

1 BARNSTAPLE AREA (including Bickington, Roundswell, Whiddon Valley and Tawstock parish)

AREA COVERED

Parish/ward	Population 2000	%age <24 years (NDDC av. = 27.7%)	%age >60 years (NDDC av. = 25.3%)
Longridge ward	1659		
Newport ward	4196		
Pilton ward	4211		
St Mary's ward	3220		
Trinity ward	5321		
Yeo ward	3411		
Barnstaple Total	22018	31.7%	20.4%
Fremington parish - part (Roundswell & Bickington)	approx. 5178		
Landkey parish - part (Whiddon Valley)	approx. 1400		
Tawstock parish	2922	25.1%	29.3%

PRINCIPAL OPEN SPACE STATISTICS

A Breakdown of type of open space – Area in hectares

	Equipped play areas (No.)	Total Sport	Pitches (excluding school)	School sports areas	Other sports	Informal open space	Total recreational open space
Longridge ward	0.05 (1)	0	0	0	0	3.57	3.62
Newport ward	0.18 (2)	10.63	3.41	5.72	1.50	7.63	18.44
Pilton ward	0 (0)	16.01	9.60	6.21	0.20	2.24	18.25
St Mary's ward	0.16 (2)	0.5	0	0.50	0	1.39	2.05
Trinity ward	0.27 (3)	1.08	0	0.93	0.15	3.31	4.66
Yeo ward	0.22 (4)	0	0	0	0	8.69	8.91
Barnstaple Total	0.9 (11)	28.2	13.01	13.36	1.85	26.83	53.80
Fremington parish - part	0.96 (n/a)	3.7	2.00	1.20	0.5	6.99	11.65
Landkey parish - part	0.24 (1)	1.00	0	1.00	0	3.09	4.33
Tawstock parish	0.08 (1)	1.21	0	1.21	0	1.11	2.40

B Existing standards of provision – Hectares per thousand population

	Equipped play areas	Total Sport	Pitches (excluding school)	Informal open space	Total recreational open space
Longridge ward	0.03			2.15	2.18
Newport ward	0.04	2.53	0.81	1.82	4.39
Pilton ward	0	3.80	2.28	0.53	4.33
St Mary's ward	0.05	0.16		0.43	0.64
Trinity ward	0.05	0.20		0.62	0.88
Yeo ward	0.06			2.55	2.61
Barnstaple Total	0.04	1.28		1.22	2.54
Fremington parish - part	0.19	0.71		1.35	2.25
Landkey parish - part	0.17	0.71		2.21	3.09
Tawstock parish	0.03	0.41		0.38	0.82

C Area of open space (hectares) as classified on Master Database

	Longbridge	Newport	Pilton	St Mary's	Trinity	Yeo	Fremington (part)	Landkey (part)	Tawstock
Allotments	0.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Burial grounds	0.14	0.00	0.00	3.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Car park	1.36	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.07	0.00
Community Parks	0.91	3.25	0.00	0.00	1.40	5.51	8.89	2.19	0.00
District Park	0.00	6.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mini Park	0.35	0.18	0.12	0.64	0.04	0.36	0.76	0.00	1.08
Greenways	0.23	0.35	30.00	0.00	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.64	0.00
Open Space	2.21	1.59	2.15	0.94	3.40	3.04	0.85	1.26	0.12
School Grounds	0.00	5.72	6.21	0.50	0.93	0.00	1.20	1.00	1.21
Sports	0.00	1.50	9.80	0.00	0.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Woodlands	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.00	4.50	2.18	0.00

KEY SITES

- Rock Park/The Park School
- Pilton Park
- Pottington Road Sports pitches
- Whiddon Valley Woodlands
- Anchor Wood Bank & Dripping Well
- Frankmarsh Community Woodlands
- Secondary schools: The Park School, Pilton Community College and North Devon College
- Tews Lane sports ground
- Seven Brethren
- Braunton/Barnstaple Old Railway Line

KEY FINDINGS AND ISSUES

Open Space for Sport

- Barnstaple Town FC require extra playing facilities. General upgrading of changing rooms, stands and club house at the Mill Road ground also needed.
- Women's football: dedicated pitch and appropriate changing facilities for women's football required.
- There are no public facilities in Barnstaple for clubs playing in the North Devon premier League
- Greater provision for football is required in Fremington and Roundswell, both to meet existing local demand and accommodate some overflow demand from Barnstaple itself.
- Low usage of the artificial cricket wicket at Rock Park and number of casual, friendly or mid week league matches in the Barnstaple area has greatly decline.
- Need to replace and possibly increase number of rugby pitches after Downstream Bridge
- Park School ATP used to capacity on Saturdays and sustains high level of winter use.

- Pilton Community College redgra pitch is in urgent need of upgrading.
- Aspirations for a BMX and skateboard park and roller rink facility
- Multi use games areas are required

Children's Play Areas

- In Barnstaple, Pilton ward has no EPA but above average (for the district) numbers of children under 14 years, although Pilton Park is adjacent.
- The most well provided for are Trinity, St Mary's and Yeo wards with around 0.05 hectares/000. (The NPFA standards recommends 0.2 - 0.3 hectares/000 for equipped play but this may involve measuring a larger site area than that recorded in the database).

Informal open space

- Many sites identified as having potential
- Best provided for wards are Longbridge, Newport and Yeo. Trinity, Pilton and St Mary's have low levels of informal open space.
- Northern Tawstock is very deficient in informal open space.

Other open space resources

- Addressing needs of the community in respect of access to open countryside
- Importance of Rock Park and Tarka Trail
- Important natural features are the rivers and estuary, the green hills around the town and woodland features.
- Provision of community woodlands following on from one developed in Whiddon valley, Frankmarsh Valley is a likely priority

General

- Facilities for young people
- Community facilities at Raleigh
- Reconstruction of Barnstaple's Parks starting with reconstruction of Rock Park with better layout, enhancement of its facilities and better traffic management
- Wildlife habitat creation in selected areas of parks and open spaces
- Management of Anchorwood
- A local nature reserve in the Pottington/Bradiford Water area
- Community involvement e.g. in the provision of 'pocket' nature reserves
- Problems of litter along river and dog fouling
- Need better access (buses) running to special places such as Snowdrop valley (Whiddon Valley)

Site Specific

- Tower View Park in poor condition. Closure of Grange Avenue Park means no local parks available.
- Dog fouling and poor equipment at Ellerslie Park
- Many views about Rock Park: e.g. concern about Park & Ride; desire for enhancement etc – perceived as major open space in Barnstaple

RECOMMENDATIONS

New

- Additional adult and youth football pitches, development of mini soccer centre
- At least two floodlit multi use games areas, where practical on school sites with full community use
- Upgrading Pilton Community College redgra to a synthetic turf pitch
- Equipped play areas to serve poorly provided parts of Longbridge, Newport and Trinity wards and Tawstock
- Facilities for young people, particularly to serve Roundswell and Whiddon Valley areas
- Linkages: Tarka Trail and Estuary/Anchor Wood to the Tarka Trail/ link along River Taw linking Tarka Trail and Anchor Wood to Longbridge
- Development of additional 'Urban Parks', for example, to west of river
- Additional informal open space, particularly in Pilton, St Mary's and Trinity wards and Tawstock.
- Community woodland development: Frankmarsh, Waytown/Maidenford and Larkbeare and other sites where appropriate

Enhancement of existing provision

For example:

- Mill Road Sports pitches
- Mini parks where problems identified e.g. Tower View Parks and Ellerslie Parks

Rock Park Enhancement Programme