



# **Barton-le-Clay Leisure Strategy 2021 - 2026**

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On behalf of Barton-Le-Clay Parish Council  
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# Barton-le-Clay Parish Council Leisure Strategy



Barton-le-Clay Recreation Ground

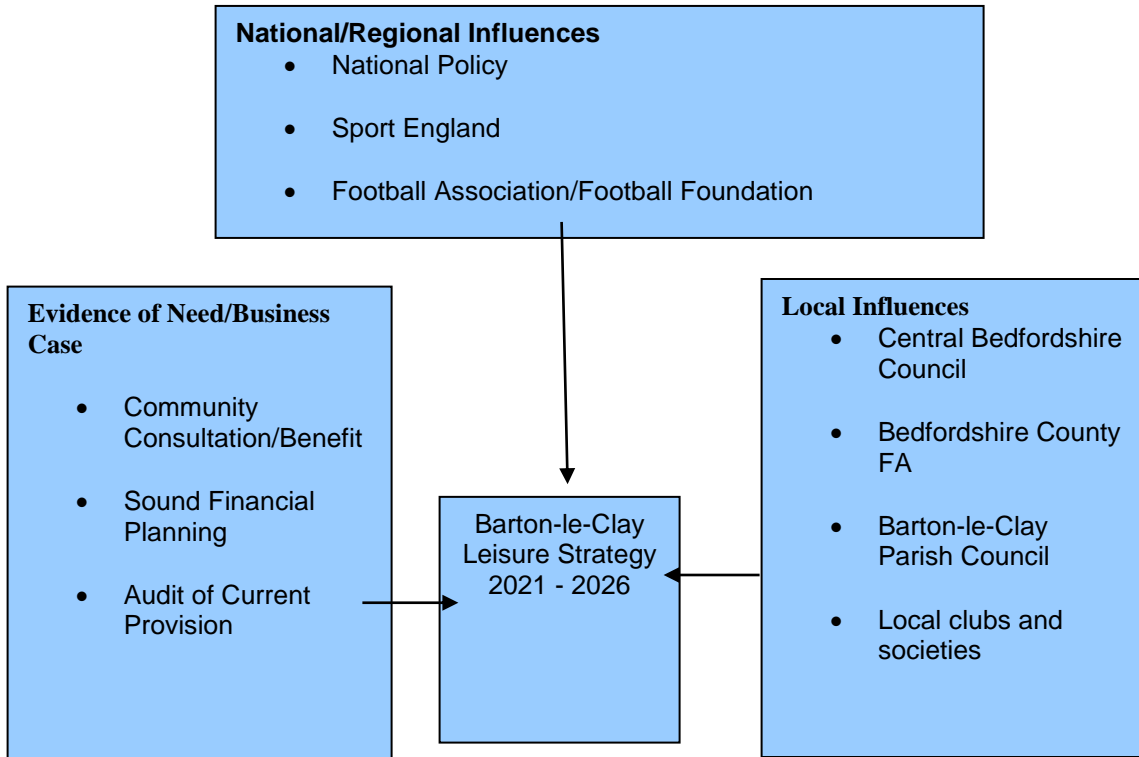


Barton- le-Clay Bowls Club

## Executive Summary

### Introduction

The diagram below **summarises the process** that has been used to create this Leisure Strategy:



Our Leisure Strategy covers the next five years and clearly outlines the leisure and recreation needs of our community, the facilities and resources we require and how intend to deliver our plans.

### Scope

The strategy covers the following areas within the Parish Council boundary:

- Allotments
- Playing Fields
- Informal Open Space
- Play Areas
- Community Halls/Indoor Recreation
- Community Use of School Sites
- Local Sports/Recreation Clubs

The following elements are outside the scope of this strategy and have, therefore, been excluded:

- Retail
- Health/GP Provision
- Public Houses/Restaurants/Takeaways/Café's
- Burial Grounds

### Summary of Key Priorities

In this section we look in detail at our priorities.

**Inescapable** – There is a statutory, health and safety and/or identified strategic and community need.

**Essential** – These are identified as important to the local community and would greatly benefit the local population but do not meet any of the criteria in the category above.

**Desirable** – The facilities would be great for the local community but would require significant funding and the long term need and sustainability would need to be proved.

**Inescapable** – To consider the location of, and the best way to, provide, manage and maintain a **Full-Size Floodlit Football Turf Pitch** to meet the identified need within the Village.

The estimated cost of the fenced, floodlit pitch is £750,000.

The cost should be met through external funding – Football Foundation and other charitable foundations alongside a developer contribution

**Inescapable** – To carry out essential maintenance works at Luton Road Changing Pavilion in order to ensure it is able to meet the needs of its users.

Estimated Cost - £50,000 which could be funded by the Parish Council and a Football Foundation grant

**Inescapable** – To undertake a **Feasibility Study** for the provision of a **Village Hall** facility to meet the needs of the existing and expanding population.

This should include assessing what is possible on the current site, expansion and exploring other potential locations.

Estimated Costs of a Feasibility Study - £6,000

**Inescapable – To ensure ongoing Library Provision** is crucial for the village and the Parish Council should work closely with CBC to ensure this valuable asset continues to meet the needs of the local community.

**Inescapable – To improve and increase allotment provision** – These are **fully let** with a waiting list. There is a **legal requirement** to provide allotments for residents. Provision will need to be based on **20 plots** (based on 10 pole size) **per 1,000 new housing units**.

The site would have to include perimeter fencing and planting, toilet, entrance gate, water, roadway, path and parking. This land could be provided by the developer or they could enable the Parish Council to make land available.

Developer Funded

**Inescapable – To improve Play Provision** – There is a need to **provide new and enhanced play facilities** as the existing provision is **limited in scale and range**, particularly the Norman Road Play Area. Estimated cost - £25,000 – Parish Council/Grant Funding.

The new development will also require formal play provision within the development – **Developer funded** but ongoing management, maintenance and funding would need to be agreed

**Essential – To improve the Facilities for Young People** – These could include a **BMX/Scooter Trail** which could be incorporated into the proposed new development.

The Parish Council will need to work with the developer and CBC to agree location, specification and ongoing cost implications.

**Developer Funded**

**Essential – To improve Access to Informal Recreation** – The recent pandemic has clearly highlighted the **importance of free, outdoor, informal, local recreation** opportunities. There is no better example than the hills and countryside around the village.

There is an opportunity to provide signage and guided walks to ensure local people are aware of the provision on their doorstep along with the importance of staying on certain routes and respecting the local environment.

Estimated Cost - £10,000

**Essential – To Update the existing Outdoor Fitness Equipment** – There is a need to modernise the existing provision, improve the access to and improve the surface to meet additional demand, along with provision of accessible equipment for use by people with disabilities.

It is proposed that a consultation exercise is undertaken on a proposed new design for the area.

Estimated Cost - £25,000

**Essential – To make improvements to the existing Tennis Provision** – The local demand for tennis is being met by the current provision but the existing facility would benefit from the following:

Replacing the existing fencing around both courts for safety and security as well as significantly improving the look of the site.

Improving signage to indicate how the facility is managed and how people can contact the club in order to use the facility.

This should be funded through grants and the Parish Council.

**Essential – To develop a new Multi Use Games Area (MUGA)**

This will address the need for informal, open access sports provision not catered for by a new artificial football pitch such as recreational netball, hockey, fitness classes etc. The estimated costs of a fenced and floodlit tarmac surface MUGA is in the region of £150,000

To work with CBC and Taylor Wimpey to agree a location, detailed specification (size, fencing, floodlight, surface type) and ongoing management and maintenance implications.

This should be fully developer funded

**Essential – To make improvements to Barton Bowls Club Facilities**

To replace the edging around the bowls green which has past it's useful life and replace the existing mower and aerator.

This should be financed through the club, grants and Parish Council support.

**Desirable – To extend the existing Unity Hall building**

An extension would be physically possible but would need to be funded by donations, fundraising and grants as it is not an immediate priority for financial support from the Parish Council or developer contributions.

**Desirable – To create a new footpath to the Tennis Courts**

The facility would undoubtedly benefit from a footpath leading onto the courts but the costs would need careful consideration as the funding responsibility would lie with the Parish Council.

**Desirable – To make improvements to St Nicholas Church Hall**

Whilst there are a number of improvements required at the hall this is the responsibility of the Church.

**Not Recommended - Additional New Indoor Sports Provision**

There is at present sufficient capacity within the village and surrounding area to cater for indoor sport and recreation.

