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**TRANSIT SITE CONSULTATION – AREA OF LAND WITHIN COCKHILL FARM, AYR**

**QUESTIONS FOR TRAVELLING COMMUNITY**

South Ayrshire Council have recognised that there is a need for transit provision in the area for Gypsy/Traveller communities who are travelling as part of their culture. At Leadership Panel of 08 March 2022 the Council have agreed to develop plans for a transit site in South East Ayr. This survey is to gather your views on how the site should look and what is needed. We will use it to help us make decisions about the development of the transit site.

**SAC has been given approval to proceed with the provision of a transit site for the Gypsy/Traveller communities. Is this something that you think Gypsy/Travellers travelling through the area would consider using?**

Yes

Yes

Yes

**If Yes, what do you think the benefits of having the site would be?**

We can live our lives without being disturbed by everyone. We won’t have to worry about how long it will be before we are moved on.

We would have somewhere safe to stay and know that the children will be okay and sleep safely at night.

Yes. Somewhere to go without being continually moved on.

**If No, can you outline why you don’t think people would use it?**

**What essential services would families require on the site? ie bathing & toileting facilities, running water etc**

Electricity and running water. Toilets, showers, washing machine and dryer. Somewhere to cook.

Showers and toilets and someone to manage the site properly to make sure no one is getting shifted off when a new family arrive.

All of the above and electricity, washing machine and somewhere to dry our clothes.

**What number of families should the site accommodate at any one given time?**

One family. But daughters should be allowed to come visit and stay for a while.

Not all families get on. There would need to be enough space between different families

One family. There can be as many as 6 caravans. My in-laws stay in one caravan and their teenage sons live in the other caravan.

**The Council are considering whether or not Gypsy/Traveller families should be charged for the use of the site and would appreciate your views on the following options:-**

1. **A set charge for using the site**
2. **A set charge to use specific services on site**
3. **Free/no cost**

We wouldn’t want to pay for staying on the site, but we would pay for the services.

A charge for using the services.

We would be happy to pay for services on the site.

**How long do you think people would want to stay on site for and how often do you think people might want to use it? Do you think there should be any limits on how long people can stay?**

Always. We would stay on the site all the time.

We would want to stay on the site for as long as possible. We don’t really like sites where families come and go. If a family move on that we don’t like, we would have to move on.

Travellers should be allowed to stay for as long as they need to. This could be for a few months.

**How many caravans/trailers should there be space for per pitch?**

A pitch would need space for two caravans and two vehicles.

If there can be space for two caravans and their vehicles. It would be better to have fewer pitches to stop lots of different families staying.

A pitch would need space for one caravan and two vehicles.

**Is there anything specific needed on the site for:-**

1. **Children and young people**
2. **Older people**
3. **People with health conditions or disabilities**

A space for children to play.

A gate or a height barrier. This would stop people coming onto the site that shouldn’t be staying there.

A swing park for the children. A ramp at the washing area.

**Is there space needed for animals or work materials?**

Yes. A secure place to store trailers and quad bikes. An outdoor space for dogs to be kept.

Only if there isn’t enough space on the pitch to park the vehicles.

Yes. We keep lots of dogs. All the dogs are kept outside.

**Is there a preferred layout that you would consider culturally appropriate? Do either of the 2 attachments meet these requirements? Do you have any additional suggestions?**

The layout looks good, but Travellers don’t like communal toilets. Children hang about the toilets and parents can’t keep an eye on them. Also, if families don’t get on, they don’t want to be passing each other at the washing area. The women are expected to keep these areas clean, and their culture would not allow them to enter the men’s toilets or washroom facilities.

It would be more culturally appropriate if the pitches were double in size and included a ‘Day Room’. The double bay or larger unit would accommodate 2 caravans which become the sleeping quarters. The Day Room would have the toilet and shower facilities at the rear. The kitchen area to the front. Space for a cooker, washing machine and dryer. (Happy to provide own washer and dryer). And a space for table and chairs for the grandchildren to sit at. The women would be able to keep the Day Rooms clean as it would only be used by their immediate family

The shared toilet facility wouldn’t work. We like to clean the toilet areas and some people are not as clean. A toilet block with our own key to access our own toilet facility would work.

The site looks great. We would be happy with it.

Summary of Objections to Proposed Transit Site – Cockhill Farm

Public Consultation

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| Reason for Objection | Percentage of Objections Received |
|  |  |
| Objection to proposed area. | 23% |
|  |  |
| Cost of proposed work and maintenance. | 21% |
|  |  |
| Potential increase to traffic flow/congestion. | 17% |
|  |  |
| Negative impact on flora and fauna. | 14% |
|  |  |
| Potential increase in number of antisocial incidents. | 25% |