

From Steve Bott – Witney Vikings:

how can we make more pitches available?

We are on the limit of what we can currently provide on the grounds that we have available, We could add possibly 2 x 7v7 or 1 x 9v9 over marked on King Georges pitch however junior teams are reluctant to go here due to the issues with facilities only being available at Woodgreen school and the distance from the field.

The only other way we can increase pitches is with further suitable land.

From Claire Auton – Tower Hill:

The new Windrush Place / curbridge road pitches - timelines of when will these be available?

Currently in control of developer/WODC – Town Clerk is seeking clarification from WODC to see if they have timescales when these pitches will be available for community use

Response received today:

➔ *the pitches have been laid and I believe there is a 24 month maintenance period on them. It was my understanding from Martin the pitches would go to the secondary school if OCC decide to go ahead and we would ensure a community use agreement was in place. If the school doesn't come they would transfer across to the Town Council.*

They are finding out if they can be used any sooner than 24 months...

Additional ATP which was identified as a need for Witney but is now part of a third secondary school conversation as I understand it.

WTC has written to WODC on several occasions and requested that consideration be given for the 3G pitch to be at West Witney Sports Ground.

Decision is in the hands of WODC – who indicated that it should be part of the secondary school site if it goes ahead.

The Town Clerk checked with WODC Officers in July – no decision has been communicated regarding a secondary school (OCC decision) as yet so cannot confirm the location based on the school situation. However KKP are in the process of completing WODC's Playing Pitch Strategy – one of the things that they want scenario tested in the PPS is where best to locate the 3G in Witney – something that Oxfordshire FA are also keen to see tested.

In lieu of a new artificial pitch - what are the alternative training locations? Given all flood lit local locations are over subscribed.

The only floodlight location Witney Town Council can currently provide is Burwell hard court should any clubs wish to train there. We have two locations that can be used for training during day light hours for this the duration of this season only 1 is the training area clearly shown on the mapping of Burwell pitches and the other is the location of pitch 3 at West Witney, other than the other locations previously suggested by WTC .

Update on WTC obtaining the Woodgreen pitches and changing rooms from WODC.

WODC have advised that freehold isn't available due to a complex legal agreement in place between OCC/WGS and WODC. Both WTC and the School have asked WODC if the legal agreement could be brought to an end in order for a clearer agreement to be put in place that better serves the needs of the community. A response is waited from WODC.

When the £840,000 off site contribution from the Downs road development will be used for development of grass roots football as prescribed in the planning application response from 2016? (Linked to the ATP question).

When WODC have decided where the 3G pitch will go as per above.

And lastly to understand the timelines and ongoing communication channels for the recently released Open spaces strategy more specifically items SP1-SP9.

Rough timescales have been set in the OSS action plan – it will be driven by WTC's Committee process with regular progress reports on each item. Stakeholders, users and potential users will be consulted where possible.

From Vicky Gwatkin (similar questions to Tower Hill)

- Madley Park playing fields (wodc/WGS) – covered above
- Curbridge new pitches (occ/wodc - when the 5 years is up for the new school, if wodc still willing to hand over to us if not a school) – covered above as far as possible
- new atp pitch (whether we can get at WW with FA support and not at curbridge - or wherever is best to put it so long as it isn't tied into the school). Just in this regard, the chap who petitioned to have the ATP pitch (apparently with seating etc) when they shut down witney town football club has contacted us periodically asking where it is! Good question. At last contact I redirected him to Martin at Wodc. Covered above
- KKP report - I know teams have been contacted - anything they have re initial thoughts/plans would be great. Whether they are putting the ATP at WW in their plans/pitch quality improvements etc. Asked for an update from KKP. They have spoken to WODC about the 3G pitch location – but outcome is above.

In the way of an update received today– all community consultation is now complete and KKP currently writing a short key issue/consultation feedback paper. They aim to get this across to Town clerk shortly.

The next steps are to do a site visit.