Therefore, the additional capital cost and ongoing sustainability of such a facility cannot be justified at this stage but should be kept under review by the Parish Council.

**Monitoring and Evaluation**

The Parish Council will be responsible for the Monitoring and Evaluation of this Leisure Strategy. The Action Plan will be reviewed on a quarterly basis with an overall annual review.

We will look at the following when reviewing our Strategy and Action Plan:

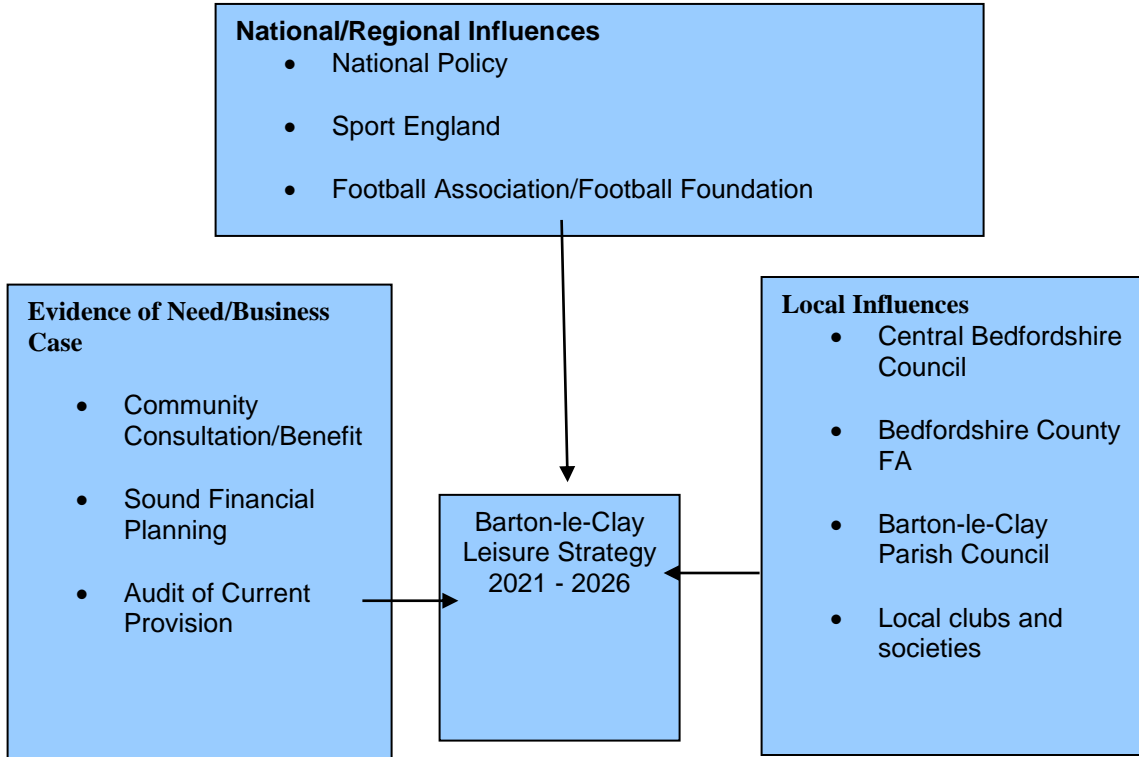
- What have we achieved?
- How ambitious were we – just right, too ambitious, too safe?
- Do we need change and update our actions – take out what we have completed, add new and adapt those we haven't achieved?
- How has the world changed?
- How successful were we in obtaining funding and support?
- Do we need to expand our range of funders?



## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Purpose of the Strategy

The diagram below **summarises the process** that has been used to create this Leisure Strategy:



Our Leisure Strategy covers the next five years and clearly outlines the leisure and recreation needs of our community, the facilities and resources we require and how intend to deliver our plans.



Location Map of Barton-le-Clay

It is a practical, working document that has been developed by the Parish Council

## Barton-le-Clay Parish Council Leisure Strategy

in consultation with our local community and has a detailed Action Plan along with a robust Monitoring and Evaluation Plan.

The strategy covers the following areas within the Parish Council boundary:

- Allotments
- Playing Fields
- Informal Open Space
- Play Areas
- Community Halls/Indoor Recreation
- Community Use of School Sites
- Local Sports/Recreation Clubs

The following elements are outside the scope of this strategy and have, therefore, been excluded:

- Retail
- Health/GP Provision
- Public Houses/Restaurants/Takeaways/Café's
- Burial Grounds

Essentially this Strategy covers:

- *Where are we now? What facilities do we currently have and what leisure activities are taking place?*
- *Where do we want to be? What do we have planned to meet the needs of our existing and expanding population?*
- *How do we get there? Action Plans showing a coordinated approach to funding our action plan with clear and measurable targets.*
- *Our Long-Term Future? A detailed Monitoring and Evaluation Plan that reviews our Actions and what we will need to do in the future.*

This Strategy, therefore, shows the following:

- *The current leisure provision within the village*
- *The plans the Parish Council has, not only to increase the range of facilities, but also introduce new provision that will be required to meet the needs of an expanding community.*
- *The financial implications of this strategy.*

- *Our Action Plans to deliver these facilities.*
- *Long term sustainability, management and maintenance.*

### **1.2 Barton-le-Clay**

The population of Central Bedfordshire is 294,100 according to the 2020 mid-year estimate. This is expected to rise to 343,000 by 2039. The area is ranked 38<sup>th</sup> out of 47 Local Authorities in the region and 265 out of 326 Local Authorities nationally on the Index of Multiple Deprivation.

The village is located in the Central Bedfordshire local authority area in the East Region.

Barton-le-Clay is classed as a minor service centre in Southern Central Bedfordshire to the north of Luton. Shops, public houses, restaurants and takeaways are generally located along Bedford Road which provides a natural hub for the village. The A6 bypasses the village and the village is encircled by Green Belt and Chilterns AONB is to the south of the village.

The Local Insight Profile (2020) produced by Oxford Consultants for Social Inclusion has highlighted the following:

- The population of the village is 4,950
- The % of people satisfied with their community is 80.1%, broadly similar to the England average of 79.3%
- The percentage of children in Reception Year classed as overweight or obese is 27% which higher than the national figure of 22.1%
- The figure for Year 6 is 28.5% (33.6% in England)
- Adults classed as obese is 23.3% which is close to the national figure of 24.1%
- Binge drinking is 20.1% against the national figure of 20.0%
- Healthy eating is 31.6% which is better than the England % which is 28.7%
- Total green space for community use is 9.5 hectares which is 0.9% of the Parish. The England average is 2.2%

**Population Profile<sup>1</sup>**

<b>Total Population</b>	<b>Aged 0 - 15</b>	<b>Working Age Population</b>	<b>Aged 65+</b>	<b>Dependency Ratio</b>
4,950	845	3,015	1,090	0.64
49% male/51% female	17.1%	60.9% (England Average 62.4%)	22%	England Average 0.60

In terms of physical activity, the Chief Medical Officer has set the following guidelines:

- **Physically Active** – Undertaking at least 150 minutes per week in the past month excluding gardening
- **Physically Inactive** – Undertaking less than 30 minutes in the past month excluding gardening
- **Physically Active at least twice a month** – Undertaking physical activity on at least two occasions in the past month
- According to the **Sport England Active Lives Survey 2020** 65% of adults in the Parish are physically active compared to 64% nationally
- 20% are physically inactive with 23% across England
- 81% are physically active twice a month (79% in England)

**Barton-le-Clay Parish Council**

Barton-le-Clay Parish Council is a formally constituted local authority and is a statutory body having powers under a number of different Acts (the Local Government Act 1972, the Public Health Act 1936, etc.).

The Council raises funds by the annual Precept which is set in January of each year.

The amount required by the Parish Council is guided by the setting of the annual budget in the November preceding.

The Parish Council precept is added to the Council Tax bill and collected by Central Bedfordshire Council (on behalf of the Parish Council).

The Council also raises funds through grants from other organisations.

