



## 5. Leisure

### THE ISSUES

- ✓ Lack of information on activities at  
Leisure Centre  
Social Club  
Youth Club
- ✓ Leisure Centre needs  
Swimming pool  
Improved gym  
Crèche facilities
- ✓ Shortage of Recreational Fields for Organised Sports
- ✓ More facilities required for youth

### ISSUE Lack of Information on Activities

5.01. When people were asked if they were aware of the activities that were organised at the Town Hall, Social Club, Youth Club and Leisure Centre there were more negative answers than affirmative ones for the last three locations. Some people even commented that they did not know there was a Leisure facility or a Youth Club.

*"Didn't know we had a leisure centre!"*

*"Don't know what's on offer at the moment!"*

*"Information on what is available locally is rare, need to publicise events more."*

*"Its hard to find out about activities going on in Callington."*

*"More information required on all facilities and where they take place."*

*"Think they should be advertised more as I didn't even know Callington had a youth club!"*

*"There are many activities going on in Callington but residents need to be made more aware of them."*

*"Where are facilities advertised???"*

## ISSUE Leisure Centre Requirements

5.02. The perceived requirements from the residents were for an improved gym facility with better access times and a crèche facility and for a local swimming pool. Nearly nine hundred people said that they would like better access to swimming facilities.

*"Good swimming pool with slides needed."*

*"Larger, covered, heated swimming pool."*

*"I feel a swimming pool is needed in Callington as the population has grown greatly. "*

*"I would really like to see a swimming pool as it is good fun for all ages and abilities."*

*"Facilities are pretty good for a town this size but would be enhanced by a swimming pool."*

## ISSUE Shortage of Recreational Fields for Organised Sports

5.03. At one of the public meetings held as part of the Town Plan consultations, it was indicated that there was a shortage of fields available for the playing of sports such as football and cricket. The town has a thriving football and cricket club and the football is so successful that there are inadequate pitches to allow all teams to play. Obviously relatively level fields are required. All existing sports fields are in use but there is still a shortage.

## ISSUE More Facilities Needed for Youth

5.04. In the sections on Town Centre, Law & Order and Leisure there was regular mention made of the need for more facilities for the youth. These were all comments made by the adults who answered the survey, these comments being separate from those made by the under eighteen year olds in the section on Youth. Many people acknowledged that the reasons children and youth hung around the centre of town was that there was no where for them to go and only a limited number of informal activities they could participate in.

*"The youth are the problem and need something to do rather than drink or ride up and down on skateboards."*

*"Local youths need entertainment. They have no facilities so they hang around on the streets- do you blame them?"*

*"The youth club needs to offer something for the youngsters to do on the weekends as they seem to just cause trouble in the centre."*

*"Youth club, is there one and is it very good? as the kids seem to like hanging around on the streets."*

## THE VISION

- ✓ Increased information on all facilities in the area to promote wider use and improve viability.
- ✓ Extension of Leisure Centre facilities subject to demand and viability.
- ✓ Access to a swimming pool.
- ✓ Increased number of fields available for recreation.
- ✓ Increased facilities and activities for youth.

## THE SOLUTIONS

### SOLUTIONS Lack of Information on Activities

5.05. It is always difficult for any facility or business to know which form of advertising is going to be cost effective. The Leisure Centre at the Community College had had publicity campaigns, leaflet drops and have been mentioned in the *Callington News*. Further suggestions are:

- ✓ Publicity in the new Resident's Handbook
- ✓ More publicity in an enlarged *Callington News*
- ✓ Use of the College notice board at the Fore St/New Rd junction
- ✓ Use of the new notice board at the end of the Town Hall
- ✓ More internet promotion

These suggestions have the advantage of being low cost. There is a perception that the Leisure Centre is only available for use out of school hours. This needs to be corrected.

5.06. The Social Club needs to promote itself and its facilities and could use several of the suggestions above. Many people do not know that there is pool and snooker available there.

5.07. Although many adults were unaware of the Youth Centre and when it is open and what it offers, it is felt that perhaps there is a better understanding amongst the young people themselves. This issue is discussed more fully in the section on youth.

