

INTRODUCTION

In previous years some community activities took place within Milton Primary School. Since the closure of the school, groups/clubs that previously used the school have had to source alternative facilities.

Discussions have taken place between West Dunbartonshire Council and Milton Village Community Council regarding the placing of a community facility in the playing fields in King Georges Field, Milton Brae.

OBJECTIVES OF PROJECT

The objective of this consultation exercise was to collect information with respect to the need for a community facility within Milton Village and also to establish:

- ❖ What the facility would be used for?
- ❖ What kind of facility/accommodation would be required?
- ❖ If there was a willingness to pay for the use of the facility?
- ❖ If there are specific groups/clubs that would use the facility?

METHODOLOGY

A distribution company was used to deliver a short questionnaire to all 278 households within Milton Village.

The questionnaire, written in 'plain English' consisted of 6 closed questions. The closed questions prompt the resident for a yes or no answer, or asked the resident to tick boxes that they felt were appropriate to them. In addition to this the residents were given the opportunity to expand on their responses and add comments they felt were relevant.

All questionnaires were anonymous and treated in the strictest confidence.

Although the questionnaire was anonymous, we were keen to ensure that we covered a representative sample of the population and therefore asked for some personal information such as gender, age and ethnicity.

In order to encourage the resident to return the questionnaire to us, we included a pre paid envelope.

SPSS was the tool used to analyse the questionnaire.

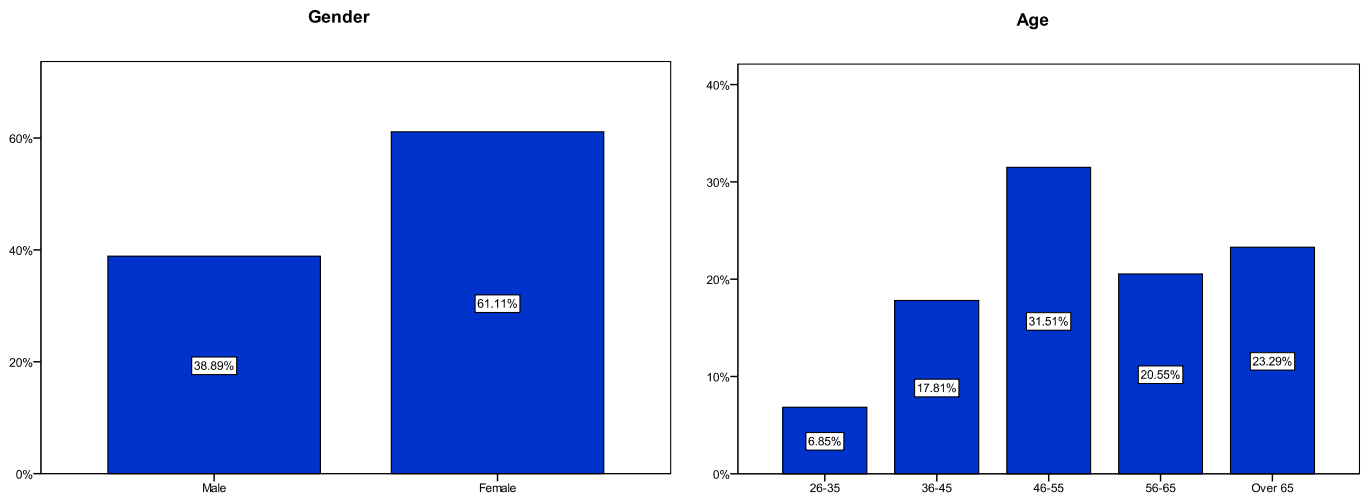
RESPONSE RATE

Of the 278 questionnaires delivered, 75 were returned which represents a response rate of 27%. The response rate of 27% is considered good for a postal consultation.

DEMOGRAPHICS

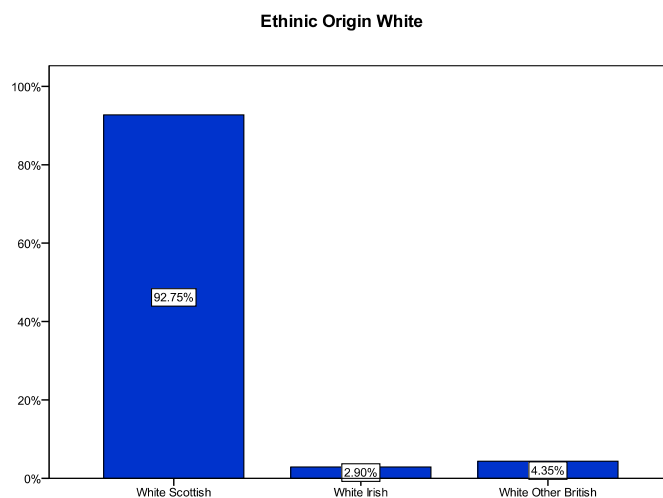
As stated previously, a limited amount of demographic information was requested within this questionnaire. The information collected included gender, age and ethnicity details.

