



Sports Centre Update

As you may or may not know a whole new Board of Trustees was elected at the AGM in September 2017. We got off to a bumpy start but since Christmas have worked tirelessly on making improvements at the Sports Centre, mostly involving the committee and friends and family of the committee volunteering their free time to complete tasks around the Sports Centre whether that be decorating, electrical and plumbing work, carpentry and admin.

On taking over as Trustees the bank balance was a meager £35k, hardly enough to sustain a struggling business but we were determined not to let that hinder our visions for the Centre it just meant it was very much a shoe string budget and we would have to prioritise what jobs we would undertake first.

It is very important for us that we continue on the current path to make the Sports Centre a Community Hub rather than just a Sports & Social Club.

So what have we done so far and what are our plans?

The Gallery Bar has now become the new home of the Gym making use of a space that was making virtually no money and giving the Gym a much needed revamp with broken machinery being either fixed or replaced.

The old Gym space has been decorated and cleaned to become a room dedicated for classes such as Spin and Yoga amongst others.

The Squash Courts are now fixed and up and running, these have become very popular, badminton is also very popular with the court being booked out week in week out.

The layout of the bar area is being changed to make better use of the space to become more family friendly to improve the social aspect of the club. The annex is being changed into a Sports Lounge with a TV and pool table making it less 'boisterous' in the main bar area for other members.

Another meeting room has been created upstairs through the snooker room which was formerly a room full of junk and forgotten items. This is already making revenue for the Sports Centre with corporate bookings.

The next big project is to extend the kitchen next to the bar by knocking through to an unused changing room and refitting the kitchen equipment from the old Gallery Bar. This will enable us to produce a better range and better quality food for the members and again increase revenue for the Sports Centre.

We also need additional space for another meeting room/studio as the current spaces are almost fully booked and we do not want to turn away any business that we can bring in. With that in mind we plan to move the current groundsman storage area into the shed on the football field to enable us to convert the vacated space into the aforementioned meeting room/studio.

Memberships are increasing month on month increasing footfall through the door and money in the bank.

At last the Sports Centre is once again looking like a viable business and becoming a valuable Community Hub to the Towns Folk of Watton.



WATTON SPORTS

ASSOCIATION & SOCIAL CLUB

Dereham Road, Watton, IP25 6EZ
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As I mentioned before memberships are on the increase as you can see below;

January 2018

35 x social memberships

6 x monthly memberships (this includes gym, classes and courts)

February 2018

30 x social memberships

49 x monthly memberships

March 2018

78 x social memberships

67 x monthly memberships

1st April – 15th April 2018

93 x social memberships

53 x monthly memberships

Totalling in all since January 236 new social memberships and 175 new monthly memberships.

Social membership is £25 for the year and concessional rate is £18 (concessional rate is open to NHS, Police, Prison Service, Fire Service, Teachers & OAPs)

Gym memberships start from £28 per month and concessional rate at £18 per month.

The full price list can be found on our website.

I would like to thank the Town Council for the £5000 which we received in April 2017, this allowed us to continue with the maintenance and upkeep of the Memorial Fields for the people of Watton without having to divert money from elsewhere in the business.

We continue to support the affiliated clubs which include Tennis, Football, Lawn Bowls, Hockey and Table Tennis. All clubs are actively seeking new members so why not come down and give one of them a try!!

Watton Sports Centre has become the permanent home for Slimming World which has in excess of 300 members and we are very pleased to accommodate them here.

We would like to invite you all down to the Sports Centre to have a look around at the new facilities and to see the work that we are currently doing to improve the Centre.

We are already receiving some great feedback on the changes so far and we are very much looking forward to the future at the Sports Centre.

We hope to see some of you at the Sports Centre very soon!

Kind Regards

Grant Harwood

Trustee & Secretary of Watton Sports Association