

Proposal to Develop Floodlit All Weather Soccer Pitch on McAuley Park Artane.

Operating Plans:

Both clubs intend to set up a company (totally separate to the current club's arrangements) to operate and manage the All Weather pitch under License from Dublin City Council.

The Company will agree a set of fees etc with DCC and charge both clubs, local groups and schools and indeed neighbouring sporting clubs for the use of the all weather pitch which will contribute towards the operational costs of the pitch and allow for a sinking fund to pay for future repair and upgrading costs .

To Date :

We have met and explained proposals to
Local Schools.
Local Groups and Residents Groups.
Dublin City Council Officials.
Local TD'S, Senators and Councillors.

Next Steps:

Both Clubs are anxious to work with any interested party who can help move the project along and deliver a much needed recreational facility which can only improve the Artane Area. Dublin City Council Officials will seek permission in July 2018 from Area Committee Meeting of Dublin City Council to commence Part 8 Planning Application . **Support of all Local Councillors is required at that Meeting . Individual written submissions of support from TD'S, Senators, Councillors, all local Groups, Schools and local residents will be required in JULY 2018 when DCC erect site notice and lodge Part 8 Planning APPLICATION for the project in July 2018.**

Club PROJECT Contacts:

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OVERVIEW .:-

McAuley Park has been the home ground of St Paul's Artane FC and St Brendan's Utd FC for over 50 years now. Indeed both clubs have developed their clubhouses adjacent to the park . However in recent years extensive unresolved Drainage problems across the park has caused both pitches to be unplayable for months at a time. Ideally both clubs would like to have a local pitch available which is playable all year round and which will allow both clubs to grow and flourish into the future .

PROPOSAL.:-

St Paul's Artane FC and St Brendan's Utd FC are proposing to work with Dublin City Council and indeed all local community groups and schools with a view to developing a Floodlit All Weather Soccer Pitch on McAuley Park. We have commenced discussions with DCC with a view to supporting and delivering this project. Both Clubs are actively working together to agree an Operating plan to run the All Weather Pitch in a sustainable manner going forward .

St Paul's Artane FC . :-

St Pauls FC was founded in 1975 by Toddy Fitzpatrick (RIP) and following an amalgamation in 1986 with neighbouring club Artane FC, became known as St Paul's Artane FC. The club caters for children and adults mainly from the Dublin 5, 13 and 17 areas. The ethos of the club is to cater for players of all standards and backgrounds and St Paul's Artane FC are long standing and proud members of the Dublin District Schoolboy League and the Athletic Union League. The club won the FAI Club of the Month in March 2010.

Over the last 13 years, and a result of 4 separate successful Applications to the Sports Capital program, the club was allocated an overall total of €877,500. The club has built a floodlit 'seven a side' All Weather Pitch beside our clubhouse, has built 6 extra dressing rooms, built a first floor extension to our clubhouse and installed a gymnasium which was opened in July 2010 by Giovanni Trapattoni, Marco Tardelli and John Delaney. A full suite of new gymnasium equipment was installed in 2013. All Projects were managed from start to finish by current Club Officials and all projects were delivered on Budget and on Time.

At the moment the club feel that this is the perfect time to embark on this new project, which will allow the club to grow into the future , Playing and Training on McAuley Pk , beside it's well developed Clubhouse and natural Home.

We have 300-400 members which we expect will continue to grow going forward. We have Public Gym classes operating in the club a number of nights a week which operate on a 'pay as you Go' basis which makes them affordable to the occasional use .

We run a number of charity events during the year and have organised local Active Retirement Christmas parties annually for the last 15 years.

We have one of the best Clubhouses and club facilities anywhere in the Irish Soccer Community but we are very restricted by the uncertainty of our current playing pitch.

We currently have 5 CE Workers working in the club.

We are fully tax compliant with the Revenue Commissioners.

St Brendan's Utd FC:-

St Brendan's Utd FC was founded in 1967 by two past pupils of St Brendan's national school and started playing their games on No 1 McAuley pk The club used the school's facilities for many years catering for schoolboy girls and senior football teams.

The club left the AFL League in 1991 to join the AUL League as it prepared to plans to develop our clubhouse on Gracefield Rd Artane .Our clubhouse was opened on August 1999 after a lot of fundraising and a lotto grant. The clubhouse was built by four members over a 2year period with no loans taken out to complete the project which is a great testament to those members. We currently have a gym area and outside grass area in club with dressing rooms, showers, meeting room. We feel the proposed All Weather Pitch development on McAuley Pk will be a great addition to the club members that have worked so hard over the years.

McAuley Pk at Present . :-

In recent years extensive unresolved Drainage problems across the park has caused both Soccer pitches to be unplayable for months at a time. Ideally both clubs would like to have a local pitch available which is playable all year round and which will allow both clubs to grow and flourish into the future. Pitches are not suitable for training and indeed playing midweek and evening games which are now becoming more the norm .

There has been many cases over recent years of anti – social behaviour in the area with gangs drinking during the summer months resulting in broken bottles etc through to stolen cars and motor bikes being burned out.

As we are in the top Division of the AUL, we are required to fence or rope off the pitch for each match which takes a number of club volunteers up to 2 hours each to put up and take down on match days.

As proud local Community clubs we strongly wish to play in Artane and object to having to consider relocating out of the area for our competitive games.

Benefits in Having an All Weather Soccer Pitch :

- Will enable both clubs to increase participants/ Teams
- Future proof both clubs in the local Community.
- Enable players from both clubs to reach their maximum potential
- Enable both clubs to compete with other Soccer clubs across the country.
- A reduction in Anti-Social Behaviour.
- A greater sense of use and security of the park.
- It would act as a community focal point for all local groups.
- Provide much needed recreational opportunities for local groups and schools.
- A safe and secure recreational area for all school children (3 primary schools)
- Provide part time employment opportunities in Admin and Maintenance.

Estimated Costs.

Development and provision of floodlit all weather pitch .	€750,000.
Contribution to Annual sinking Fund .	€15,000.
Annual operational costs.(incl admin and part time mtce)	€15,000 - €20,000.

Potential Sources of Funding .

Sports Capital Program Grant.

Dublin City Council.

FAI.

Possible Fundraising.