

## GREAT NOTLEY COUNTRY PARK JOINT VENTURE PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEETING 5 February 2020

### ARTIFICIAL GRASS PITCH AND MULTI-USE GAMES AREA

---

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

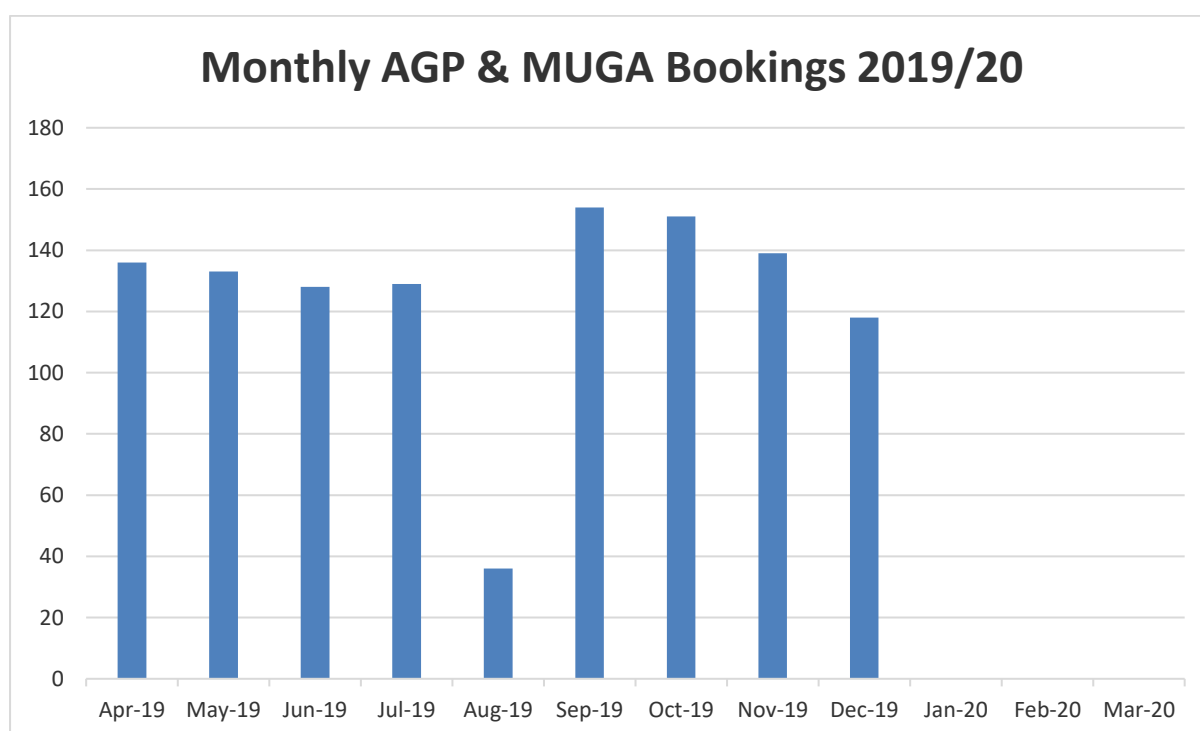
This report provides Members with an update on usage and income from the Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) and Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) at Great Notley Country Park. It covers a 9-month period from 1 April 2019 to 31 December 2019.

#### 2. USAGE AND BOOKINGS

The graph below shows the number of bookings in each month up to the end of December 2019. There were 1130 bookings in total over the nine month period - an average of 126 per month; this was down by 223 bookings or an average of 25 per month compared to the same period in 2018-19.

There have been 32 different organisations/individuals both in and outside of the Braintree District who have regularly booked the facility, ranging from adult and children's football clubs, including Braintree Town Football Academy and Great Notley Youth Football Club, and other sporting clubs – see Appendix 1 for full list. Braintree Town Football Academy and Great Notley Youth Football Club account for some 27% of the total bookings.

