



Kirkbymoorside Town Council

Date: 14 November 2024

Dear Kirkbymoorside Town Council

3G Pitch at Ryedale School

Please find attached an outline of the project to build a 3G pitch at Ryedale School.

I am very pleased to inform you that work to build the pitch started on 15th July 2024 and is progressing well and is due to be completed by the end of this month.

We have secured funding from a wide range of organisations to help us realise the ambition of providing a 3G pitch for the local community and we are very grateful to everyone who has supported us. A breakdown of funding is shown in the table below

	£
Estimated total cost of the project	879k
Funding Sources:	
Football Foundation	620k
Garfield Weston	30k
St Martins Trust	25k
Kirkby Foundation	20k
Holbeck Trust	5k
North Yorkshire Council	5k
Private Donors	70k
Ryedale School	50k
Kirkbymoorside Football Club	10k
Current shortfall	44k
Total Funding	879k

If there is any further information you need to help support our grant application, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours Sincerely

Helen Coulthard

Finance Director

Ryedale School 3G project Rationale

The primary motivation behind the ambition for this project is a wish to develop a top quality, thriving school and community pitch which will improve the quality of life for young people and the whole local community. The project will be focused around: active lifestyle, well-being, community engagement, empowerment and rural inclusion.

Project Objectives

- Provide excellent community facilities for both traditional (football) and non-traditional activity.
- Improve physical and mental health (young people and adults)
- Increase participation in regular physical activity (young people and adults)
- Raise aspirations and realise potential (with a particular focus on disability sport)
- Broaden rural inclusion
- Provide facilities where local people can access activity, advice, training and support

Social Impact

The project aims to provide facilities and services and improve the quality of life for young people in Trust schools and residents in the wider rural community. Income generated from the use of the pitch will be ring-fenced to support its maintenance, improve other sports facilities and services at the school, and to form a fund to renew the surface when it becomes life-expired. As a facility for the benefit of the community, all levels of stakeholder involvement are encouraged. Everyone who lives, works or plays a part in the community is welcome to become a member of the project.

Keys to Success

The project aims to make a real difference to the people of the area and surrounding communities. It is believed that the keys to success include:

- Ensuring capital funding (matched funding) is accessed to enable the completion of the project
- Working in partnership with stakeholders and others across the public, voluntary and private sectors
- Generating sufficient income to reduce reliance on external funding to meet running costs
- Delivering a range of activities that will attract the local community to use the pitch to its maximum potential. A particular focus on women and girls and disability groups.
- Active support from members of the local community, local councillors, local government officers, statutory services, community groups, school(s) and others.

Strategic Context

Ryedale is in the Yorkshire Region. The current population of the Authority (ONS 2017 Mid-Year Estimate) is 54,311. This is expected to rise to 59,197 by 2039.

Ryedale is ranked 14 out of 21 LAs in the region, and 185 out of 326 LAs nationally on the Indices of Multiple Deprivation (ONS).

Ryedale's ethnic composition is primarily white (99%). This is higher than the national average (85.4%).

The proportion of Ryedale's population represented by the BAME community is 1%. This is below the national average (14.6%).



The Ryedale Sport and Active Lives Strategy (2013-2023) states that by 2023 it will see more people in Ryedale enjoying the benefits associated with a more active lifestyle. This means:

- More people aspiring to take part in sport and active recreation.
- More people actually taking part in sport and active recreation.
- More people becoming involved as volunteers in sport and active recreation.
- Increased participation amongst people already taking part in sport and active recreation.
- Increased satisfaction with facilities and opportunities for sport and active recreation in the Ryedale area.
- Increased usage across all Ryedale owned leisure facilities.

In particular, the Council wants to see:

- A year on year increase in participation in sport and active recreation in Ryedale
- Increased capacity within the local community to enable the above through support of existing and creation of: new sports clubs, coaches and officials and improved facilities.
- Engagement of young people, adult males and hard to reach groups such as people with a disability, and older people to encourage and facilitate opportunities for them to remain healthy by being active.
- Promotion, maintenance and development of quality indoor and outdoor leisure facilities, as well as support for the utilisation of village halls etc as small community sports facilities in the villages and small towns.
- Development of better levels of public transport, safer roads and walking and cycling infrastructure, encouraging sustainable travel and improved transport to facilities in the principal settlements.

In order to focus on achieving the above, three key themes are identified:

- Activating Change
- Active More Often
- Active Places and Spaces

NB: The local authority does not have a current playing pitch strategy.

Football Context

Ryedale has a total of 106 affiliated teams. The North Riding FA is investing to support clubs both on and off the pitch. In addition, the County FA is supporting clubs to create full player pathways from youth to adult teams (with male and female pathways, disability and recreational playing opportunities.)

Over the last ten years there has been a significant national increase in the number of large multi-team football clubs. The main clubs being Kirkbymoorside (11 junior teams), Old Malton St. Marys (10 teams) Thornton le Dale (12 teams) would expect to be main partners in this development. In addition to this Scarborough Ladies (12 teams) currently play their football in Ryedale so the projects would like to include them as a key stakeholder.