## SOLUTIONS Leisure Centre Activities

5.08. Although there was a perception that the equipment in the Leisure Centre was old and shabby, it has all recently been renewed and refurbished, facilities currently include:-

- ✓ A well-equipped gym with state-of-the-art resistance kit
- ✓ 8 new cardiovascular machines
- ✓ Health Suite with steam room and sauna
- ✓ 2 squash courts
- ✓ 5 badminton courts
- ✓ 10 outdoor tennis courts and 2 indoors
- ✓ 2 table tennis courts
- ✓ Trampolines
- ✓ All weather pitch
- ✓ Various classes including aerobics, kick boxing, circuit training, body jam, karate, yoga, etc.

5.09. The times the centre is open vary but range from 7.30.am in the morning through the day to 10.00.pm at night [please telephone 383477 for details]. Although crèche facilities were requested at the Leisure Centre this has been tried in the past, but demand was insufficient to justify the expenditure on the trained staff that are now required to man such facilities.

## SOLUTIONS Access to Swimming Pool

5.10. In the survey nearly nine hundred people wanted a swimming pool, this is just under one fifth of the population, however the cost of a pool would impact on every one of the ratepayers in the parish. Virtually all swimming pools, whether with a linked Leisure Centre or not, loose considerable sums of money. The only sensible location for a swimming pool would be the Leisure Centre and it would be appropriate as they are a designated Sports Centre. However there is still the question of how the running costs would be met. If

towns larger than Callington cannot make pools pay there is unlikely to be sufficient demand within this parish to make a pool viable.

5.11. The average financial loss on a pool can average about £50,000 per year. Divided between the number of properties in Callington this would represent an increase of approximately £25 per annum for each and every ratepayer. There would also be construction costs, although much of this could be covered by grant aid there would inevitably be some costs to be borne by the town.

5.12. Within a twelve mile radius of Callington there are eight swimming pools, although some are only available for the use of members or residents. It is accepted that for youngsters and those without a vehicle it is extremely difficult to get to any of these pools. Would a solution be to establish 'Swimming Buses'



that could go to a pool at set times, perhaps a bus at the weekends and an early evening one? It may be necessary to negotiate with the pool to have a slot allocated for Callington people. Feedback would be needed on the times that would be supported. It may be possible to get some transport grant funding towards the cost of coaches.



