

Camerton Parish Council puts forward the following reasons why our Park (Daglands Open Space), is an unsuitable location for development as a Travellers' Site.

The primary reason is the loss of Amenity for young people - the Park is a multi-purpose play, sports and recreational area which meets the objectives of Local Plan Policy (SR1A). This policy has been used as a justification for rejecting other play areas, but not Camerton's.

In the Parish Plan, the children scored the Park as the most valuable asset in Camerton. Under the Pathfinder Scheme the Park was upgraded. The children designed an activity boat which was built & paid for under the scheme. Over £40,000 was spent on the project and significant other monies have also been spent by various organisations. The investment, by young people, in the Park has contributed to a fall in youth anti-social behaviour.

- The Park was provided by a 106 Agreement when Cam Brook Close was built (23.03.92).
- It is located within 50 meters of a major high voltage power line and within 200m of a minor one. Correction of this reduces Camerton's score by 5 and its ranking to 10th.
- A recent traffic survey recorded in excess of 5,000 movements a day on Camerton Hill - many of which were speeding. There is also a permanent width restriction which should further reduce the score by 1.
- The hazards of large vehicles towing caravans, using restrictive roads within a housing estate, are worrying to say the least.
- The Park is adjacent to an estate of 70 houses and is outside the building line. It is situated in a very prominent and high position which dominates the Cam Valley and is overlooked by the Limestone Link (national footpath). Site G3 was rejected because it would have "a significant visual impact and

a substantially adverse impact on the character of the area”, this could equally be applied to Camerton.

But most of all it's our Park – vital to our children's health and well being, vital to our teenagers as a safe space to gather; a place we want to keep, a place we are still improving and developing.

Over 75 children, under the leadership of one young person, have become Active Citizens; they have signed a petition, drawn pictures and written letters of protest which I proudly present to you on their behalf; together with, a Residents Petition signed by over 320 people.

No alternative, suitable land is available for a replacement Park (as required by the National Planning Policy Framework); therefore, Cabinet Members **please** remove Camerton Play Park from the list of proposed Travellers' Sites.

I leave you with the words of 9 year old Aron.

Please do not take our park away,
Or where else will we play?
On the streets with the cars and lorries,
If one of us is injured, you'll be sorry.

We are told to get fit, and go out to play,
How are we going to do that if you take our park away?
This is a plea from the bottom of my heart,
Please do not take away our park.