Three respondents chose not to answer the gender question; of those who did 61% were female and 39% male.



The majority of respondents (31%) were aged between 46 and 55 years of age. There were no responses received from people aged below 25 years and only 7% were under 35 years of age. A full breakdown of the age bands can be seen above.

With regards to ethnicity, 6 respondents did not answer this question, the remaining 69 respondents all advised that they were of white origin.



RESULTS

In the questionnaire we asked the following:

- Do you feel that there is a need for a community facility within Milton Village?
- What do you think the facility should be used for?
- What accommodation would you like to see provided in the community facility?
- Would you be willing to pay for the use of a community facility?
- Are you a leader of a group/club?
- Would your club be interested in using a facility within Milton Village?

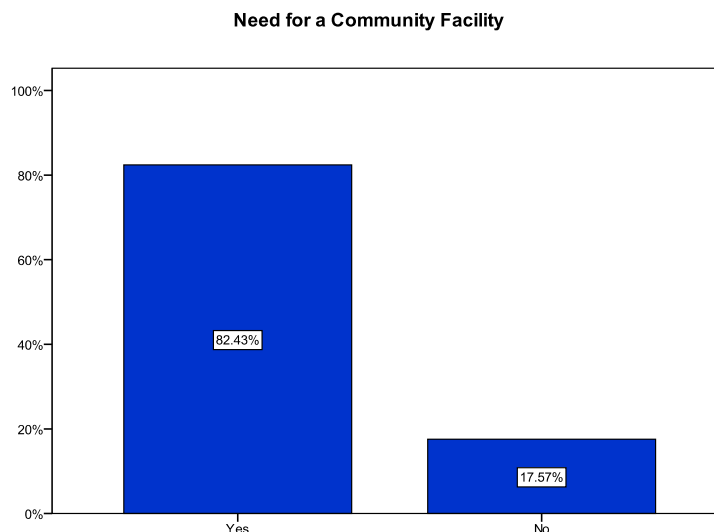
Details of the data gathered and used in this exercise and all the comments received can be viewed in Appendix 1 and 2 respectively.

For ease of reference a summary of the data collected (excluding commentary) can be viewed in Appendix 3

A breakdown of the results has been detailed over the following pages:

IS THERE A NEED FOR A COMMUNITY FACILITY?

We asked the residents if they felt that there was a need for a community facility within Milton village.



The majority of respondents (82%) felt that there was a need for a community facility within Milton village; only one person did not answer this question.

Almost 18% stated that there was no need for a facility. Some of the reasons for not wanting a community facility included:

- ❖ No real community to support
- ❖ School should be returned to the community
- ❖ I can not see any real purpose for one
- ❖ The facility will bring nothing but noise and vandalism
- ❖ I would oppose any building which would take away existing 'green space' or have a negative impact on the environment
- ❖ We should share the facilities available in Bowling

WHAT SHOULD A COMMUNITY FACILITY BE USED FOR?

Question number 2 asked the residents to tell us what they felt a community facility in Milton Village should be used for.

Responses to this question have been grouped into the following themes:

- ❖ Occupying the youth of the community
- ❖ General Meeting place for village
- ❖ Pre school and after school activities
- ❖ Sport and leisure

With the exception of one respondent, everyone submitted their suggestions on what the facility should be used for. Negative responses were also received within this section from residents who did not want a community facility.

The most popular suggestion for the use of a community facility was a general meeting place. In particular, it was suggested it should be used for general community events and provide a location for a seniors club. Other residents stated that the facility could be used as an area for a variety of clubs to meet along with the facility for coffee mornings. Consideration could also be given to using the area as a contact place for WDC issues such as tenants and residents meetings and a polling station.

