

Questions and answers on the Trust's proposal

What does the Lambridge site offer to the beneficiaries of the Trust?

The Lambridge sports ground offers over 4.5 hectares of level, grassed land, suitable for outdoor recreation. This is more than twice the area that would be taken up by the new lease to the Rugby Club.

Changing facilities and two pitches already exist. The new trustees would examine what more was needed in order to be able to offer the land for a wide range of recreational activities.

Doesn't the location of Lambridge make it unsuitable as replacement land?

The beneficiaries of the Rec are not just those living in the centre of Bath. From the perspective of the whole city and its surrounding areas, the number of people living within 5 kilometres of Lambridge (41,089) is very similar to the number living within 5 kilometres of the Rec (42,723). Lambridge has good public transport links and there is parking available.

Although there is traffic congestion during peak periods and the ground can become heavy in wet weather, the Rec is also subject to these conditions.

How would the Trust's proposal enable the development of recreational opportunities?

The granting of a new lease to the Rugby Club and the review of the relationship with the Leisure Centre provide the means for a substantially improved and secure income stream for the Trust. This would be in the order of hundreds of thousands of pounds per year as opposed to tens of thousands at the moment.

As a charity, the Trust would be obliged to utilise this in the interests of its beneficiaries. Investment in facilities (such as the pavilion), improving maintenance standards and promoting the development of recreational opportunities would all be possible. The details of these would be for the new trustees to decide upon.

Under a new lease to the Rugby Club, what would be available for Trust uses in the summer months?

The arrangement of the temporary stand being dismantled and the pitch being available over the summer months would be broadly as it is now. The temporary stand area would be brought into use as quickly as possible after the close of the rugby season.

Summer uses would not necessarily need the area beneath the temporary stand. The pitch itself and the facilities of the arena could be made available for Trust uses immediately following the season's end.

What are the community benefits and service improvements that are being offered?

Agreement in principle has been reached with the Rugby Club on a scheme of community benefits that it will provide. The scheme will include (but is not limited to);

- the provision of power, water and sewerage facilities to the eastern area of the recreation ground,
- a scheme to provide improved drainage to eastern area of the recreation ground, and
- the provision of support facilities (such for changing and event admin) within the arena and/or the existing sports centre.