

Windscale AFC

Background

We are a football club based in the heart of Egremont providing football services for children age 6-18. We also have 2 Men's teams (First Team & Reserve Team). We are very community focussed and in total there are over 150 players registered to our club as well as many coaches and other volunteers. We are an 'England Football Accredited Club' (formerly known as Charter Standard).

The proposed improvements for which we require planning permission will not require the club to operate any differently to what it does now. The purpose of the improvements is to 1) Provide a better match day experience for anyone spectating, 2) Future proof the clubs' First Team who have to meet certain ground grading requirements to play at the current level they do and support aspirations to play at a higher level.

Ground Improvements

We have secured funding from the Football Foundation having worked through the application process in Summer 2021. We really need to be in a position whereby we can confirm planning has been granted by March 2022 in order to ensure we do not lose the funding approved.

Laying hard standing around 2 adjacent sides of the field will ensure spectators have a better/more suitable surface to stand on and provide safer access to viewing points around the field (currently its grass).

Having a covered stand with stepped viewing access will also allow spectators to shield from the typical West Cumbrian weather whilst watching the game.

Our existing dug outs no longer meet ground grading regulations in terms of where they are situated on the field but also in terms of their construct and the number of people, they hold is not sufficient.

Usage

The pitch where the proposed improvements will be implemented is the home of our 2 adult men teams and our Under 18's team. For this reason, it is used every Saturday throughout August to May and some Sundays.

In addition to our own use of the pitch, as our facilities are recognised as being one of the best in the area, we also host all Cumberland County League finals (4 games typically), various Junior League finals and other Veterans Football finals. We also offer the use of our facilities to run training camps on with Workington Reds which was a huge success in summer 2021.