

APPENDIX 2

LEWES SPORTS CLUB

Community Amateur Sports Club Registration. No. CASC 03551
Representing the mutual interests at the Stanley Turner Ground,, Lewes, Sussex of
Lewes Priory Cricket Club - Lewes Rugby Football
Club *Founded 1937*

Please reply to the Honorary Secretary
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Statement by Lewes Sports Club for the STG Advisory Group meeting on 28th March 2012

The Club welcomes the possibility of devolvement of the STG Trust, and will support a transfer to Lewes Town Council with whom they have had a long and productive relationship.

The Club would seek to Lease and manage all the Sports areas on behalf of the Trustees, and reduce the contribution by the taxpayer, whilst increasing the community use. With the Town Council, and other parties, we will seek to increase the range of users, both active team and individual sports, but as important, as a place for passive recreation from dog-walking to jogging, and perhaps formal and informal community events, which could include some use of the Farmland by arrangement.

In 2009, raising substantial sums from the Lottery and other bodies for Project Turnaround, looked feasible, and we hoped to start work in 2013. However, a combination of the worsening financial recession, causing a steep decline in available funding, and delays in vital areas, have led us to re-assess the Project.

We have been advised that the most we could realistically hope to attract in funding would be around £350,000. This is not likely to change for several years – despite Government claims. The cost of a New Pavilion, even a reduced the specification, would not be less at least £2 million. Planning is likely to be difficult until the National Parks authority has fully established its policies.

Lewes Sports Club, now intend to pursue an alternative strategy, of re-furbishment of existing buildings (*Plan 'B'*). We will seek to add matching grants to money already put aside for the Changing Rooms, to bring these obsolete facilities up to modern standards, and to increase parking.

The Club will also launch a plan and appeal to increase the size of the Clubroom, and re-arrange existing facilities to enable it to provide revenue to replace steadily reducing Bar revenue.

It is intended that these two projects should go ahead, irrespective of whether the Trust is devolved

PROPOSALS FOR ADOPTION BY THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

1. That Lewes District Council (*as Trustee*) determines to devolve the Stanley Turner Ground Recreation Trust to Lewes Town Council as a matter of priority.

Target date for Transfer - 1 March 2014 (the expiry of the current maintenance contract)

2. That Lewes District Council (*as Trustee*) prior to devolvement, regularise the areas and boundaries of land within the Stanley Turner Recreation Ground Trust, by the inclusion of an area of land adjacent to the Children's playground, and that part of the Junior Rugby pitches adjacent to the A27, that are not already included.
3. That Lewes District Council are requested not to enter into any pitch or building maintenance contract, post 1 March 2014, without consulting Lewes Town Council and Lewes Sports Club.
4. That Lewes Town Council (*as putative Trustee*), discuss with Lewes Sports Club, co-operation in administering the Sports Grounds and Buildings within the Trust, the granting of a Lease of all the Sports areas, and drawing up of a pitch and buildings maintenance and facility management agreements to commence on 1 March 2014.
5. That Lewes District Council (*as Trustee*) takes note that the replacement of the buildings at the Stanley Turner Ground, proposed in September 2009, is now not considered possible in the near future, due to the economic outlook and various delays. The Club now proposes to postpone (*but not abandon*) the original plan, and to consider Turnaround 'Plan B'.
6. That Lewes District Council (*as Trustee*), with Lewes Sports Club, urgently seek to raise £250,000 to re-furbish and upgrade the Changing facilities at the Stanley Turner Ground, and provide additional Parking. Funding would comprise the £90,000 already set aside, matched funding from Sport England and Inspired Facilities, and contributions from the National Governing Bodies for Rugby, Football, & Cricket, and other bodies.
Target date for completion 1 September 2013.
7. That Lewes District Council (*as Trustee*) supports plans drawn up by Lewes Sports Club, to extend and re-furbish the Clubroom, and provide administrative assistance and decisions as required.
Target date for completion September 2014.

Proposals 6 and 7 to be pursued, irrespective of developments in para 1 (above)

Peter Sealey
Secretary, Lewes Sports Club.

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