



Access Statement

Bladon Chains Caravan Club Site

Contact Information

For those wishing to contact The Caravan Club by phone, typetalk calls can be made to sites, and for members only to the Contact Centre on 01342 327490. The Caravan Club's website has been designed with accessibility in mind, and includes keyboard navigation and Browsealoud texthelp. The website complies with the W3C level A guidelines.

Arrival and Car Parking Facilities

Timber gates are fitted at the main vehicular entrance into the site. The gates are shut at 8.00pm. The site is clearly signposted at the vehicular main entrance.

Visitors' parking, in marked bays for 6 cars is on a tarmac area opposite to the reception building. Clear signage is provided. There is no designated space for disabled people. There are 2 marked new arrivals' stopping lanes on the approach to the reception building. The site has no late night arrivals area.

Reception

The main reception building is clearly identified by signage on the approach. The reception is accessed via a dropped kerb and ramp set to a gradient of 1:8. The ramp has no handrails. An alternative stepped approach is provided which again has no handrails. A small white bell with LED indicator is located to the left hand side of the entrance door at a height of 1050mm.

The entrance door to the reception is inward opening and achieves a clear opening width of 770mm over a level threshold. There is adequate lighting above the door but no weather protection. Internally the reception achieves adequate wheelchair manoeuvring space in front of the reception desk. The desk is mounted at a height of 900mm and does not incorporate a low level position or adequate knee space for a wheelchair user. There is a lift up section of the counter 700mm wide which could provide knee space if left down. The reception does not incorporate a hearing induction loop to aid communication with a hearing aid user.

Pitches

The site is gently sloping and provides a total of 92 pitches. There are no permanently designated accessible pitches. There are 2 gravel surfaced hard standing pitches immediately opposite the central toilet block less than 50 metres from the main reception building. These pitches are available to disabled users upon request and located on a level section of the site. A further 10 gravel surfaced hard-standing pitches are located within 50 metres of the central toilet block. Roll-out mats are not available.

Pitches are allocated according to individual preferences. Remaining pitches across the site are a mixture of gravel surfaced hard-standing and grassed pitches.

Public Areas of the Site

Tarmac roads provide access around this gently sloping site. The majority of roads are set to a shallow gradient of less than 1:20. The new arrivals bays, car parking bays and area adjacent to the main reception is set to a gradient exceeding 1:20. There is no separation of vehicular and pedestrian traffic along the main roads around the site. The main vehicular routes into the site from the reception area are fitted with speed humps which obstructs the route to the main toilet block.

The principal entrance, reception and car parking areas, central toilet block and service points are fitted with adequate external lighting.

Toilet Block

The toilet facilities, and other facilities except the information room, are all in one building, about 50m from reception. It is possible to park off the access road in front of the toilet block, but there are no marked spaces. Clear signage identifies the various facilities.

At the right side end of the block there is a dropped kerb from the road and paving set at a gradient of 1:7 leading onto a level paved area around the block. At the rear of the building there are steps fitted with a single handrail and contrasting nosings to the edge of steps.

At the other end of the building, to the male facilities, there is a 50mm kerb from the access road onto the paved area. At the rear, there is a gently sloping tarmac path and ramp set to a gradient of 1:12 with no handrails.

Both the **male and female toilet** facilities have a step up of 160mm at the door threshold. Inward opening entrance doors achieve a clear width of 720mm, achieve adequate contrast and are fitted with ergonomic handles.

The inner doors to toilets are opened by a keypad control at a height of 1400mm. They achieve a 750mm opening width and are stiff to operate.

In the **male facilities** there are urinals with no grab rails. WC cubicles have inward-opening doors with slide locks. One WC cubicle is fitted with grab rails suitable for ambulant disabled use and fitted with signage. Privacy cubicles with washbasins are fitted with lever taps set into vanity units at 840mm high; none of the cubicles have grab rails. Shower cubicles are fitted with inward-opening doors and slide locks. There is a 100mm step down into the shower, clearly identifiable by a change in floor tile colour. One shower cubicle is fitted with grab rails suitable for ambulant disabled use and fitted with suitable signage. Visual contrast is fair, with white fittings on cream walls and vanity units, cream cubicles, and red floor. Lighting is by timed ceiling diffusers.

The **female facilities** are similar to the male facilities except there are no urinals.

There is one **accessible combined WC and shower**, located at the far end of the toilet block from reception. Adequate signage is provided. It is accessed from the path along the side of the building set to a gradient of 1:12 leading to a level landing outside the door. There is a barrier fence on the open side, but no handrails.

Access is with a key available from reception. The stained timber outward-opening door has an effective clear width of 730mm to the pull rail, 800mm to the door, and a D-handle externally at 1050mm. Internally there is a push plate, a turn lock at 860mm high that can be opened externally in an emergency, and a white pull rail at 900mm. There is a wall light to the side of the door and a lit pictogram sign and emergency alarm light above the door. The threshold is flush.

