

GAUNTS ESTATE

# GAUNTS SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB

COMMUNITY BRIEFING | SEPTEMBER 2024

## OVERVIEW

The Gaunts Estate is bringing forward proposals to revitalise the Gaunts Sports & Social Club, currently used by the growing and well-supported Holt FC on Petersham Lane. This community initiative aims to support local sports activities, provide greater sports availability for St. James School, expand land for St. James Cottage Nursery, and resolve parking issues on Petersham Lane.

### The Gaunts Sports & Social Club proposals include:

- **Providing a new modern Sports and Social Club** incorporating a new clubhouse for Holt FC and Gaunts Snooker Club.
- **Resolving parking issues for St. James School during drop-off times, and on matchdays**, by providing new off-road parking and gated access.
- **Making additional outdoor space available** to St. James Cottage Nursery.
- **Renovating the existing clubhouse buildings** to provide new homes, aimed at younger people keen to remain or return to the village.

Historically, the Estate made the land available for a cricket pitch, later adapted for football, and allotments. The wooden cricket pavilion was replaced in the late 1970s. In recent years, the Estate restored further unused allotments to provide additional football pitches for children.

This site has been made freely available for public enjoyment over the years and the Estate now seeks to secure a legacy on this site for a wide range of public benefits. The Estate will fund the extensive planning costs, with development costs funded partly by grant funding from various sources. Local contractor Scott Bradford has kindly agreed to construct the new clubhouse at cost. The Estate will own the freehold of the building and playing fields, granting a long lease at a low rent.

The Gaunts Sports & Social Club proposals will contribute greatly to the local community, providing improved facilities for local sports teams, and the school; increasing road safety in the village; and, securing what will become a public asset for future generations.

### Find out more

We would like to invite you to attend a public drop-in session to find out more, at:

**St James' First School, Petersham Ln, Gaunt's Common, Wimborne BH21 4JN**

On **Wednesday 11 September 2024**

From **3pm to 7pm**

# THE PROPOSALS

## 1. New clubhouse

The proposals include a new modern clubhouse for the Football and Snooker Clubs, and community use. The single-storey clubhouse pavilion will be of traditional timber construction, providing changing facilities, a bar area, and space for socialising and community events. During construction, the Football Club will provide temporary Portacabins, sited on the existing hardstanding in front of the current clubhouse.

## 2. Parking

Gaunts Estate proposes new off-street parking adjacent to the new clubhouse and overflow parking adjacent to St. James School. This will eliminate the need for parking along Petersham Lane, which is often congested during school drop-off times and on matchdays. An upgraded gated pedestrian access to St. James School will also be provided.

## 3. Renovating the Existing Clubhouse

The project will be facilitated partly through the sensitive renovation of the existing clubhouse into new homes for sale. These homes will be available for local purchase, aimed at addressing the housing needs of younger people in the village and to help local residents remain or return to the village, strengthening community ties and supporting future generations.

## 4. Additional land for St James Cottage Nursery

The proposals include for a parcel of land to be made available to St James Cottage Nursery to facilitate expansion of the outdoor play space for nursery children.



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In the meantime, residents can contact DevComms, our community representatives, on

Email **gauntsestate@devcomms.co.uk**

Freephone **0800 080 3291**