

Blisworth FC

Rebuild and remodelling of the football clubhouse to a multi-use
community facility

7th July 2022



Project progress to date

- The project was initially incepted in May 2017 following a presentation to the Northamptonshire FA, who indicated that they would support a bid for a new clubhouse to be built
- The club has secured funding of £220k to date (£30k from South Northants Council, £150k from the London Marathon Charitable Trust and £40k from our own fundraising efforts)
- The clubhouse rebuild project is also included in the local football facility plan that was compiled by the Football Foundation in May 2020. The Football Foundation are the Premier League, The FA and the Government's Charity that distributes the Premier League's grassroots funds.
- As part of the journey the club has also changed its legal structure to ensure it is set up to maximise the potential for future fundraising and to ensure a robust governance structure. The football club is now a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee. The football club then has a 100% owned trading subsidiary that operates the bar (with any surplus being gifted aided to the charity for it to help deliver its charitable objectives. The club is also VAT registered.
- The club has a quote for the new build of £640k + VAT and has recently applied for planning permission based on this quote and architect drawing. This application was submitted on 1st July 2022
- The current funding position is summarised overleaf

Design that has been submitted for planning permission



Funding requirement

- As indicated on the previous page, the football club has £220k of secured funding
- The football foundation has an unofficial cap of £250k for funding pavilion rebuilds such as ours. To secure a grant of up to £250k also has a less onerous and quicker sign off process
- However, we can prepare a bid for more than £250k and subject it for funding approval but the application goes to a national board and faces stiffer competition. The fact that the Football Foundation has allowed us to continue to prepare the bid means higher amount, while being harder to secure, does have a chance.
- The next application window is October 2022, with a decision in Jan 2023.
- The London Marathon grant currently has an expiry date of June 2023 (but we can apply for an extension) so the project is coming to a critical point
- The club is now looking use its newly obtained charitable status to close the funding gap down below £250k being required from the Football Foundation in time for the October 2022 application as this would have a significantly greater chance of being accepted and would also go through a simplified sign off and review process.

Project Costing

Builders quote	640000	
VAT	128000	20%
	<u>768000</u>	
VAT recovery	108800	85%
Net cost	<u><u>659200</u></u>	

Funding

Football Club	40000	Confirmed funding
West Northants Council	30000	Confirmed funding
London Marathon	150000	Confirmed funding
Football Foundation funding	250000	
	<u>470000</u>	
Requirement	659200	
Funding gap	<u><u>189200</u></u>	

Activity plan

- Throughout the grant funding documents, the club has made clear its aim to have 1,000 people using the club each week for a range of activities
- The club has grown its football participation tenfold over the last three years and now has over 300 players playing at the club every week
- This document will articulate the range of activities that will be delivered when a new multi purpose clubhouse building is delivered

Football activities

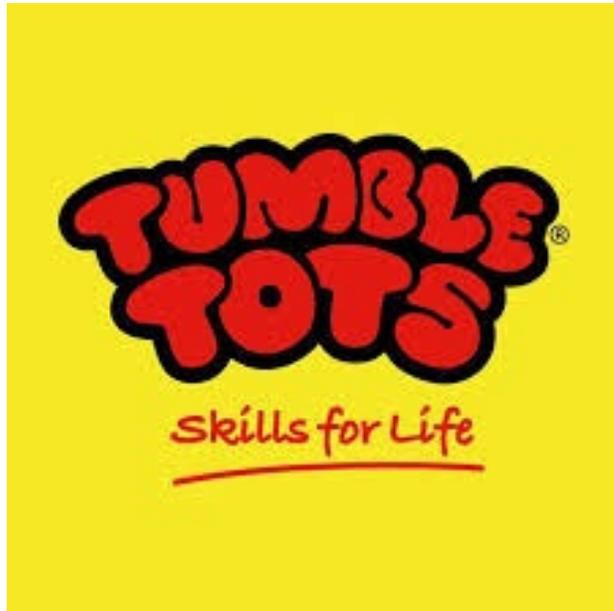
The football development plan of the club is clearly articulated in the FA chartered standard club development plan so will not be repeated in full here

In summary

- The club intends to grow its team numbers from 18 to 28 by the start of the 2023/24 season. This will see over 400 players registered and regularly playing at the club
- The club is committed to growing its football offering through a diverse range of initiatives. We are already considered a leading light in the provision of girls and walking football and over the course of the business plan period, we will look to not only consolidate, but grow our offering in these areas over the next five years
- The club will maintain its open-door policy to all players, regardless of ability. We wish to develop players as best we can but also, we must make sure that their experience of playing football for Blisworth is a fun one.



