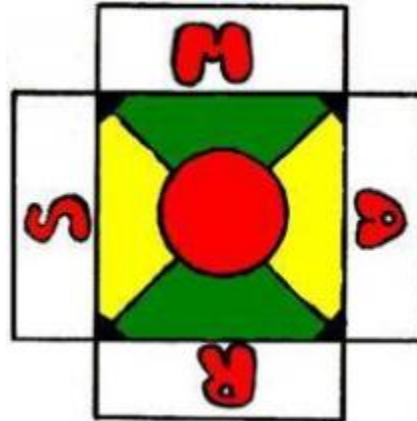


MARS

Matlock Area Recreation and Sports Group

MARS was formed in the autumn of 2000 following the public meetings held by Derbyshire Dales District Council to discuss the need for a new sports facility in the Central Dales area.



What does MARS do?

The Group is working with the District Council to raise funds, demonstrate public support and move forward the priorities identified during the public meetings and consultation on the proposed facility.

Who can join the Group?

MARS members include local residents, representatives from sports clubs and community groups. Regular meetings take place and these are open to anyone interested in supporting the facility and in having a say on the facilities provided.

Where will the new sports centre be located?

The Leisure Centre at The Dimple, on the borders of Darley Dale and Matlock, will serve the whole of the central area of the Derbyshire Dales. Outline planning permission has already been approved for this and a hotel/pub just below the site.

Who will pay for the Centre?

The District Council will make the major contribution to the cost of the scheme and is currently investigating potential sources for the necessary additional funding for the project, as well as the best way to achieve the project.

Where are we now?

Four options for the new centre have now been published, costs ranging between 10 - 20 million pounds. DDDC are in discussion with a number of possible funders who appear to be very excited by the ideas put forward.

Once this has been determined the 'option' can be determined, we then as a group will be in consultation with the DDDC on the design brief.

Current Fund-raising Activities:

As a group with the help of local Councils, business and residents we have raised (as of 1st August 2006) £90,000, the main benefactor being Twiggs of Matlock, who have also promised a further £60,000 over the next two years.

Events are planned throughout the year, for example an annual MARS Triathlon takes place each Bank Holiday Monday in August and is becoming very popular with all ages.

Grants - Following the very substantial grant from Twiggs it is now hoped that other local business will come forward and support the development of what will be the finest leisure facility in the area.

Founders' Certificates

If you become a Founder of the new Facility by buying a Founders' Certificate, you will receive in return seven free swims in the new leisure centre. Your name will also appear on a list of Founders that will be built into the facility. More importantly YOU will be contributing to the future of the Derbyshire Dales.

The cost of becoming a Founder is £20 (twenty pounds) for an adult and £10 (ten pounds) for a young person under 16 years of age when they apply. Application forms are available from Derbyshire Dales District Council Leisure Centre, the Town Hall, Matlock and the Imperial Rooms in Matlock.