

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: 11 October 2021 22:25  
To: Kincardine and Mearns <[kincardineandmearns@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:kincardineandmearns@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)>  
Subject: Forest Park - Mackie Rugby Football Club

I would like to make a letter of support to Mackie Rugby Football Clubs request to purchase Forest Park.

Mackie Rugby has been an integral part of Stonehaven for decades and despite numerous attempts it has been unable to secure a permanent home. Recently it had lost the ground adjacent to Redcloak pitches.

With Forest park having the potential to be developed into pitches and facilities for a full range of ages from Primary 2 through to pensioner ages which Mackie Rugby caters for, it is in the best interest of our community.

I would strongly urge you to exercise this option and create a lasting positive impact for our community.

Yours

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 12 October 2021 11:44  
**To:** Kincardine and Mearns <[kincardineandmearns@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:kincardineandmearns@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** Forest Park Asset Transfer

Hi,

Very pleased to see an application from the rugby club to purchase the land at Forest Park to turn it into a purpose built area for training, playing matches and a proper clubhouse facility.

The rugby club has been searching for a permanent home for many years and a facility like this will be of huge benefit to the 1,200+ members of the club, and an asset to the local community.

And I am sure the club will work with local residents to ensure this development does not have any kind of negative impact on the area.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: 12 October 2021 13:00  
To: [Kincardine and Mearns](mailto:kincardineandmearns@aberdeenshire.gov.uk) <kincardineandmearns@aberdeenshire.gov.uk>  
Subject: Mackie Rugby Club Asset transfer Request

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Dear Sir/Madam,

Just want to write in support of the possible transfer of Forest Park to the rugby club.

The club is the second largest in Scotland and do a lot for the community in many ways. I visit the park with my granddaughter to go to the play area a couple of times a week. I only ever see people walking dogs so don't consider that a very good use of the playing area.

Mackie used to use the play fields before their current location. I can only see benefits to the greater community and the immediate area if the transfer were to proceed.

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13 October 2021 06:56  
**To:** [Kincardine and Mearns](mailto:kincardineandmearns@aberdeenshire.gov.uk) <kincardineandmearns@aberdeenshire.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** Re: Forest Park

Delighted at the proposals put forward by MRFC for Forest Park. For years they have run a very successful club with poor facilities. I really hope this gets approval as all involved give so much of their time and deserve proper purpose built facilities.

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

**Archived:** 22 October 2021 12:33:06

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wed, 13 Oct 2021 21:56:13 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Change of assest of Millo Park

**Importance:** Normal

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Dear all,

Please accept this letter as a note of support for the change. It will be a great asset to the area and provide a great space for the Rugby club to continue what they do for many young people in our area.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 20 October 2021 16:00:36

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wed, 13 Oct 2021 22:12:40

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Milo park change of use support

**Sensitivity:** Normal

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Hi there

I'm writing to inform you of my support for this change at Milo park into rugby grounds. I have played rugby for Mackie for 9 years now and really look forward to having somewhere to continue my rugby journey. The rugby club have given me a focus and goals to work towards and has great community spirit. Without having a place to meet and train would be a great loss to our community, myself and all my teammates.

Sincerely

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: 20 October 2021 16:00:56

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Thu, 14 Oct 2021 07:57:02 +0000ARC

To: Kincardine and Mearns

Subject: Mackie Rugby Football Club ( Forest Park )

Sensitivity: Normal

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Morning All

I would just like put in my representation for the Mackie Rugby Club which my son is a member of and goes training for the under 14's, and has been playing this year and can I just say that this team alone have been playing outstandingly and it's so exciting watching them progress.

That's why I feel it is so important for this to get the go ahead, it would be great for the club the town and the whole of the Mearns too the kids of the future needs clubs like this and there are going up in the leagues so would be nice for them to have a ground they are proud of, So I really hope this gets the go ahead.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Archived: 20 October 2021 16:01:16

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Thu, 14 Oct 2021 08:12:21 +0000ARC

To: Kincardine and Mearns

Subject: Public Notice of Asset Transfer Request: Land at Forest Park, Stonehaven (Mackie RFC)

Sensitivity: Normal

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[REDACTED]

With regards to: *Public Notice of Asset Transfer Request: Land at Forest Park, Stonehaven*

I fully support the application request.

