

## GLAPTHORN PLAYING FIELD PROJECT

As part of the process to deliver on Objective 13 and Policy 12 of the Glapthorn Neighbourhood Plan (the provision of recreational facilities in conjunction with the school) Glapthorn Parish Council is pleased to announce that the purchase of the land for the playing field behind the school has been completed. At the same time a long lease, (125 years at a peppercorn rent) on part of the school land for an access road, was signed off. The finance for this purchase came from East Northamptonshire Council's "Community Facilities Fund" and the Public Works Loan Board loan that the community voted to take in the mini-referendum back in 2018.

The first phase of the project is the construction of an access road; a car park for 37 cars; and a playing field for sport and recreation to Sport England standards the size of a junior football/rugby pitch. A preferred contractor has been appointed and construction work will begin once the weather improves. The car park should be available to use in the autumn but the playing field may not be finished until 2021.

Grant funding amounting to £200,000 from Sport England, the National Lottery and the Aagean Fund has been obtained for the construction work but additional funding will be necessary.

The Playing Field Association (PFA) has done sterling work in raising money for the project and continues to do so. It has applied to become a registered charity and once the facility has been completed the PFA will be responsible for its management and maintenance. It is tasked with running the recreational facility on behalf of and in the interests of the whole community. PFA membership is open to all residents of the village and more volunteers would be most welcome. If you are interested in joining this very friendly group please contact the secretary, Sue Bradley ([scoobeejones@hotmail.com](mailto:scoobeejones@hotmail.com)).

The history of the project's development since 2017 (together with all relevant documentation) is available to read and/or download on the parish council's website, [www.glapthorn.org.uk](http://www.glapthorn.org.uk) Search "Playing Field Project Development Timeline".

*Malcolm Moss*  
Chairman, Glapthorn Parish Council  
12<sup>th</sup> March 2020