

PLYMOUTH CITY COUNCIL ASSETS OF COMMUNITY VALUE – NOMINATION FORM (LOCALISM ACT 2011)

1.Name/description of land

Please provide as much detail as possible to enable the Council to identify the land. This should include:

- a description of the land including its proposed boundaries; and
- a statement of all the information that you have with regard to the names of current occupants of the land, and the names and current or last
- known addresses of all those holding a freehold or leasehold estate in the land. If you are aware of the full postal address (including the postcode) and/or the Land Registry title number, this would be helpful. Land that cannot be listed includes most land used solely for residential purposes, caravan sites and operational land.

The Stadium, Home Park, Plymouth. PL2 3DQ. Being the football stadium occupied by Plymouth Argyle Football Club including all ancilliary land and buildings used on a matchday shown edged red on the plan attached.

The title numbers are;

- DN547659 owned by HHP Nominee Limited of Richmond Gate Hotel, Richmond Hill, Richmond, Surry. TW10 6RP
- DN618165 owned by the Council of the City of Plymouth, Civic Centre, Armada Way, Plymouth. PL1 2AA
- DN618166 leased to Plymouth Argyle
 Football Club Limited of Home Park, Plymouth. PL2
 3DQ
- DN649654 leased to AP Wireless II (UK) 1
 Brassey Road, Old Potts Way, Shrewsbury. SY3 7FA

2. Name of nominating body

Only certain bodies are eligible to make a community nomination. These are:

- a body designated as a neighbourhood forum;
- a parish council;
- an unincorporated body whose members include at least 21 individuals which does not distribute any surplus it makes to its members;
- a charity;
- a company limited by guarantee which does not distribute any surplus it makes to its members;
- an industrial and provident society; or
- a community interest company.

This application is submitted on behalf of the **Argyle Fans' Trust** (formally the Plymouth Argyle Supporters' Society Ltd).

We believe that the Argyle Fans' Trust fulfils the criteria set out in the Localism Act (2011) as a body eligible to nominate Home Park as an Asset of Community Value, as set out in Section 89 (2) (b) (iii) of the Act and regulations 4 and 5. We are a Community Benefit Society registered as a society under the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014. **Reg No 31149R.**

Registered address is: Argyle Fans' Trust c/o Bishop Fleming, 5th Floor, Salt Key House, 4 North East Quay, Sutton Harbour, PLYMOUTH

The body must also show that it has a local



connection to the land. This would include the body's activities being concerned with the Council's area, and profit being used for the benefit of the area, and (in the case of an unincorporated body) having 21 members registered to vote in the Council's area. In the case of a parish council, this would include if the land is in the council's area, or if it borders the council's area.

Please provide evidence of your eligibility.

PL4 OBN.

The Trust promotes supporter and community engagement in Plymouth Argyle Football Club and represents the views of supporters. It is run by an elected Board and is legally incorporated and registered with the Financial Conduct Authority and the constitution can be found here:

www.argylefanstrust.com

It is a full member of 'Supporters Direct', a national body for supporters' trusts and supporter community owned clubs. Supporters Direct helps fans to set up democratic cooperatives (known as supporters' trusts) to gain influence in the running and ownership of their clubs.

See more at <u>www.supporters-direct.org</u>

3. Reasons for nomination

Please explain why you think that the land is of community value. The criteria are:

- that an actual current use of the land (that is not an ancillary use) furthers the social wellbeing or social interests of the local community, and it is realistic to think that there can continue to be non-ancillary use of the land which will further (whether or not in the same way) the social wellbeing or social interests of the local community; or
- that there is a time in the recent past when an actual use of the land (that was not an ancillary use) furthered the social wellbeing or interests of the local community, and it is realistic to think that there is a time in the next five years when there could be non-ancillary use of the land that would further (whether or not in the same way as before) the social wellbeing or social interests of the local community.