Leagues

Five leagues cater for clubs and teams in Ryedale. They offer competitive opportunities for many different players, including youth and adults. The largest of these are the:

- Beckett Football League – 18 teams – home and away
- York & Ryedale Junior League– 191 teams– home and away

Putting aside the main obstacles of matched funding, a focus for supporting this would be around the need for this type of facility in our more rural areas. Both our own research and wider Sport England



research has shown us that people from rural communities face particular barriers to participating in sport, such as reduced choice and transportation issues in getting to and from facilities. We also know that there are specific challenges for organisations (clubs) and communities delivering sport in rural areas, due to declining populations and higher living costs – both of which hinder sustainable local sporting provision.

Benefits

The benefits to the local community will be significant as the project will enable an increased offer to the community: increasing the number of activities that can be delivered in the outdoor environment; increasing access to differing forms of sport and recreation, and increasing the number of events that can run from the school venue. The likelihood is that football usage will be concentrated on the winter months, especially for training on dark nights and for matches where grass is unplayable, leaving the community usage for the summer months when such events are more frequent.

- **Increased Sporting Opportunities for people with a disability** – Consultation has begun with North Yorkshire Sport and Yorkshire Coast Ryedale Disability Forum. The project recognises that disabled people are almost twice as likely to be physically inactive (43%), compared with those without a disability (23%) – so makes a firm commitment to improve these statistics for the Ryedale area.

- **A base to encourage people to “get active”** - it is accepted that physical activity can help reduce risk of heart and circulatory disease. It can also help control your weight, reduce blood pressure and cholesterol and improve mental health – helping people to look and feel great. The facility is of particular importance in this area given the existing levels of activity and the vision to improve the health and wellbeing of residents and visitors. Physical activity is also key to good mental health. Engaging in physical activity boosts mood, reduces anxiety and provides participants with an outlet to engage in social activity, in addition to the linked physical benefits. This is without considering the impact of COVID 19 on the mental health of all members of the community.

- **Improvement of the education offer** – Ryedale School’s current facilities (one badminton sized school gym, 6 hardcourt tennis courts, and turf pitches - unplayable November through to April) significantly impact on both the PE curriculum and extracurricular sporting offer. For instance, in winter months, PE groups often have to merge together to use the small school gym due to the lack of an appropriate outdoor facility. As another example, the school currently has football clubs and teams for boys in all year groups, but there is only a football club for girls in Y7. Existing clubs are unable to take place on a regular basis during the winter months as the grass pitches are unplayable. This facility would enable the PE department and school to offer a more diverse and inclusive pe curriculum, more varied and regular sport enrichment programmes, and more sport leadership programmes and school clubs. It would also help ensure the school realises its ambition and commitment to provide girls with equal access to football.

Furthermore, this facility would also be shared with the local special school, Welburn Hall School, as they do not have access to an all-weather facility. Welburn Hall is a generic special school/college (with residential places) for children and young people aged 8 to 19 years with a wide range of educational needs. The facility would be utilised by Welburn Hall students weekly for curricular, extracurricular and evening recreational use.

- **Increased football opportunities** - there will be much more opportunity to give people access to football and play both formally and informally with far more hours available to the whole community, including junior clubs who often struggle to find suitable facilities especially in the winter months and dark evenings. The proposed facility will also provide a facility and new home for several groups without one at present, including facilities for female football and for those with a disability.

The pitch will also provide suitable venues for match play opportunities for central venue leagues – this would potentially include mini soccer (5 v 5 and above) for both male and female players as well as the wider development of game. Recreational leagues and VETs football have also shown a great demand for this type of facility.



The local league (York Youth League) administer competitive opportunities for match play and are keen to explore the opportunity the proposed new site can provide to accommodate additional match play and development of additional inclusive formats of the game.

- **Opportunities for Children and Young People** - NHS guidance in its Change For Life programme calls for children to exercise at least 60 minutes each and every day. This is difficult at times without appropriate facilities. This facility will be available for use by local schools giving them the opportunity to develop their physical education strategies and delivery. Engagement with post or external curriculum and enrichment programmes utilising the new facilities are paramount to their long term offer to local schools and the wider local community. This is in addition to supporting the education programme of local primary schools during curriculum times to deliver their physical activity and PE sessions.

Impact on the Community

Therefore, the project will enable organisations to plan outdoor activities in a safe secure environment. Importantly:

- young people will continue to be physically active, improving health/wellbeing by leading a physically active lifestyle
- volunteers will have a sense of purpose & can give something back to the community.
- Regular exercise will contribute to reducing levels of obesity

In addition, the following benefits can be realised:

- Improved educational attainment; engagement in sport helps facilitate an improved educational focus
- Reduced anti-social behaviour through providing diversionary activities. Improved community cohesion through intergenerational activities and improved understanding.
- Sustained and increased number of opportunities for local people to become physically active
- Improved health and wellbeing of the local community
- Improved self-esteem and confidence of participants

