



■ 'Spud' shows off his unicycle skills.



■ Local councillors and committee members discuss changes for the pitch and surrounding area.

Pictures by Toby Weller

Hundreds turn out to have their say at play area

By HELEN DALE
hdale@c-dm.co.uk

HUNDREDS of people turned out to support a "have your say day" at the Trescobas recreation area in Falmouth last weekend.

The aim of the event on the former Ashfield dump site was to get an idea of how local residents would like to see the all-weather pitch and surrounding area developed in the future.

To entice people along, a community fun day was organised with activities and entertainment to suit the whole family.

All those attending were asked to complete a survey and by the end of the day 140 had been returned. Forty per cent of those were filled in by young people between the ages of 10 and 19.

In addition, lots of pictures were drawn of how people would like to see the area improved for recreational purposes.

Hundreds of post-it notes were also stuck onto large maps of the site, highlighting current problems and issues, and also with suggestions for the future of the area.

During the afternoon, lively debates were led in the consultation tent by Falmouth-based Mor Design, which has been appointed to help draw together all the information. It will also come up with a master plan for the site in response to people's views.

Phil Wyatt, of Mor Design, said: "We want the community to be at the centre of the process so that they can get involved in developing strong ideas."

"This will mean they have an invested interest in helping the ideas to work."

Over the summer, this information will be reported back to the community and to Falmouth Town Council, which owns the site.

The results of the consultation will be used to shape the



■ Beth Harris and Emily Dunn-Wilson try a bit of sumo-wrestling.

master plan and applications for funding.

On the less serious side, the fun day began with members of Circo Kernow Youth Circus leading a procession through the local estate on stilts and unicycles, demonstrating juggling and other circus skills.

Also part of the parade was rhythm and percussion group Speaking in Drums.

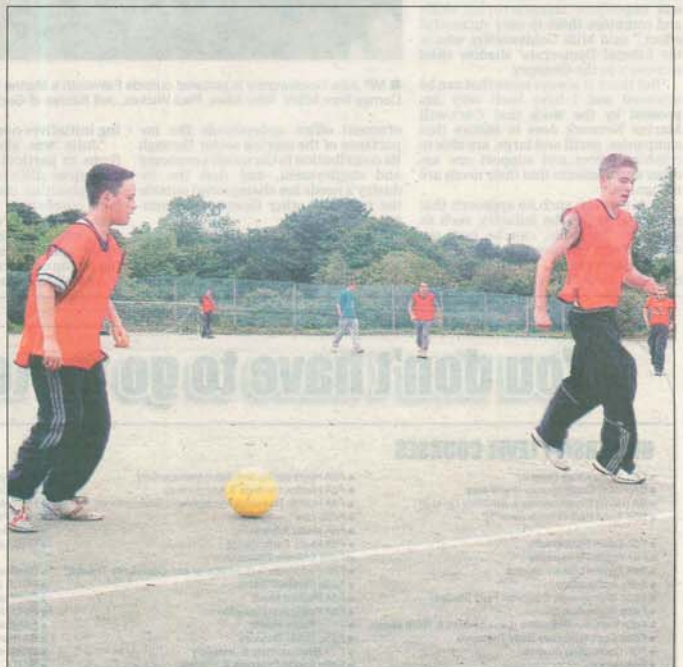
On site there was a host of activities and entertainment, including music from The Red Army, a barbecue, bouncy castles, space hoppers and in-

flatable sumo suits.

Children had their faces painted, games were held on the all-weather pitch and firefighters and policemen were put in the stocks and pelted with wet sponges.

The whole event had been organised, and funding raised, by Alexa Marshall and Sarah Kerkin from Carrick Council's regeneration team.

It was supported by Oakfield, Acacia and Trescobas Tenants and Residents' Association, who distributed 700 leaflets to homes in the area.



■ Local children and teenagers play a game of football on the all-weather pitch.



■ Joel Dunn-Wilson gets psyched up for his sumo match.