

Progress Report - The Football Development Plan for the Great Notley AGP.



1. A little Background - The Partnership Agreement:

The Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) at Great Notley Country Park was installed by Braintree District Council (BDC) using grant funding supplied by the Football Foundation (FF).

The FF require an approved Football Development Plan at all their funded locations.

Community Iron (CI) - the community charity of Braintree Town FC - devised and operates this Football Development Plan for BDC. The plan aims to provide additional opportunities for using the AGP.

CI and BDC meet regularly to review the Plan.

2. Football Development Plan activities at Great Notley AGP.

CI markets, administers, and delivers (using its own coaches and equipment) the following community sport activities at the Great Notley AGP, These aim to encourage young people to participate in sport.

For community sport initiatives, BDC supplies the facility free of charge.

The table below summarises the activities run by CI at Great Notley AGP during the year 1/4/18 to 31/3/19

Soccability

There have been 4 Soccability events with 70+ attendees; approx. 20 hours usage.

Soccability is football for young people with disabilities. Community Iron works with Essex Football Association to run Soccability festivals each year, inviting schools from Essex. CI coaches and Academy students run these sessions on behalf of Essex FA.



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Holiday Soccer Camps

There have been 9 full day Soccer Camps with 120 attendees; approx. 45 hours usage.

Community Iron runs holiday Soccer Camps weekly during half terms, Easter & Summer school holidays. Up to 30 children attend and they receive mementoes and 'challenge' trophies. Community Iron coaches and students run the sessions.



Skill Development Sessions

There have been 70 development sessions with 440 attendees; approx. 105 hours usage.

Local budding young footballers from any (or no) club are welcome to come along and get specialist football coaching from Community Iron's coaches. There are 2 'twilight' sessions each week for different age groups

Community Iron organises mixed and girls-only football tournaments. CI coaches and students help the school teams and referee the matches.

Schools Tournaments

There have been 2 schools tournaments with 120 attendees; approx. 10 hours usage.

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The CI / Braintree Town Academy

There are 35 students at the Academy using the facility 1 day per week; approx 140 hours usage.

The Academy is a sport-focused , full-time education programme free to local 16 to 18 year olds.

The Academy - run by CI - pays to use the AGP for daytime training.

Students have represented Braintree Town FC 1st team; Witham Town FC 1st team and the Academy's own sides during the current season.



Alfie Cerulli - Academy graduate scoring for Braintree Town this season.



Academy students in a match

Total:

85 'community events'; 750 attendees; 320 hours of off-peak usage, PLUS PAID Academy Usage: 35 days * 4 hours

5. Current Issues:

The Academy uses premises in Witham for its classrooms, has experienced extra local competition and decreased education funding have led to reduced student numbers. It therefore is unlikely to be practical for the Academy to travel to Great Notley AGP for training sessions in future.

Some activities - such as Walking Football - are much more suited to an indoor rather than outdoor venue. We have trialled them outside but moved them to other venues - such as Bramston Sports Centre.

The AWP is not full size. This precludes its use for adult 11 a side matches.

THE AGP carpet is due for replacement during June / July 2019. CI is working with BDC to develop a significant 'Relaunch Programme of Events' to publicise the facility and bring in a additional usage and revenue.

New initiatives such as a Business Football League for the Skyline 120 businesses will be trialled as part of the Relaunch event.

6 Who are Community Iron?

Community Iron (CI) is a registered charity associated with Braintree Town Football Club. It encourages wellness and sport, and community cohesion.

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Apart from the Great Notley AGP community events summarised above, and its Academy education programme, CI works with partners such as Fusion and Premier League Primary Stars to offer:

Badminton for adults

Walking Football for 'older' adults.

Breakfast Sports Clubs

Regular PE and sports coaching in schools such as Beckers Green, Elm Hall, John Wray, Finch-
ingfield, Lyons Hall, St Michaels, White Notley

Alan Stuckey - Trustee: Community Iron

30/4/19