**COMMUNITY BENEFITS**

Moving the pitches and clubhouse to a more central location will most certainly bring the community together, providing an excellent opportunity for diversity and inclusion of all age ranges, from youth to senior. We have seen first-hand the success of similar clubs with a central location within their home town around Scotland - with plenty of fans and passers by joining in with participation and spectatorship.

A central location allows for a dramatic increase in accessibility for those of all age ranges without transport or even bikes. The proposed builds allow for a largely fully catered facility, from showers, changing rooms and club house. It would be an excellent addition to the entire Stonehaven community in general.

**SAFETY**

During my time playing for the club, much of the under 18 youth training was originally held at forest park - a highly accessible areas of Stonehaven with plenty of recreational space without impeding on neighbouring residents. I would cycle to and from the park often clad in mud after a joyful training session. It was not long after before training was moved to Redcloak - current location. This involved a more treacherous cycle up a busy and speedy Slug Road (A957). No street lighting, 60mph national speed limits with dips and corners. No crossing locations either.

The proposed location would dramatically decrease risk, particularly to the youth with travelling to and from their local rugby club.

**BACKGROUND:**

I spent my childhood growing up in Stonehaven for 15 years before moving into the Aberdeen City limits [REDACTED]. During my time in Stonehaven, I was an active member of Mackie RFC. I remain involved with the club and Stonehaven, with long lasting relationships. I would bring great joy to vast amount of club members past and present over the many-many years that the club has been in operation, to see the club move back into the heart of the community at Forest Park.

I am happy to discuss any of the points below in further detail and support the application in any way I can.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]



Archived: 20 October 2021 16:01:32

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Thu, 14 Oct 2021 08:20:01 +0000ARC

To: Kincardine and Mearns

Subject: Public Notice of Asset Transfer Request: Land at Forest Park, Stonehaven (Mackie RFC)

Sensitivity: Normal

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[REDACTED]

With regards to : *Public Notice of Asset Transfer Request: Land at Forest Park, Stonehaven*

I fully support the application request.

The application request would:

- Allow of a more inclusive club location without the need of transport
- Bring the community together
- Maximise the usage of this green space
- Increase safety for players/spectators with proving a more central location of club grounds
- Provide security for the club, players and fans for many years to come

I am happy to discuss any of the points below in further detail and support the application in any way I can.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Archived: 20 October 2021 16:01:47

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Thu, 14 Oct 2021 08:32:31

To: Kincardine and Mearns

Subject: mackie rugby club and forest park

Sensitivity: Normal

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Good Morning,

I have been made aware of the proposal to purchase forest park for the use of mackie rugby club and I want to put forward my support of this.

Mackie rugby club is an excellent club for the kids/adults of Stonehaven that love and thrive in the sport. It would be an absolute shame if this club did not exist in the future due to having no location to train or play games. My son met a lot of friends there when we just moved to Stonehaven and it such a friendly and fantastic club.

I really hope this proposal is won and the community can keep the rugby club open.

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13 October 2021 23:34  
**To:** Kincardine and Mearns <[kincardineandmearns@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:kincardineandmearns@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** Mackie academy playing fields RUGBY

I fully agree with the rugby playing fields being built at mill`o Forrest field as I think this would be a great addition to Stonehaven and increase the youths physical health and mental health. Also giving them more opportunities and equipment for the youths that are already involved with the rugby club.

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: 13 October 2021 22:50  
To: Kincardine and Mearns <kincardineandmearns@aberdeenshire.gov.uk>  
Subject: Proposed asset transfer of Mill O Forest park to Mackie Rugby Club

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To whom it may concern,

I am writing as a resident of Stonehaven [REDACTED] to give my support for the proposed asset transfer and development of rugby pitches, clubhouse etc at Mill O Forest park. My children have both benefitted enormously from the excellent mackie rugby club, both in terms of fitness but more importantly giving them a route to connect with people from across the community and engage in constructive activity. The rugby club plus a couple of other sports clubs are the only activities for youth in Stonehaven and are essential for keeping kids off the streets and engaged in healthy activities. The club is an asset to Stonehaven and if they can't secure land here they may be forced to close which would be a huge loss to the community. It would not only be heartbreaking for the kids who are so passionate about the sport and the club, but would be reputationally appalling for Stonehaven and the wider Kincardine and mearns area if we can't facilitate land for this community asset when land has been zoned for supermarkets and housing estates. My kids are older teenagers now so they won't benefit from the new facilities - I stress this because my motives for supporting the move are not selfish but for the good of the community so that the future children and young people of Stonehaven can benefit from this excellent community organisation.