Sports and Leisure suggestions were the next most popular suggestions. Around 59 residents commented that the facility could be used for sports and leisure specifically:

- ❖ Dancing
- ❖ Keep fit
- ❖ Birthday parties/functions
- ❖ Indoor sports, badminton, basketball, pool, snooker indoor bowls
- ❖ Bingo
- ❖ Football, changing facilities for teams

Within the theme of occupying the youth of the community the main suggestion was the provision of a youth club to help alleviate boredom.

Finally the suggestion from 20 residents was that there was a need for a facility for mothers and toddlers, playgroups and after school activities.

TYPE OF ACCOMODATION REQUIRED

We asked the residents what accommodation they would like to see provided within a community facility. The results have been highlighted below.

Toilets	92.4%	Kitchen	89.4%	Large Hall	75.8%
Meeting room	73.1%	Small Hall provided	42.4%		

It would appear that the provision of a small hall was the least important element within the suggested accommodation. Some residents stated that if a large hall was available the provision of a small hall would not be necessary.

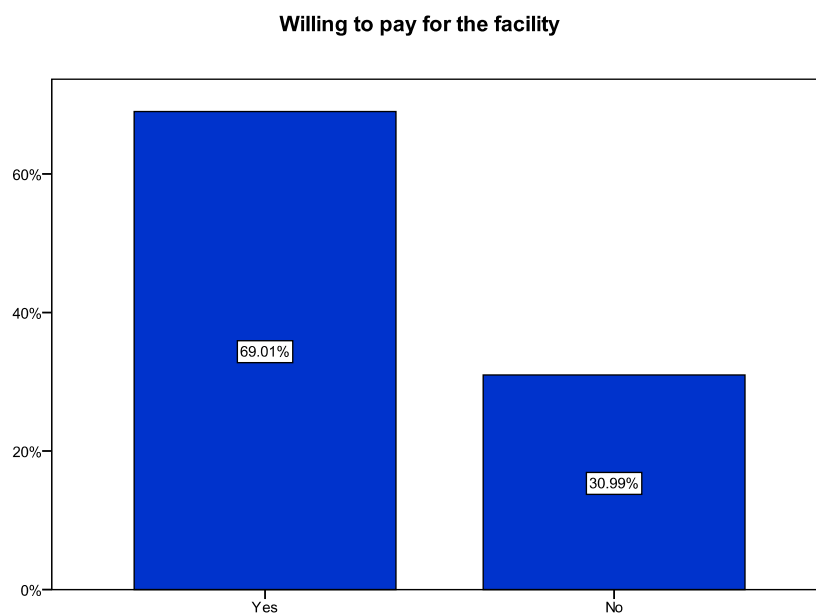
Some residents offered suggestions on other accommodation they would like to see provided.

Other accommodation requirements were:

- ❖ Changing space/Facilities for teams using pitch
- ❖ Sports barn
- ❖ Bar facility
- ❖ Garden area, greenhouse
- ❖ Children's outdoor play facilities

PAYMENT FOR USE OF A COMMUNITY FACILITY

We wanted to know how responsive the residents would be if asked to pay for the use of a community facility. Only 4 people failed to respond to this question with 69% of those who did respond saying they would be willing to pay to use the facility. Comments regarding payment referred to the need for the payment to be minimal and payment would be dependent on the quality of the facilities available. One resident said they would be willing to pay for evening classes.



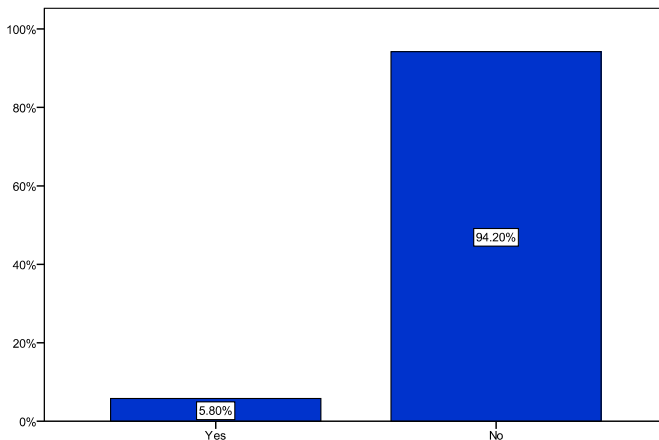
CLUBS AND GROUPS

We wanted to establish if many of the residents were members of groups or clubs and if so what activities they took part in, where the activity took place and if the group/club would consider using a facility for their activities if available within Milton Village.

