

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:

- At the AGM in September 2025, Wilmslow Sports was confirmed as a Provisional Section, according to the Phoenix Constitution
- Wilmslow Sports Junior Football Club is now seeking to become a Constituent Section of Phoenix
- 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 to become a Constituent Section:

- 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 6 year grounds grant from Football Foundation 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 the primary 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 excluded from 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 a potential 3G pitch at Oakwood Farm (subject to further discussions and agreement of members). Lacrosse would be a major beneficiary of the 3G pitch on Saturday afternoons.

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, how many are adults and therefore eligible to vote in future Phoenix General Meetings. A maximum a single paying parent/guardian of one or more junior members shall have a vote, provided they meet the requirement of membership in the Wilmslow Sports Constitution.

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.
- Constitution will be updated accordingly (as follows):
 - 2 Organisation: addition of “Wilmslow Sports Junior Football Club” as a Constituent Section
 - 3 Objects: replace “hockey and lacrosse” with “Constituent Sections”
 - 6 Management, A Club, (b): replace “Hockey and Lacrosse Sections” with “Constituent Sections”
 - 13 Withdrawal of Section/Dissolution of WPSC: replace “divided among the Sections” with “divided among Wilmslow Hockey Club and Wilmslow Lacrosse Club”

Implications of rejecting the resolution

- Wilmslow Sports have agreed to pay the full Phoenix membership fee this year and going forwards. But without the prospect of developing a 3G pitch at Oakwood Farm, we cannot be certain that Wilmslow Sports would continue to be part of Phoenix in years to come. 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.
- Wilmslow Lacrosse would lose the opportunity to have a fixed Saturday afternoon 3G pitch slot to enable year-round lacrosse games, independent of grass pitch conditions.