

Rolleston on Dove
Existing Facilities for Youth Survey March 2004

This survey has been undertaken by the Village Design Statement Group for the Parish Council to determine what facilities in the form of social or sports activities or physical features there are already available in the village for the benefit of its youth. Geographical features, which might be seen as an advantage not available in a more urban environment, are also considered. Significant facilities within adjacent parishes are included. The survey is an extension of the Village Appraisal and is intended to assist the Parish Council in meeting their commitments in the Parish Plan to supporting the extension of youth facilities within the village.

The principal consideration has been of facilities suitable for young people from 11 to 18 but where there is a close association with younger children reference to these is also included but numbers are not.

At the last census Rolleston had a population of 629 which was 18 or under This was made up of:-

Age (inclusive)	Number
1-4.....	122
5-10.....	232
11-15.....	188
16-18.....	87

So the survey is considering the facilities for around 275 people.

SOCIAL AMENITIES

1. Scouts

Meet in Rolleston.

Beavers 6 to 8 year olds, one colony of 20.

Cubs 8 to 10 1/2 year olds, one pack of 24.

Above meet once per week during term time with cubs having at least one other outing during the year.

Scouts 10 1/2 to 14-year olds, one troop of 25.

Meet once per week 52 weeks per year plus 3 other outings.

Nearly all the above come from Rolleston but they do include a large contingent from Athelston Way.

Explorers 14 to 18 years old. 10 Rolleston, Tutbury and Stretton scouts are waiting for a group to be formally established in Rolleston.

There are as yet no girl scouts.

2. Guides

Meet in Rolleston, for 7 to 14 year old girls.

Guide Company meets once a week, 27 strong, majority from Rolleston.

2 Brownie Packs, meet once a week, each Pack is 24 strong, large majority from Rolleston.

3. St Mary's Church

Sunday School meets every Sunday during the morning service it has 6 leaders for children from 3 to 11. There are approximately 6 between 8 and 11.

There is a junior choir for which members would be enthusiastically welcomed but currently there are none.

Bell ringing is another activity to which young people would be welcome to join in. Two or three take advantage of this.

4. The Methodist Chapel

The Chapel maintains a very small Sunday School which meets during Sunday services.

5. Rolleston Choir

People in the age group we are considering would be welcome to join but there is no specific youth choir. It seems likely that the music preferred by the choir would have a limited appeal to this age group.

6. Rolleston Club

The Club accepts junior members between 16 and 18, there are approx. 20.

There are also about 20 younger people who take advantage of the club accompanied by an adult.

Snooker, Bowls and Darts are all available to the above. There are Club and inter Club competitions.

There is an associated angling club which young people are welcome to join but it does not have any water of its own, is wholly concerned with competitive match fishing needing experience and would be considered expensive for a young person.

7. Tutbury Youth Club

There is a good venue in an updated building available to the youth club.

It ran well for a period staffed by trained youth leaders. It operated on two nights a week, one for

younger age groups and one for older, with an attendance of around 30 on each night. Staffing was

reduced such that it could only operate on one night. Discipline with both age groups together was

difficult to maintain, An attempt was made to work with a reduced age band but those excluded disrupted the operation and the club has for the time being stopped operating.

The leaders currently do street work.

There is a proposal to operate a youth drop in centre.

There is a determination to make it work and reopen.

8. Tutbury Band

The Band accepts members as young as they are able to play.

Juniors meet once a week in Tutbury and include Beginners and Grades 1, 2 and 3. they can progress to

Seniors at any age as Grade 4.

Membership fee is £15, instruments can be rented from specialist businesses. The band has started a fund for a pool of loan instruments.

There are approx. 50 junior members of which it is estimated half come from Rolleston.

9. Rolleston Cricket Club

Apart from full sporting activities (see below) the club organises Quick Cricket one evening a week during the summer months for children up to 13. About 50 to 60 attend. During the last winter the club has made provision for a club evening 1 sometimes 2 evenings a week for these children in the pavilion. This has been attended by up to 40 children though the average is between 20 and 25. The majority come from Rolleston or Stretton. The cost is £5 per season or 50 pence per night for up to 10 nights. None cricketers are not rejected but there is obviously a limit (possibly around 40) that the venue can stand. The club would like to perpetuate this activity.