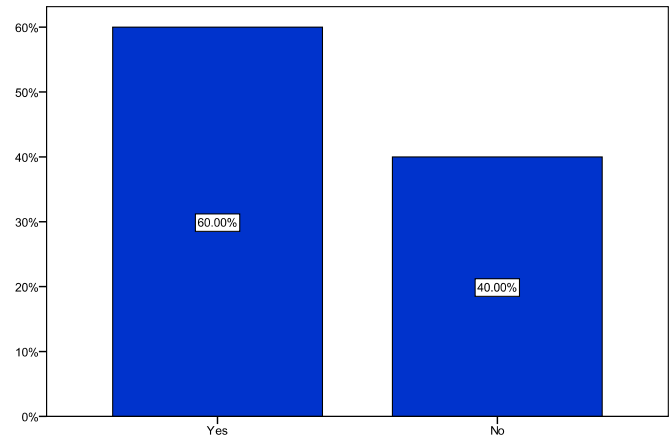
Of those who responded, 6% said that they were members of a group or club and of these 60% said that the group or club would make use of a community facility within Milton village. The main activities that the group took part in were:

- ❖ Keep fit
- ❖ Tenants and Residents meetings
- ❖ Fund raising

Leader of a club/group



Would your club use a facility within Milton Village?



The groups who responded stated that the club currently meets in community flats and the parish church.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Many of the comments received in this section have been reflected above but concerns over the proposed location were raised. Location issues related to safety, parking, congestion, noise, vandalism and the appearance of the structure. Comments included:

- ❖ I object to it being built within King George's park
- ❖ Residents nearby would be inconvenienced
- ❖ Keep building within school area and not in middle of park
- ❖ Placing of facility is crucial with adequate parking
- ❖ Milton Brae is already congested
- ❖ I would need to see plans for building and parking
- ❖ Do not want to view old portable cabins from my window
- ❖ The use of second hand modular building does not inspire confidence
- ❖ Milton already has vandalism problems, this facility will be another focus
- ❖ How will you ensure against vandalism or public nuisance?

As this questionnaire was anonymous, it is not possible to state whether the residents that would be living close to the facility, were the most dissatisfied with the proposed location. However, comments received requested that the concerns of the residents living near the park should be taken into consideration.

Additional ideas:

- ❖ Maybe cash would be better spent enforcing traffic restrictions
- ❖ Why not try to get a rail stop at Milton. This would be more beneficial than a hall
- ❖ A similar questionnaire, should the building of a hall take place?
- ❖ Review alternative locations for example besides the tourist information office

SUMMARY

The objective of this consultation exercise was to collect information with respect to the need for a community facility within Milton Village and also to establish:

- ❖ What the residents feel the facility should be used for?
- ❖ What kind of facility/accommodation residents want?
- ❖ Was there a willingness to pay for the use of the facility?
- ❖ Was there was a demand for a facility?
- ❖ Are there specific groups/clubs that would use the facility?

The results from this survey have been detailed over the previous pages. The data and comments collected from this consultation exercise can be viewed in Appendix 1 and 2 respectively. As a quick reference, a summary of the results received can be viewed in Appendix 3.

APPENDIX 1

Data

Gender

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Male	28	38.9
	Female	44	61.1
	Total	72	100.0
Missing	System	3	
Total		75	

Age Bands

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	26-35	5	6.8
	36-45	13	17.8
	46-55	23	31.5
	56-65	15	20.5
	Over 65	17	23.3
	Total	73	100.0
Missing	System	2	
Total		75	

Ethnicity

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	White Scottish	64	92.8
	White Irish	2	2.9
	White Other British	3	4.3
	Total	69	100.0
Missing	System	6	
Total		75	

Need for a community facility within Milton village

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Yes	61	82.4
	No	13	17.6
	Total	74	100.0
Missing	System	1	
Total		75	

What accommodation would you like within the facility?

	Yes	No
Meeting room provided	73.1%	26.9%
Kitchen Provided	89.4%	10.6%
Large Hall provided	75.8%	24.2%
Small Hall provided	42.4%	57.6%
Toilets provided	92.4%	7.6%

Willing to pay for the facility

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Yes	49	69.0
	No	22	31.0
	Total	71	100.0
Missing	System	4	
Total		75	

Leader of a club/group

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Yes	4	5.8
	No	65	94.2
	Total	69	100.0
Missing	System	6	
Total		75	

Would your club use a facility within Milton Village?