I understand and appreciate that those who live in the direct proximity of the park may be unhappy that their children will have to walk 10-15 minutes to get to one of the other parks in Stonehaven should they wish to play games that require a large grassy area. However the fact remains that Stonehaven does have several other parks available to it's residents for these types of activities but it only has one rugby club. We can't afford to lose it.

Thank you for taking the time to read my comments, please get in touch if you want to explore this or seek clarification on anything I have said.

Thank you

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

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Archived: 20 October 2021 16:05:54

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Thu, 14 Oct 2021 09:23:57 +0000ARC

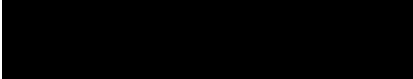
To: Kincardine and Mearns

Subject: Public Notice of Asset Transfer Request: Land at Forest Park Stonehaven

Sensitivity: Normal

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Mr James McTavish

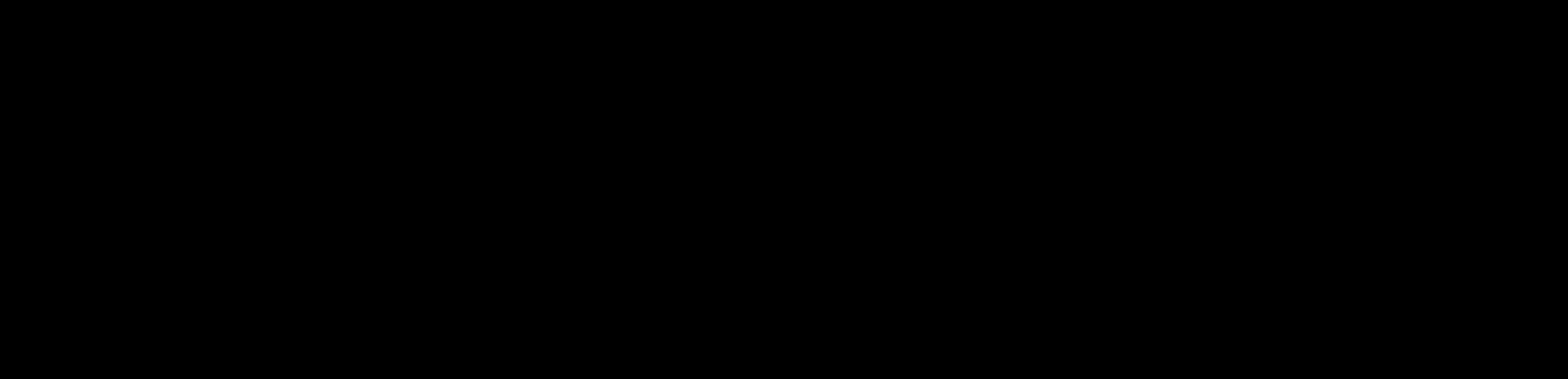


With regards to : *Public Notice of Asset Transfer Request: Land at Forest Park, Stonehaven*

I fully support the application request.

(I fully support the decision to relocate. This will actively bring more of the community to support our team. Further more due to the new location this will be a safer place for all.

Kind regards,



Archived: 20 October 2021 16:06:10

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Thu, 14 Oct 2021 10:19:24 +0000ARC

To: Kincardine and Mearns

Subject: Public Notice of Asset Transfer Request: Land at Forest Park, Stonehaven

Sensitivity: Normal

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[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Dear Sir / Madam,

I would like to lodge my support for this land transfer.

Rugby has been an integral part of my life, Mackie has formed part of this, but has significant effect on my four sons, who have all played for the club from aged 6years.

My eldest [REDACTED] is now part of the Senior club.

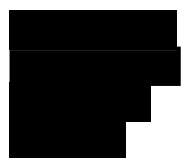
Having travelled all over Scotland playing and, in the past, coaching rugby, the Mackie youth / mini sections are the second biggest club in region and Scotland. What they have lacked is facilities to match the enthusiasm that the youth provides. The Senior club have struggled to retain players, who often go off to University and are immersed in clubs with much better facilities than they have previously been afforded. There is also the lease factor of Redcloak and recent withdrawl of the lease from the landowner of the lower pitch only exacerbates this dilemma.

