

## **Appendix VI Sport and Leisure Facilities.**

### Setting the scene

“High quality, well maintained open spaces, sport and recreation facilities, which are available and accessible, add greatly to people’s quality of life. Local networks of high quality and well managed and maintained open spaces, sports and recreational facilities help create places in built up areas that are seen as attractive, clean, safe and useable.” , so states the DNPA in its Development Management Document 2012.

Paragraph 7 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) makes supporting healthy communities one of the key issues within the definition of sustainable development. In paragraphs 69-78 of the NPPF the role that the planning system has is made clear in ‘facilitating social interaction and creating healthy, inclusive communities’.

Open Space, Sport and Recreation Plans should thus have a central role in any Neighbourhood Plan.

Bridestowe and Sourton parishes are contiguous with and partly within the Dartmoor National Park Boundary. As such the two parishes are blessed with large areas of Open Space (some of it outside the National Park boundary). The parishes also have a good selection of well used rights of way: a national cycle route - the granite way, which runs along the route of an old railway line, and the Pegasus Way another cycle and bridleway route which follows a separate railway line towards Holsworthy. Each parish has a village green. Bridestowe additionally has a cricket ground and play area.

Farming provides the landscape and the landscape provides a thriving tourism industry. These two industries form most jobs within the two parishes. Although the tourism industry is not predicted to grow in the next 15 years, it is very important to sustain the industry that exists at present.

Sourton and Bridestowe have within their boundaries areas of landscape and biodiversity that are of international, national and local significance.

Maps showing the Landscape Character, Historic Environment Records, habitats and important environmental designations are included in the Bridestowe and Sourton Plan and will help to inform development decisions.

Whilst social play and recreational needs of children aged between 4 - 11years old were considered as excellent by over 60% of people, provision for children aged 12-14 years old and older was considered very poor by 80% of respondents to the questionnaire conducted in 2015 (see Appendix III). Adults too complained that there wasn’t enough to do in the two parishes. Lack of transport to Okehampton and Tavistock was mentioned as one of the limiting factors in teenagers gaining access to better facilities/sport and other clubs in nearby towns.

Policies BSF11b, 11c and 11e relate.