

<b>Report title:</b> Artificial Grass Pitch and Multi-Use Games Area	
<b>Report to:</b> Great Notley Country Park Joint Venture Partnership Board	
<b>Report author:</b> Samir Pandya, Operations Strategy and Policy Manager (Braintree District Council)	
<b>Date:</b> 3 April 2023	<b>For:</b> Information
<b>Enquiries to:</b> <a href="mailto:Samir.pandya@braintree.gov.uk">Samir.pandya@braintree.gov.uk</a>	
<b>County Divisions affected:</b> Not applicable	

### **Purpose of Report**

To provide an update on usage and income from the Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) and Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) at Great Notley Country Park from 1 April – July 2022.

Members are asked to note the report.

**GREAT NOTLEY COUNTRY PARK JOINT VENTURE PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEETING  
3 APRIL 2023 AT CAUSEWAY HOUSE, BRAINTREE  
ARTIFICIAL GRASS PITCH AND MULTI-USE GAMES AREA**

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**1. INTRODUCTION**

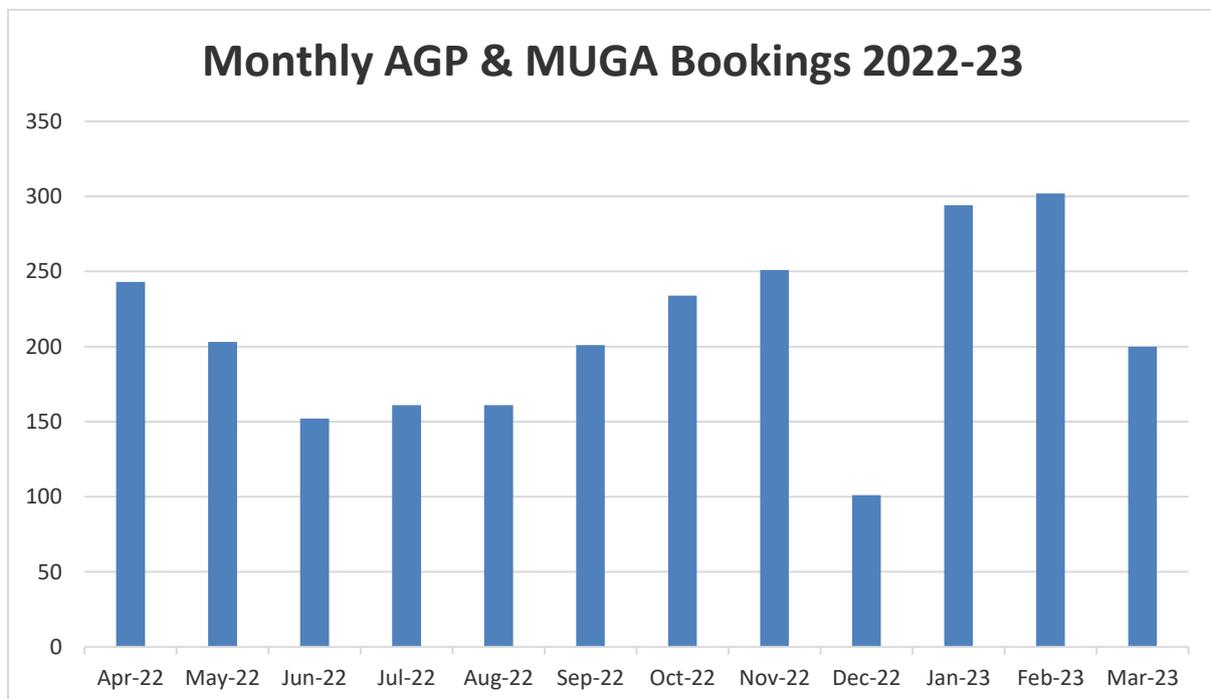
This report provides Members with an update on usage and income from the Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) and Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) at Great Notley Country Park. It covers from 1 April 2022 – 17<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

**2. USAGE AND BOOKINGS**

The graphs below show the number of bookings in each month from 1 April 22 – 17<sup>th</sup> March 2023. There were 2,480 bookings in total an average of 206 per month.

There have been 27 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 Great Notley Youth Football Club, and other sporting clubs – see Appendix 1 for full list. Great Notley Youth Football Club account for some 36.77% of the total bookings.

