



WALTHAM ABBEY TOWN COUNCIL TOWN MEAD STATEMENT

It has been noted that there is speculation regarding the Town Mead club and the Town Council would like to note the following.

The Town Council took the decision to close the club in late 2021 initially for refurbishment due to the significant losses the club had incurred over a number of years, the Town Council ultimately felt it was not viable to keep subsidising the clubhouse for its limited use from residents' council tax.

It was agreed in the Policy and Resources meeting on 6th April 2022 that agents would be instructed to market the property for rental and that all those interested would be directed to the agents, it was also requested that community use was top of the Town Council's wish list for this property. Meetings are and have always been open to members of the public to attend and our minutes are available on our website, which we know has been down for 2 weeks but is now back online.

Prior to marketing, it was confirmed with Sport England that it's interest in the club had ceased in 2017 and the Town Council were free to change the use as necessary.

On behalf of the tenant, we would like to confirm that the rumours of a nightclub on site are untrue, licensing hours have been requested to facilitate events having a later finish time, and this licence has not yet been granted and will be at the sole discretion of Epping Forest District Council and not the Town Council. The venue will be open for members of the community to book in the same way it was when operated by the Town Council and bigger events will now be able to be facilitated due to the significant investment by the tenant.

Should members of the public have any questions regarding this, please email the Town Clerk townclerk@walthamabbey-tc.gov.uk