



Progress Report: April 2019 - December 2019 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 satisfy funders with a programme of community activities using the AGP. CI and BDC meet regularly to review the Plan.

The facility was CLOSED during August 2019 for the laying of a replacement carpet.

2. Football Development Plan activities at Great Notley AGP.

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

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

3. Activity Summary.

Period: Approx. 4 months (1/9/19 to 31/12/19)

- 64 Skills Development Sessions totaling hours - 128 hours
- 4 Holiday Soccer Camp - 20 hours
- 1 Relaunch Event - 2 hours.
- 1 GIRLS Schools Tournament with 8 local schools represented - 5 hours
- 1 OPEN Schools Tournament with 10 local schools represented - 5 hours
- 1 Soccability Event with 4 schools represented - 3 hours.
- 36 Academy training sessions - 72 hours.

Total number of events = 108 events; 235 hours of usage.

4. AGP Relaunch Event - 28th September 2019.

Local dignitaries, footballers and over 100 interested onlookers met at the all-weather football pitch at Great Notley Discovery Centre on Saturday 28th September. They heard Chairman of Braintree District Council, Councilor Angela Kilmartin, talk about the work done to relay the artificial pitch there, before blowing a ceremonial whistle to begin a series of football skill sessions and matches.

Around 50 players of all ages from seven to seventy took part in warm-up drills, walking football, girl's football and some small-sided matches. The event was organised by Community Iron - the Braintree Town Football Club charity - on behalf of Braintree Council.

The Club presented all visitors with a match day programme and then invited everyone attending to come to their home match against Oxford City in the afternoon, where some of the younger players formed a Guard of Honor, and Cllr Kilmartin cheered the Iron on to a home win.

Progress Report: April 2019 - December 2019
The Football Development Plan for the Great Notley AGP.





Progress Report: April 2019 - December 2019
The Football Development Plan for the Great Notley AGP.



Soccability

The Latest Soccability session occurred on WED 13th November with 4 participating schools.

CI organise the day and provide coaches and equipment. BDC supply the facility FoC.

We have 4 more Soccability events planned in the New Year In partnership with Essex Football Association.



Holiday Soccer Camps

The summer holiday programme was transferred to other venues as The Discovery Centre was closed, but normally run EVERY THURSDAY during school holidays.

A final camp for 2019 was held on Oct 31st with 16 youngsters.

Facilities are provided FoC by Braintree Council.

CI organise and deliver the sessions.



Progress Report: April 2019 - December 2019
The Football Development Plan for the Great Notley AGP.



Skills Development

There have been 26 skills development sessions during this period - 2 per week since the centre reopened.

Facilities for Thursday sessions are provided FoC by Braintree Council.

Facilities for Tuesday sessions are paid for by Community Iron.

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.



Schools Tournaments

A local schools GIRLS football tournament was held on TUESDAY 12th NOVEMBER with 10 schools participating.

WHITE NOTLEY school won the tournament and will go on to represent Braintree in a regional competition.

There was a further tournament on THURSDAY 21st NOVEMBER - also with WHITE NOTLEY as winners.

T
here are 2 more tournaments planned for February 2020. We run tournaments for Boys, Girls and mixed sides.



Progress Report: April 2019 - December 2019
The Football Development Plan for the Great Notley AGP.



The CI/Braintree Town Academy

There are 30 students at the Academy. Up to the end of season 2018 - 19 the Academy used the facility 1 day per week; approx 70 hours usage over this period.



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.

5. Current Issues and Plans

New initiatives such as a Business Football League for the Skyline 120 businesses will be trailed in the Spring.

There are 2 more Schools Tournaments planned for February 2020. Financial pressures and the lack of classroom facilities at the site have led to the Academy stopping their use of the AGP.

Alan Stuckey - Trustee: Community Iron
 22/1/2020