The room achieves overall internal dimensions of 2250mm x 2300mm plus an additional recessed shower alcove 1000 x 1100mm. The cubicle achieves adequate wheelchair manoeuvring space to the side of the WC position. Due to the recessed shower alcove there is insufficient space for a wheelchair user to use the accessible shower.

The WC is designed for right hand transfer and located opposite the door. The wash hand basin is on the opposite wall beside the door and therefore not within reach of the WC. The basin is fitted with lever style taps.

Other points to note that are not in accordance with the recommendations are:

- the flush is on the wall side of the cistern
- the WC has a horseshoe-type seat
- toilet paper is roll-type
- there are no paper towels and the hand-dryer, beside the door, is remote from the WC and the washbasin
- the horizontal and drop-down grab rails are at 730mm.
- white sanitary ware and grab rails are lacking in colour and contrast against adjacent white wall surfaces.

The shower area, screened by a curtain, has level access. There is a drop-down seat at 460mm, for right-hand transfer, and a separate shower chair. The shower control is a thermostatic lever mixer tap and the adjustable shower head is from 1300mm to 1850mm. The horizontal grab rail is at 650mm high and the vertical grab rail is centred at 1000mm from the floor.

There is one alarm cord adjacent to the WC, but this is not reachable from the shower area. The reset button is adjacent at a height of 1220mm from floor level. Neither the alarm nor the reset button is reachable from the shower area.

Other Facilities

The **information room** is situated adjacent to the reception building and clearly signed. Access is via the tarmac area around reception and paving slabs in front of the hut, some of which are slightly uneven. There is step of 215mm into the hut restricting access to wheelchair users. Assistance is available within reception. There are solid double outward-opening doors, held open to give an effective clear width of 1120mm. Inside, there is adequate manoeuvring space, leaflets are displayed in racks up to 1500mm high on a shelf round two sides of the room at 900mm high. There is a small table 730mm high, but no seating.

The **vegetable preparation and washing-up area** is at the far end of the toilet block. It does not have doors and there is a clear sign on the back wall. There is a step up of 160mm posing a barrier to wheelchair users. There is only 500mm between the sinks and the edge of the tiling, and therefore not enough space for a wheelchair

user to manoeuvre. There are three stainless steel sinks at 860mm high with a shelf underneath which restricts knee-space; all the sinks have knob-type taps.

The **laundry facility**, located at the front of the toilet block, is accessed via the paved footpath around the building. The laundry is identified by a clear sign. There is a step up of 160mm posing a barrier to wheelchair users. The outward opening doors provided an effective clear width of 720mm. There is limited space internally with only 830mm between the sinks and the wall. There are two stainless steel sinks at 790mm high with knee space underneath and knob-type taps. There is one top-loading washing machine and one front-loading dryer, with coin slots are 1070mm high, and controls at 1070mm at the back of the machines. There is also a small top-loading spin dryer at 610mm high. There is no iron. Visual contrast is fair with white machines against cream walls, and red quarry tiled floor. There is insufficient manoeuvring space internally to accommodate a wheelchair user.

The **public telephone** is in a small room at the end of the reception building, near to the information room. There is a clear BT pictogram sign on the door. Access is via the tarmac area around reception and a 15-50 mm kerb from the road onto a narrow pavement. There is a step up of 100mm posing a barrier to wheelchair users. The outward-opening door has an effective clear width of 780mm. The internal space is very limited, being 830mm by 840mm. The light grey BT telephone, set on a white wall, is 1030mm to 1340mm high and does not have an inductive coupler. There is a shelf at 750mm high underneath. Visual contrast is good.

There are five **service points**: one at the toilet block, one by reception and the other three within the site; three have chemical closet emptying points. They are identifiable by the signs to the taps. The service point by reception is accessed via the tarmac area around the reception building and the paving in front of the information room to a gently sloping paved area. The one in the southern part of the site is set back from the road and accessed by a level paved path 900mm wide. In the northern part of the site the water point is adjacent to the road and has level access. The chemical closet emptying point in the toilet block is accessed from the paved area around the block, and has a step up of 130mm plus a weather strip of 10mm. The inward-opening door, held open, has an effective clear width of 740mm and a D-handle at 1250mm. Access to the other emptying points is via paths 600-900mm wide. The three emptying points are all raised at 450-550mm from the floor or ground. There is adequate space in front of all the taps, but access to some of the dustbins is limited. The taps all have single cross-tops and are at 1040-1130mm from the ground; the gullies underneath are flush with the ground.

The **motor home waste point** is at the entrance to the site, adjacent to the new arrivals' lanes. The waste outlet is covered with a metal manhole cover, with a central lifting ring.

There is a fenced **play area** under trees on the eastern perimeter of the site, accessed by a short bark path from the road. There is no signage, except a notice on the gate regarding use of the play area. Entry is through a timber gate with an effective clear width of 830mm. Equipment provided includes a slide, climbing frame, double swing, Wendy house and a bouncing pole. The enclosed area is surfaced with soft bark.