



CONSULTATION RESULTS: TEMPORARY CHANGES TO MOORING IN PADDINGTON BASIN & LITTLE VENICE POOL

23 May 2014

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Introduction

In February 2014 we consulted local boaters, traders and interest groups on a proposed 6 month trial of temporary changes to mooring arrangements in Paddington Basin and the Little Venice Pool. The aim was to provide greater capacity for visiting boats, provide additional boat facilities and seek views on trade boat moorings in front of Paddington Station. This report summarises the results of our online consultation, which was held from 10th February 2014 to 3rd March 2014.

Responses

We had 119 valid responses to the online survey and 11 emails (some of whom also completed a survey so they were counted as one response) as shown below.

Type of respondent	Number of respondents
Boater (with home mooring)	79
Boater (continuous cruiser)	19
Cruising club / boaters' association	5
Hotel / community / passenger boat	5
Trading boat	6
Property (owner / manager of waterside land/buildings)	2
Other (community group, walker, local councillor, not stated)	9

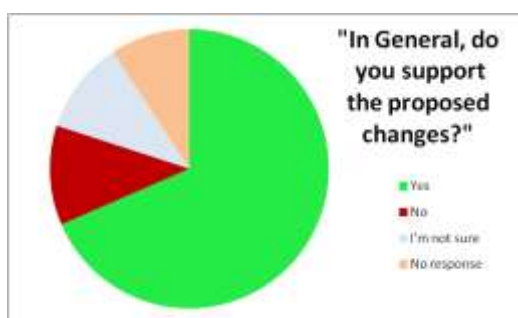
During the online survey, each participant was asked if they supported the proposals in general, how they felt about each one, with agree/disagree response options, and to provide further comments.

The data was analysed by each respondent type. The differences between the groups were not numerically significant and therefore only aggregate group data is shown. However some clearer differences in views emerged from the open-ended comments which are shown.

Summary of the proposals

1. Allow mooring alongside Rembrandt Gardens in the Little Venice Pool, to provide two casual moorings (14 day stay)
2. Install a water point in the Paddington Basin Arm, and change a casual mooring (14 day) to 'water point waiting only' to accommodate this
3. Change three visitor moorings in front of Paddington Station to 'trade moorings'
4. Allow double mooring of narrow boats at the Paddington Basin Visitor Moorings (alongside St. Mary's Hospital pontoon only), thus providing 4 new visitor moorings.

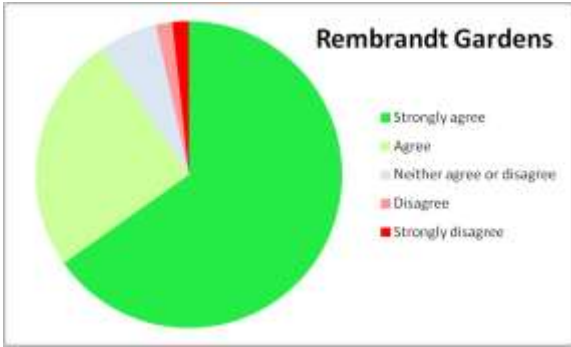
Overall Opinion



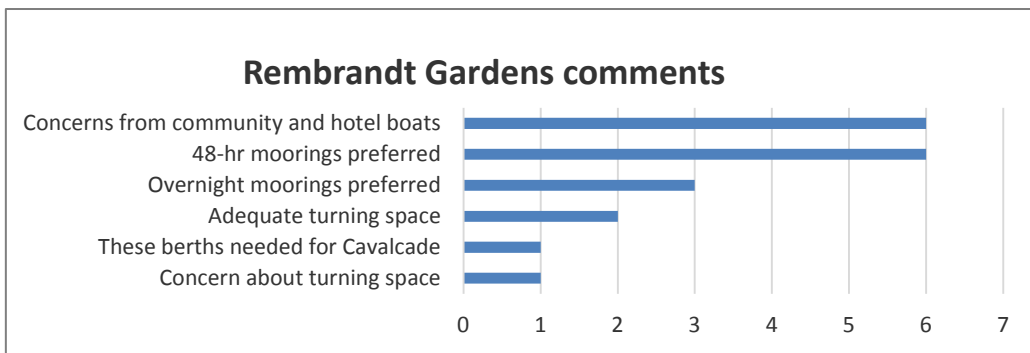
- 75% of respondents supportive
- 13% oppose the proposed changes
- 12% were not sure
- Some said the proposals do not provide an adequate increase in visitor moorings, which many respondents identified as greatly needed.

