



Your ref:

Our ref:

Email: Jamie.burrows@nfu.org.uk

Direct line:

Date: 19 May 2026

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Support for Wheathampstead Cricket Club – Kimpton Hoo Ground Redevelopment

On behalf of the National Farmers Union representing 43,000 members, I am pleased to offer our support for Wheathampstead Cricket Club's application for funding to redevelop the disused cricket ground at Kimpton Hoo.

This project represents a highly strategic and timely investment in a derelict facility community sport provision which will be accessible to the rural and farming community. I recognise Wheathampstead Cricket Club has demonstrated exceptional growth over recent years, particularly in junior and female participation, however, I would like to highlight the additional benefits that the project will bring to the farming and rural communities.

The communities that farm in the surrounding areas of Kimpton Hoo will benefit immensely from the project. The NFU is working very hard to tackle the mental health challenges of farming. Farmers experience exceptional long periods of lone working in difficult working conditions and are facing significant economic challenges.. Access to the Kimpton Hoo cricket pitch will give the Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire and Essex farming communities the ability to run team sports and social events that bond farmers together so that they can openly talk about the challenges that they face.

Wheathampstead cricket club has been a keen supporter of the farming community and recently hosted one of these events at its Nomansland ground. Having a facility on the farm of one of our members will make these events easier to organise and provide a great sense of belonging and homeliness. The proposed redevelopment of the Kimpton Hoo site will directly address this need.

We also welcome the club's commitment to environmental sustainability. Plans to incorporate biodiversity improvements, reduce reliance on diesel-powered equipment, and introduce rainwater collection systems demonstrate a forward-thinking approach that aligns with the farming sectors drive for enhanced environmental resilience.

Yours faithfully,

Jamie Burrows
NFU Crops Board Chair, NFU East