.

The results point to the initial actions to take would be:

1. Removal of dangerous and fallen trees from paths
2. Minor improvements to a limited number of main paths to stop erosion and improve drainage.
3. Minimal maintenance to other paths (e.g. cutting back vegetation)

Future projects for consideration:

4. Creating an accessible loop