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Yes	3	60.0
	No	2	40.0
	Total	5	100.0
Missing	System	70	
Total		75	

APPENDIX 2

Comments

	What should the community facility be used for?
1	Mainly to stop young people roaming the streets creating trouble through boredom
2	Village events and meetings youth club
3	Similar uses to the old community hall was used for before the council decided to sell it
4	Village Events
5	Sports and Leisure
6	Youth club - i.e. - football basketball etc. Senior citizens - sewing - Knitting - carpet bowls etc nursery - under 5's social skills - computing camera club - art class etc
7	Young people, elderly, fund raising, keep fit classes youth club, events
8	Local activities
9	I am now too old to participate. It would be wrong of me to interfere. The school was lost to playgroup children when it had all facilities required. If not enough children for school to stay open how come enough children (I know they pay) to keep the play facility open. It's like carnival - ridiculous do they need a big wobbly
10	Play-group, Youth clubs, senior citizens, ladies group, men's group, community hall, for other groups to attend, dances, social events
12	Various organisational meetings, villages using it as a drop in for coffee tea etc sports area i.e. badminton pool etc keep fit groups etc
13	Community meetings social events dances etc youth activities
14	The local children and elderly people. Football, basket ball, snooker, changing rooms for Sunday football. A place for local children to meet and a badminton court. Lunch clubs may be for elderly
15	Club gatherings, youth clubs, after school clubs, mother and toddlers, line dancing, bingo, tenants meetings, organising gala days
16	Things for children and youngsters of the village, things for the older ones too
17	All age groups young and old, youth club, old folks groups, mums and tots, a real village hall - no other meeting place apart from the pub! Indoor bowls - bingo hall etc
19	Not in King George not in Milton. There is no purpose for it
20	There is nothing for kids in Milton it would do plenty for the people to get to know other people if we have community facility (badly need)
21	There is nowhere for the young and elderly to go in this village so I most certainly agree to a community facility for the villagers in Milton
22	Meetings, changing rooms for football, line dancers, gala days, senior citizens, youth clubs, mother and toddler group, different clubs, tenant association, community council surgeries
25	Mothers /Toddlers play-group, place for senior citizens to meet, line dancing, youth club for teenagers
26	School should be returned to the community as it was initially intended instead of what it currently is, Sox and Slides is a traffic nightmare at the village and should be addressed

	What should the community facility be used for?
27	Youth clubs. meetings etc
28	Youth groups. OAP's
29	Within the public park
30	The provision of facilities that allow people to get together to meet others in this geographical community, through activities of common interest, e.g. youth group, keep fit, book group, worship group, on a regular basis and opportunity to meet on occasional basis e.g. AGM's, wedding/funeral
31	Place for children of the village to go to, youth club for older children with membership cards only. As well as facilities for the 3 - 6 year olds
32	Tenant association functions and meetings. Youth functions including football changing room use. Line dancing etc meeting, senior citizens functions etc.
34	Youth clubs, dance classes, keep fit, group for older people, children's parties, football (changing facilities), play-group for young children, bingo nights, councilors surgery, cafe
35	Various group activities
36	Kid clubs after school, summer play time, evening classes for all age groups
37	Village residents meetings, senior citizens club, football teams changing rooms
38	For the benefit of the local community e.g. youth clubs
39	Meetings, youth clubs, senior citizens, village and WDC information centre, sport changing rooms for grass park facilities
40	I cannot see any real purpose except something for the nippers to destroy
42	Old peoples club, dancing group, meetings, a youth club
43	It could be used for a variety of meetings interest groups or community activities such as mother and toddlers group. It could also be used for kids birthday parties etc
46	Gala days, birthdays or any other party's drop in group for kids coffee morning
47	Local amenities
48	Youth football, summer activities for both adults and kids, possibly introduce keep fit for women, karate for kids and adults, senior citizens club, charity days/nights, general meetings for Milton residents.
49	Senior citizens club, line dancing, social evenings- bingo. Keep fit classes, youth clubs, mother and toddlers. Dog training classes, ladies nights, badminton, wheelchair access, coffee evenings.
51	I feel a facility could be used for a number of things for the young and old youth club mothers and toddlers, football changing facilities a place for elderly to meet up
52	The village
54	OAP clubs etc, Dinners and Christmas events.
55	Toddler group, museums for the village, line dancing, lunches for all, dances, pool room, coffee morning, a polling station, birthday parties, indoor sports for kids.
56	Meetings, parties, youth club.