Having trained at Mill Of Forest over a number years, it is indeed an ideal location, with the proposed improvements by the Rugby Club, will make this a facility the Community and Town can be proud of. It will also improve the sanitary conditions of the ground (Ex pig farm and dog walking location), in its current condition, I would be reluctant to allow my children to play there (at all levels). The central location of the facility will endeavour that more local persons will walk / cycle there (it is on a bus route), very few do this at Redcloak), therefore parking is not really anymore of an issue than it is a School out time (I know first hand of this, my kids were at Mill O' Nursery).

Please support one of the biggest Youth organisations in the town and one of the biggest youth Rugby clubs in the Country, it has already produced some great talent, it may help produce more the town and country can be proud of.

Yours Sincerely,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



13<sup>th</sup> October 2021

To whom it may concern

I am writing to show my support to MAFPRC of their recent Asset Transfer request for purchase of the land at Forest Park.

My son has been part of MAFPRC since the age of 8, [REDACTED] and currently plays for the under 18's team. Rugby has been a consistent part of his life for the last 9 years and has been much more than 'just a game of rugby'. During his time with the club he has improved not only his fitness but he has built crucial social skills such as leadership, concentration, teamwork, determination and tolerance which has been beneficial to him growing up, his studies and entering the work place. The club has also helped to improve his confidence and he has made strong, positive friendships. Rugby has also provided him with opportunities to coach younger players which he was able to use as part of his volunteering time to gain his Duke of Edinburgh Award and he was also part of the Caledonia Academy which was an amazing experience for him. It was evident during lockdown when the restrictions imposed on team sports, how much he missed this and how vital it was for his mental health.

The rugby club offer opportunities from tots to adults, currently sitting at the top of the junior table – it is crucial they have their own space and somewhere to host opposing teams. Forest Park provides an ideal spot for this – also making it accessible for those without transport and safe, well-lit streets to walk to and from in the dark nights, unlike the walk to the Recloak.

Opportunities like rugby, also help reduce crime by providing a positive outlet where kids can spend their free time relieving boredom; one of the biggest factors in youth crime. With childhood obesity and poor mental health also on the rise it would be detrimental to Stonehaven as whole if they lose their local rugby club and will affect more than just the players.

I hope this letter helps support the club as it really is much more than just a game of rugby.

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]

Archived: 20 October 2021 16:06:36

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Thu, 14 Oct 2021 12:02:30 +0000ARC

To: Kincardine and Mearns

Subject: Support For MRFC at Forest Park

Sensitivity: Normal

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## Support For MRFC at Forest Park

At lot has been written as to why Mackie Rugby Club should not be allowed to purchase the land at Forest Park, and I understand the concerns from the people who use the park or who live near it. I am sure that all avenues have been exhausted over the years by the club in trying to find a suitable location. The club have stated that there is no other option. They have no choice but to leave Redcloak and a new home must be found for them. I hope that no one would think that it would be a good thing for a club that continues to provide such a positive influence for hundreds of our children and adults to fold due to a lack of a venue. We all know by now that Mackie Academy playing field are not an option, Baird Park is already used by the football club, and Mineral Well could not support more traffic trying to use its single track road.

I have read the concerns regarding fencing but we all know what would happen if a fence wasn't kept around the pitches, dogs would be allowed to foul on them. Is that not the main reason the football pitch is fenced? It certainly didn't keep kids out - they just climbed over it. Which is why it now left unlocked and kids have a great time playing football when it's not in use by the club.

Parking will be an issue as it is pretty much everywhere there is an event held. I don't know of many towns that can cope with large event parking. Hopefully those that attend from Stonehaven would walk to the weekend matches. At least it will only be for a few hours at the weekend when the matches are on. Keeping the club in the town insures that those without transportation can join in. The importance of which can not be overstated.

I don't see lighting as a problem as it would only be used during training which would surely be finished by 9pm.

As to the loss of a playing field for the schools I can't see why the rugby club would not allow classes to use it for activities. I know they already have a great relationship with all the local schools.

For those that use the park for running and dog walking, it should be easy enough to continue to run or walk around the pitches on paths that will surely be put there.

The play park looks to remain for our young children while the older ones can surely make their way to Mineral Well, Faroehic Park, or Dunnottar. All within a 10 minute or less bike ride.

