

Wilmslow Phoenix Sports Club

Resolution for Special General Meeting

Introduction of Wilmslow Sports Junior Football Club as a Constituent Section of Wilmslow Phoenix Sports Club

Background:

- Wilmslow Sports Junior Football Club is seeking to become a Constituent Section of Phoenix
- At the AGM in September 2025, Wilmslow Sports was confirmed as a Provisional Section, according to the Phoenix Constitution
- Final approval to become a Constituent Section requires a 75% majority of votes at a properly convened Annual or Special General Meeting.

Wilmslow Sports has met the conditions set by Phoenix:

- made a £10,000 donation towards drainage cost already incurred by Phoenix (and thereby resolving an offer from 2024)
- agreed to continue to provide the 5 year grounds grant with no contribution required by Phoenix
- agreed to pay the full Phoenix subscription (currently £4,851) for 2026/27 and beyond as per any future uplifts (50% of first year is already paid)
- agreed to work in good faith to agree a Service Agreement (as with other sports)
- agreed to identify and pursue additional grants from Football Foundation for the benefit of Phoenix, Wilmslow Sports and other sports
- agreed to comply with the Phoenix Constitution and adjust their own constitution accordingly
- agreed to provide their latest financial accounts within 3 months.

A Pitch Usage Plan has been agreed

- the pitch usage plan is designed to balance the needs of all grass sports users – football, lacrosse and cricket - and address access and parking limitations of the site
- the pitch usage plan has required compromises but has been agreed by all 3 sports.

Resolution for approval

- Wilmslow Sports becomes a Constituent Section, effective immediately
- The Phoenix Constitution is updated to include Wilmslow Sports as a Constituent Section (but with no right to a share of funds or assets in the event of dissolution of Phoenix).

Recommendation of Phoenix Council

- Vote FOR the resolution because:
 - Brings valuable additional annual income for Phoenix, to help run the club and invest in the facilities
 - Brings greater utilisation of our facilities and therefore more income from the bar, coffee machine, hires – and gives more scale/footfall for a Saturday food offering
 - Shares the burden of responsibility and volunteers for Phoenix beyond just Hockey and Lacrosse
 - Enables access to current and future grants from Football Foundation to benefit Phoenix facilities
 - Enables discussion (not commitment) towards a potential 3G pitch at Oakwood Farm.

What are the risks or unknowns for Phoenix?

- We have not had sight of financial accounts for Wilmslow Sports so cannot validate the ability of Wilmslow Sports to meet future annual membership fees and grant contributions.
- We do not understand how many “members” Wilmslow Sports has and of these how many are adults and therefore eligible to vote in future Phoenix General Meetings.

Implications of approving the resolution

- As a Constituent Section, Wilmslow Sports has a vote and therefore more influence at Phoenix Council meetings (currently only Hockey, Lacrosse and Phoenix)
- As a Constituent Section, Wilmslow Sports has greater responsibility for the success of Phoenix and Phoenix has greater access to volunteers
- Our facilities will be busier than before – will require collaboration, toleration and some give and take.
- Wilmslow Sports will re-engage with Phoenix on the proposed development of a 3G pitch at Oakwood Farm (on the site of the 2nd astro). There is support from the

Football Foundation for such a plan in the form of a large grant, but significant additional fundraising will be necessary before work can start.

Implications of rejecting the resolution

- Without the prospect of developing a 3G pitch at Oakwood Farm, we cannot be certain that Wilmslow Sports would be willing to pay the full annual membership in future years – and may even look at an alternative home for the club and 3G pitch. Fees for members and sports would likely rise quickly without the income from Wilmslow Sports.
- Wilmslow Sports will not be able to progress the 3G pitch plan at Oakwood Farm. Phoenix would lose a once in a generation opportunity to develop Oakwood Farm into an impressive sporting hub to serve our community.