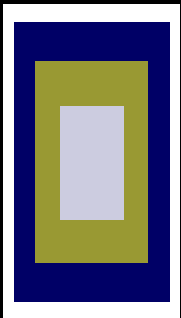
**POLICY STATEMENT**

**THE PROVISION OF 'SWIMMING BUSES' TO INCREASE ACCESS TO SWIMMING FACILITIES WILL BE SUPPORTED.**

**SOLUTIONS Shortage of Recreational Fields for Organised Sports**

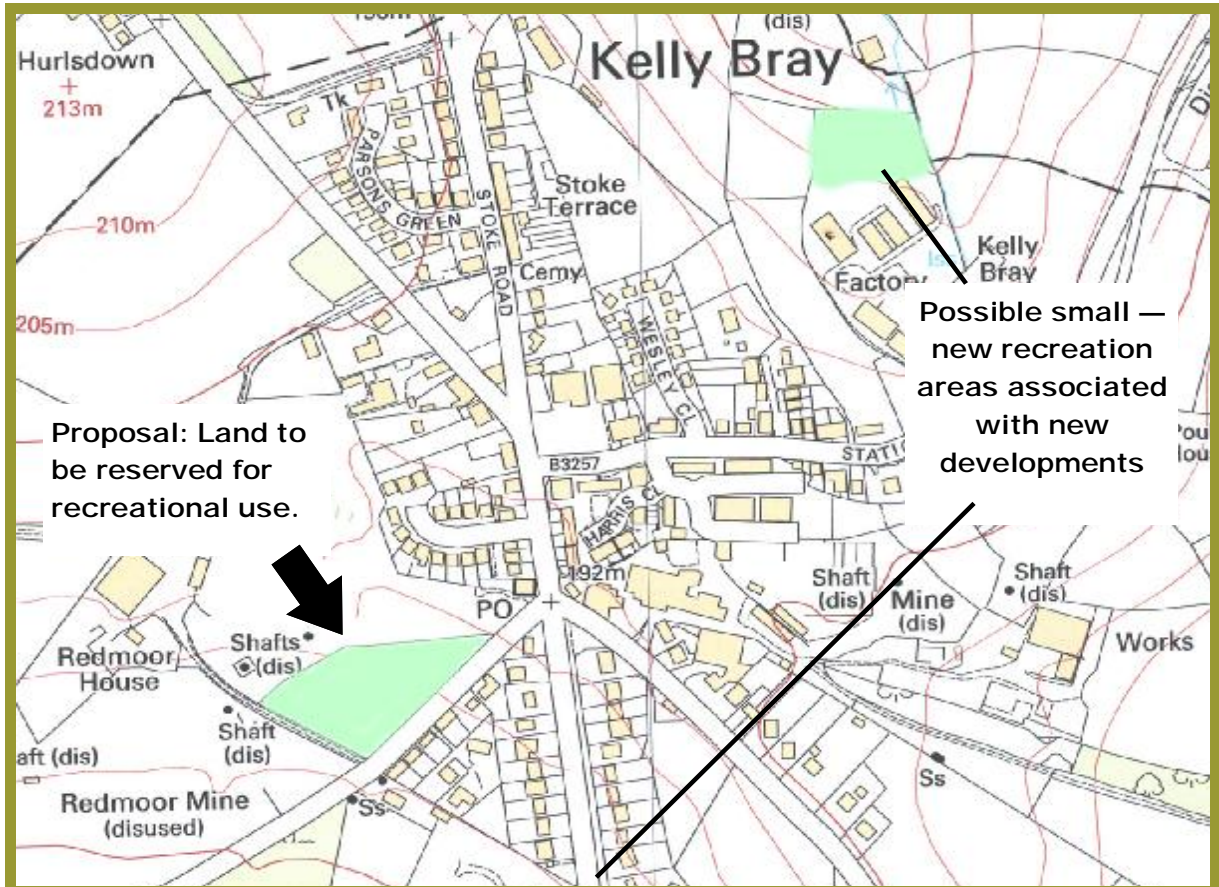
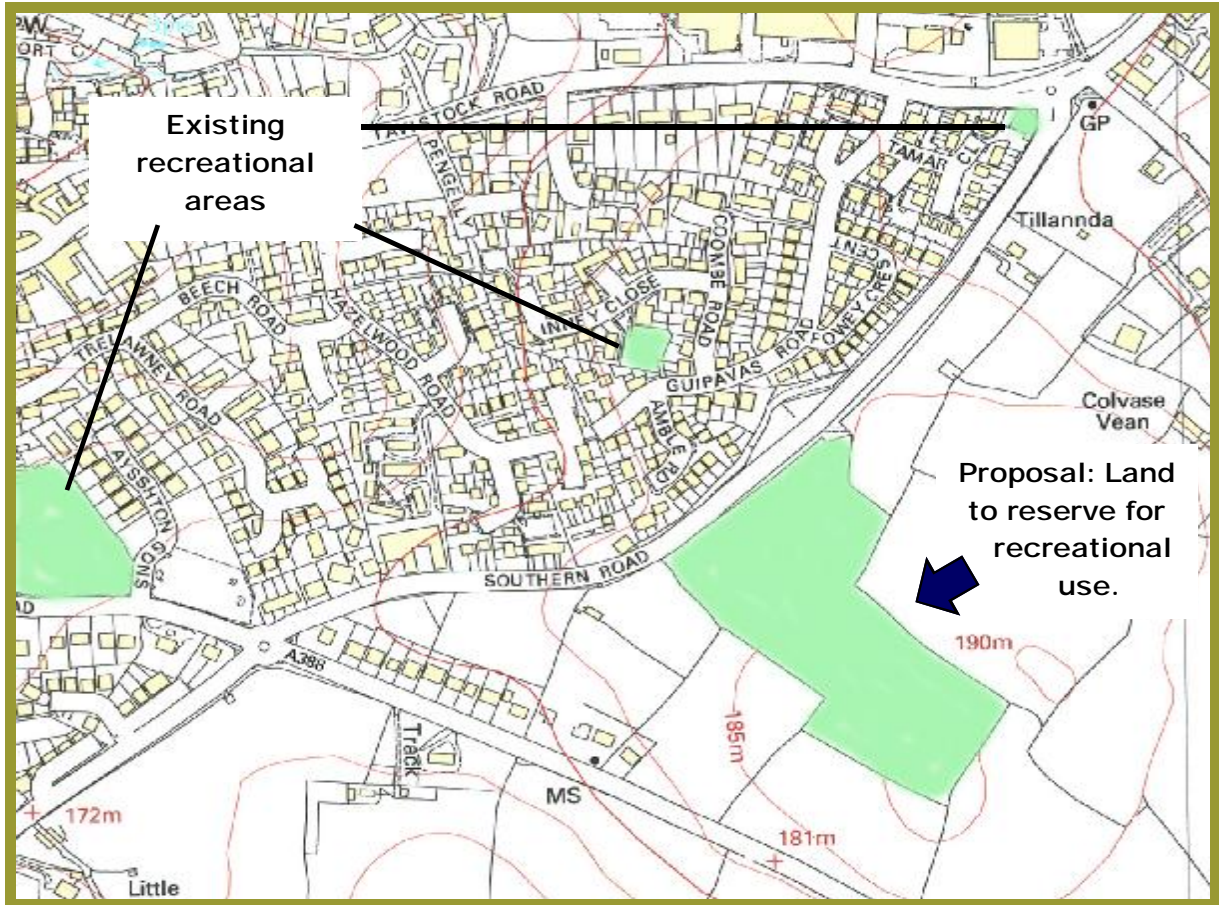
5.13. More fields need to be allocated for community/recreational use. In 2001 it was estimated that Callington needed an additional 2.3 hectares to meet an estimated shortfall, with an increased population this figure will have increased. Fields need to be reasonably level, easily be accessed on foot and as near as possible to the residential areas. There is a noted shortage of any such areas in Kelly Bray despite the recent residential development in that area. The adjoining map indicates fields that are suitable for this purpose. Whether the fields can be obtained for this purpose will depend on the individual land owner. Another way of obtaining these facilities is to make them a condition of planning approval for larger scale developments, this is known as 'planning gain'.

