

WOOTTON BASSETT SPORTS ASSOCIATION

Gerard Buxton Sports Ground, Rylands Way, Wootton Bassett, Wiltshire, SN4 8AY
Tel: 01793 853380

Relocation of Wootton Bassett Sports Association – Update to Area Board 18/03/2015

Background

Wootton Bassett Sports Association (WBSA) is in the process of relocating from the 7 acre site at Rylands Way to a 23 acre site to the north of the Malmesbury Road and opposite the Ballards Ash sports ground. The Association hosts the Town's football, tennis, cricket and road running clubs, together with social clubs/members. The current site includes a football pitch, cricket pitch, four tennis courts, and associated clubhouse with changing and social rooms. The new site when fully developed will provide for a full size and floodlit 3rd generation artificial grass pitch (AGP), 2 cricket squares, 4 football pitches of varied sizes, 8 tennis courts, together with changing room and community/social facilities within the clubhouse.

Current Status

I'm pleased to report that though progress slowed through Jan & Feb, the overall development work continues at the new site broadly to schedule for opening in July 2015.

The major achievements in the last two months are as follows:

1. Clubhouse – External walls sealed and internal membrane applied. Boarding applied to cellar and kitchen rooms. Value engineering of the mechanical and electrical design to return cost closer to budget. Interior design completed. Windows, drylining and roofing packages all tendered and appointed;
2. Highways – Technical design approved by Council officers, and phased roadworks plan approved. Note: see issue below;
3. General site works – completion of the attenuation pond and site drainage connection is ongoing as weather permits. Ground preparation for the artificial grass pitch, and tennis courts completed;
4. Operations – Website (RWBSA.org.uk) launched. Continued drafting of operational policies and procedures. General Manager job description developed and currently advertised. Grounds maintenance programmes defined, and consideration of how to resource is ongoing. Business plan development ongoing;
5. Capital budget – forecast currently over budget due to increased cost of securing contractors for some packages. Detailed scrutiny and value engineering of all packages being applied in order to seek to return to budget, with some items being excluded from development.

ISSUE: The Highways works include

- Resurfacing of a significant section of the road which is in a poor state of repair and would otherwise require resurfacing by Wiltshire Council;
- Installation of drainage to the carriageway which the current lack of is causing surface degradation that would require correction by Wiltshire Council.

It is unreasonable for WBSA, as a voluntary run organisation, to carry the cost of these works, and WBSA ask the Area Board for its support in seeking a contribution from Wiltshire Council.

Any local clubs or organisations interested in discussing the development and usage of the facilities then please contact me on the number below.

Paul Harrison
Relocation Manager (Voluntary)
Tel: 01793 855665