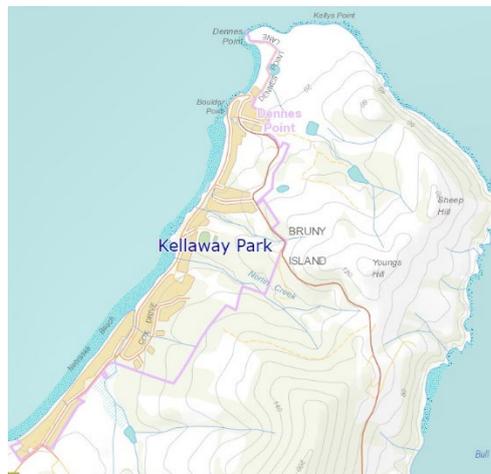




KELLAWAY PARK ACTIVATION

INTRODUCTION

In late 2022 Friends of North Bruny (FONB) was approached by some young families who suggested that we investigate the level of community support to revitalise Kellaway Park, Dennes Point, and explore what facilities are lacking on North Bruny which could be included in this space. It was agreed that if there is enough interest FONB will develop a proposal to present to Kingborough Council. This could form the basis of funding through various community grant programs.



The Park is located in the centre of the village off Sports Road above Nebraska Beach. It's named after Percival Wallace Kellaway who donated the land to the people of North Bruny for recreational use. This public open space, now owned by Kingborough Council, has a tennis court, cricket pitch and clubroom. Part of the land is wooded. The Park is also used by the emergency helicopter. There were discussions about the Park in 2016 as part of the [North Bruny background and future directions plan](#). The North Bruny Hall Management Committee assumed responsibility for the day-to-day coordination of the Club Room at the beginning of March 2023.

METHODOLOGY

To engage with the community, an online survey was developed which was promoted through social media and a letterbox drop across North Bruny. A pleasing number of responses was received positive input during the period in which the survey was open (December 2022 – January 2023).

An article of the project was also published in the February edition of *Bruny News* with a link to the survey.

A community barbeque and general discussion was held at Kellaway Park on Saturday 14 January. This was an opportunity for residents (permanent and part-time) to inspect the site, visualise what could be achieved and discuss options in an informal setting. It attracted about 40 people many of whom said that had never or rarely been to the Park. It also afforded a chance to inspect the Club Rooms which had not previously been possible. Guests were canvassed about possible use of the club rooms and responses included: quilting group, book clubs, cards nights, meditation, small talks.

RESULTS

SURVEY

- 78 responses were received representing 149 individuals, couples, and family groups. All provided contact details.
- 95% of respondents were ratepayers.
- The majority of respondents came from **North Bruny** (80%): Apollo Bay (1), Barnes Bay (2), Dennes Point (47) Great Bay (4), Killora (5), North Bruny (3). **South Bruny** was also represented: Adventure Bay (5), Alonnah (3), Cloudy Bay (2), Lunawanna (4). South Bruny (2), No responses were received from the Kingston/Channel area despite posting on relevant social media pages.
- 80% of respondents indicated that they were aware of Kellaway Park prior to the survey but, with the exception of those people who play euchre in the club rooms or tennis, the answer to 'how often do you visit' was universally 'occasionally', 'rarely' or 'never'. The response 'only once when we heard about this initiative' is perhaps indicative.
- The vast majority (93%) of respondents indicated that they would like to see the Park upgraded and if it was, they would use it once a week (28%), once a month (54%), once a year (17%).
- Respondents were asked to prioritise the improvements they would like to see. The top 5 priorities were.
 - Upgraded tennis courts (56%).

- BBQ facilities (47%)
- Picnic area (38%)
- Playground for 6–12-year-olds (34%)
- Toddler playground (26%)
- Respondents were given the opportunity to make further suggestions. These can be summarised as
 - Bushland conservation trail and native plantings
 - Areas for bike riding for children
 - Soccer goals
 - Shade cover
 - Fenced dog friendly area.
 - Pump track
 - Community Garden
 - Improvements to club house.
- Suggestions for activities within the park included:
 - Community sports days
 - Markets & fairs (multiple responses)
 - School holiday activities
 - Tennis social afternoons
- There was also an opportunity for respondents to supply additional comments. Most of these fall under the *Considerations* heading which follows or add detail to previous suggestions. Those which stand alone are summarised here.
 - Currently lack of infrastructure for young children at Dennes Point
 - No motorised bikes or e bikes
 - Development of the Park important for community wellbeing, relevant to all age groups
 - Appreciation of the opportunity to contribute to the discussion.

CONSIDERATIONS

Throughout the survey and in person discussion process the following issues were repeatedly brought forward for consideration and will need to be factored into any decisions and future planning.

- Kellaway Park is the site for emergency helicopter retrieval and any developments need to be done in consultation with Ambulance Tasmania and cannot impact on this essential service
- The overwhelming sentiment from numerous discussions and survey responses is that Kellaway Park is primarily for the Bruny community and any development is with the intention of improving facilities for the local community. Many expressed specific comment that the area should avoid development that will attract tourists and especially overnight campers.

- To activate the space public toilets, need to be available and properly maintained. This includes an accessible toilet The capacity of the current toilets at the club house is limited by the existing water supply which would need to be increased, possibly by extending the roof area of the clubhouse.
- A barbeque and picnic facilities were seen as a high priority for this area. Many feel that this in turn would attract campers to the Park. Residents whose lands adjoin the area spoke forcefully against any development that would encourage camping and used the example of the Bruny Ultra Marathon and the subsequent rubbish and sanitation issues as a basis for this argument.
- Sports Road needs considerable work to improve access to the park. It is currently difficult to navigate.
- There is a need for delineated parking on site
- Some of the suggestions offered through the survey process could be incorporated into plans for other areas of Dennes Point/North Bruny.

NEXT STEPS

1. A report on the survey results will be circulated to the FONB members and those that provided responses to the survey. As well a report will be provided to the Kingborough Council on the findings of the survey.
2. FONB will meet with the Hall Committee to agree Stage 1 priority projects based on the community responses to the survey.
3. FONB will then meet with Kingborough Council to develop a plan for the Stage 1 priority projects. The plan will determine likely grant programs that FONB can make submissions to; determine what components Council can provide and seek advice on what formal council processes are required to execute specific projects.