I do know how people feel about the loss of green space and I am usually the first to agree but not this time. Several years ago the field behind where I live had a care home built on it. At the time I couldn't see past what our street and neighbourhood was losing. It only took a short while once the project was completed to see what a benefit to the community it is. Yes, we lost our field and now we have to cope with some daily traffic including lorries and recycling trucks but it is great to see our older community members in a nice environment and part of our neighbourhood instead of hidden away. The council built a much better path than what was there and all of the dog owners adjusted their walks and the children that played there, including mine (on the few occasions the field was fit to be played on) found other suitable places to play.

We all know the benefits of sport and being part of a team so no need to reflect on that. Some have asked what has the rugby club done for the community. Besides giving support to thousands of our communities children, I know they have held food drives, toy collections at Christmas, and always participate in local events such as the Fecin' Market and Harbour Festival. Those are just a few things that come to mind.

I know that Mackie Rugby Football Club have been searching for many years for a new home and have been unsuccessful and so have put forward a plan with the only option there is in order to keep the club running successfully in Stonehaven and I fully support them.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



Archived: 20 October 2021 16:06:55

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Thu, 14 Oct 2021 12:20:03 +0000ARC

To: Kincardine and Mearns

Subject: Asset transfer for Forest Park - Mackie Rugby Football Club

Sensitivity: Normal

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To whom it may concern;

Please note that I am writing to put forth my support for the asset transfer and development of rugby grounds at Forest park in Stonehaven.

The rugby club is a fine establishment for not only children and young people, but for all ages. The club is a great asset to the community which many people benefit from. They need a place that they can call "home" and I don't see any reason as to why the grounds in question should not be transferred to the club as the whole community would benefit from such establishment.

Kindest regards

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Archived: 20 October 2021 16:07:11

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Thu, 14 Oct 2021 13:15:08

To: Kincardine and Mearns

Subject: Support for Mackie Rugby Club

Sensitivity: Normal

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To whom it may concern:

We have been following the progress of our nephew, [REDACTED], since he was a young boy. It is obvious that rugby is an extremely important part of his life and that of numerous others like him.

To help this club become competitive and to reach their potential, we strongly support their request to purchase the area of Forest Park. It is our understanding that other clubs have their own land.

It is also obvious that residents concerns are being addressed.

Therefore, we are respectfully asking that you revisit the situation and consider their request.

Thank you.

Proud supporters of the Swilers Rugby Football Club in Newfoundland and Labrador.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** 14 October 2021 14:58

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns <[kincardineandmearns@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:kincardineandmearns@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)>

**Subject:** [REDACTED]

This is in support of [REDACTED] team. He is an awesome player and would be devastated to see his team without a place to play / plus it would crush his dream. We hope you would reconsider your decision.

We strongly support their request to purchase the area of Forest Park. It is our understanding that other clubs have their own land.

It is also obvious that residents' concerns are being addressed.

Therefore, we are asking that you revisit the situation and reconsider his team's request.

***Take care,***

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 14 October 2021 11:37

To: Kincardine and Mearns <[kincardineandmearns@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:kincardineandmearns@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)>

Subject: rugby club support letter

Hi there,

I am writing to inform you of my support for the current request to change milo Park into use for the Mackie Rugby Club. Given they are the second biggest club in Scotland it would be great to see them have this use to grow and develop even more! The club has been great for my family since they got involved 10 years ago and it would be a shame to see them loose it.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 14 October 2021 10:28  
**To:** Kincardine and Mearns <[kincardineandmearns@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:kincardineandmearns@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Support letter for Mackie Rugby club build proposal.

To Whom it may concern,

I would like to express my approval of the recommendation of an assets transfer of land and forest park Stonehaven Millo Forest for the use of a new Mackie Rugby club and grounds. Both my Sons are active members of the club and have been since old enough to enroll. The support the club has given the youths has really proven to enhance their physical and mental health more so now than ever since the Pandemic. The RFC club has been a rock in all our lives, something that we enjoy as a family keeps the children active and out of trouble . There are home and away games and a real feeling of community spirit when we get together and host events. The RFC Club is well recognised in all of Scotland as one of the top clubs to play for. There are many reasons why I just hope the local community can also see this as an opportunity for growth, to build on something that has already a long established history in Stonehaven alone.

Mackie RFC club needs this approval, without it the future of the club may be in trouble with little options left. The support is there and always will be.