<sup>1</sup> Source: Mid-Year Estimates (ONS) 2019

## Barton-le-Clay Parish Council Leisure Strategy

Through an extensive range of discretionary powers, Barton-le-Clay Parish Council provides and maintains a variety of important and visible local services including:

- Provision and maintenance of open spaces and play areas at Arnold Recreation Ground and Norman Road Play Area
- Providing allotments
- Managing the football facilities at the Luton Road Sports Field
- Management of the Burial Ground and maintenance of St Nicholas churchyard
- Maintenance of the War Memorial and organising the annual Remembrance Sunday service
- Provision and regular maintenance of the Bus Shelters
- Provision and maintenance of benches around the village
- Consultee on planning applications for the village
- Working alongside Central Bedfordshire Council's Highways Department to implement traffic calming schemes in the village
- Provision of small financial grants to assist local groups and organisations

The Parish Council has published its Action Plan 2021/22 which includes the following key actions:

- To engage with the community to help shape plans for the Parish
- To ensure the allotments remain financially viable
- To develop a plan for a Heritage Garden
- To update Norman Road Play Area equipment and surfacing
- To review access to the outdoor gym facility and look at provision of a pathway

### **Proposed New Housing Development**

As part of the land highlighted in the Central Bedfordshire Local Plan, developers Taylor Wimpey are proposing to build around 500 new homes and a primary school on land to the east of the village on Higham Gobion Road (HAS05 Land East of Barton-le-Clay).

This is likely to increase the local population by 1,000 – 1,500 people and represents approximately a 30% increase.

It is vital that new facilities as a result of any new housing development must be accessible to all residents and not just confined to the new development.

This will help integration of new residents as well as provide much needed local facilities to meet the associated population growth and demand for services.

The draft Development Plan for the site includes the following:

- The site comprises 27.8 hectares of land
- There will be a mix of housing types and tenures
- Delivery of a new primary/lower school
- Integration with and enhancement of the existing infrastructure and facilities within Barton-le-Clay providing suitable vehicular access and sustainable transport connectors
- To provide new or improved footpath/cycleway links and upgrades to existing public rights of way
- To create a new park at the northern extent of the site
- To create high quality public open spaces and circular recreational routes
- The requirements for financial contributions or on-site provision through S106 obligations in relation to sports and leisure facilities will be negotiated through the planning process
- A range of informal and formal children's play will be provided
- An area of allotments will also be provided
- A mixture of onsite and offsite play provision could be considered but onsite should include one combined LA/LEAP/NEAP and one combined Super LAP/LEAP as a minimum
- The proposals will include a Multi-Use Games Area as well as a BMX trail/scooter loop

### **Covid-19**

The pandemic has highlighted the importance of local, accessible open space for people to be able to use safely and without the need for lengthy travel.

As a Parish we have seen this with significantly increased numbers of visitors to Barton Hills Nature Reserve.

## Barton-le-Clay Parish Council Leisure Strategy

The pandemic presented many challenges including closing play areas and outdoor fitness equipment. During this time the Parish Council installed a new zip wire on the Arnold Recreation Ground and addressed the issues highlighted by the RoSPA safety check of play equipment.

The Parish Council also took a number of measures to support local clubs within the village including:

- Waiving Barton Rovers FC Annual Rent for 2020/21
- Paying the annual lease fee for the Tennis Club
- Waiving the water rates for Unity Hall for 2020/21
- Introduced safety measures in the Sports Pavilion in line with Government Guidance



Barton-le-Clay Recreation Ground

## 2. Strategic Context

### HM Government - Sporting Future: A New Strategy for an Active Nation

This strategy was released in December 2015 and relates to our project in the following ways:

- The strategy has a focus on the potential of sport for social good and improving people's lives which we can contribute to by providing high quality football, coaching and volunteering opportunities
- The five key outcomes are physical health, mental health, individual development, social and community development and economic development
- The strategy states that being close to where people live, high quality multi use green spaces can play a key role as sporting venues and as alternative settings for sport and healthy activity for communities including new audiences that are less likely to use traditional sports centre

### Sport England – Towards an Active Nation 2016 - 2021

The strategy sets out how the policy developed by Central Government will be delivered. The focus is on:

- Tackling inactivity
- Investing more in children and young people from the age of five
- Volunteering
- Helping those who are active now to carry on
- Helping the sector to become more welcoming and more inclusive
- Helping sport keep pace with digital expectations
- Encouraging stronger local collaboration
- Working with a wide range of partners
- Encourage innovation, share best practice with a focus on behaviour change

### The Football Association Strategic Plan – Time for Change 2020 – 2024

The Vision is ***“Unite the Game, Inspire the Nation”***.

Its Mission is: ***“Change the Game to Maximise its Impact, Serve the Game to Deliver Football for All”***

One of its Key Objectives is to maximise investment in to the game.

### Bedfordshire County Football Association

Bedfordshire County FA is the not-for-profit governing body of football in Bedfordshire. Their priority is to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to play and develop their love of the game.



As culture changes Bedfordshire FA has recognised that football will need to do the same in order to continue thriving as a community activity for everyone and following the England Commission, there is greater focus on Facility Development and Player & Coach development.

### **Central Bedfordshire Council**

The Council's strategic plan vision is to make Central Bedfordshire a great place to live and work. To achieve this, it has the following outcomes:

- Develop Great Resident Services
- Improve Education and Skills
- Protect the Vulnerable and Improve Wellbeing
- Create Stronger Communities
- To become a more Efficient and Responsive Council

### **Central Bedfordshire Local Plan 2015 - 2035**

The Central Bedfordshire Local Plan is the key strategic planning document for Central Bedfordshire and will guide and support the delivery of new infrastructure, homes and jobs. It sets the long-term vision and objectives for the area, what is going to happen, where, and how this will be achieved and delivered over the next 20 years.

The Luton and Central Bedfordshire SHMA (May 2017) identifies population growth of 19.5% over the plan period to 2035 for Central Bedfordshire compared to a 13.4% increase identified for England over the same period.

In line with national trends, Central Bedfordshire is also projected to have a rise in older age groups over this period (age ranges 70+), but also is projected to have a rise in the 55-69 age range.

It is also likely that the delivery of new starter homes and family homes together with skilled jobs will also attract younger people and families which may have a significant effect on the age profile in Central Bedfordshire. This will put additional pressure on public services

The Plan has six key growth themes. The following elements are key to our work:

#### ***Growth and Infrastructure***

*Where to place homes and services. Supporting market towns, villages and new settlements. We need to consider not only the growth but what other facilities, services and infrastructure these areas will need for the next generation.*

#### ***Strategic Objectives***

*SO11 Promote healthier and more active lifestyles by improving the quality of, and accessibility to, the area's open spaces, as areas for sports, recreation, visual interest, biodiversity, education, health and wellbeing.*

The Playing Pitch Strategy element of the Local Plan supports the provision of accessible and local appropriate sporting facilities and opportunities which also helps tackle physical inactivity as one of the primary causes of ill health.

The Council supports the delivery of new and enhancement of existing outdoor sporting facilities to provide for growing populations.

New facilities should be accessible to encourage use but away from residential properties to minimise disturbance. They should be supported by parking and changing/pavilion facilities.

The provision of new sports facilities should allow the facility to expand as the clubs grow and to accommodate additional demand from new housing growth.

**Policy EE13: Outdoor Sport, Leisure and Open Space**

*Proposals for residential development will be permitted where they provide appropriate on-site facilities or contributions towards the provision of open space and outdoor sports facilities in line with the following criteria:*

*On new residential developments, the Council will:*

- Require the provision of open space and outdoor sports facilities in accordance with the Leisure Strategy standards and facility requirements and*
- Require on-site open space and outdoor sports facilities to be an integral part of the development and incorporated in to the design of the development at an early stage.*

**Open Spaces**

- Require the provision of on-site open spaces unless up-to-date evidence demonstrates alternative provision is more appropriate.*
- Require contributions towards the provision, enhancement and/or extension of open spaces identified within the Leisure Strategy and the Parish Schedules, where a development does not provide open space on the site.*

**Outdoor Sport**

- Require the provision of on-site outdoor sports facilities on larger developments, (over 300 dwellings) in accordance with the Leisure Strategy and facility requirements*
- Require smaller developments (under 300 dwellings) where on-site provision of outdoor sports facilities is not required to contribute towards*

*the provision, enhancement and/or extension of existing facilities in accordance with the Leisure Strategy*

### **Community Infrastructure – Libraries**

Central Bedfordshire Libraries are trusted, safe spaces which act as gateways to public services and support initiatives to tackle disadvantage and exclusion.

The emerging Library Strategy sees the Council continuing to provide a comprehensive library service and being cultural hubs that support health and wellbeing literacy, learning, education and skills.

### **Indoor Sport and Leisure Facilities**

Appropriate access to good quality sports and leisure facilities is key to creating and supporting healthy communities.