"Social interests" includes (in particular)cultural interests, recreational interests or sporting interests.

Our opinion is based on the following: We are of the opinion that the land is of community value because;

- a) Home Park has been home to Plymouth Argyle FC from 1901 until the present day;
- b) The stadium is crucial in enabling the football club to deliver social value and community benefit through sporting and social activities in which the club needs a suitable home to host its matches;
- c) The money invested into developing Home Park over the years from various sources the Football Foundation, the club (and its supporters), Plymouth City Council, etc means that Home Park remains the only realistic and viable home for Plymouth Argyle FC;
- d) Plymouth Argyle FC delivers both social value and community benefit to the City



of Plymouth more broadly as an integral part of the local area. Senior football in Plymouth stretches back to 1886, as Argyle AFC, founded on the principal activity of the furtherance of local sporting interest;

- e) The club:
 - i. Promotes the enjoyment of sport and exercise to local people throughout the community, particularly young people, both through its own matches and through activities the clubs undertake through their various schemes and initiatives;
 - ii. Serves as a focus for community pride as Plymouth's premier sporting club, providing the City of Plymouth with a proud history and heritage through the achievements of the club and the many celebrated players from its history, and regularly recognising the contribution that the clubs' non-player employees, volunteers and supporters make to the club's success;
 - iii. Helps build a sense of community identity, bringing together diverse elements of the City of Plymouth, across a range of ages, social and economic backgrounds on a regular basis for a shared purpose;
 - iv. Provides local people with an inclusive social environment open to all members of the community which the club works to foster such as PAFC's participation in the 'Kick it Out' campaign (an equality and inclusion campaign for football and the wider community);



- v. Engages fans in the support of charitable causes, recent examples include the club's 'Armed Services Day', which recognised the contribution that the Services make to the City, and raising money for Armed Forces Charities;
- vi. Provides economic benefits to local businesses such as increased trade for nearby and associated pubs, restaurants and hotels during the course of the season as well as working to bring together a network of local businesses for mutual benefit;
- vii. Is the subject of considerable local interest, as attested to by the consequent significant coverage in the local media;
- viii. Represents the City and area nationally, for instance the club has had matches broadcast live on both satellite and terrestrial television within the recent past. Most recently the club's League 2 play-off fixtures against Wycombe Wanderers was broadcast on the Sky network to a considerable national audience. The club also features each week on the 'Football League Show' on Channel 5.
- f) As well as acting as a focus for the people of Plymouth, the club also works within the community operating a range of sporting, social and educational activities and programmes;
- g) The main pitch is also used on occasion to host local football finals and community tournaments.
- h) Home Park is also a facility used for non-sporting purposes of benefit to the City of Plymouth such as birthday



celebrations, christenings, wakes, business conferences, meetings, etc. i) Home Park is also a place that brings thousands of people from all over the country into our city each year where normally they would not consider visiting. It is therefore our view that Home Park is an asset that Plymouth City Council should be proud to own rather than one that they might seek to sell. Plymouth Argyle has a real chance to flourish if the stadium remains under public ownership, the same cannot be said if it is owned by a 3rd party or, perhaps, either directly or indirectly, by the owners of PAFC, whoever they may be in the future. There are also many examples of where having stadia under private ownership has led to the demise of a sporting club leading to a significant loss to the community. Whilst a private owner may start with genuine aspirations and sincere intentions, people change as do circumstances and there can be no guarantees with regards the future. Signed: **TONY CANNAN** – AFT SECRETARY 4. Signed and dated secretary@argylefanstrust.com (on behalf of) **ARGYLE FANS' TRUST** Dated:



If you require further space please continue on a blank sheet of paper.

Completed forms should please be sent to:

Julie Rundle Legal Services Plymouth City Council Civic Centre Plymouth PL1 2AA

Alternatively, they may be sent by email to: Julie.rundle@plymouth.gov.uk

If you have any questions about the content of this form please telephone 01752 306058.