

## **MEETING NOTE DATED 14 DECEMBER 2022**

### **Present:**

Cllrs Bloyce & Campbell (PC Chairman & Vice-Chairman) & Cllrs Brown & Renwick (FM Committee Chairman & Vice-Chairman) and the Clerk

### **Purpose of Meeting:**

1. To determine whether football could re-commence at the start of the season in September 2023.
2. To agree the Clerk's report on use of the grounds for football in the future.
3. To consider whether Old Basing Rovers Football Club should be permitted to hire the grounds in the future following receipt of an email requesting the Club's return.

### **Outcome of meeting and proposal for Facilities Management Committee:**

1. Football should re-commence in September 2023 subject to restrictions on dates set out in the Clerk's report. It was noted that requests for use of the grounds will be received early in the New Year.
2. The Clerk's report and the proposed limited use of the grounds was agreed. This will be published with the Minutes of the relevant meeting.
3. It was noted that the email request had come from the Chairman/Owner of Old Basing Rovers (now known as Rovers FC) and not from the person the Club has now appointed as Parish Liaison Officer – a suggestion that was rejected in previous discussions with the Club.

Those present were agreed that, whilst wishing to accommodate football at the recreation ground, particularly those junior age groups not currently catered for within the Parish, the Old Basing Rovers Football Team (now Rovers FC) should not be permitted to return for the following reasons:

- The invoice for a proportion of the cost of reinstating the grounds following damage caused by the team has not been paid (Clause 3(b), & 11(b) of the Conditions Relating to the Hire refer).
- The Club has not accepted liability for the damage caused (as indicated by its refusal to pay the invoice) (Clause 9c) refers.
- There has been a complete breakdown of relations between the overall leadership of the Club and the Parish Council which those present consider is irretrievable.

## **REPORT RELATING TO USE OF FOOTBALL PITCHES AT THE OLD BASING RECREATION GROUND FROM SEPTEMBER 2023**

Following the problems experienced in previous seasons it was decided that football at the recreation ground would not take place during the 2021/22 season but that this should resume in September 2023.

It should be noted that the “football season” at Old Basing is governed by the following:

- The start date is mid-September to accommodate the end of the cricket season.
- The end date is mid-April to allow sufficient time to prepare the cricket pitch for the new season.
- There are dates within the season that may not be available due to the Archery Club’s special “Shoot Dates” and the FOBS Fun Run in October.
- The Archery Club has “exclusive use” of the lower pitch area on Saturday and Sunday mornings therefore adult matches can only take place during the afternoons. The upper pitch which is used for junior football is still available.

Any football club wishing to use the Old Basing pitches will be made aware of the above restrictions prior to booking.

The Parish Council will reserve the right to refuse to accommodate additional matches/change the pitch marking if this is likely to result in over-use of the ground.

The Parish Council will reserve the right to refuse any team it considers unsuitable.

Rates for 2023/24 will be agreed by the Parish Council at its meeting in November 2022 and published on the Parish Council website from January 2023.

The Parish Council’s Grounds Contractor will determine whether or not the grounds are suitable for play and matches cancelled due to unsuitable weather/problems with the grounds will not be charged.

The football club will be responsible for notifying the Parish Council of match fixtures in advance and any fixtures not advised or cancelled at the last minute will be charged.

Play at the recreation ground is restricted to organised matches only – no training is permitted on the pitches nor on the general public area at the front of the recreation ground.

### **Availability from September 2023 is as follows:**

#### **Lower (Adult) Pitch:**

Available on Saturday and Sunday afternoons from 13.00 hrs. This pitch will be suitably marked and available for 1 adult match only. Multiple junior matches on this pitch will not be accommodated.

#### **Upper (Junior) Pitch:**

Available on Saturday and Sunday morning and/or afternoon. This pitch will be suitably marked and available for 1 junior (12-13 years/U16’s) match per morning and/or afternoon.

Any requirement for a pitch to be marked for teams under the age of 12 should be discussed and agreed in advance with the Parish Council and charged accordingly.