### **Policy HQ4: Indoor Sport and Leisure Facilities**

New residential developments will be required to make provision for appropriate indoor sports and leisure facilities. Facilities need to be designed and constructed in accordance with Sport England and National Governing Body guidance.

### **Central Bedfordshire Leisure Strategy**

This is a suite of three facility-based strategies which look at the current and future provision of indoor sports and leisure centres, recreational open spaces and outdoor sport.

The fourth chapter seeks to marry the facilities with the types of physical activities needed to support Central Bedfordshire's residents in pursuing a healthy active lifestyle.

The key elements for the village are detailed below:

- The need for artificial pitch provision which is detailed in the next section
- The requirement for additional accessible tennis courts

### **Central Bedfordshire Open Space Strategy – Barton-le-Clay**

This has identified the following:

- New provision to meet identified deficiencies in provision for young people due to limited access to facilities, particularly in the north of the village
- Additional allotments required to meet demand and address waiting list
- Small gaps in provision of large recreational areas but the priority is to improve the quality of the existing infrastructure – outdoor gym, outdoor table tennis table, MUGA

## Barton-le-Clay Parish Council Leisure Strategy

- Play - The need to improve the quality and range of play equipment provision
- Informal Recreation – There is a need for additional seating/benches within Arnold Recreation Ground
- Small Amenity Spaces – The need for additional areas to serve large areas of central, west and east Barton-le-Clay

### **Central Bedfordshire Council Outdoor Sports Priority Project List – April 2021**

This identifies the following that is relevant to our work:

- There is a need in Central Bedfordshire for an additional 13 3G pitches for football based on the FA ratio of 38 teams to 1 full size 3G pitch
- Barton-le-Clay Tennis Club have identified the need for additional accessible courts which could come from S106 funds
- The need for a training 3G pitch and Step 4 stadia 3G for Barton Rovers FC

### **Local Football Facility Plan – Central Bedfordshire**

This is, in effect, the go-to document for football facility investment in Central Bedfordshire.

It identifies priority projects for investment subject to an application process to the Football Foundation. Each project must show how it will deliver key participation outcomes, become a sustainable and quality facility and demonstrate suitable match funding.

This strategy:

- Sets a 10-year vision to transform local football facilities
- Identifies priority projects to be delivered
- Acts as an investment portfolio for projects that require funding
- Should be updated on a regular basis

Some of the key features of local football in Central Bedfordshire are the strength of club development and the existing facility base which has enabled growth of a large number of clubs. This does mean that additional facility investment is required to support growing demand.

In addition, there are aspects of football provision that do not match that of similar size local authorities, particularly the conversion of male and female youth teams into adult teams which needs to be prioritised. Therefore, the football

development priorities in Central Bedfordshire are:

- Increase the number of senior adult male football teams
- Increase the number of adult female football teams
- Support the transition of female youth teams into adult football
- Continue to deliver a range of community programmes across their area
- Address facility shortfalls in key areas by providing the opportunity for other clubs to develop and progress

The facilities and assets required to assist this in Central Bedfordshire are set out within the plan.

There are four investment priorities:

- 3G Football Turf Pitches (FTP)
- Changing room pavilions/clubhouses
- Small sided facilities

The Plan has identified ten priority projects for investment to address the shortfall of 13 FTP's. One of these is 3G Training Pitch in Barton-le-Clay.

**Location:** MK45 4LQ

**Proposed Facilities:**

- New Changing Pavilion (1)
- Natural grass pitch improvements (3)
- New 11v11 Floodlit 3G FTP (1)

**Deliverability Score**

High (3/4)

**NFFS Outcome Score**

3.0/4

**Overall Score**

75% (9.0/12)

**Project Notes**

Development would support Barton Rovers FC, Barton Youth and AFC Shillington.

**Project Focus**

Adult female; Adult male; Disability; IMD / lower social economic groups; Mini-soccer; Pro-club; Small-sided informal; Small-sided recreational; Small-sided teams and leagues; Youth female; Youth male

## Barton-le-Clay Parish Council Leisure Strategy

This would require a significant amount of work to determine the best location for the facility and a detailed Site Development Plan specifying all football development activity, usage and key partner engagement.

### 3. Current Position

#### Open Space Summary

The facilities listed below have their primary function as publicly available outdoor recreation space.

Site	Typology	Site Ownership	Site Size (Ha.)
<b>Allotments</b>	Allotments/Community Gardens	BLCPC	1.80
<b>Arnold Recreation Ground Play Area</b>	Children's Play Space	BLCPC	0.13
<b>Arnold Recreation Ground Basketball Court</b>	Facilities for Young People/Teenagers/Outdoor Sport	BLCPC	0.01
<b>Arnold Recreation Ground Informal Open Space</b>	Informal Open Space	BLCPC	1.58
<b>Arnold Recreation Ground</b>	Larger Recreation Spaces	BLCPC	3.58
<b>Arnold Recreation Ground Tennis Courts</b>	Outdoor Sport	Tennis Club/BLCPC	0.11
<b>Norman Road/Cromwell Road Play Area</b>	Children's Play Space	BLCPC	0.18
<b>Park Meadow Close Play Area (part of a housing development) Now Closed</b>	Children's Play Space	David Wilson Homes	0.01
<b>Franklin Avenue Play Area (Equipment Removed)</b>	Children's Play Space	Aldwyck Housing	0.02

## Barton-le-Clay Parish Council Leisure Strategy

<b>Barton Hills/Springs National Nature Reserve</b>	Countryside Recreation Space	Natural England	44.58
<b>Barton Gravel Pit</b>	Informal Recreation	CBC	0.48
<b>Woodland to the north-west of Faldo Farm</b>	Informal Recreation	CBC	2.80
<b>Barton Rovers Football Club</b>	Outdoor Sport	Club/BLCPC	0.87
<b>Luton Road Sports Field</b>	Outdoor Sport	BLCPC	6.95
<b>Barton-le-Clay Bowls Club</b>	Outdoor Sport	Club/BLCPC	0.15

There are also a number of small amenity open spaces throughout the village that total 1.3ha.

### **Barton-le-Clay Parish Council Leisure Committee**

This Committee is responsible for the supply and maintenance of Arnold Recreation Ground, Norman Road Play Area and the Allotment site.

### **Outdoor Provision**

#### **Luton Road Sports Field**

The Sports Field has 9 football pitches:

- Junior 13 – 14 years
- Junior 11 – 12 years
- 3 x Adult 15 years +
- 2 x Mini Soccer U10's
- 2 x 9v9

A problem with flooding has been addressed with blocked drainage pipes removed and replaced.

There is also a 6 changing room **Sports Pavilion** which is used by Barton Rovers Youth teams, Barton Rovers FC and a local Sunday League Team. There are 16 parking spaces plus overflow parking on the adjacent Barton Rovers site if required.

- 6 x Team Changing Rooms
- 2 x Officials Changing Rooms
- 1 x Physiotherapy Room



- 1 x Disabled Toilet
- Male and Female Toilets
- 1 x Store
- 1 x Kitchen

The pavilion was opened in July 2004. Due to its age, there have been a number of maintenance issues including replacement of several roof ridge tiles and repairs to the emergency lighting system. The heating and hot water systems will also need repair or replacement in the coming years.

### **Norman Road Play Area**

The key facilities are:

- Wet pour safety surface
- Bird Rocker
- Talk Tubes (Flowers)
- Multiplay unit
- Rotator Tea Cup
- Junior Swing – 1 bay 2 seat
- Toddler Swing – 1 bay 2 seat

### **Arnold Recreation Ground Play Area**

- Seating – Picnic Table
- Basket Swing
- Junior Swing – 1 bay 2 seat
- Runway Aeroskate
- Rocker – Gyro Spiral
- Rotator – Whirling Platform
- Multiplay Unit
- Basketball Post
- Seated Cableway

### **Arnold Recreation Ground Fitness Equipment**

- Body Twist
- Rower
- Rider
- Cross Trainer
- Leg Press
- Cycle
- Surfer
- Air Walker

The play areas undergo an annual RoSPA Safety Inspection and any identified remedial works are addressed by the Parish Council.

## Barton-le-Clay Parish Council Leisure Strategy

The outdoor fitness equipment is quite basic and limited, only really appealing to a narrow user group.