5.14. Recreation fields are not just of benefit to those participating in sports. They can provide meeting places, picnic areas for families and welcome green space amongst large areas of development.



**POLICY STATEMENT**

**THIS PARISH CONSIDERS THE PROVISION OF FURTHER RECREATIONAL FIELDS ADJACENT OR CLOSE TO THE RESIDENTIAL AREAS OF CALLINGTON AND KELLY BRAY TO BE A HIGH PRIORITY.**



## ACHIEVING THE VISIONS

VISION	PARTNERS	FUNDING	TIME SCALE
1, Increased information	Town Council's Callington News, Leisure Centre, Social Club & Youth Club	Very little funding required	Immediate but needs repeating regularly
2. Better Leisure Centre Facilities	Community College	Various sources	Already achieved.
3. Access to Swimming Pool	Town Council, County Council, Bus Companies	Grant funding to provide travel subsidy	Short to Medium term
4. More recreational fields	Town Council, District Council, landowners & developers	Sports grants and private enterprise	Medium to long term

### SOLUTIONS Increased Activities and Facilities for Youth

5.15. As this section of the Town Plan is dealing with problems and solutions raised by those over eighteen years any suggestions given here may conflict with what the young people themselves see as their needs.

There are in Callington, and to a lesser extent in Kelly Bray many organised activities and clubs to which children are welcome. However organised activities only take place at specific times and for limited periods. Whilst it is very important to support and encourage the organised activities, it is obvious that less organised facilities are needed. However it is felt that the young people themselves are the best people to explain what they feel is needed. Therefore please see the section on 'Youth'.