



**The Pilot Field,
Elphinstone Road
Hastings East Sussex
TN34 2AX**

**Memo report document to:
Hastings Borough Council.
Simon Hubbard.
Andrew Palmer.**

**From:
David Nessling,
Chairman,
Hastings United FC.**

cc. Keith Duly.

Proposed relocation of Hastings United FC to Tilekiln Recreation Ground

I understand that Officers of the Council would like some additional information on both current and potential future aspects of our Club and the facilities we are proposing for a development at Tilekiln Recreation Ground.

The information provided below covers how the Club currently involves itself in the local community and in charity organisation support. In addition it explains how the local community can benefit from the new facilities being proposed for the Tilekiln development:

Examples of the Club's community and charity involvements

- Raised during the last 12 months and presented £20,500 to the Friends of Conquest Hospital for their MRI Scanner appeal.
- Raised during the last 12 months and presented £5,000 to the family of spina bifida sufferer Summer Finlay to cover the cost of a specialist bed for her. In addition provided Summer's family with £1,700 in order they could take Summer for a holiday to former Spurs star Graham Roberts home for disabled kids in Portugal.
- We have a charity partner for 2018/19 in Dom's Food Mission. We are raising money for the Mission in the same way we did for the Friends of Conquest Hospital.
- We do bucket collections at a number of home matches for Demelza and other charities and good cause fundraisers we are approached by.
- We hosted local accountancy firm Ashdown Hurry for their St. Michael's Hospice fundraising day.
- We have charity collection boxes in all of our social/function bar areas.
- We host charity fund raising events for local charities and good causes at our social/function outlets.

- We donate free match day tickets for home matches to schools, local youth clubs and disability groups. We also provide free of charge tickets and hospitality packages as prizes to organisations that are holding fundraising raffles and/or require auction prizes.
- We provided Christmas presents for the Conquest Hospital kids ward each year. These are presented on a personal basis by some of our players and staff just prior to Christmas.
- We have provided Christmas presents to residents of the Lauriston Care Home.
- We are working alongside Little Gate Farm to put in place an Adult with special needs/learning difficulties project that will allow a work based football environment to be available on a two days a week basis.
- We host community events for such as firework nights and legends football matches. These events are used to fundraise for our charity and good cause partners.
- We hold an annual Community Day on Hastings seafront at which our players entertain, coach and play football with youngsters who we present with such as a Hastings United in the Community tee-shirt.
- We operate a Football Academy with squads from U13 to U18 age groups. **Within the Academy we have 100 plus local players. On match days we can have a whole community of over 100 plus parents and/or guardians and/or family, plus very beneficial sponsors to the Academy, supporting the players. The same similar support can be seen on training nights at Hastings Academy.**
- We operate a Football Education scheme for 16 to 19 year olds in partnership with East Sussex College Group – Hastings College. There are sufficient students to operate three teams within the scheme. The U19 team play in the National Football Alliance League under the banner and direction of Hastings United FC. The other two teams play in the Sussex Colleges League under the banner of Hastings College but coached by the staff of Hastings United FC. The Hastings United FC first team manager is employed by the Club on a full time basis with part of his brief being that he manages and works within the Football Education scheme at Hastings College on a daily basis. The education part of the scheme, and passing of exams, is paramount. Maths and English, as is required under government legislation, are studied under the scheme with such subjects forming the crux part of the learning experience. As a Club we believe the Football Education scheme has proved a great tool for getting students to buy into continued education due to the fact they are able to attach a football education to their general education studies.
- We as a Club provide work experience periods for students attending Hastings College.
- We provide Hastings United FC staff, to service, with our coaching partner Skiltek, after school clubs both at Hastings College and local schools.
- We run summer holiday football camps with our coaching partner Skiltek for local youngsters at varying age groups.
- We provide some of our old kit to local needy organisations and have sent kit to Africa under the national ‘Kit for Africa’ project.
- We invite local clubs and organisations to provide ball boys and ball girls for our first team matches with kit and free tickets to parents provided by the Club.

How can a development at Tilekiln boost local amenities for Hastings

Hastings unfortunately has fallen behind in terms of the availability of modern sporting facilities. This is not the fault of Hastings Borough Council but simply a lack of investment in sports facilities by Government due to a stretched economy over many years.

The proposed development at Tilekiln will increase Hastings sporting offer especially in terms of 'football for all'.

The Club liaised in one form or another with many groups during the consultation process about the Combe Valley Sports Village scheme and regarding current and future sporting facilities. Groups liaised with that could now say benefit from the development proposed for Tilekiln included such as the following:

- 1066 Specials FC (special needs & disabilities).
- Hastings & Bexhill Mencap (learning disabilities).
- Hastings & Rother Voluntary Action for the Blind.
- Active Hastings.
- Education Futures Trust.
- Football Mundial.
- Firmballs (football).
- Leisure Leagues (football).
- St. Leonards (Cinque Ports) Rugby Club.
- Hastings & Bexhill Rugby Club.
- East Sussex Football League.
- Rother Youth Football League.
- Hastings Conquerors American Football Club.
- Sussex Coast College (now Hastings College part of East Sussex College Group).
- Sussex Futsal Club.
- St. Leonards Social FC (current user of a Tilekiln football pitch).
- Peche Hill Select FC (current user of a Tilekiln football pitch).
- Rock a Nore FC (current user of a Tilekiln football pitch).
- Ore Athletic FC (former user of a Tilekiln football pitch until club disbanded).
- AFC Hollington Athletic (current user of Bulverhythe Recreation Ground).
- Hastings & District Football Association.
- Sussex County Football Association.
- Football Association.

The following provide examples of the type of additions to the Hastings facilities and amenities map that would result from the facilities proposed for Tilekiln. Hastings United FC cannot at present provide the facilities required to introduce such additions and certainly there are currently insufficient amenities in Hastings to service additional types of football, wellbeing, sporting and leisure activities.

- Introduction of teams playing disability football.
- Introduction potentially of football for visually impaired and deaf people.
- Introduction of teams for womens and girls football.
- Introduction of walking football for men and women.
- Offers of use of facilities to disadvantaged community groups.
- Ability to hold FA and SCFA courses in such as coaching, first aid, physiotherapy, safeguarding, etc.

- Ability to have all HUFC Academy teams playing back within Hastings.
- Ability for Hastings based park football teams to play and train on a 3G pitch and where required under floodlights with changing rooms provided.
- Ability to play local cup finals at a new stadium with after match social facilities.
- Ability to hold six a side tournaments and mid-week small sided football leagues.
- Football Education scheme participants to benefit from facilities they do not have currently.
- Sports and leisure club gym available for the local community. This facility will assist in controlling obesity and provide the ability to improve fitness and wellbeing.
- Ability for local schools to have mid-week daytime use of the facilities.
- Ability for community to be treated in sports therapy suite.
- Ability for community groups to use meeting rooms and classrooms.
- Ability for community to use social areas and function suite.
- Ability for all users to park off road.

I hope the content of this document provides the additional information you require.

Should you need anything additional please do not hesitate in getting in touch as I will be only to happy to try to assist.

David Nessling,
Chairman,
Hastings United FC.
24th October 2018