

Synder Meadow Pavilion – Community Meeting Presentation: You are Needed!

Good afternoon everyone, and thank you for coming.

We're here to share exciting news about the Synder Meadow Pavilion project – and to ask for your support in making sure it becomes a thriving hub for the whole community.

Why do we need a new pavilion?

The truth is, the current pavilion – or “the pavvy”, as it's often called – is simply not fit for purpose.

- It's an old, tired building that gets worse year by year.
- The indoor space is tiny and offers very little functionality.
- It's **widely recognised as the worst facility our local sports clubs play at**, despite the huge effort that goes into hosting visiting teams
- It is holding back the growth of clubs, and limits what can be offered to the village.

As the Chair of Welford Cricket Club put it:

“The current pavilion is too small, outdated, and lacks basic functionality. Despite our best efforts, it's the worst facility we play at anywhere. It makes it harder to grow the club and to provide more for the village. The new pavilion will change that. We'll be able to run youth programmes like All Stars (5–8) and Dynamos (8–11). Parents will finally have somewhere welcoming to watch their children play – even enjoying a drink on the balcony. It will be a facility of which the whole village can be proud.”

How did this project begin?

This has been a long time in the making, and it delivers directly on the Neighbourhood Development Plan – objective 8 – requested by the village itself.

- In December 2023, Stratford-on-Avon District Council awarded £357,000 from a Community Infrastructure Grant. This money funded plans, public consultation and planning permission, and will also kick-start construction. Importantly, if it isn't spent, it must be returned – and allocated to another project elsewhere in the District.

- Welford-on-Avon Parish Council has also committed significant support:
- £93,000 from the Community Infrastructure Levy
- £160,000 from the 2025 precept

This means demolition of the old pavilion is likely to start next week, with construction beginning in early October – a huge milestone for the village.

What will the new Pavilion be?

- A purpose-built community hub, fully accessible for all.
- A modern home for grassroots sport and training.
- A space for community groups, classes, and social activities.
- A venue for celebrations, meetings, and fundraising events.
- Above all, a place the whole village can be proud of.

Where are we now?

The building itself is funded. But what isn't covered is the fit out – the furniture, the flooring, the kitchen equipment, the fittings – everything that turns it from an empty shell into a usable, welcoming space. This is budgeted at £200, 000.

Ideally, this work would follow straight on from the build. If not additional charges will be incurred as the building contractor will withdraw from the site and return when the funds are available. However, if we need to complete the works on a piecemeal basis, it will still happen.

Fundraising so far

At this stage we've exhausted the big national funding avenues – Sport England, the National Lottery and others. After many discussions, we simply don't meet their criteria. There is a possibility of future funding which we are looking into.

Therefore, the fit-out costs of £200, 000 need to come from local sources, including the community, local businesses, charities, and individuals who care about the future of Welford.

How can you help?

- Share your ideas for fundraising
- Encourage local groups, organisations and businesses to get involved.
- Suggest people to help with fundraising
- Organise a fundraising event
- Donate directly through our website. This is now live.
- Support fundraising events as they happen.
- Stay updated via the Synder Meadow Pavilion website:
<https://syndermeadow.org.uk>.
- Keep checking the Information Hub (formerly the Butchers Shop!) for updates. We will also share on the Welford Facebook page.

If we all play a part, we can make this happen.

Final thought

The new pavilion is coming – demolition starts within days!

With your support, we can create a fully equipped, vibrant hub for sport, community, and village life.

Let's build a legacy for Welford.

Thank you.

Contact Us

Email: launch@syndermeadow.org

Call or message: Gez Thompson 07968 308978

Website: www.syndermeadow.org