



HOLLINGBURY HAWKS FC



The Hollingbury Hawks (Youth and Colts) are a registered grassroots football club established in 1973. The club is a non profit voluntary organisation run by a committee including child welfare officers. We have a club constitution, ethos and code of conduct in the aim to provide football for all on an equal basis.

We currently provide weekly football training and matches for 14 teams from U8-U16, boys and girls (over 200 children and continually growing). Our coaches/ managers are all CRC checked and required to train up to FA level 1, including safeguarding and first aid.

The teams are formed with kids mainly from our catchment area and local schools (Hertford being one of them and we also use their pitch which is adjacent to Brentwood Rd). We are one of the few clubs in Brighton who do not have a home ground and seeing that the pitch was not being used prompted the approach to request the site. I have also been told this site used to be the Hollingbury Hawks home ground in the past.

We would be looking to rent the ground on a long term basis and organise maintenance for the pitch. The pitch would remain accessible to the public and could be used by other teams if required. We appreciate the pitch is a difficult site and requires a lot of work before being up to standard however we feel we have access to a labour force and specialist advice in order to achieve this. Once we have a lease we can also apply for grants and seek further help and advice from the Sussex FA.

We have spoken to local community groups who seem keen for the space to be utilised and the Sussex FA are supportive of the idea.

Initially we would look to get the pitch up and running asap and maintain the area around it (including fixing the fence and providing dog bins). The pitch can then be used regularly on Sundays for matches and also as a training space at other times. We would like to start providing football for younger age groups and a home ground would make this easier.

The process started 2 years ago and we have been in discussion with Brighton Council, City Parks, Friends of Hollingdean Park, The Sure Start Centre, the Sussex FA and various ground maintenance firms to enable us to run the site. We have also set out a pitch, new goals have recently been put in (as part of the regeneration of the area) and we are ready to start the line markings. We have volunteers to help with the maintenance and various options for regular mowing and renewing of line markings.

Until we have a lease in place we are unable to apply for a grant and feel we should wait before spending any club funds getting the pitch up and running, but we have budgeted for it and are ready to go.

Anton Robiliard (Hollingbury Hawks Club Sec)

