

SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY PRIOTITIES

NOVEMBER 2025



Menheniot Parish Community Engagement Report *Recreation Field and Open Spaces Visioning Process*

The consultation produced a rich set of ideas, concerns, and aspirations for both the Menheniot Recreation Field and the Merrymeet green spaces. Across all engagement phases, residents demonstrated a strong appetite for improvement tempered by realism about cost, maintenance, and the importance of preserving the Parish's rural character. The findings can be grouped into short-term, medium term, and long-term priorities. Each category reflects the balance between community demand, deliverability, and the level of planning or partnership required.

IMMEDIATE AIM to complete within 0-3 MONTHS

Comprehensive Recreation Field Masterplan created by MPC/Community Project Group to guide the decision making process and to inform project delivery costs and time line

SHORT-TERM AIMS to complete within (0-12 MONTHS)

| Priority | Description | Why this matters | Potential Lead / Delivery Route |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Seating, shade & social areas including perimeter walking/running route | Install benches, picnic tables, and shade structures in key locations. Commence work on all weather exercise route | Responds to the most frequent survey request; supports parents, older residents, and inclusivity. | Parish Council / community volunteers; potential smallgrants funding. |
| Dog management signage and exercise field | Introduce clear signage, dog bins, and communication of shared-use etiquette. support provision of dedicated field | Recurrent barrier to use cited by families and older residents. | Parish Council; community "Friends of the Field" group. |
| Communication channels | Relaunch Parish website section, noticeboards, and Facebook updates to report progress. Launch info sheet of facilities available | Builds transparency and trust; keeps momentum after consultation. | Parish Council / Communications Working Group. |
| Community volunteering events | Organise clean up or planting days linked to visible "quick wins". | Converts "possible" volunteers (54%) into active participants; reinforces ownership. | Volunteers / local groups with Parish support. |

SHORT-TERM AIMS to complete within (0-12 MONTHS (Continued)

| Priority | Description | Why this matters | Potential Lead / Delivery Route |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Initiate and implement project plan for Merrymet land aquisition /lease | Secure long-term tenure to enable community-hub build and grounds improvement. | Ensures sustainability and eligibility for capital funding. | Volunteer club partner or external operator. Parish Council / CIC partnership; legal support. |
| Produce a phased, costed design, integrating play, sport, access, and landscape improvements. | Plan to facilitate delivery | Provides a single strategic vision; required for major funding bids | Commission landscape architect / designer; adopt via Parish Council. |

MEDIUM-TERM AIMS to complete within 1-3 YEARS

| Priority | Description | Why this matters | Potential Lead / Delivery Route |
|------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Play-area upgrade (Menheniot) | Expand and modernise existing play zone with inclusive, age-appropriate equipment (0–12 yrs). | Most consistent request across all engagement methods; key to family use. | Design concept, costings, supplier quotes, and safety certification. |
| Perimeter walking / running track | Complete low impact path around the field with seating and lighting as appropriate. | Supports all weather, low cost exercise for all ages. | Feasibility on route, surfacing type, lighting design. |
| Low impact lighting | Solar or motion activated lighting for key paths and gathering points. | Enhances safety and usability without compromising dark-sky character. | Technical design, energy feasibility, environmental surveys, planning permissions. |
| Youth recreation features | Identify space for teenage play (e.g., climbing, zip wire, small bike element). | Addresses current gap for 11–17 age group; reduces anti-social behaviour. | Co-design with young people; noise / siting assessment. |
| Friends of the Field / stewardship group | Formalise volunteer group for light maintenance, events, and liaison with Parish Council. | Builds local ownership and capacity for future projects. | Terms of reference and volunteer induction. |
| Merrymet community hub concept | Develop concept and outline design for a small community building or modular space near existing play area. | Addresses clear community aspiration and absence of shared indoor space. | Land agreement, site surveys, planning consent, early-stage feasibility study. |

LONG-TERM AIMS to complete 3-5 YEARS+

| Priority | Description | Why this matters | Potential Lead / Delivery Route |
|----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Formal youth sport provision | Evaluate small scale junior football pitch or shared use area if demand and volunteers align. | Create a sustainable model combining Parish oversight with community delivery (e.g., CIC or Friends Group). | Design integration at capital stage; grant funding (e.g. SPF). |
| Renewables / energy efficient infrastructure | Integrate solar lighting, waterharvesting, or EV ready cabling into new facilities. | Aligns with Cornwall's Net-Zero objectives and reduces operating costs. | Legal advice, capacity-building, and governance training. |
| Long-term maintenance & governance model | Create a sustainable model combining Parish oversight with community delivery (e.g., CIC or Friends Group). | Ensures continuity, transparency, and manageable volunteer load. | |