

DERSINGHAM SPORTS GROUND ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL REPORT

This is the inaugural report of the DSGA since the Charity was formed in October 2023.

The DSGA was created as a successor to the former CIC in order to establish a charitable structure to enable fundraising for a new pavilion and to form a new body of Trustees to manage and oversee the total operation of the Sports Ground, its constituent sports clubs, facilities and amenities. Over the past 22 months, most of our focus has been on creating and implementing plans for a new, modern, state-of-the-art Sports Pavilion,

Major highlights include:

- Advancing the Pavilion Project to the current advanced stage, with planning approval received, environmental status completed, building costs received, lease approval received and Land Registraton submitted.
- A major fund raising initiative implemented with grant applications made to a dozen Charitable Trusts. Detailed discussions undertaken with the Football Federation and Norfolk FA who will provide the lion's share of the Pavilion Project grant.
- Increasing car parking space to accommodate up to 60 vehicles with new signage designed to direct visitors to the new car park;
- Financing for the Association is on a solid footing, with reserves of £40k accrued from local community fund raising efforts, club fees and other grants.

Looking forward we are highly positive about the prospect of obtaining funds for a new pavilion, and thus providing a better, more secure, viable sports facility for the whole community and beyond. We are well aware of our responsibilities to the sports clubs and their members, visitors and, importantly, our neighbours and stakeholders.

The sports clubs go from strength to strength, and their reports are attached. It is worth reiterating that this Sports Ground supports three very strong clubs with Dersingham Rovers Football about to field 15 teams, making it one of the largest clubs in Norfolk. Proof that the Sports Ground can host major tournaments was displayed in May 2025 with the weekend of junior football involving 34 teams from across the country; the event was organised by SCI sports competitions.

Finally I would like to thank all our Trustees, supporters, volunteers and other stakeholders who have helped us achieve our goals for this period. Also thanks go to our Landlord, the Parish Council, for their financial and other support. We have a skilled and experienced group of 9 Trustees, having welcomed three new Trustees recently but sadly lost our great friend and founding Trustee, Barry Hopkins.

We have a new website which includes links to ways of volunteering and donating towards the Pavilion project-www.dersinghamsportsground.org.uk

Many thanks for all your support over this past year, and hopefully to come.

David Collingham
Chair, Dersingham Sports Ground Association