SPORTS

1. Rolleston Cricket Club

As well as fielding 3 senior Elevens, the club coaches and fields junior teams for boys under 11,13,15 and 17.

Junior teams include Rollestonians but many members come from further afield. There is no ladies team.

2. Football

The Cricket Club Field a senior (over 16) team which is principally comprised of cricket club members looking for a winter sport. Other players are invited to fill in. They play on Craythorne Field when it is playable.

Some Rolleston players

Rolleston Football Team field:-

an under 13 team from a squad of 12. an under 10 team, an under 9 team and an under 8 team. Next year they expect to have an under 12 team which is currently a squad of ten under 11 year olds. They train in Rolleston but find Craythorne too inconsistently playable and have had to make Shobnall their home ground.

They still draw most of their members from Rolleston Cubs and John of Rolleston school who then progress up the age groups.

They do have girl members who train with them. Girls can play in mixed team under 10. They do not have sufficient members for a separate team

Being based at Shobnall, depending on performance, membership will increasingly come from elsewhere inevitably diluting the Rollestonian content.

The conditions that the Team believe (as of February 2004) would be sufficient to enable them to re-establish Craythorne as their home ground are:-

A consistently playable pitch. Craythorne when it is mown and the weather is reasonable, is fine.

The availability of toilets. This is particularly important if they encourage a girls team.

A basic facility to safely lock away gear during the match. Not all the away grounds they play at, e.g. Alrewas, have this.

3. Golf Club

The Craythorne has:-

Colt members up to 10 years of age, of which there are 12 pay an annual subscription of £30. there are another 30 of this age who take occasional advantage of the facilities

Junior members up to the age of 18, of which there are 30 pay an annual subscription of £125.

They are all allowed on the course accompanied by an adult after gaining a certificate of competence on the range.

Probably all come from Rolleston or Stretton, split about 50/50.

There is coaching for all under 18s and a limited supply of clubs for free loan.

The Club would like to obtain a piece of land to develop for young people.

5. Fishing

In Brook Hollows fishing is free to residents of, or employees in, the borough.

In the Brook fishing is free.

Over 14s must have a rod licence from the Environment Agency.

6. Rolleston Swimming Club

A private club based in Rolleston for members only. The club has had a long waiting lists for new members.

The pool is currently closed awaiting the resolution of a number of health and safety issues.

PUBLIC SPACE AND FACILITIES.

1. Elizabeth Avenue Play area, for younger children with swings and climbing frame etc., 1/4 pipe for skate boards and BMX bikes and a large grass area for a small football pitch. It is understood that there is an intention to extend the skateboard and BMX facility. Like the proposed youth shelter this might be opposed by the site's immediate neighbours on the basis of nuisance and noise. The area is well used throughout the year in suitable weather. It is a preferred area for youth to congregate.

2. Meadow View play area, for younger children with swings and a climbing frame and a sloped large grass area.

The area is well used by younger children. Older youths do congregate here and on the edge of adjacent Tafflands Woods.

3. Craythorne Field has two full size football pitches but these are sometimes water logged and occasionally under a shallow flood . The whole area can on occasion be unsuitable for any activity. It has no all weather safe accessibility by foot. It is well used when its condition is good but uncertainty does limits it's use.

4. Craythorne Woods (Tafflands) is becoming a great area to play in but could be an easy place to generate charges of vandalism. No easy all-weather accessibility from the centre of the village.

5. Jinnie Trail, semi wild nature trail for walking. Tree climbing, swings, dens etc. are not considered acceptable activities.

6. Brook Hollows, park/wild area for walking and featuring a small lake. Other than fishing the lake is not suitable for water activities. Tree climbing, swings, dens etc. are not acceptable activities.

7. Public footpaths , extensive but not exciting.

8. Proposed Sustran route, north across the Dove will provide extended walking and long circular routes as well as an extended of road cycle route. Unlikely that tree climbing, swings, dens etc. will be acceptable.

NON PUBLIC AREAS TO WHICH THERE IS ACCESS

1. Dove Riverside, no right of way but the banks are habitually walked, some areas are used for informal swimming. Every potential for exciting play but with risk and this could not be promoted.

