

Vision for Dartington Recreation Association

The Dartington Recreation Association (DRA) aspires to create a vibrant hub for sport, recreation, education and leisure for the residents of Dartington and surrounding areas, and to offer opportunities for all to improve their health and wellbeing.

It will do this by maintaining, developing and improving the facilities in the Meadowbrook area, and by nurturing and supporting local clubs and providers of activities.

These facilities will build on the generous legacy of the ten acres of land bequeathed to village by the Elmhursts and Dartington Hall Trust, and the subsequent efforts of villagers to develop facilities including the swimming pool, football pitch, tennis courts, community centre and play area.

These facilities will be open to all regardless of age, gender or ability all year round (where possible).

They will be run by the community for the community and become the pride of the parish.

The DRA is committed to working with all local bodies interested in achieving this vision including local schools, charities, unincorporated clubs and businesses.

In the spirit of openness and transparency, the DRA will communicate regularly with those developing sport, recreation and leisure facilities in Totnes and surrounding areas to find opportunities to collaborate and make the most of scarce resources.

The DRA has a series of short, medium and long term aims to achieve this vision, which have been and will continue to be informed by the Neighbourhood Plan and ongoing consultation efforts.

Short term

- to raise awareness of the DRA and to attract volunteers to help run the charity
- to undertake visible, affordable improvements to the existing facilities and land
- to consult widely on plans for improving existing facilities and attracting funding for new ones.

Medium term

- to build a new play area for children and young people in accordance with Play England good practice guidelines
- to transform the tennis courts into a multi-use games area, ideally with the option of being covered and floodlit in the long term

Long term

- to repair and revitalize the swimming pool and associated facilities
- to collaborate with Dartington Hall Trust and Meadowbrook Social Club to transform the Meadowbrook Community Centre into modern, well-equipped hub for sport, leisure, education and recreation.

* The Meadowbrook area includes the Dorothy Elmhurst sports field, the swimming pool and the area between the car park and pool.