### Summary

Type of Open Space	Current Provision	Standard	Current Surplus/Shortfall	Future Surplus/Shortfall	Accessibility	Quality
<b>Countryside Recreation Sites</b>	44.58	3.19	28.59	28.55	Access to Sundon Hills CP is within target 20-minute drive time to countryside recreation site	N/A
<b>Large Recreation Areas - Formal</b>	3.58	1.20	-2.43	-2.45	There are gaps in the provision to the north and south	Provision is above target quality but there is a need to improve the infrastructure
<b>Large Recreation Areas - Informal</b>	4.87	2.60	-8.16	-8.20	The east and west are well served	No issues identified
<b>Small Amenity Spaces</b>	1.30	0.55	-1.46	-1.46	Large swathes of central, west and west Barton-le-Clay are outside of catchment and additional areas are required to meet this gap. Presence of larger recreation ground reduces the gaps	Above average quality with some recreational value

## Barton-le-Clay Parish Council Leisure Strategy

<b>Children's Play Areas</b>	0.35	0.11	-0.20	-0.20	Good distribution of facilities, most residents within walking distance	All above target quality apart from one derelict site and one with all equipment removed. More inclusive equipment is required
<b>Facilities for Young People</b>	0.01	0.01	-0.02	-0.02	Limited access to facilities particularly to the north	Basketball hoop and Zip Wire are only provision
<b>Allotments</b>	1.80	0.37	-0.05	-0.06	There is currently a waiting list	Small, generally well-tended site, 0.23ha unusable and requires drainage works

### **Allotments**

There are 91 plots of varying sizes and these have been particularly busy and with the pandemic there has been increased local interest in obtaining plots.

Several plots have been split to create additional plots to try and meet some of the demand.

### **Barton Springs Nature Reserve**

Barton Hills National Nature Reserve (NNR) is a fine example of downland and woodland in the north Chilterns. It is a popular destination for walkers, families and wildlife enthusiasts. The whole site is open access, and there are a number of footpaths throughout.

There is no dedicated parking or toilet provision. The facility has seen a dramatic increase in visitors as a result of Covid-19 which whilst providing a free, open-air facility for recreation has put pressure both on the facility itself and the surrounding area in terms of cars blocking local roads and damaging verges and also litter.

### **Barton Rovers FC**

The ground is leased from Barton Parish Council and has the following facilities:

- 1 x Full Size floodlit senior grass pitch and stand
- Changing Rooms
- Car Parking
- Bar and Clubhouse

### **Bowls Green**

There is a 6 rink Bowls Green which has floodlights and Pavilion situated on land adjacent to Barton Rovers FC. The facility is leased from Barton Rovers FC for an annual fee of £950.00 who in turn lease the area from Barton Parish Council.

The facility is used for club and County games.

The clubhouse was opened in 1986 and has been extended to provide male and female changing and has the following facilities:

- Kitchen
- Main Hall/Function Room
- Male and Female Changing

There is no bar facility due the provision at the adjacent Football Club.

The greens and clubhouse are managed by club volunteers. There is evidence that the edging around the greens is past it's useful life and requires replacement.

### **Tennis Courts**

There are two tarmac, fenced tennis courts located on the recreation ground. They are not floodlit and were resurfaced in 2009. It is thought the courts were originally built pre-1960. The courts are on two levels and do not provide disabled access.

There is some evidence of vandalism, particularly damage to the fencing. The adjacent trees also cause some problems in terms of leaf fall

The courts can only be used by Barton Tennis club members and are used all year round.

Barton Tennis Club rents the facility from the Parish Council for £1,650 per year. The Parish Council also has a sinking fund to replace the surfacing and this is due within the next six years.

It is apparent that the fencing requires replacement and the facility would undoubtedly benefit from floodlights. The condition of the courts would be

significantly enhanced by the provision of a footpath to the courts from the Church Road access. New, dedicated signage would be helpful in terms of promoting the facility.

**Other**

*There are currently no Cricket, Rugby, Athletics, Golf and Netball facilities within the village. The nearest similar facilities are summarised in Appendix A.*

**Indoor Provision**

**Barton Village Hall**

The current hall was built in the 1970's on land owned by the Parish Council and is run by a charity on a 99-year lease with a peppercorn rent. It has the following facilities:

- Main Hall (Badminton court size) with stage
- Bar/Social Area
- Meeting Room
- Committee Room
- Toilets
- Car Parking
- Outdoor Area

The facility is a registered charity run by a voluntary Management Committee and has a part time Bookings Officer and Site Agent.

There are a wide range of users not only from the village but also surrounding areas including Shillington:

- Camera Club
- Barton Players Theatre Group
- Carpet Bowls
- Badminton Club
- Wednesday Club
- Women's Institute
- Karate/Marshall Arts
- Parish Council Meetings
- Local Elections
- Special Events/Parties
- Dance

The facility is fully booked at peak times.

### **Unity Hall**

Unity Hall was opened in 2010 on land adjacent to Barton Rovers FC and the Luton Road Playing Fields. The land was provided by Barton Parish Council. The facility was built following an extensive fundraising and grant application process.

The hall has the following facilities:

- Main Hall
- Kitchen
- Committee/Meeting Room
- Toilets
- Outdoor green space

The hall is primarily used by Barton Scouting which incorporates Scouts, Cubs and Beavers and Barton Guiding which is Rainbows, Brownies and Guides.

Barton Guiding has 80 members and 20 adult volunteers. Barton Scouting has 74 members with 14 adult volunteers.

There is currently a waiting list to join both (Scouting 50, Guiding 18) although this is linked to a lack of volunteers rather than a capacity issue.

Originally the groups used two huts based off Dunstall Road given to them in 1962. When these passed their useful life and didn't meet the needs of the Scouts and Guides groups in the village it was decided to relocate.

In addition, the hall is used by a School during the day twice a week and a wide range of community groups including dance, yoga, Pilates as well as events and parties.

### **St Nicholas Church Hall**

The Church Hall was provided by a private donor and replaces an old hall. The facility is managed by a voluntary Hall Committee which is a registered charity and part of the Parochial Church Council. The facility is in good condition overall.

The facilities include:

- Main Hall with stage and mezzanine floor
- Kitchen
- Toilets
- Car Parking
- 2 x Meeting Rooms
- Store Room
- Print Room
- Garden

As well as being used for Church activities the hall is hired by a wide variety of community users including:

- Taekwondo
- Keep Fit
- Flute Group
- Pilates
- Dance
- Slimming World
- Private Hire – Parties etc.

There are a number of improvements that would benefit the hall including:

- Replacing the halogen lights with LED's
- Provision of disabled parking spaces with appropriate surfacing
- Lighting within the car park
- Additional storage as the current storage is located next to the boiler

In general, the facility operates in a complimentary way with other indoor facilities such as the Village Hall and Unity Hall. There is obviously high demand during peak weekday evenings and spare capacity during the daytime.

### **School Provision with Community Use - Arnold Academy**

Arnold Academy is a middle school based within the village and is part of the Pyramid Schools Trust.

The school has a number of facilities that are used by the local community outside of school hours.

The school gym and dance studio are used by a local dance school.

There is also a two-badminton court sports hall with changing rooms which was built in 2018. This is used by the Luton Town for their mini soccer and Ramsay Manor and Barton Rovers junior teams.

The outdoor grass pitches are also used for junior football at the weekends. The multi-use games area (MUGA) (one tennis court size) is used by Barton Ballers netball club.

The MUGA surface is showing signs of wear and tear and would need to be replaced before any additional wider community use could be considered. The floodlights also require upgrading to LED lighting.

### **Barton Library**

Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic the library was a real community hub, particularly for those who find it difficult to travel out of the village.

There were a wide range of groups operating out of the library and it is hoped that these will slowly begin to reappear including:

- Book Club
- Coffee Mornings
- Knit and Natter
- Games Club
- Local History Group
- Friends of the Library events



## 4. Consultation Findings

### Bedfordshire County Football Association

There have been initial discussions with Bedfordshire County FA about the LFFP and how the priorities for the village can be delivered in partnership with the Football Foundation supporting an artificial pitch and improvements to the changing rooms.

### Barton Rovers Football Club

The club has the following teams:

- 1 x 1<sup>st</sup> Team
- 2 x Veterans
- 1 x Reserves
- 1 x Women's
- 1 x U16's
- 1 x U18's

### Barton Rovers Youth FC

The club has the following:

- Chiltern Junior 7's – 8 teams
- Chiltern Youth League – 5 teams
- Beds Youth Soccer League – 7 teams
- Beds Mini Soccer League – 1 team

### Little Rovers/Ramsay FC

- U7's
- U8's
- U19's

### Barton-le-Clay Tennis Club

The club is Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) accredited with two qualified coaches. The facility is LTA registered. The club has 148 members and offers coaching for juniors and seniors along with holiday programmes.

