

Harborough Town to commence works on an artificial grass pitch upgrade

Harborough Town will be commencing work to upgrade the twelve-year old artificial grass pitch in September with a new pitch and extensive repairs to the external fencing in a £160,000 improvement to the facility.

Laurence Jones, Chief Executive of Harborough Town's trustees, said "the existing pitch has lasted remarkably well but after twelve years is now showing some very real signs of deterioration. The upgrade to a new pitch is therefore essential in order that we maintain our FA licence for league and cup games for all age groups."

With ten grass pitches and two artificial pitches Harborough Town has some of the finest grassroots football facilities in the country, and the upgrade to the new pitch is a very exciting development that will further enhance a facility that the local community should be very proud of.



The twelve-year old artificial grass pitch (pictured above) is about to have a £160,000 refurbishment

The project is due to commence during the second week of September and the scheduled completion date is October 16th. During the period of the works the club will be accommodating where possible the existing users on the grass pitches.

The Trustees and everyone connected with the club would like to place on record our huge thanks and appreciation to Market Harborough and the Bowdens Charity, and Harborough District Council who have come together and worked with the club to support the delivery of this project.

The project funding of £160,000 is made up of £48,000 from Market Harborough and the Bowdens Charity, £24,000 secured by Harborough District Council from section 106 agreements where the authority obtained funds from developers for community use, and Harborough Town Community Trust has committed £88,000 of its own funds.

Mr. Jones commented "without the fantastic support of Market Harborough and the Bowdens Charity, and Harborough District Council, the club would not have been able to undertake these important works at this time. The fact we are able to do so means that we can continue to provide a high-quality football experience for all of the footballers both young and not so young from the under 5s to our walking footballers who use this wonderful facility every week of the year.

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Chair of Trustees at Market Harborough and the Bowdens Charity, John Feavours, said: "We are delighted to be providing this funding to Harborough Town to improve its facilities. The club is very much at the heart of our community, and this is a great example of how the charity can provide funding to enhance the lives of people in Market Harborough, Great Bowden and Little Bowden."

Cllr Simon Whelband, Harborough District Council's Cabinet lead on communities, said: "I am pleased that Harborough District Council has been able to help with this project. It's a great use of section 106 funding and will be a huge benefit to both the club and the wider community. I am looking forward to returning to see the finished pitch in all its glory."

Harborough Town is an FA Charter Standard Community Club playing in the United Counties Football League Premier Division South and has more than 800 players aged from six to 70 representing 56 teams, the club is also home to Brooke House Football Academy, FC Cherry Tree, Soccer Sixes League, Northants Football Development Centre, and FDS Football Development Centres.

Laurence C Jones
Chief Executive
Harborough Town Community Trust

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