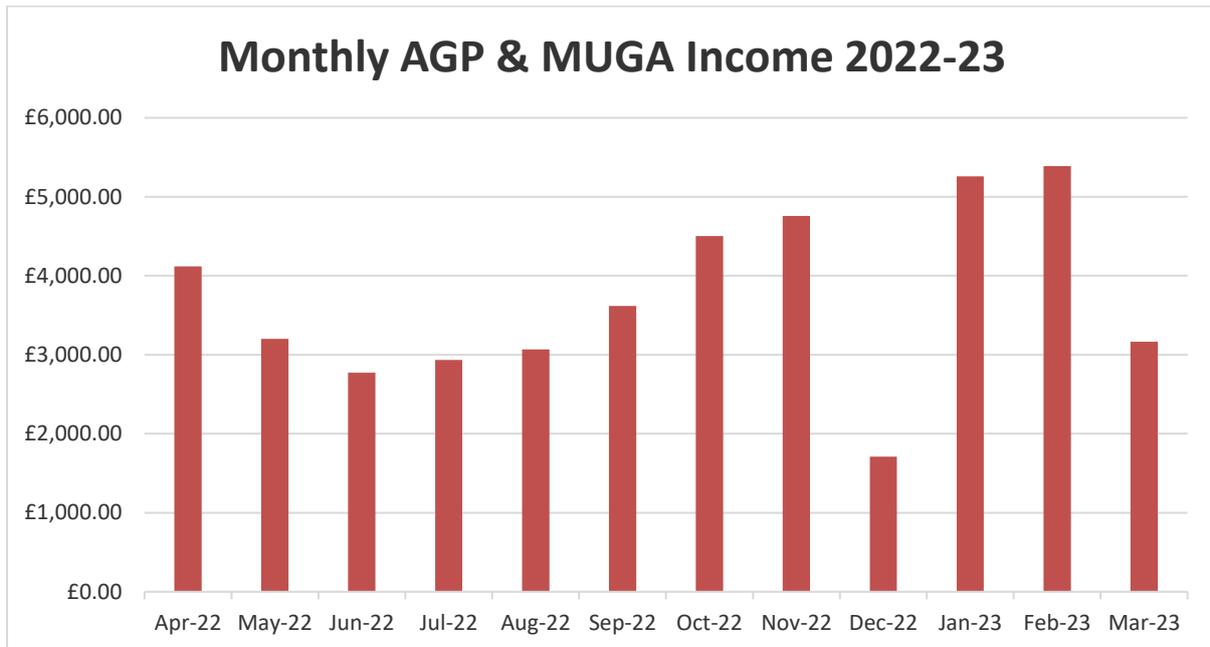
The facility continues to be well used during peak periods (evenings and weekends) when it is virtually full to capacity. This equates to 94.31% of all bookings, the remainder being made during the off-peak period (daytime Monday to Friday). Off-peak usage has and will continue to be a challenge in terms 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 remained in line with the budget projection for 2021/22 and 2022/23 and follows a similar trend to the previous year. In 2021/22 the total income was circa £48,000. This year, by 17<sup>th</sup> March 2023, we had received £44,498.

The graph below shows the monthly income received:



### 4. UPDATE ON OTHER ISSUES

#### Site for Allotments

In September 2022, a detailed soil survey was commissioned with Genco to assess the suitability of a piece of unused land adjacent to the football pitches for allotments. In October 2022 Genco submitted a report which concluded that the land was contaminated (mainly building rubble), and 0.75m depth of soil throughout the site would have to be removed and replaced if the land was going to be used for allotments.

The cost of removal of the soil and replacement with imported topsoil was prohibitive so both BDC and the Gt Notley Parish Council decided to abandon the site as a potential for allotments. Both parties are now investigating another piece of land in the parish which owned by BDC which may be suitable for allotments.

### 5. RECOMMENDATION

That Members note the report.

**Samir Pandya**  
**Operations Strategy and Policy Manager**

**20 March 2023**

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

Phil Muire (Rayne Youth)
A Wright Dunmow Utd
Benjamin Bailey
Ben Crow (Flitch Utd)
Bocking Vets
Braintree Churches
Community Iron Group
Flitch Sixes
Great Notley YFC
Gt Leighs YFC
Dunmow United Lions
Steve Tilsed
MNF
MRFA
Neil Chambers (GNFC)
Great Notley Lions
Rayne Youths
RDC
Ross Blackery
Silver End United
Szymon Roda
Braintree FC
Adam Paris
Flitch United
Ipswich Town Foundation
Witham Town
Wayne Edwards