### Barton-le-Clay Bowling Club

The club is run by a Management Committee and the facilities are all maintained by club volunteers.

The season is from mid-April to mid-September. There are 90 members and the club participates in inter club matches and County Leagues.

They are currently fundraising to purchase a new aerator and lawn mower.

### Unity Hall Management Committee

The priority for Unity Hall is to provide a second hall on the site primarily for sports use and include a sprung floor and indoor climbing wall. The use of the

existing hall is restricted for sport by the low wooden beams. This facility would obviously be available for wider community use.

### **Barton Village Hall Committee**

The existing facility is capacity constrained and requires significant updating in order to increase the range of activities that can be offered.

The key issue for the Committee is understanding whether there is any merit (usage and financially) in refurbishing and possibly extending the current facility or if it is better to demolish the existing hall and build a new facility which would be able to cater for the current and increasing demand.

A new facility would also allow for the centre to become more of a community hub to perhaps include a Parish Council office, indoor activities for young people and other drop-in community services.

### **Parish Council Leisure Committee**

The Leisure Committee has been instrumental in the development of this strategy and will play a key role in both the implementation of the Action Plan and the subsequent monitoring and evaluation.

## 5. Key Priorities and Financial Implications

In this section we look in detail at our priorities.

**Inescapable** – There is a statutory, health and safety and/or identified strategic and community need.

**Essential** – These are identified as important to the local community and would greatly benefit the local population but do not meet any of the criteria in the category above.

**Desirable** – The facilities would be great for the local community but would require significant funding and the long term need and sustainability would need to be proved.

**Inescapable** – To consider the location of, and the best way to, provide, manage and maintain a **Full-Size Floodlit Football Turf Pitch** to meet the identified need within the Village.

The estimated cost of the fenced, floodlit pitch is £750,000.

The cost should be met through external funding – Football Foundation and other charitable foundations alongside a developer contribution

**Inescapable** – To carry out essential maintenance works at Luton Road Changing Pavilion in order to ensure it is able to meet the needs of its users.

Estimated Cost - £50,000 which could be funded by the Parish Council and a Football Foundation grant

**Inescapable** – To undertake a **Feasibility Study** for the provision of a **Village Hall** facility to meet the needs of the existing and expanding population.

This should include assessing what is possible on the current site, expansion and exploring other potential locations.

Estimated Costs of a Feasibility Study - £6,000

**Inescapable** – To ensure ongoing **Library Provision** is crucial for the village and the Parish Council should work closely with CBC to ensure this valuable asset continues to meet the needs of the local community.

**Inescapable – To improve and increase allotment provision –** These are **fully let** with a waiting list. There is a **legal requirement** to provide allotments for residents. Provision will need to be based on **20 plots** (based on 10 pole size) **per 1,000 new housing units.**

The site would have to include perimeter fencing and planting, toilet, entrance gate, water, roadway, path and parking. This land could be provided by the developer or they could enable the Parish Council to make land available.

Developer Funded

**Inescapable – To improve Play Provision –** There is a need to **provide new and enhanced play facilities** as the existing provision is **limited in scale and range**, particularly the Norman Road Play Area. Estimated cost - £25,000 – Parish Council/Grant Funding.

The new development will also require formal play provision within the development – **Developer funded** but ongoing management, maintenance and funding would need to be agreed

**Essential – To improve the Facilities for Young People –** These could include a **BMX/Scooter Trail** which could be incorporated into the proposed new development.

The Parish Council will need to work with the developer and CBC to agree location, specification and ongoing cost implications.

**Developer Funded**

**Essential – To improve Access to Informal Recreation –** The recent pandemic has clearly highlighted the **importance of free, outdoor, informal, local recreation** opportunities. There is no better example than the hills and countryside around the village.

There is an opportunity to provide signage and guided walks to ensure local people are aware of the provision on their doorstep along with the importance of staying on certain routes and respecting the local environment.

Estimated Cost - £10,000

**Essential – To Update the existing Outdoor Fitness Equipment** – There is a need to modernise the existing provision, improve the access to and improve the surface to meet additional demand, along with provision of accessible equipment for use by people with disabilities.

It is proposed that a consultation exercise is undertaken on a proposed new design for the area.

Estimated Cost - £25,000

**Essential – To make improvements to the existing Tennis Provision** – The local demand for tennis is being met by the current provision but the existing facility would benefit from the following:

Replacing the existing fencing around both courts for safety and security as well as significantly improving the look of the site.

Improving signage to indicate how the facility is managed and how people can contact the club in order to use the facility.

This should be funded through grants and the Parish Council.

**Essential – To develop a new Multi Use Games Area (MUGA)**

This will address the need for informal, open access sports provision not catered for by a new artificial football pitch such as recreational netball, hockey, fitness classes etc. The estimated costs of a fenced and floodlit tarmac surface MUGA is in the region of £150,000

To work with CBC and Taylor Wimpey to agree a location, detailed specification (size, fencing, floodlight, surface type) and ongoing management and maintenance implications.

This should be fully developer funded

**Essential – To make improvements to Barton Bowls Club Facilities**

To replace the edging around the bowls green which has past it's useful life and replace the existing mower and aerator.

This should be financed through the club, grants and Parish Council support.

**Desirable – To extend the existing Unity Hall building**

An extension would be physically possible but would need to be funded by donations, fundraising and grants as it is not an immediate priority for financial support from the Parish Council or developer contributions.

**Desirable – To create a new footpath to the Tennis Courts**

The facility would undoubtedly benefit from a footpath leading onto the courts but the costs would need careful consideration as the funding responsibility would lie with the Parish Council.

**Desirable – To make improvements to St Nicholas Church Hall**

Whilst there are a number of improvements required at the hall this is the responsibility of the Church.

**Not Recommended - Additional New Indoor Sports Provision**

There is at present sufficient capacity within the village and surrounding area to cater for indoor sport and recreation.

Therefore, the additional capital cost and ongoing sustainability of such a facility cannot be justified at this stage but should be kept under review by the Parish Council.

## Financial Summary

(The figures are all estimated and subject to quotations/professional costs estimates)

Project	Estimated Capital Cost	Estimated Revenue Cost	Estimated Total Cost	Possible Parish Council contribution	Potential External Funding
To consider the location of and the best way to provide, manage and maintain a Full-Size Floodlit Football Turf Pitch to meet the identified need within the Village.	£750,000	£2,500 (Feasibility Study)	£752,500	Capital to be agreed Revenue £2,500	£700,000 - £750,000
To carry out essential maintenance works at Luton Road Changing Pavilion	£50,000	N/A	£50,000	£20,000 - £25,000	£25,000 - £30,000
To undertake a Feasibility Study for the provision of a Village Hall facility to meet the needs of the existing and expanding population	N/A	£6,000	£6,000	£6,000	N/A
To ensure ongoing Library Provision in the village	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
To improve and increase allotment provision	£15,000	Ongoing maintenance costs	£15,000	N/A	£15,000

## Barton-le-Clay Parish Council Leisure Strategy

<b>To improve play provision</b>	£25,000	Ongoing maintenance costs	£25,000	£15,000	£10,000
<b>To improve the Facilities for Young People – BMX/Scooter Track</b>	£25,000	Ongoing maintenance costs	£25,000	N/A	£25,000 Developer funding
<b>To improve access to Informal Recreation</b>	£10,000	N/A	£10,000	£5,000	£5,000
<b>To Update the existing Outdoor Fitness Equipment</b>	£25,000	Ongoing maintenance costs	£25,000	£15,000	£10,000
<b>To make improvements to the existing Tennis Provision</b>	£25,000	Ongoing maintenance costs	£25,000	£15,000	£10,000
<b>To develop a new Multi Use Games Area (MUGA)</b>	£150,000	Management and Maintenance costs plus sinking fund	£150,000	Nil	£150,000
<b>To make improvements to Barton Bowls Club Facilities</b>	£10,000	N/A	£10,000	£1,500	£8,500
<b>To extend the existing Unity Hall building</b>	£250,000	£15,000 Professional Fees/Planning	£265,000	N/A	£265,000
<b>To create a new footpath to the Tennis Courts</b>	£20,000	N/A	£20,000	£10,000	£10,000



## Barton-le-Clay Parish Council Leisure Strategy

To make improvements to St Nicholas Church Hall	£25,000	N/A	£25,000	N/A	£25,000

## 6. Potential Funding Opportunities

We see our funding coming from the following areas:

- **Developer Contributions** from proposed new housing within the village.
- **Business/Non-Statutory Organisations** – This is in the form of sponsorship, donations and volunteer programmes. We will seek to engage with local businesses and identify organisations that we can work with where we have common ground.
- **Individuals** – We will speak to individuals whose personal priorities match our aims and may wish to make a donation or seek to develop a legacy around our priorities.
- **Grant Aid** – We will research a wide range of local, regional, national grant giving bodies and local authorities and consider which we feel would be most likely to fund our work.

