

Rod Gibson  
Kesgrave Neighborhood Plan



Monday 12<sup>th</sup> November, 2018

Dear Rod,

**RE: Kesgrave High School - Pavilion Project**

Through consultation with local stakeholders, it was highlighted that the ancillary facilities at Kesgrave High School are not sufficient for a site which services two growing football clubs; Kesgrave Kestrels and AFC Kesgrave.

To ensure that the site can accommodate existing and future community demand, Kesgrave High School has been identified as a priority project for the development of a new pavilion and subsequently to receive Football Foundation funding towards a project – subject to successful application and decision from the Football Foundation Board of Trustees.

Kesgrave High School has close links with their local clubs, namely AFC Kesgrave and Kesgrave Kestrels, who have been consulted throughout this process to improve facilities at the site. Both of these clubs are forward-thinking, proactive and developmental organisations that strive to give their players the best football experience possible. In a short space of time, these clubs – who both have the FA Charter Standard status - have implemented significant plans to grow, develop and provide the beautiful game to the local community.

As the nation's most popular team sport, football has the power to contribute positively to vital social outcomes and health priorities. To maximise this power, facilities have to be welcoming environments to attract first-time users and repeat visits, whether for informal, recreational or competitive football. Research clearly and continually demonstrates the positive impact high-quality football facilities, in the right locations, can have on participation and enjoyment. Latent demand exists, but facility quantity and quality has to 'step up' if football is to reach out to everyone.

Suffolk FA is committed to supporting the school and partner football clubs to deliver the football development aspects of this project. As well as meeting the need for affiliated grassroots football the new facility would provide an opportunity for the clubs to deliver a number of recreational activities which will add to their existing programme.

Suffolk FA recognises the impact this investment would have on the local community of Kesgrave and is therefore fully supportive of the project.

Yours sincerely,

Jodie Allard  
Football Development Manager  
Suffolk Football Association

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