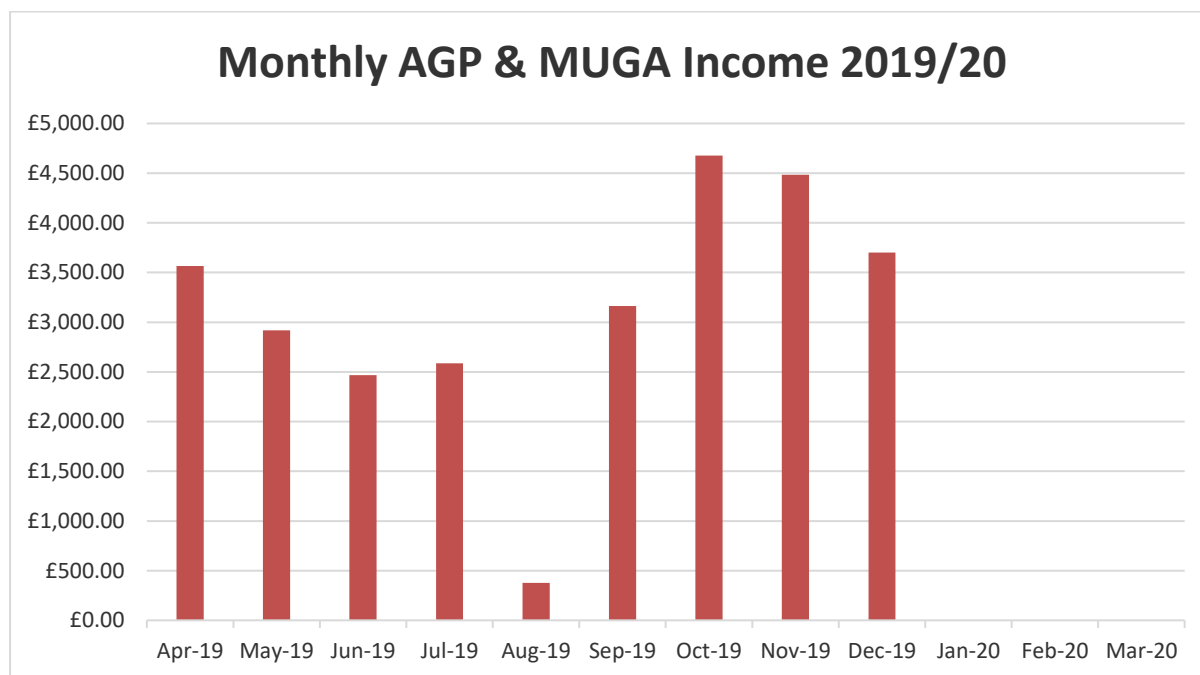
The facility continues to be well used during peak periods (evenings and weekends) when it is virtually full to capacity. This equates to 85% of all bookings, the remainder being made during the off-peak period (daytime Monday to Friday). Off-peak usage has and will continue to be a challenge in terms of the number of bookings, this is at least in part due to the accessibility of the location.



### 3. INCOME GENERATION

The income generated from the AGP and MUGA has more or less remained in line with the budget projection for 2019-20 and follows a similar trend to the previous year. By the end of December 2019, we had received £28k which is £500 less compared to the same period in 2018-19.

The graph below shows the monthly income received:



As expected, there was a reduction in income during the summer months and especially in August due to the closure of the AGP for refurbishment work.

### 4. RENEWAL OF THE ARTIFICIAL GRASS PITCH

In the last report (July 2019) it was explained that the artificial grass pitch (carpet) was due to be replaced by the end of August 2019, as it was 10 years old. Since the facility was opened back in 2009, BDC had received £1.5k p.a. from Great Notley Football Club and had itself contributed £18k p.a. to a reserve (sinking) fund. As at March 2019, the value of the reserve was £155k which was used to replace the carpet in August as planned.

On 28 September, the Council reopened the AGP at Great Notley Country Park following replacement of the old, worn out surface with a new, high quality upgraded pitch. The event was well attended with various sports activities organised for different aged groups. Dignitaries from supporting organisations e.g. Essex County Council, Braintree Town Football Club, Community Iron, enjoyed the event and some also participated in the activities.



## 5. FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Last year we agreed a two year Service Level Agreement (SLA) with the Community Iron (CI); the community charity of Braintree Town FC, to help deliver the aims and objectives of the Football Development Plan (FDP) for BDC.

The FDP aims to provide additional opportunities for using the AGP. CI and BDC meet regularly to review the Plan. Appendix 2 shows the copy of the SLA/FDP and Appendix 3 shows the progress report from CI up to Dec 2019.

## 6. RECOMMENDATION

That Members note the report.

Samir Pandya  
Operations Strategy and Policy Manager  
21 January 2020

### Appendix 1 – List of Organisations and Clubs using the AGP and MUGA

1	Dunmow Utd
2	Silver End YFC
3	Individual
4	Blackmore Rovers
5	Braintree Town FC Academy
6	Braintree Town YFC
7	Braintree Walking Netball - MUGA
8	Individual
9	Cressing Utd
10	Individual
11	Felsted Rovers
12	Gosfield Vets
13	Great Notley YFC
14	Gt Leighs AFC
15	Gt Leighs YFC
16	Individual
17	Individual
18	Individual
19	Individual
20	Lyons Ladies - MUGA
21	Sporting 77
22	Michael Richardson Football Academy
23	Individual
24	Notley Green Lyons
25	Individual
26	The Polish Football Community
27	Individual
28	Rayne Youths
29	Individual
30	Silver End United
31	The Inflatables
32	Triconnex