Nowhere really where old fashioned countryside play activities could be encouraged. Imagine a fire.

COMMENTS AND CONCLUSIONS

1. It seems reasonable to say "half of the age group we are considering use one or more of all the organised facilities available".

It is difficult to be precise with out asking individual institutions or clubs to do a detailed census but of the 275 in the age group considered and estimating the division of age groups, it would seem likely that very close to half take advantage of one of the social or sports facilities available to them in Rolleston. If the Tutbury Band is included this increases to just over a half. If the Craythorne field pitches became Rolleston Football Club's home ground it would be clearly over a half. Allowing that some of this may well be double counting because of people using more than one facility the statement above still seems reasonable.

2. It is likely that all the social and sports activities could benefit from a concerted promotion. Perhaps there should be a one off article in the Rollestonian similar to the directory but including much of the above detailing just what they all offer. Bell ringing and the Church Junior Choir might particularly benefit as, if it was available, might a Rolleston Junior Choir.

3. Scouts and Guides combined, the Rolleston Club and Cricket Club seem to be the most utilised Rolleston based facilities.

4. Boys seem better catered for than girls.

5. Despite the above there is little public provision of opportunities for informal socialising, indoors or out. It is easy to see the attraction of the space in front of the shops, the lych gate, the quarter pipe in Elizabeth Avenue playing fields and the new seats in Tafflands wood as places to congregate. The Survey of Youth Opinion identified that there was a wish among young people for somewhere that they could meet informally. In the listening survey, that was undertaken prior to compiling the Questionnaire, the wish for a coffee shop was often raised and some times as something the youth of the village needed. Something like this may be more appropriate than a youth club in the village (see 6. below) There is consideration within the village currently being given to the possible location of an internet cafe. We would suggest these should be given support and encouragement.

6. Tutbury's experience illustrates the difficulty in today's environment of running a youth club. Rolleston does not appear to have any suitable and available venue. Tutbury is not far away. Its own problems may affect Rolleston. Perhaps, if it would help their youth club to get going again, we should consider what support we could offer them and how we might facilitate our own youth who might want to take advantage of it. Liz Staples who is very enthusiastic to make the youth club work would be pleased to come and talk of Tutbury's experience, difficulties and what they feel they need to overcome them and get the club going again. She has made no reference to seeking any support from Rolleston.

7. Similarly perhaps Rolleston should consider offering support to Tutbury Band to establish a collection of instruments for loan.

8. Rolleston Football Club seems to be an expanding concern. With the increasing age levels at which the club is being represented in the leagues, more and more of the age group of Rollestonians, that we are addressing, could become involve. This benefit could be jeopardised if its home ground becomes increasingly firmly established outside of the village. It would be very beneficial to the village if there was a consistently playable pitch, not necessarily of the top standard, available in the village which the club could establish as its home ground.

9. The Elizabeth Avenue Playing Fields is perhaps the most used outdoor informal youth facility in the village. It is however apart from the school side closely surrounded by residential neighbours who have been unhappy with the noise and nuisance created by the introduction of skate board and BMX facilities. They were also opposed to the proposed youth shelter on the site. If a safe all weather pedestrian route to Craythorne can be established along the lane or over the fields, perhaps consideration should be given to resiteing these features there.

10. When the Council is satisfied that any plans for improved youth facilities are achievable perhaps the leaders working with Tutbury's Liz Staples would assist in conversationally assessing the reaction of a broad section of Rolleston's youth.

REFERENCES

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|--|---|
| Scouts, Graham Jacks -543197 | Guides, Caroline Hickman -815701 |
| St. Mary's Church, Ian Whitehead -810151 | Rolleston Club, secretary -812071 |
| Tutbury Youth Club, Liz Staples -561364 | Tutbury Band, Steve Powell -815706 |
| Cricket Club, Trevor Foster -812824 | Cricket Club football, Mike Acton -813242 |
| Cricket Club youth club, Alan Featherstone -815033 | Golf, Tony Wright -564329 |
| Rolleston Football Team, Alison Rhodes -813483 | Fishing, John Marshall -813328 |
| The Methodist Chapel, Mick Dilley -563096 | Census, E.S. B.C. |