

Call for 50m Mission pool

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"This eight lane pool would provide a serious competition pool for our children and also provide a larger, more flexible leisure swimming facility for both locals and tourists alike to enjoy."

Mr Graham's concerns follow the club's general meeting on Monday night, which included among its guests Mayor Bill Shannon and Kennedy MP Bob Katter.

Cr Shannon said a 25m pool with six lanes could provide for leisure and competition. "Six lanes is enough to hold a shortcourse swimming competition with heats and finals — six lanes is the right number," he said.

"We have to be realistic about this, Mission Beach

only has a small population and a 50m pool costs a lot to maintain. But the club is pushing for minor modifications that we are open to."

Recreation club president Ken Gray said modifications to the pool plan should include leisure water space and a "flexible rubberised course". "It's like a mat with water jets sprouting out of it — it's the type of thing kids want nowadays," he said.

Mr Katter said the pool should be closer to the beach.

"People should be able to go for a walk along the beach and then go for a swim in the pool," Mr Katter said. "If it's on the beach, commercial interests can come forward and relieve some of the taxpayer burden."