Yours Sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Archived: 20 October 2021 16:36:59

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Thu, 14 Oct 2021 17:06:23

To: Kincardine and Mearns

Subject: Asset Transfer - Land at Forest Park, Stonehaven

Sensitivity: Normal

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My son plays for Mackie U18, with the support of the club he will attend a UKCC coaching course in the near future. On completion of the course he will support the club and provide coaching for younger players in the club and schools in outreach programmes. I mention this to provide just one example of how the club develops its players. At least 10 of this U18 team have been selected for the Caledonia Region Team Trials. I am confident some will be selected for the Scotland U18 team. This reflects both the quality of the coaching they receive and the player's own determination.

I have watched this U18 team become a team, training 2 or 3 times a week. I have seen the effort they have put into their games, beating teams that were supposedly their betters, heard the rousing chorus of victorious voices singing the team song from the changing room after winning a match. These are very happy memories for us, and there will be similar experiences for all players and parents, at all levels of the club.

Mackie RFC has a critical problem with its future with the loss of its current facilities in the next few years. This is almost certainly their last chance saloon. It would be a huge loss if the club closed because of lack of facilities, and once gone it would be almost impossible to resurrect. Please look at the number of players the club has across all age groups. Now imagine there is no Mackie RFC. No opportunity to play rugby, no opportunity to grow as a person, learn life skills, no opportunity to play for your region or perhaps your county.

I support this application for asset transfer, not just through this email but I will be putting my money where my mouth is if we are successful.

Regards

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 20 October 2021 16:38:40

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thu, 14 Oct 2021 17:25:07

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Mackie Rugby Club

**Sensitivity:** Normal

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Good evening,

I would like to voice my support for the proposed asset transfer to accommodate Mackie Rugby club at Forest Park, Stonehaven.

I have read the proposal and believe that is an excellent idea in order to secure the future of the club and the inspiration it provides to local children. Joining such a club fosters a good ethos as well fitness and something recreational to do in the area.

I feel that the infrastructure provided through the asset transfer and plans for pitches, changing rooms and club house will ensure future generations can take part and perhaps other groups locally could use the facility at a fee.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

Archived: 20 October 2021 16:39:04

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Thu, 14 Oct 2021 17:40:34

To: Kincardine and Mearns

Subject: Mackie RFC asset transfer

Sensitivity: Normal

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Hello,

I am writing this in support of the asset transfer request by Mackie RFC.

I feel this is a fantastic opportunity for the rugby club and due to the limited possibility it's potentially the only opportunity for the club.

The club provides so much more than rugby to the community and to have this club in the central location of Forest Park will not only benefit all but also provide safe travel to and from the club for all members of the club and public.

Thanks

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



**Archived:** 20 October 2021 16:39:25

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thu, 14 Oct 2021 18:24:47

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Proposed Asset Transfer at Forest Park Recreation Area to Mackie Academy FPRFC

**Sensitivity:** Normal

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I have read the proposals regarding Mackie rugby club's application to relocate to the above location.

I fully support this wonderful community asset. This is an established club playing rugby at the upper echelons of the youth set up and at a good senior level.

It would be shocking if the club were to fold on the basis of a lack of community land.

Forest Park has been used for many years by the club.

The players and their coaches commit a lot of their own time to represent the town and surrounding district.

I would like to offer my full support.

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Regards

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Archived: 20 October 2021 16:39:44

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Thu, 14 Oct 2021 18:27:26

To: Kincardine and Mearns

Subject: Mackie Rugby Football Club (Forest Park)

Sensitivity: Normal

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Florence Will  
[REDACTED]

Good Morning,

I would like to put forward a representation for Mackie Rugby Football Club.

My son plays for the U14's and has done for just over a year. All the players in all age groups and the coaches, committee members and parents are all dedicated in making these teams the very best they can be. So therefore i think they would benefit from new grounds and facilities and it would be a great asset to not only Stonehaven but also the mearns community too, and to all the up coming rugby enthusiasts.

Kind regards  
[REDACTED]

Sent via BT Email App

Archived: 20 October 2021 16:40:01

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Thu, 14 Oct 2021 18:42:46

To: Kincardine and Mearns

[REDACTED]

Subject: Asset Transfer - Land at Forest Park - In support of the purpose built facility

Sensitivity: Normal

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Dear Aberdeenshire Council,

I am writing **in support** of the recent application for asset transfer for our local Rugby Facilities.