We will identify their deadlines and funding cycles. As part of this strategy, we will record which funders we apply to and keep a record of all applications.

- **Statutory Agencies** – Our core work means that we work closely with a number of statutory agencies including local authorities and health bodies in particular.
- **Community Fundraising** – We will look to launch fundraising campaigns for specific projects within the village to support Parish Council and grant funding

The Parish Council has been successful in obtaining a number of grants including the following:

<b>Funding Body</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Amount</b>
The Big Lottery Fund	Replacement water pipes and taps	£3,750
Awards for All Community Fund	Replacement toddler and junior swings with surfacing. New surfacing around the Aeroskate on Arnold Recreation Ground	£9,871
CBC Community Assets Grants Scheme	Installation of the cable way/zip wire and safety	£4,652 (50% of total cost)

# Barton-le-Clay Parish Council Leisure Strategy

	matting on Arnold Recreation Ground	
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## 6. Action Plans

Our **Action Plans** will be **SMART**:

- **Specific** – This is what we want to do and how we will do it
- **Measurable** – These are clear measures such as uptake and usage which will enable us to see when our objectives have been achieved
- **Agreed** – We will agree our actions with the relevant stakeholders and be clear about who is leading each action
- **Realistic** – It is vital that our actions are challenging but also realistic
- **Timetabled** – We will ensure that we set clear deadlines and review mechanisms

Priority Objective	Actions/Tasks	Key Outcomes	Estimated Cost Implications	Funding Plan	Lead	Stakeholders	Deadline for Completion
<b>To consider the location of and the best way to provide, manage and maintain a Full-Size Floodlit Football Turf Pitch to meet the identified need within the Village.</b>	To commission a Feasibility Study/Options Appraisal including capital costs, funding options with recommendations for a way forward including location, management, usage, income and expenditure projections along with maintenance requirements of the proposed new facility  Seek funding for the new pitch	New Pitch  More people playing football  Increased number of teams	The report would cost in the region of £2,500  The pitch would cost in the region of £750,000	Football Foundation  Developer Contribution  Football Clubs  Parish Council	Parish Clerk	Barton-le-Clay Parish Council  Barton Rovers Youth FC  Barton Rovers FC  Arnold Academy  Bedfordshire County FA  AFC Shillington	December 2021 (Feasibility Study)

## Barton-le-Clay Parish Council Leisure Strategy

<p><b>To carry out essential maintenance works at Luton Road Changing Pavilion</b></p>	<p>To obtain two quotations for the works and engage with Bedfordshire FA and the Football Foundation</p>	<p>All inescapable works completed</p>	<p>£50,000</p>	<p>Parish Council/Football Foundation</p>	<p>Assistant Parish Clerk</p>	<p>Barton-le-Clay Parish Council  Barton Rovers Youth FC  Barton Rovers FC  Bedfordshire County FA</p>	<p>December 2021</p>
<p><b>To undertake a Feasibility Study for the provision of a Village Hall facility to meet the needs of the existing and expanding population</b></p>	<p>To commission a Feasibility Study/Options Appraisal for a Village Hall including refurbishment, new build, extension including capital costs and funding options with recommendations for a way forward</p>	<p>A clear way forward for village hall provision</p>	<p>The report would cost in the region of £6,000</p>	<p>Parish Council/Village Hall Committee</p>	<p>Village Hall Committee</p>	<p>Village Hall Committee  Parish Council</p>	<p>December 2021</p>

## Barton-le-Clay Parish Council Leisure Strategy

<b>To ensure ongoing Library Provision in the village</b>	To work with CBC to ensure this valuable asset continues to meet the needs of the local community	Continued library provision in the village	N/A	Parish Council/CBC	Parish Council Leisure Committee	Parish Council CBC Village Hall Committee Users	Ongoing
<b>To improve and increase allotment provision</b>	To work with the Developer to ensure new provision is based on 20 plots (based on 10 pole size) per 1,000 new housing units.	New allotments operational	To be confirmed	Developer/Parish Council	Parish Council Leisure Committee	Parish Council Users	TBC 2022/23
<b>To improve play provision</b>	To provide designs and quotations for new equipment	New equipment installed and operational	£25,000	Parish Council/Developer/Grant funding	Parish Council Leisure Committee	Parish Council Users	April 2022
<b>To improve the Facilities for Young People</b>	To work with the developer on designs and locations for new facilities	New equipment installed and operational	£25,000	Developer	Parish Council Leisure Committee	Parish Council CBC Developer	TBC 2022/23

## Barton-le-Clay Parish Council Leisure Strategy

<b>To improve access to Informal Recreation</b>	To provide quotations for	New signage and information boards installed	£10,000	Parish Council/CBC	Parish Council Leisure Committee	Parish Council  Barton Countryside Conservation  CBC	March 2022
<b>To Update the existing Outdoor Fitness Equipment</b>	To provide designs and quotations for new equipment	New equipment installed and operational	£25,000	Parish Council/Grant funding	Parish Council Leisure Committee	Parish Council  Users	March 2022
<b>To make improvements to the existing Tennis Provision</b>	To obtain designs and costings	New fencing and signage installed	£20,000	Parish Council/Grant funding	Parish Council Leisure Committee	Tennis Club	May 2022
<b>To develop a new Multi Use Games Area (MUGA)</b>	To work with CBC and Taylor Wimpey to agree a location, detailed specification (size, fencing, floodlight, surface type) and ongoing management and maintenance implications.	New facility installed and operational	£150,000	Developer	Parish Council Leisure Committee	Parish Council CBC  Developers	TBC 2022/23

## Barton-le-Clay Parish Council Leisure Strategy

<b>To make improvements to Barton Bowls Club Facilities</b>	To replace the edging around the bowls green which has past it's useful life and replace the existing mower and aerator.	All works completed and equipment purchased	£10,000	Parish Council/Grants/Fundraising	Barton Bowls Club Committee/Parish Clerk	Bowls Club Members	April 2022
<b>To extend the existing Unity Hall building</b>	Development of designs, business plan and costs for the proposed new hall	New hall that meets the needs of the existing and new users	£265,000	Fundraising/Grants	Unity Hall Committee	Users	2023/24
<b>To create a new footpath to the Tennis Courts</b>	To design and cost a scheme	New facility completed and operational	£20,000	Parish Council/Grants	Parish Council Leisure Committee/Tennis Club	Users	2022/23
<b>To make improvements to St Nicholas Church Hall</b>	To obtain quotes and complete the identified works	Improved lighting, pathways and parking	£25,000	St Nicholas Church	St Nicholas Church	Users	2022/23



## 7. Monitoring and Evaluation Plan

The Parish Council will be responsible for the Monitoring and Evaluation of this Leisure Strategy. The Action Plan will be reviewed on a quarterly basis with an overall annual review.

We will look at the following when reviewing our Strategy and Action Plan:

- What have we achieved?
- How ambitious were we – just right, too ambitious, too safe?
- Do we need change and update our actions – take out what we have completed, add new and adapt those we haven't achieved?
- How has the world changed?
- How successful were we in obtaining funding and support?
- Do we need to expand our range of funders?

