

Press Release

Friday 8th April 2016

Broomfield FC awarded £320,000 for clubhouse supported by West Ham United Foundation

Grassroots sport in Broomfield, near Chelmsford, Essex, is set to benefit from a major cash injection following the news that Broomfield FC has been awarded a grant of £319,048 from the Premier League & The FA Facilities Fund. The project has been praised by West Ham United Foundation, which hopes to continue supporting the site once completed.

Funded by the Premier League, The FA, and the Government, via Sport England, the Premier League & The FA Facilities Fund is delivered by the Football Foundation, the country's largest sports charity. Since it was launched in 2000, the Foundation has supported more than 14,000 grassroots projects worth over £1.3 billion.

Broomfield FC run sixteen junior youth teams and four adult teams, and the grant will enable them to build a new clubhouse following an arson attack on its existing premises in May 2014. The new facility will sustain growth in team numbers while helping the club to consistently improve coaching standards through extra qualifications to aid player development.

A new clubhouse is also critical to the ongoing success of the club's long running Fun Day Weekend, five-a-side competition and its annual German Exchange programme, now in its 37th year.

The new facility will provide four segregated changing rooms and shower facilities, two referees rooms with showers, a club room facility with bar and much-needed kitchen facilities. West Ham United Foundation hope to work with the club in the future, and have previously held Foundation Soccer Schools on site.

By providing more high-quality facilities, coupled with coaching at the appropriate age group, the Premier League & The FA Facilities Fund aims to improve the experience for regular players as well as attracting new players to the game. Many of the new state-of-the-art facilities will serve to strengthen the connection between professional football clubs and their local communities, particularly in the most deprived areas of the country, through the professional clubs' community trusts' outreach work.

Joseph Lyons, Chief Executive, West Ham United Foundation, said: **"I am pleased to hear the news about Broomfield FC's grant for a new clubhouse. The development will have a significant impact on local grassroots football, and supports the forward thinking of the club committee and its members.**

West Ham United Foundation hope to work with the club, expanding football activity on site to enhance the development of both players and coaches at the grassroots level. We have previously hosted our Foundation Soccer Schools at the club, which have gone tremendously well.

I would like to thank the Premier League & The FA Facilities Fund through the Football Foundation for its continued investment in projects like this. I look forward to seeing the works complete.”

Sean McGinley, Chairman, Broomfield FC, said: **“We are delighted to have the support of the Premier League & The FA Facilities Fund for this project. We have not had a purpose built clubhouse since the club started in 1905 and this project will transform the future of the club. It will provide us with a much needed focal point and means to raise additional income to meet our growth expectations and joint goals of improving coaching qualifications and training facilities, thereby improving grassroots football in the area.”**

Paul Thorogood, Chief Executive of the Football Foundation, said: **“Congratulations should go to Broomfield FC for working with Essex FA to secure this Premier League & The FA Facilities Fund grant.**

Since 2000, the Foundation has awarded 316 grants worth £19.5m across Essex towards grassroots sports projects worth nearly £48.1m with money generously provided by our funders: the Premier League, The FA and the Government, via Sport England.”

ENDS

For more information contact:

- Duncan Paterson on 07966 266442 or duncanp@tiscali.co.uk
- Alice Sherritt on 0345 345 4555 Ext: 4292 or alice.sherritt@footballfoundation.org.uk



Department
for Culture
Media & Sport

— FUNDING PARTNERS —

The Football Foundation Whittington House 19-30 Alfred Place London WC1E 7EA
T 0345 345 4555 E enquiries@footballfoundation.org.uk W www.footballfoundation.org.uk

Registered Charity Number 1079309 Registered in England and Wales Company limited by guarantee Company Number 3876305

improving facilities • creating opportunities • building communities