



NEWS RELEASE

Thursday 12 October 2017

Norfolk clubs receive FA Community Shield Grants

Old Catton & Stalham Youth have benefitted from The FA's Community Shield Distribution Fund with the Norfolk clubs both being awarded £2500.

After the success of last year's World Cup winning anniversary themed Community Shield Club Grants, in which Mulbarton Wanderers FC were Norfolk's recipients of a £1966 funding boost, The FA Community Shield Distribution Committee announced earlier this year that they would once again continue supporting grassroots club projects.

This year's Community Shield Distribution saw each County receive two grants of £2500 to distribute to a pair of clubs with a clear vision of investment in development.

After an application process including all Norfolk Charter Standard Clubs, an independent panel awarded the grants to Old Catton JFC & Stalham Youth FC and both clubs were recently presented with their cheques.

Stalham Youth FC Chairman, Rob McCombe discussed the club's plans for utilising the grant: "We are delighted to have received this award as for the past five years our committee and coaching staff have worked extremely hard with the support of Norfolk FA to transform the opportunities we provide for young footballers in Stalham and the surrounding area.

"We are immensely proud of the continual development of our dedicated coaches and our players within the club, collectively following a development first ethos, and this funding will allow us to take that to the next level. Working closely with the staff at Norfolk FA we will provide new opportunities for our older players to create pathways into the game through coaching, refereeing and volunteering.

"This funding will allow us to create a tangible legacy to benefit the Stalham community for years to come."

Old Catton JFC Secretary & Treasurer, Richard King spoke of the club's delight at being able to utilise the funding on improving their grass facilities: "Old Catton Juniors are very pleased to receive this funding which will be used to treat and reseed our two 11v11 and two 9v9 pitches at Lavare Park.

"This money will go a long way in ensuring we maintain a high standard of playing surface for our young players, particularly through the winter months."

Norfolk FA Chairman, Michael Banham said after presenting the grants to both clubs: "I'm delighted to have been able to present two very deserving clubs with a much appreciated financial boost courtesy of The FA Community Shield Distribution Fund.

"With Old Catton opting to use the funding within the Pitch Improvement Programme to enhance and then maintain their facilities at Lavare Park and Stalham Youth choosing to further develop the provision available to their older age groups, it's evident that both clubs plan to invest well and in a way that will benefit their participants, members and communities."

ENDS

NOTES TO EDITORS:

Further Information

Rebecca Burton – Norfolk County FA Marketing and Communications Manager

Email: Rebecca.Burton@NorfolkFA.com

Tel: 01603 704050 (Ext.1; Opt. 3) / 07738262216

About Norfolk County Football Association

Norfolk County Football Association was founded in 1881 and has been administering football in the County, both at grassroots and professional level, for over 130 years.

Becoming a limited company in 1999, the Association acquired the leasehold of a purpose built football facility in Bowthorpe, Norwich ten years later. The Football Development Centre, or 'the FDC' is a hub of both regulated and recreational activity for the football community of Norwich and Norfolk.

In 2016 Norfolk FA opened the FDC@OpenAcademy and the FDC@Flegg in partnership with the school sites in which they are situated (Open Academy, Norwich and Flegg High School, Martham). Both Football Development Centre hubs feature a full size 3G pitch, changing facilities and education areas.

The work of the County Football Association is underpinned by an army of volunteers involved within Norfolk's member leagues and clubs, whom without their contribution, it would be impossible to organise and run football on the scale it is enjoyed in Norfolk today.

About The FA 'For All'

"For All" was launched to create greater awareness of The FA's role whilst demonstrating that football is open to everyone, regardless of gender, sexuality, ethnicity, ability, disability, faith or age.