The Mackie Club has been central to the young people in Stonehaven for years, and we moved here our son joined the local team in primary 5. He is autistic, and was welcomed with open arms and Rugby has been a pivotal part of his developing social skills and a positive benefit to his mental health [REDACTED] - the club is open to all.

The coaches freely give up their time and talents to train and support youth rugby here, and we have done our best to support their teams, fundraising for the club, and supporting the players, male and female at every level. Stonehaven is rightly proud of our teams who perform so well - despite the lack of facilities especially compared to other clubs.

The move to Forest park is a wonderful option for the club, I am aware that on social media there are some objections, and there are a vocal number who possibly do not realise just how many families benefit from the Mackie rugby family. Also I believe the facilities could and should be made open for our community to enjoy, something I believe that they would support when fully aware that this would not limit the community.

Please can I express my support for this venture, and I hope many of the other families will be doing likewise, we are so fortunate to have the coaches locally willing to freely do so much for these kids and adults alike, I believe its in the communities best interest to support and encourage the club, youth sport and exercise and the benefits this provides us here. It would be a major loss to our town to no longer have a club.

With thanks for consideration of my feedback,

Sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 20 October 2021 16:40:20

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thu, 14 Oct 2021 18:52:01

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Asset transfer at Forrest park, Stonehaven

**Sensitivity:** Normal

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Good evening,

I write to express how impressed I am with the plans for construction of the excellent rugby facilities at Forrest Park in Stonehaven. It's great to see plans that will truly benefit our children and their peers by giving them real opportunities to participate in top level sport in a safe way, at great facilities. Having grown up in the Central belt area of Scotland, facilities like this are common place there, and I'm delighted that my children will have access to this type of facility as I did. I look forward to the approval of these plans and seeing the successful completion of the project.

Regards

[REDACTED]

Archived: 20 October 2021 16:40:39

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Thu, 14 Oct 2021 21:32:45

To: Kincardine and Mearns

Subject: Mackie Rugby Club Asset Transfer Request

Sensitivity: Normal

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Good evening sir/Madamme

I am writing to you with reference to the asset transfer request from Mackie Rugby Football Club for Forest Park in Stonehaven.

As a proud member of the club for almost 20 years now, I have seen the club grow from being a small club to one of the biggest rugby clubs in Scotland.

I have played rugby for Mackie RFC since I was 5 years old I can think of three different locations around Stonehaven that I have had to play Home fixtures on. If the club were successful in the asset transfer it would finally give the club their home that they have longed for.

I think that Forest Park is an ideal home to help Mackie RFC keep growing. The new home of Mackie RFC would not only allow the club to grow but it would also allow the club to grow existing bonds within the community as outlined in the business plan.

Being part of the club I am aware of multiple groups within the community that the club has links too, a few examples of this are, the Athletics club using the current facilities at Redcloak during winter, a fitness group using the clubs fitness suite, the club helping the Lions with the set up and the dismantling of the Fee in market and many more.

Another prime example of the clubs commitment to helping this community happened this past Christmas, the club heard that there was a lack of food at the three food banks in Stonehaven. We all put money in to the club, they then went out and spent a large amount of money and the Committee and a few of the younger members of the club went out and delivered it to the food banks. It is a shame that people do not take note of things like this when they say the club are out for themselves and aren't about the community.

To summarise, I am fully in support of this asset transfer and I really hope that this happens

If you would like any further comments please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Yours faithfully,  
[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 20 October 2021 16:40:58

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thu, 14 Oct 2021 21:55:15 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Mackie Rugby Club Asset Transfer - Mill O Forest

**Sensitivity:** Normal

---

I am writing this email in support of Mackie Rugby Club taking ownership of Mill O Forest playing fields for there new pitches and home.

Mackie Rugby Club have been involved in the town and community since the 1970s having delivered fitness and rugby coaching to children and adults. On the playing side Mackie have had players come through the youth coaching and represent the club playing for Scotland. This has only been achieved by the amount of time and effort all the volunteer coaches and everyone else involved in the club has given to make it a successful rugby club to be part of. Off the field the club have been involved in many community events including the feen market, fireballs, harbour Festival etc. They have also done shopping in the Coop and donating all foods to the local food banks through the Covid pandemic. They have held bbqs at local primary schools for school fares and also helped at the beer festival and folk festivals alike. They are delivering Rugby in most schools in the Mearns and Kincardine area with many kids coming to join the club after having the taster sessions at there schools.