	What should the community facility be used for?
57	Elections, community meetings, youth groups, private functions, changing rooms for football etc, councilor surgery.
59	Social and recreation of village life
60	Meeting place, clubs e.g. senior citizens, youth clubs, changing room, i.e. football functions (social) keep fit.
61	All of the residents, kids club, elderly meeting/lunch clubs, birthdays etc, woman's group, scouts, brownies.
62	Meeting place for clubs: young and old people and for social events.
63	For all the community
64	Social events/meetings for all the community
65	Do not think centre should be in Milton, there are facilities in Bowling which could be upgraded and shared with the residents of Milton
68	I tend not to be a part of the community
69	Play-groups, general meetings, youth groups, soccer groups, OAP meetings, coffee Monday.
70	Community/polling stations
71	All sections of the community - young and older. Promotion of healthy lifestyles for all, community - mindedness etc.
73	Youth club, community gatherings, lunch club, social clubs.
74	Youth clubs, social gathering for villagers, O.A.P club, Nursery/Playgroup

	Other accommodation within facility
9	Can hardly work with less
14	Porta cabins 2 which you are considering at present
17	No real need for small meeting room large could be used for large or small gatherings
21	Bingo sing-a-longs for the elderly training rooms for the youngsters, ping ball would also keep young ones occupied off the streets
26	All of which school building has
30	Changing space / facilities for teams using pitch, all this will cost about £300,000 to build
39	Sports barn, changing rooms
40	None
44	Would not support a facility there is no real community to support. Most people gravitate to other parts of Dumbarton. The youth element eventually destroy what is provided
55	An office.
61	Bar facility for receptions etc
71	Garden area, greenhouse, children's outdoor play facilities

	Name of activity
9	Ladies keep fit 60+
22	Tenants Ass - Gala days, parties, meetings and fund raisers
25	Line dancing
26	Return school building to the Milton community use. As a place for teaching for Milton children and parents, currently school building is being used by people that need to use vehicles to attend and congest the village
34	Milton tenants and residents

	Where does club meet?
9	Riverside parish church
22	Community flat
25	Community flat
34	Community flat

	Additional Comments
1	Hope it opens soon
3	Whilst I think there is a need for a community hall I strongly object to it being built within King George's field park. Community in Milton have little enough space and residents nearby would be greatly inconvenienced with noise loss of space numerous dog walkers use the park on a daily basis is. There is no road access and again residents would be inconvenienced with people parking outside their homes
6	Clubs similar to hub community centre Clydebank as there are no facilities like this in or around the Milton area. Residents would feel it would help to develop more of a community spirit for young and elderly alike. Also it would help newcomers to feel more welcome in the community and get to know everyone
9	I have taught for 40 - 50 years now. I have also helped with good companion's club, teas, outing for older people, also riverside church. I help with Tuesday lunches also in church. Definitely no more. I sincerely hope if a building goes up it will be kept within school area and not in the middle of the park
11	Hall could be hired for parties, used for meetings, changing facilities for football teams
12	Have been attending Milton and Bowling community councils meetings for which the facility could have also been used
14	The community has no facilities for the children. To prevent the future of today's children getting in to trouble because of boredom and nothing to do West Dunbartonshire Council and parents are responsible for these children and they deserve a place to meet and enjoy activities
15	Since the sale of Milton primary and the demolition of the community hall behind it. The villagers no longer have a facility to sustain the community activities that we once enjoyed gala days, fun days youth club, line dancing etc