Tumble Tots opportunity



- The club has an agreement in place for the Tumble Tots franchise to use the club as its permanent base for its weekly classes
- Tumble Tots is the UK's leading physical play programme for children under 5. We have agreed a deal in principle for the Northampton franchise of Tumble Tots to hold all of its weekly sessions at the new clubhouse facility.
- This will see over 300 children use the site each week
- As part of the same opportunity, the club is working with the Tumble Tots franchise owner to start toddlers football sessions. The research and stakeholder analysis that we have carried out has highlighted clear demand for this type of service. Conservative estimates put the number of children that would be registered for this service at around 100 per week.
- Some of these sessions could be run outside but a suitable indoor venue is a prerequisite for this initiative as young children under the age of 5 will need a warm venue for the winter months

Working with B.S.T: Academy to deliver a range of classes



- B.S.T: Academy are a leading fitness academy in Northampton. One of their key objectives is to provide a place for building better health, better confidence and expanding new social aspects to your life – aims that fully align with ours
- The Academy is all ready doing fantastic work in delivering a wide range of classes in areas of social deprivation in the town
- We are delighted that the Academy will also be working with us in the new clubhouse building. The partnership will see the experienced coaches from the Academy come out to the club on a regular basis to deliver a wide range of physical activities for all ages
- These activities will be diverse in nature and will therefore appeal to a wide cross section of the community
- To secure this type of partner in a rural part of the county is a real coup for the club and could deliver up to 100 participants per week at the outset

Working with one of the largest providers of sports for children in Northampton

- GLK academies are one of the largest providers of after school, holiday and extra curricular activities in Northampton.
- They provide classes in football, gymnastics, multi-skills and athletics across a variety of venues.
- GLK academies are keen to base some of their gymnastics classes at the club. This will bring around 50 gymnasts that currently attend classes, but crucially, having a larger and permanent base at the new football club building will enable more classes to be put on, doubling the number of children attending
- In addition to the gymnastics classes, the potential for a larger indoor and outdoor space offers a significant opportunity to extend the range of classes that can be put on, giving the opportunity to provide new opportunities for children in the village and surrounding areas.

The logo for GLK ACADEMIES is displayed within a white circle with a green border. The text "GLK ACADEMIES" is in a bold, green, sans-serif font. Below it, the tagline "SECURING YOUR CHILD'S FUTURE IN SPORT" is written in a smaller, green, sans-serif font.

GLK ACADEMIES
SECURING YOUR CHILD'S FUTURE IN SPORT



Expanding our partnership with Northamptonshire Sport

- Northamptonshire Sport is a partnership of local and national organisations working together to get people in Northampton more active, more often
- One of the main aims set out in the County Framework (April 2018) led by Northamptonshire sport is to get more older people and those with a limiting disability, more active, more often. As part of this work, Blisworth was identified as a hotspot area where there is a higher prevalence of older people living with a limited disability
- Following on from this work, the club have been working Northamptonshire Sport to promote and support new activities. One that has gained real traction is a ladies walking football group, made up of ladies over the age of 60 that have never played football before. One of the biggest risks to this session continuing is the lack of indoor facilities for when the weather takes a turn for the worse
- This has been a challenge that has hindered the launch of any further activities as there are no suitable, and available, indoor facilities anywhere in the area.
- With a new clubhouse facility and a large indoor area suitable for activities, this will make a huge difference. Yoga, Pilates, aerobics and seated exercise all become viable options. This will significantly increase the number of older people being active in the village, allowing them to gain the physical, mental and social benefits that this will bring. The work carried out to date has highlighted that the demand is there, but the lack of suitable indoor facilities has proven to be a significant barrier to participation



Opportunities through our own network

- While recognising that external delivery partners will be extremely important in helping us to deliver our target participation numbers, the growth of the club has also meant that we now have a significant matrix of skills across a wide variety of sports. This gives us the opportunity to harness these skills and provide opportunities for new activities to be delivered by fully qualified individuals