Rembrandt Gardens

Proposal: in addition to the existing berth allocated for community boats to set down and pick up passengers, we proposed two additional casual moorings here (14 day).

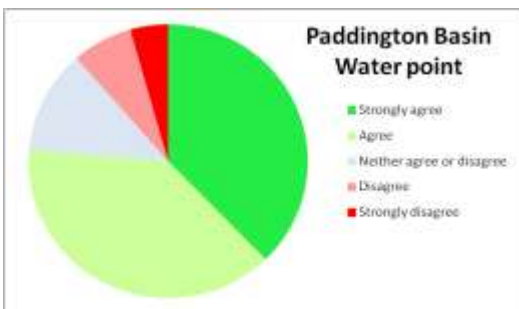


- 90% support (of whom 65% strongly agree)
- Suggestions for shorter stay e.g. overnight only, 48-hr or 7-day
- Concern that the community boat berth (also used by the hotel boat) should be adequately signed
- Concern that sufficient space must be left clear to enable boats to turn in the pool vs. adequate space

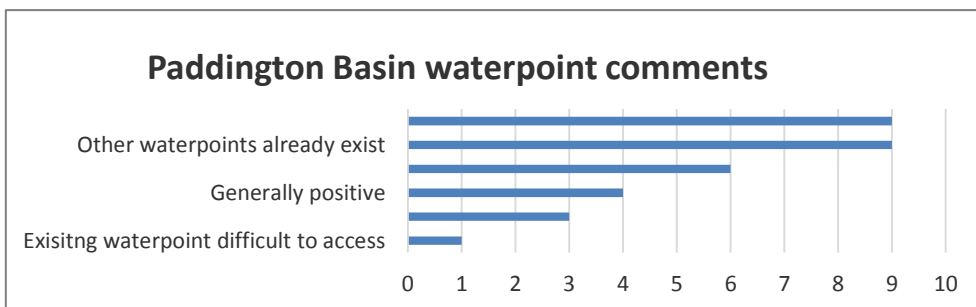


Water Point in Paddington Basin

Proposal: create a new water point (on a pre-existing service bollard) and change one of the current casual moorings (14-day) to 'Water Point Waiting Only'.



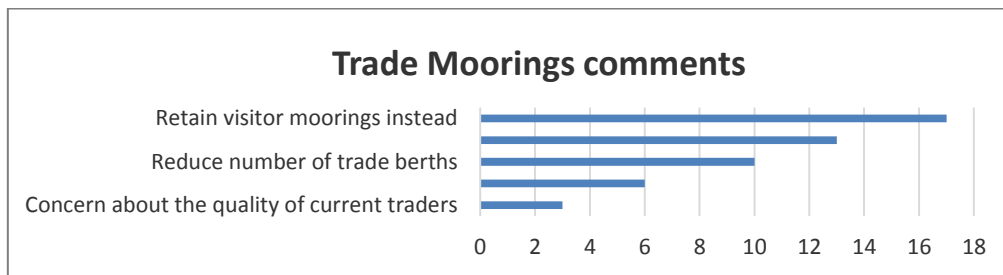
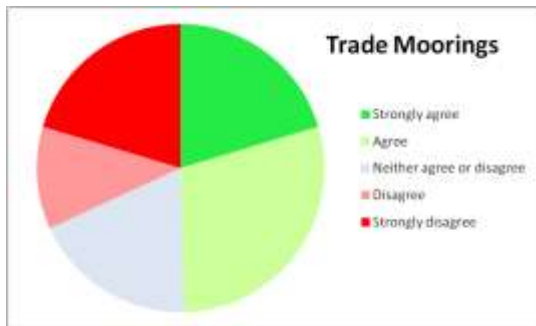
- 76% support (of whom 38% strongly agree)
- 11% disagree or strongly disagree plus 12% neither agree or disagree
- Good support vs. reluctance to give up a visitor berth for a water point; alternative suggestions:
 - install the water point at the bubble filter
 - reinstate the Sainsbury's Kensal Green water point
- a water point here requires more boats to enter the basin and turn at the end which can be difficult



