

Milton Road Sports and Community Facilities - Update from APC and WFAC

The development of the new facilities on the Milton Road has 4 stages:

1. Obtaining Planning Permission for Change of Use on the land and preparing the pitch area to allow the grass time to grow (12-18 months). This can be achieved using some of the existing Section 106 funds.
2. Obtaining Planning Permission for the new Community and Sports Building, using existing S106 funds. This stage also includes costing the project, using a Quantity Surveyor, producing a business plan and making a start on applying for grants from bodies like the FA, Lottery and Sport England.
3. Building the new Community and Sports hall, with associated car parking and new Highways entrance, as well as the Muga. There will be some S106 funds left to put to this but the majority of the cost will be met by grants from the FA, Sport England, Lottery and other grant funders.
4. Running the new facility. This will be agreed by the Parish Council as the owners on behalf of the community. There will need to be a group formed to take this on (a 'village/sports hall committee), under a long term lease, probably consisting of representatives from the user groups. It is intended that the facility should fund itself from hiring charges paid by users.

Currently the project is completing Stage 1 and has moved into Stage 2.

Preparation of the pitch area was intended to begin at the start of October but this has been delayed by the large amount of rainfall in late Sept/early October. This will begin as soon as the soil conditions allow.

The Application for the building and associated works has been lodged with Cherwell District Council (CDC) and can be seen on their planning website. Publicity boards showing the site layout and the internal plan for the building, together with visual depictions of what the building will look like can be seen in Adderbury library and on display at Working for Adderbury Community (WFAC) events.

The details have been revised following comments from the WFAC team and residents at consultation, especially the size and position of the building. The application has received a very positive response from CDC.

What will happen in the near future?

WFAC will be applying for large grants to cover the cost of the building work. This stage can only go forward when enough funds have been committed to the project by grant awarding bodies.

WFAC are also organising fund raising events. The team are working hard to make the forthcoming Ball on November 9th a wonderful event for the second year running and there will be a special Christmas Aunt Agatha's tea on December 8th. All the Aunt Agatha teas have been a great success especially last year's Christmas one. So book your place as soon as possible.

Which Groups are interested in using the Facility?

The Parish Council and WFAC have always intended this to be a facility for all the Community and all ages with many activities.

A wide variety of groups have said they'd like to use the building, sports pitches and MUGA. User feedback from 2 surveys conducted in 2018/19, indicates a strong level of interest and provisional commitment from key user groups.

These include Christopher Rawlins School, Adderbury Angels Netball group, Sharpe and Blunt Morris dancers, Adderbury Park Football club, Voices through Time, Adderbury Theatre Workshop, the Parish Council, Adderbury Table Tennis club, junior badminton club and Mini-tennis coaching club.

What about the Lucy Plackett Playing Field?

We have not forgotten this important area for leisure in the village. Part of the overall plan for new facilities in Adderbury is to improve those at the LPPF.

The WFAC have been considering some ideas for this but would welcome any input and suggestions from residents.