From:

Date: Wed, 6 Sept 2023, 20:55

Subject: Hazelwood ARC and Wheatsheaf extended local provision

To:

## Good evening,

Following our initial touch rugby training, Hazelwood ARC will look to begin inclusive special needs rugby sessions local to my base in Wilton immediately. No current local provision exists for those unable to meet the requirements of a standard, large mini section.

I have an extensive background in rugby locally and wish to utilise this to provide an inclusive unit. Hazelwood ARC, although new, stems from an established special needs business and the demand for extra-curricular provision is significant.

The Wheatsheaf is a perfect association, with the origins stemming from inclusion and comradery. The history and loyalty of the players is something which the children will gain such a lot from. Current players are welcoming and the small club size would suit the social anxieties of my complex students. Several players have already expressed an interest in supporting the specialist unit, which is a huge boost to both the children and their families.

The reliability and continuity of the ground at Harnham would be imperative to the long-term success of my plans. The location is quiet but easily accessible. The safety of my students is paramount and the extensive distance from the main road to pitch side is essential. Many of my students have autism and therefore consistency is absolutely key.

The positive impact the separate entities of both the Wheatsheaf and the council approved provision of Hazelwood ARC are substantial. Combined, the application and benefit to our area is substantial. The inclusive ethos and relaxed approach are much needed to bring our community together. I hope that the current and future offering to our area consolidates the decision to grant the community asset transfer in a 25 year term,

I look forward to hearing from you in order that specific dates can be organised following the group training. The season has already begun and I would like for the children to have an opportunity to visit the site prior to sessions. I would also benefit from advanced knowledge of suitable matches for small groups to attend.

Kind regards

Sophie Scott Director Hazelwood ARC