Trade Moorings outside Paddington Station

Proposal: re-designate three of the visitor moorings outside Paddington Station as new moorings for traders.

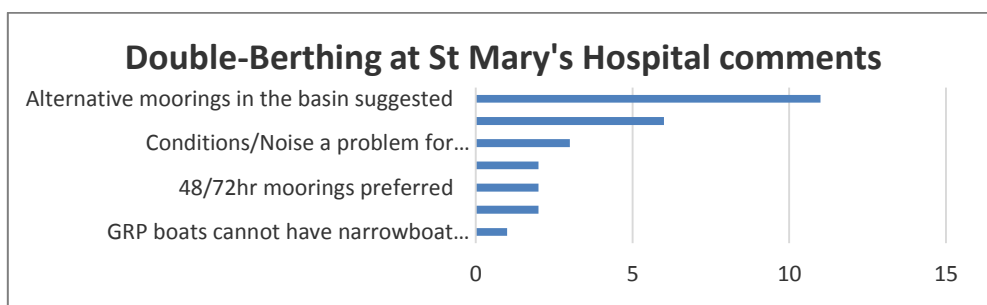
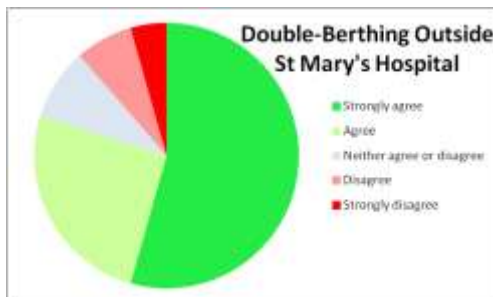
- 50% support (of whom 20% strongly agree)
- 32% oppose (of whom 20% strongly disagree)
- 19% neither agree or disagree
- Retain much-needed visitor moorings vs. generally positive towards permanent trade
- Reduce the trade berths to 1 or 2; offer a rota to different traders
- Offer visitor moorings here (48-72hr) with special dispensation for trade boats (7-day max)
- The need for trade boats is unproven since there are adequate land-based services in the area; concern regarding the quality of trading boats



Double-Berthing outside St Mary's Hospital

Proposal: allow double-berthing outside St Mary's Hospital to provide 4 mooring berths (7-day).

- 80% support (of whom 54% strongly agree)
- Support for 7-day limit (some suggested 48hr)
- Double-berthing will need a protocol (e.g. moving inside boat when outside boater is away); narrowboats cannot moor alongside GRP boats; wind makes turning dangerous here with boats double-moored
- Concerns about noise/conditions for both boaters and for the hospital itself.
- Create visitor moorings at the end of the arm as a 14 day boat park and on the towpath between St Mary Magdalene Church and Harrow Road



Other comments

- Current lack of enforcement of visitor moorings which are occupied by ‘local continuous cruisers’; better enforcement would greatly free up visitor berth capacity.
- There is a general need for more visitor moorings in London.
- Reduce the 14 day limit to shorter moorings throughout London; many suggested a 7-day limit and more 48-72 hr moorings which suit visitors better.
- Implement a non-return period to ensure that boats travel throughout the London system.
- Move the unoccupied office boats to less popular areas to free up visitor mooring space.