## Appendix A – Summary of Similar Local Facilities

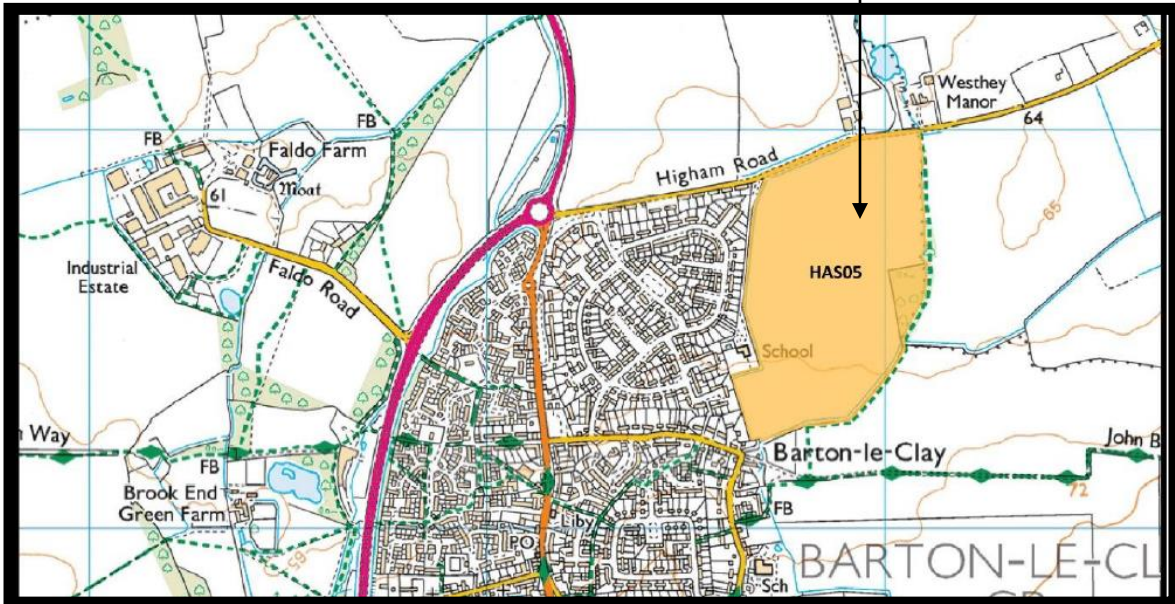
The table below provides a brief summary of other local facilities and their proximity to Barton-le-Clay.

Activity/Facility	Location	Facilities	Approximate Distance from Barton-le-Clay
Silsoe Community Sports Centre	Silsoe	Fitness Suite Two Court Sports Hall MUGA Grass Pitches	3
Flitwick Leisure Centre	Flitwick	Fitness Suite Four Court Sports Hall 25m Swimming Pool Teaching Pool 2 Squash Courts Creche Climbing Wall 3G Five a Side Pitches	5
Creasey Park Community Football Centre	Dunstable	2 x Full Size Artificial Grass Pitches	11 miles
Peter Newton Pavilion	Dunstable	Small sided artificial football pitch	8 miles
Lea Manor Recreation Centre	Luton	Full Size artificial football pitch	6 miles
Stockwood Park	Luton	7 a side artificial pitch	9 miles
Chalk Hills Academy	Luton	7 a side artificial pitch	8 miles
Hockey	Leighton Buzzard HC	Pitch and Clubhouse	15 miles
Rugby	Dunstablians	Pitch and	9 miles

## Barton-le-Clay Parish Council Leisure Strategy

	RFUC	Clubhouse	
Cricket	Flitwick Cricket Club	Cricket Pitch	6 miles
	Amphill Town Cricket Club	Cricket Pitch	9 miles
	Wardown Park	Cricket Pitch	6 miles
Tennis	Flitwick and Amphill LTC	7 Courts	6 miles
	Wardown Park	Tennis courts available for hire	6 miles

## Appendix B: Land East of Barton-le-Clay



## Appendix C – Play Area Guide

### LAPs

- The **Local Area for Play**
- Primarily for under-6s
- Within one minute's walking time
- Positioned by a pedestrian route that is well used
- Well-drained, reasonably flat site surface with grass or a hard surface
- Recommended minimum activity zone: 100 sq/m
- Buffer zone of 5m minimum depth separates activity zone and nearest dwelling
- May have a 600mm guard rail to indicate the perimeter
- Requires a sign indicating the area is for children's play and dogs are not welcome

### LEAPs

- The **Local Equipped Area for Play**
- For children who are beginning to go out and play independently
- Within five minutes' walking time
- Positioned by pedestrian route that is well used
- Well-drained, reasonably flat site surfaced with grass or a hard surface, along with appropriate surfacing for play equipment or structures
- Recommended minimum activity zone is 400 sq m
- Play equipment is an integral part of the LEAP
- Buffer zone of 10m minimum depth separates activity zone and the boundary of nearest property, 20m minimum separates activity zone and habitable room facade of nearest dwelling
- Stimulating, challenging play experience with provision for a minimum number of six play experiences is recommended
- Adequate space for active play
- Boundaries should be recognisable by landscaping; fencing may be necessary if the site adjoins one or more roads
- Seating and litter bins provided
- Requires a sign indicating the area is for children's play and dogs are not welcome, contact details of facility operator and location of the nearest telephone

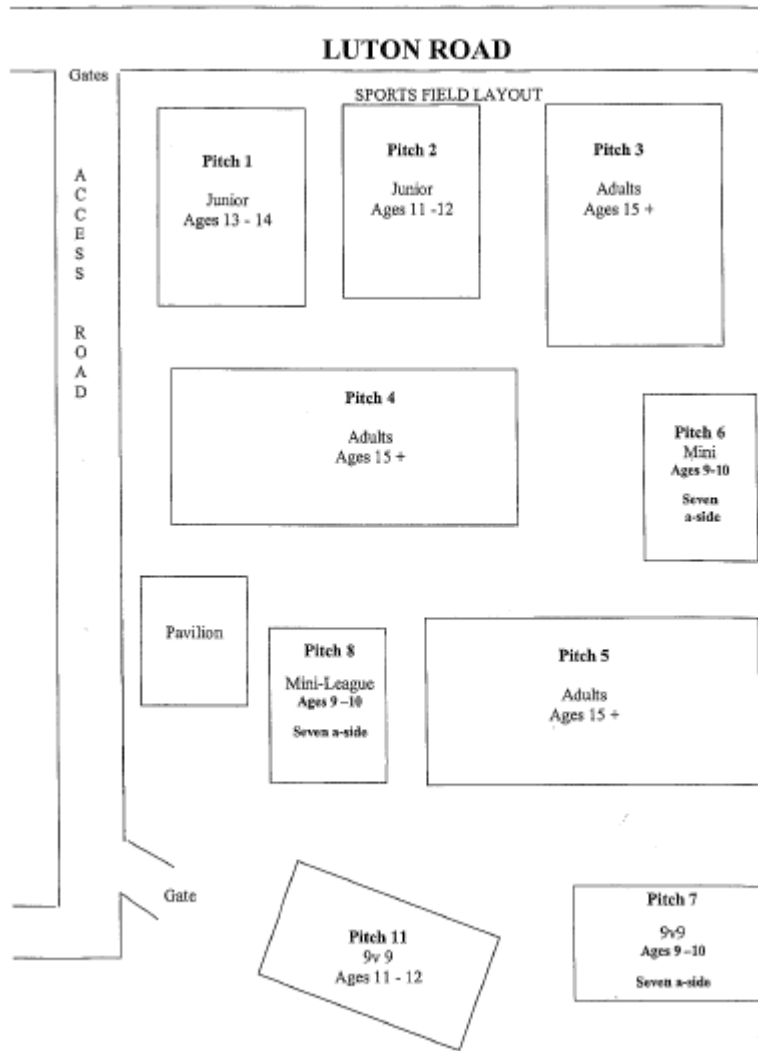
### NEAPs

- The **Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play**
- Mainly for older children but with play opportunities for younger children too
- Within 15 minutes' walk from home
- Positioned by a pedestrian route that is well used
- Well-drained, reasonably flat site surfaced with grass or a hard surface, along with appropriate surfacing for play equipment or structures
- Recommended minimum activity zone is 1000 sq m, comprising an area for play equipment and a hard-surfaced area of at least 465 sq m

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- Buffer zone of 30m minimum depth separates activity zone and the boundary of the nearest property
- Stimulating, challenging play experience with provision for a minimum number of nine play experiences is recommended
- Adequate space for active play
- Boundaries should be recognisable by landscaping, fencing, may be necessary if the site adjoins one or more roads
- Seating and litter bins provided
- Requires a sign indicating the area is for children's play and dogs are not welcome, contact details of facility operator and location of the nearest telephone
- Convenient and secure parking facilities for bicycles should be provided

## Appendix D – Luton Road Football Pitch Layout



# Barton-le-Clay Parish Council Leisure Strategy





### Appendix E – Possible AGP Location

