

Application for Parish Approval at Trinity Parish Assembly

For the agreement of a lease between the Parish of Trinity and Trinity Football and Social Club

This short memo is a very brief introduction to the "who, what and why" regarding the seeking of approval of the Parish Assembly.

Who are we?

Trinity Football and Social Club ("the Club") is a long established Parish institution. The Club was essentially given a reboot in the last 10 years under the leadership of Mark Brennan with the help of many other committed parents - every single coach, manager, committee member and helper is voluntary. The Club now has a thriving juniors section with over 150 players.

The ambition is to continue to provide our young players with a pathway and an opportunity to play senior football and aspire to representing their Island. Aligned with this, the club is determined to offer high-quality facilities to help inspire players of all ages to be proud to be a part of the Club. We currently have a significant number of Trinity Football players representing Jersey in several age categories.

Progression, development, inclusion and ultimately success is at the core of this unique Football Club, and we hope that there is plenty more in the years to come.

What would we like to do?

We sought and received Parish approval at the Parish Assembly on 8 December 2022 (appendix A) for the Parish to formally lease to the club the land on which the pitch and club house stand in Riley Field. We are yet to conclude this legal arrangement so we are putting forward a more detailed list of exactly what the plans for the pitch improvement would include to further seek approval before concluding the formal legal lease arrangement.

We are seeking Parish Assembly approval to enter into a lease with the Club for the area marked in the attached plan (Appendix B)

In order for the Club to continue operating the pitch must be upgraded. For years the pitch has been an issue, it is uneven, with very poor drainage and this causes many games and training sessions to be postponed. A recent report by the FA confirmed it was in poor condition (ranked among the worst in the island), and a large amount of ground work is required to bring the pitch back to a reasonable level.

Alongside the work to improve the pitch surface, the Club (subject to raising sufficient funding and planning permission) intends to:

- Re-arrange the layout of the pitches on Riley Field to make the best use of the space and accommodate several training pitches which are not fenced and freely available for parish use.
- Significantly reduce the dimensions of the full size grass pitch (see appendix B).

- Erect a fence to discourage the improper use of the main Club pitch (see examples of fencing attached in Appendix C).
- Install some storage for equipment and goals to the side of the clubhouse.
- Lay a path from the car park to the club house and surrounding the pitch.
- Demarcate a walk way to the north side of the pitch (between the fencing and the tree line) for parishioners to safely navigate to the valley walking area beyond the field.
- Construct two new lighting pylons on the opposite side of the pitch, for full pitch lighting. There are existing pylons for lighting along the perimeter of the clubhouse.
- Rebuild the clubhouse as a multi use community focal point with upgraded access for all users.
- A 3G training pitch shared-use between Trinity School and the Club.

Why do we need a lease?

The essential improvements to the pitch will cost the Club a considerable sum of money. Despite the real benefits of having a suitable sporting facility in the Parish, the funding of the work will fall to the Club and will not be a cost to the Parish.

However, to raise the funds the Club will need to embark on a significant fundraising project.

The Football Foundation provides an annual window for clubs to apply for grants, to improve the opportunities they provide for football players.

The bulk of grant opportunities require security of tenure before they can be considered.

Such funding can help alleviate the financial pressure on the Club, which in turn allows the Club to keep player membership costs to a minimum and ensure financial constraints do not prevent any person from playing.

What is the benefit to the Parish?

- The parishioners will have a local sports club they can join and be proud of.
- The parishioners will have a sporting facility (the smaller training pitches) they can use when it is not in use by the Club.
- It could be used as a multi-sport facility that would be available to Trinity School, the Youth Centre and the Parish generally for events. The Club sees an upgraded facility as a community hub for the Parish.
- Pathways created from the car park to the areas behind the pitches for parishioners to take their children on bikes and skates.
- There is **no** expectation that the Parish will be contributing financially to the upgrade of the sporting facilities. While we hope that Trinity School can benefit from Education Department funding for a 3G pitch the rest of the funding will be through the Club fundraising efforts and grants. However, the Club can only cover their own legal costs in establishing the lease.
- Without the possibility of pitch improvement, the Club will need to find a ground with more suitable facilities for next season.

Appendix A

PARISH ASSEMBLY

An Assembly of the Principals and Electors of the Parish of Trinity was duly convened and held in the Parish Hall on Thursday 8th December 2022 at 7:45 pm for the following business:

1. In accordance with Article 32 of the Rates (Jersey) Law 2005 to elect a member of the Assessment Committee to serve for three years from 1st January 2023; and
2. to discuss and if agreed authorise the Parish to enter into a lease of the Riley Field to the Trinity Football Club for such length and on such other terms as is deemed appropriate by the Connétable and the Procureurs.

The Connétable welcomed everyone to the Assembly. Apologies were received from Deputy A Howell, Deputy E Millar and Mrs A Hassell.

The Convening Notice was read.

It was noted that the Minutes of the previous Parish Assembly held on 29th September 2022 had been made available to the Assembly in accordance with the terms of the Notice. The Minutes of the Assembly on 29th September 2022 were adopted on the proposition of Centenier J Howell and seconded by Mr J H Moulin.

1. The Connétable welcomed those attending and explained to the Assembly that a vacancy for the role of member of the Assessment Committee i.e. Rates Assessor had arisen following the recent retirement of Mr D O Reynolds from the role.

Before asking for nominations, the Connétable thanked Mr Reynolds for his service to the Parish as a Rates Assessor since 2008.

On the proposal of Mr Reynolds and seconded by Mr J H Moulin, Mr Christopher Simpson was elected as Rates Assessor and was warned to attend the Royal Court on Friday 23rd December 2022 to take his oath of office.

2. The Connétable informed the meeting that the Parish currently had an informal agreement with Trinity Football Club in relation to its use of part of Riley Field. It was noted that, in recent years, the Club had become more active and approximately 150 children now used the Club. Mr C Gallichan informed the meeting that the Club was keen to invest in the pitch and club house but, in order to obtain the necessary funding, the Club required security of tenure.

It was further noted that, if a formal lease agreement could be agreed, improvements to the pitch would be seen in Spring 2024 and, in order that the public could still access the area without damaging the pitch, footpaths would be created around the pitch.

On the proposal of Centenier J Howell and seconded by Mr C Bray, the meeting agreed to enter into a lease of part of the Riley Field to the Trinity Football Club for such length and on such other terms as is deemed appropriate by the Connétable and the Procureurs.

There being no further business, the Connétable wished all parishioners and their respective families a peaceful Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year and the Assembly was declared closed at 8.00pm.

P Le Sueur

2.2.23

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Connétable of Trinity

Date

Appendix B

Plan of new pitch size, second training pitch, storage and paths



Appendix C

Fencing Examples

