

Plantation Youth Football Management Plan – 2021 - 2031

Our Vision is to create a safe & sustainable environment for everyone for current and future generations to enjoy the facilities.

1. Introduction

The site has predominately been used for sporting activities with the pitch & MUGA open to the public with the pavilion bookable for events. The pitch is used by several football clubs , currently Plantation YFC with Debden FC using on Saturday afternoons; the MUGA is used a range of sporting activities, including by a netball club, local football clubs (in addition to Plantation) and fitness classes. 4 separate groups of adults (age range 20-60) with no club affiliation currently use the MUGA football in the evenings, mainly for fitness and social purposes. The Pavilion is used for one off training courses and has been used pre-pandemic was used by other organised groups . The site has been mainly managed by Plantation Football Youth Club for the last 4 years although the lease sits with Saffron Walden Ladies until September 2022.

The pitch is currently in a poor standard. A new specialist sports ground maintenance company has been secured to undertake extensive repairs to bring the pitch to a very high standard. An investment of £5,675.00 + VAT is being funded by In addition, new roll-on goals have been purchased at a cost of £2k.

The MUGA is in a good standard. The facility is open to the public with the exception of specific hours when it is used by sporting clubs or organised groups(mainly in the evenings); The Pavilion is in a good standard where there has been investment to upgrade the kitchen facilities, essential maintenance on the roof and there are plans to further improve the clubroom and open it more regularly to club members and the wider community.

It is estimated that over £10k has been invested in the Crabtrees facility in the last 2 years with more to follow over the next few years should the lease be secured.

2. Site Aims and Objectives

- Create and maintain the site
- Ensure the site is clean, safe & secure and well maintained
- Ensure sustainable management of resources
- Encourage community involvement & usage and effective marketing of the facility

3. How these aims are going to be met and objectives for the future

Create and maintain the site

There is one main entrance into Crabtrees situated off Hop Fields leading into the car park. There are two pedestrian entrances of which one is located off Crabtrees and the second is accessed via the main car park. Both entrances are open to the public as part of the condition of the lease.

The current tenant work in collaboration with the council to maintain and care for the trees and hedging in the vicinity. All accesses and paths are well kept and the equipment and facilities provided (eg pavilion including changing room, kitchen, meeting area & bar) and MUGA are well maintained.

The overall impression for any member of the community or visitors approaching and entering the facility should be positive and inviting. Signs are essential and at present there is an old sign "ladies Football". The proposal will be to make a new sign naming the facility "Saffron Walden Crabtrees Community Centre?" to create a welcoming site to any member of the community approaching and entering the car park.

There is a noticeboard at the entrance and the proposal is to ensure this is kept up to date with upcoming events and links to the new Facebook page and Instagram site and contact information.

Objectives

1. Maintain all boundary hedges and fences
2. Install and maintain signage
3. Maintenance and provision of site furniture where appropriate

Ensure the site is clean, safe & secure and well maintained

The Crabtree facility has been maintained by Plantation Football Youth in conjunction with funding provided by Walden Ladies FC for the last 4 years. Detailed in the 10 year management plan outlines the proposed plans for Crabtrees. The objectives will be achieved working with the local council and the community to ensure all facilities are maximised and available to all to use.

Objectives

1. Undertake regular cleaning regime of the facility
2. Continue to encourage users to value the playing pitch and outdoor hut
3. Enhance the pavilion facilities
4. Continue with current maintenance arrangements
5. Carry through a programme of improvements

Ensure sustainable management of resources

The current caretakers recognise and are aware of the need to minimise adverse impact to the environment.

Objectives

1. Promote recycling of waste

2. Ensure efficient use of resources
3. Minimise use of pesticides
4. Introduce re-cycling

Encourage community involvement & usage and effective marketing of the facility

A separate community and usage strategy has been provided to maximise the use of the facility by the community.

Objectives

1. Joint working with local users and the council
2. Promotion of the site to schools, youth & community groups
3. Creation of Facebook page and Instagram site
4. Creation of a webpage, with contact information and booking capabilities