Running Club

With a qualified running coach now within the club, the club is going to be in a position to start up a running group once a week that starts at the club. Having enhanced changing and showering facilities will make a significant difference to this offering. At present the showering facilities are woefully inadequate and this is seen as a major barrier to getting an initiative like this up and running. Evidence of groups launching with this type of infrastructure in place has shown that they can be extremely successful, often with weekly participant numbers of 50 or more

Cricket

The club already has a over 35's cricket team that plays in a friendly league with similar teams across the summer months. However, the improved changing and catering facilities offer the opportunity to expand our provision of cricket into the juniors. Our research has shown that junior cricket clubs and initiatives have their greatest chance of successfully launching and being maintained if there is a pleasant social area for parents to watch from while their children are playing. Clubs without this type of facility struggle to gain any traction or longevity.

In the first instance the club is looking to launch Friday night training sessions in the summer for up to 30 children. In the fullness of time this could lead onto the creation of some junior teams to play competitive cricket across the summer

Opportunities through our own network

Boot Camp

The club has already trialled some boot camp style exercise sessions for parents after they have dropped their children off to school. The feedback on these groups has been extremely positive but the view, as with many other activities in the area, is that if there were adequate changing and showering facilities, and a social area for after the activity then the take up would be so much greater.

The club would like to expand the offering in this area to men over the age of 35 and explore the opportunities for a lower impact form of boot camp style exercise for older people that still have a reasonable level of fitness.

Touch Rugby

Touch rugby has undergone massive growth over the last few years and the club is fortunate to have a trained rugby coach in its setup. This initiative is at a more embryonic stage than all of the other initiatives listed in this document but with the rapid growth in participation nationally in both rugby and touch rugby, the club is looking to harness this opportunity and provide social sessions initially for men and woman that might then lead to teams forming to join teams in recently established leagues

Blisworth Friends Group

Borne out of the end of the final lockdown where the older residents of the village had endured significant social isolation, the Blisworth Friends Group meets regularly at the football club and has around 30 residents who regularly come along to meet up and take part in the range of activities that the committee organise. With improved facilities we will have the option to put on a wider range of activities for the group to enjoy.

Appendix – initiative Summary

What outcome are you trying to achieve	How will you achieve these objectives?	Who is going to benefit? Are you targeting particular groups?	What is required to deliver these activities?	How long will it take? How often will you do it?	What does success look like? What are your targets?	How will you measure and monitor impact?
Growth in older generations being active	Through partnership with Northamptonshire Sport	Older people in the village and surrounding areas	Northamptonshire sport facilitators and good marketing	The aim will be to have weekly sessions for a range of activities	Participation numbers. Target for over 50 people per week	Track attendance and survey for feedback
Increase the range of activities available for local residents	Through the partnerships and skills of our own coaches	Targeting local people to try new activities (or restart an activity)	Our coaches time and support from delivery partners	A whole range of sessions on a weekly basis	Success is a sustained growth in the number of people participating	Track attendance and record number of new activities
Continue to support the growth in female football	Continue to work closely with Northampton Town and the FA	Girls aged 5-11 predominantly	Level 2 qualified FA coaches	Growing to 3 girls training sessions per week will help deliver the objective	The aim is for 100 girls per week to be playing at the club	Track attendance and survey for feedback
To have the building used everyday for physical activity	The arrangements made with our intended delivery partners achieves this	Wide range of age groups	Support of our delivery partners	The use of established partners means that this initiative can be delivered from day one	Growing our participation in non football activities to over 500 per week	Track attendances for the many activities taking place
Increased social inclusion	The club wishes this new building to be a focal point for activity in the local area	All ages	Commitment from our own coaches and delivery partners	Weekly sessions for most activities, more regular is demand exists	Increased participation and improved feedback in village surveys	Track attendance numbers and monitor local feedback
Grow our football participation numbers to 400 per week	Two new teams forming every season for the next five years	Youth footballers	We will require coach volunteers to undertake coaching roles	This initiative will be gradually delivered over the next 5 years	Around 28 teams at the club, enjoying their football	Track registration numbers and survey players and parents for feedback