	Additional Comments
17	With a similar questionnaire should the building of a hall take place, I would be pleased to help out with running of a club for young and old work full time but help whenever I can
19	We as a family do not want a community centre at our back door. We do not want people loitering about our home. This is a nice quiet area. The centre will bring nothing but noise and vandalism
20	Football pitch, changing rooms, place for people to meet and have teas or coffee and chat, try to have a football team so they can play other football teams
21	Youngsters have nowhere to go maybe that's the reason for the vandalism which goes on very regularly. I think it would improve the run down state of Milton village
25	Since the Milton school has been closed there is nowhere for children to go nothing to do, therefore they are getting up to mischief. I believe if there was somewhere for them to go things would be different also we used to have quite a lot of things for senior citizens but now there's nothing. We were promised a hall when the school closed but so far that's just been words.
30	Place of facility critical, so as not to encroach too much onto football/play area it should also be easily/safely accessible at night with adequate parking. Milton Brae is already congested
33	I would oppose any building which would take away existing 'green space' or have a negative impact on any environment. The existing park, football pitches and surrounding green area used regularly and appreciated by local resident. Any reduction to this open green space would be very strongly opposed
34	We used to have gala days in the park and would use our community centre or school if the weather was bad. We are no longer able to do this. We also used to have various social evenings e.g. Halloween parties, Christmas parties, bingo nights, bring and buy sales, A.G.M meetings, Hogmanay party, car boot sales, gala dance
35	Given that I pay high community tax with very few facilities for my money I would expect the fee for use of the hall to be made minimal. (Private road with no repairs or gritting)
36	Would pay a fee to do an evening class
39	I would be prepared if park facilities were upgraded before committing, I would need to see plans for building, parking and business plan
40	Maybe cash would be better spent enforcing traffic restrictions at the entrance at Sox n Slides before someone is killed trying to cross dual carriage way. P.S. not really this bad tempered
42	A hall would be good for Milton. We had one before but the children caused trouble and it was closed. We still have that problem now with the kids in the village who just want to damage everything. I also do not want it in the park in front of my window and two old Porta cabins I do not want to look at through my window every day. I use the park for foster children and I do not want kids outwith the village hanging about and that is what will happen.

	Additional Comments
43	Why not try to get a rail stop at Milton. This would make a huge improvement in terms of non car based access from Milton to local employment and amenities. This would be more beneficial than a hall
44	The use of a second hand modular building does not inspire confidence. So many become eyesores with graffiti and inevitable barbed wire to keep kids off the roof. Milton already has vandalism problems, this facility will be another focus. Milton as a community is already dead, look at the support given to the gala day compared to 15 years ago. Let people see an artists impression complete with barbed wire, empty wine bottles and spray paint.
45	My view is that such a facility without 24 hour coverage would be a site for vandalism and graffiti.
49	We have been without a community centre/hall for a number of years. Perhaps if the young people had somewhere to go at night they would not be hanging about. It would also bring a sense of community to the village (warden controlled)
52	I think West Dunbartonshire Council took this facility away so therefore they have a duty to provide a facility after all we are all council tax payers. Old Kilpatrick and Bowling have a facility so why shouldn't Milton
59	You closed our school and sold it for profit. Plus flats were built on the playground where our facility was, it's about time you put back something to the community.
61	There should be something for all the community
64	It has been reported that community centre would be sited with in Milton park, which I totally disagree with. A more suitable site should be considered. There is ample space beside the tourist information office which also has packing facilities.
65	I don't think the concerns of the residents near the park have been taken in to account. The park is well used by local residents and placing a building within this area would reduce green space. Noise levels could be a concern as would the parking within this area.
67	Would be very unhappy with a Porta cabin style community hall placed in the park. Only a properly built centre would be acceptable
70	I am totally against the proposed sitting of this facility - near the swings in the park. This, in my view, will completely ruin the look of the park and is too near residents homes. The other end of the park where the football pitch is would be more appropriate and less likely to interfere with residents.
71	The design of the building must be in keeping with the local environment/ surroundings, - single level accommodation, how will you ensure the building doesn't attract those who want to vandalise property or cause a public nuisance.

APPENDIX 3

Data Summary

Department of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development

Milton Village,
Community Facility



Consultation: February 2009 Results

1. Do you feel that there is a need for a community facility within Milton Village?

Yes No

2. What accommodation would you like to see provided in the community facility? (please tick as many as appropriate and add any additional ones)

Meeting Room Kitchen Large hall
Small hall Toilets

3. If a community facility was placed within Milton Village would you be willing to pay for the use of this facility?

Yes No

4. Are you a leader of a club/group

Yes No

Would your club/group consider using a community facility in Milton Village if available?

Yes No

Are you? Male Female

Age band (please tick)

16-25 0% 26-35 7% 36-45 18% 46-55 31.5% 56-65 20.5% Over 65 23%

Ethnic Origin:

White		Asian, Asian Scottish or Asian British		Black, Black Scottish or Black British		Multiple Ethnic Background
Scottish	93%	Indian		African		(Please specify)
Irish	3%	Pakistani		Caribbean		
Gypsy Traveller		Bangladeshi		Other Black (Please specify)	Other Ethnic Background (Please specify)	
Other British	4%	Chinese				
Other White (Please specify)		Other Asian (Please specify)				