

This is the third update on the new Sports Hub in Brundall, which is being released early due to developments in the project and to provide residents with an update before the Christmas holiday period.

Since the last update in September 2022, Brundall Parish Council has remained active in progressing all aspects of the project.

As a reminder, the project was split into the following two components:

- Component 1 – 3G Pitch, floodlights and car park
- Component 2 – Changing facilities with community room

Component 1 – 3G Pitch, floodlights and car park

We are now approximately 3 months into the build of this component with S & C Slatter Limited progressing well; completion remains due in mid-Q1 2023 so that the pitch can be used by local residents and organisations.

At the end of November, the excavation, groundworks and drainage for the pitch were completed.

Work is well underway on the sub-base and kerbs in line with the project plan. The floodlights and pitch fencing installation has commenced and is approximately 75% complete, with utility connections expected to be finished in the next few weeks.

The Klargester is being installed under the area that will form the car park, along with ducting to enable various future elements of the facility.

As part of this component, we have made the following changes to either future proof the site or ratify assumptions made during the planning phase:

- Additional ducting to provision for:
 - A security barrier/access control for the car park
 - Electric Vehicle (EV) charging points in the car park
 - Additional floodlights to be installed for a potential Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) on the site
- Planned installation of a Klargester and associated works for sewage disposal

Component 2 – Changing facilities with community room

As previously announced, Brundall Parish Council appointed Real Consulting to support the tender process for this component.

The tender package (RIBA Stage 4 drawings, specifications etc.) is almost finalised and will be issued to interested parties as well as advertised in line with our Standing Orders.

It is expected that the council will have submissions for review in early 2023 with the aim to appoint a contractor shortly after.

Key considerations such as safeguarding as well as sustainability (solar/PV panels) are included in the plans for the building.

Real Consulting will then act as the council's technical, professional representative on the project to ensure that all the works are being carried out to the correct specifications, any changes are reviewed and authorised etc.

Clearly there will be a lag between the pitch being ready to use and the building being completed. To allow the operator to run the pitch prior to the permanent building being complete, temporary building facilities will be provided. This was factored into the project budget.

Appointment of an Operator for the Sports Hub

Brundall Parish Council are working with Norfolk FA to ensure that the best value is secured for residents and users of the facility. Our key aims are:

- To maximise the number of users of the facility across all age groups
- Make the offering as affordable as possible for users

With the project split into 2 components and the pitch being delivered in advance of the building, it may be the case that an interim operator is appointed initially. We are working with Norfolk FA and being guided by their experience to make sure residents and users get the best outcome.

We have carried out initial meetings with 2 operators who have experience of running similar facilities and intend to meet others as part of this process.

If any residents are aware of and can recommend any potential operators with experience of running similar facilities, please contact the Clerk via clerk@brundall-pc.gov.uk.

The future

Brundall Parish Council will continue to look at developing the Sports Hub facility beyond the 2 components above to further the opportunities available to local residents - this will be influenced by both facilities available locally and the feedback received from residents via the survey at the end of 2021.

An example of this is the provision we are putting in for floodlights on the spare land on the site, this could provide an area which meets a number of different uses.

As part of this growth, further funding will be required to enable the addition of facilities. If any residents are aware of any potential funding sources (grants, personal or corporate donations or bequests) please contact the Clerk via clerk@brundall-pc.gov.uk.

Brundall Parish Council would like to thank everyone who has taken time to continue to read our updates and offer feedback.