

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 26/11/14

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 development work continues at the new site broadly to schedule for opening in July 2015.

The major achievements in the last quarter are as follows:

1. The major focus has been on the natural turf works, with drainage and irrigation installation across the site completed. The soil has been tilled, levelled, and stone removed, in preparation for seeding. The stadium football pitch, 1st team cricket pitch, and 2nd cricket square have all been seeded and grass is establishing, though an overseed will be required in the spring. The remaining grass pitches will be seeded in the spring;
2. A power line crossing the site have been rerouted;
3. The attenuation pond, for capture of the drainage outfall, is currently being constructed;
4. Ground preparation for the clubhouse, artificial grass pitch, and tennis courts, is in progress;
5. A grant application to the English Cricket Board, targeted at helping to fund the cricket changing rooms and sustainability of the clubhouse, has been successful;
6. Budget remains tight but achievable, with all tender packages being scrutinised for value engineering and design compromise to ensure works costs are within budget;
7. Planning is ongoing to ensure the Association can "hit the ground running" regards the operation of the new site.

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

Please note that, despite mention in promotional material of additional facilities for the sports hub, WBSA is not involved with the proposed residential and Tesco store on the land adjoining our new site.

Paul Harrison
Relocation Manager
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