



## Press Release

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31<sup>st</sup> July 2020

### **Stamford Bridge Football Club awarded funding to revamp football facilities**

People living in Stamford Bridge are set to benefit from fresh investment into local football facilities. Stamford Bridge Football Club has been awarded a grant from the Premier League, The FA and Government's Football Foundation, to install new facilities.

The Football Foundation is the UK's largest sports charity and exists to improve the experience of playing football for everyone, by championing fair access to quality facilities.

This grant will enable Stamford Bridge, who play at step 8 and give 250 senior and junior members chance to play in the York Minster Engineering League, York & District Youth and City of York Girls League much needed opportunity to improve their facilities.

Players will be able to enjoy new quality pitches, team and match officials changing rooms/showers, and match day catering facilities, which will represent a significant improvement on the existing pitches which are prone to cancellations and waterlogging due to the current high volume of matches played.

Stamford Bridge Football Club worked with the Football Foundation and the East Riding County FA to secure a £475,000 grant towards the project.

Martyn Stevens, Chairman, Stamford Bridge Football Club, says: **"It gives me great pride and pleasure to announce Stamford Bridge Football Club has successfully been awarded a substantial grant from the Football Foundation. This is a fantastic opportunity to develop football in the village particularly for our thriving Boys & Girls Junior Section which desperately needs more training and playing space.**

**It is hoped the extensive land preparation and drainage work on our new 8-acre Brown Moor site will commence before the end of August and is a huge boost to the Club and our planned Centenary Celebrations! Anyone new to the village and interested in playing or supporting the Battle Axes please visit our club website at [www.stamfordbridgefootballclub.co.uk](http://www.stamfordbridgefootballclub.co.uk)**

**On behalf of the club I would like to put on record our sincere thanks and appreciation to the Football Foundation, The East Riding County FA and Local Council, David Wilson Homes and Andrew Pope for guiding the club through the funding process. Last but not least to all the hard-working trustees/volunteers**



**associated with Stamford Bridge Playing Fields Association and my fellow committee members.”**

Robert Sullivan, Interim Chief Executive of the Football Foundation, says: **“We know the huge benefits playing regular football can have on individuals’ physical and mental well-being. That’s why we’re committed to transforming the face of grassroots football facilities in this country. It’s therefore very welcome news to hear that this funding will support Stamford Bridge in developing the additional pitches and facilities for their local community.**

**“Working with our partners – the Premier League, The FA, Government and Sport England – we will be investing in over £1bn worth of local facilities across the country over the next decade. We believe we can transform lives and strengthen communities by unlocking the power of pitches and this is another project that brings us closer to that ultimate goal.”**

Rachel Sullivan, Football Development Manager, East Riding County FA, says: **“Congratulations to everyone who was involved at Stamford Bridge Football club in securing significant investment to develop their football club.**

**This is such welcome news because Stamford Bridge Football Club plays a significant role in grassroots football. The club provides a fantastic football offer for all and this further development will make a positive impact in the local community by providing more opportunities to grow the game.”**

ENDS

#### **Notes to editors:**

The Premier League, The FA and Government’s Football Foundation is the largest sports charity in the UK. It champions and supports fair access to quality football facilities for everyone, regardless of postcode, gender, race, disability or place.

The Foundation receives money from the Premier League, The FA and the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, through Sport England. This is matched with partnership funding and awarded as grants to create outstanding grassroots facilities that enable better games and attract more players, helping to transform communities.

The Football Foundation celebrates its 20th anniversary next year. Since 2000, it has awarded more than 17,300 grants to improve facilities worth more than £684m – including 829 artificial grass pitches, 3,175 natural grass pitches and 1,100 changing facilities. This has attracted an additional £870m of partnership funding – totalling over £1.5bn investment in grassroots football so far.



Through the Foundation, the Premier League, The FA, DCMS and Sport England have come together to create the National Football Facilities Strategy (NFFS) that will guide work over the next 10 years to transform many more local facilities. Local Football Facility Plans (LFFP) are being created to identify priority projects where demand is greatest, and the impact will be strongest and help stimulate the action required to deliver them.

**For more information please contact:**

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