

Penrith Town Council helps fund Penrith AFC's Frenchfield transformation

Penrith Town Council have provided a grant of £5,000 to Penrith AFC to contribute to the installation of a new 3G artificial turf pitch, replacement floodlighting, fencing and storage at the home of the football club, Frenchfield Stadium.

The grant provided by the Town Council was part of the contribution the club was required to make to Westmorland and Furness Council to enable the project.

Works to install the new surface, floodlighting and fencing have taken place throughout the summer, with the facilities now ready for use by the club and the wider community. The 3G artificial turf pitch will facilitate games and training all year round allowing the club to broaden the use of the clubs' facilities for its wide range of teams and other community uses.

The pitch also provides Penrith with a purpose-built surface for football, available for use by the club and the wider Grassroots Football Community, increasing participation in the sport from the local community.

On Tuesday 26 September 2023, Penrith Town Council Chair & Mayor visited Frenchfield and said:

"It is fantastic that the Town Council can support such a significant project for Penrith.

"As well as continuing the town's heritage in Penrith AFC, this new pitch will allow greater access to sport for the whole community, something which is so important for mental, physical, and emotional wellbeing.

"Penrith Town Council has a priority to extend the range of sports and cultural facilities across the town, upgrading, enhancing and maintaining open spaces, parks, and other assets.

"The new pitch is a very pleasing example of the council working with the community and it's great to see the completion of this project."

Monday night (25 September) saw the start of a new 6-sided football league using the surface, allowing for 14 teams, approximately over 100 people to get involved in football to play in a brand-new competition in Penrith each week.

The wider project was funded by investments from the FA and Government's Football Foundation, Penrith Football Club and the Premier League Club Development Fund, as well as Penrith Town Council & Westmorland & Furness Council.

The grant was given as part of the Town Council's grant scheme designed to support local community organisations, charities, Social Enterprises and Community Interest Companies delivering services, projects and events within Penrith.