I feel Mackie Rugby Club taking on Mill O Forest as there new home would be a great asset for the club since they are losing their current home, but feel with the plans they have for the facility can put even more back into the community by allowing other groups, schools, etc to use the facility they have planned.

I hope the council seriously look at all the pros to Mackie taken on this facility. I have lived in Stonehaven all my life and Mill o Forest has never been a well used park for families etc and has always been used by the rugby club for training and matches until the posts came down. Would people have had an objection then if they had fenced off what they used?? I don't think so.

Mackie Rugby Club are a massive part of the town of Stonehaven and I feel the council need to allow Mackie to have this land and generate and even bigger and better club for children and the communitiy to enjoy.

Many thanks,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 20 October 2021 16:41:14  
**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thu, 14 Oct 2021 21:26:29  
**To:** Kincardine and Mearns  
**Subject:** Support for asset transfer request  
**Sensitivity:** Normal

---

Dear Sir/Madam,

I hereby notify my support for the request by Mackie Rugby Football Club for an asset transfer of land at Forest Park, Stonehaven under the community empowerment (Scotland) act 2015.

The reasons for my support are that Mackie Rugby club is an integral part of the community which offers first class rugby training and development for all age groups with the Kincardine and Mearns area, providing health benefits, both physical and mental, to many hundreds of children and adults as well as a quality social outlet outwith school and work.

Mackie RFC will not survive without a new facility being found which would be to the very great detriment of the local community.

Yours

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 20 October 2021 16:41:36  
**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Fri, 15 Oct 2021 08:57:07  
**To:** Kincardine and Mearns  
**Subject:** Asset transfer for Mill O Forest  
**Sensitivity:** Normal

---

Good morning

I am writing to you today to add my support of Mackie Rugby Football Club and their current request for asset transfer at Forest Park in Stonehaven.

I wholly support the club and what they are looking to do, as I know the immense value that the club brings to the local community.

The club's proposal promises much-needed facilities that would bolster the area and offer a much improved experience to players as well as their friends and families, all of which would help Stonehaven to have a rugby club to be proud of. Moreover, the improved club facilities would also attract and encourage more youngsters to join, giving them a positive and healthy way to spend time year-round. And it's impossible to underestimate the importance of such an outlet, as well as the positive role models the club has to offer those going through childhood, teenage years and young adulthood.

I sincerely hope the request is granted for many reasons, including those detailed above.

With warm regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



**Archived:** 20 October 2021 16:41:59  
**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Fri, 15 Oct 2021 14:38:01 +0000ARC  
**To:** Kincardine and Mearns  
**Subject:** Asset request by Mackie RFC  
**Sensitivity:** Normal

---

To whom it may concern

The asset request by Mackie RFC would be very beneficial for the community.

The club provides the opportunity for Rugby, it goes into all local primary schools and delivers rugby for all pupils from P2 to P7 and does the same for secondary schools.

It does community work like youth club and walk and talk programme where everyone is welcome to come along.

Forrest Park is more of a central location and safer for kids to travel there.

I fully support this request and think it is a very good idea.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 22 October 2021 14:58:12

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Fri, 15 Oct 2021 18:08:19

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Re: Mackie Rugby Football Club

**Importance:** Normal

---

We would like to express our concern with the recent decision to remove the rugby team from the land they are using because of sale to a property developer.

Our nephew [REDACTED] has been playing rugby at a very young age and would like to continue the sport. The only way this can happen is for the team to purchase their own land at Forest Park as other clubs have done.

It is impossible to fulfill the dreams of [REDACTED] and other players if they don't have a field to play on.

Therefore we fully support the request to purchase land at Forest Park.

Respectfully submitted

[REDACTED]

To: Kincardine & Mearns Area Manager  
kincardineandmearns@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

From:



### **Asset Transfer Request - Mackie RFC for the Land of Forest Park**

I write in support of the asset transfer request made by Mackie Rugby Football Club relating to the land at Forest Park, Stonehaven.

The proposed use of the land is to construct two rugby pitches to SRU competition standard, training area, clubhouse, changing rooms, storage and fitness suite. The proposal will also include the car park but exclude the 'Hamish' play park.

Mackie RFC has already lost one of their pitches at Redcloak, and the incumbent landowner will not be renewing the current lease for the site which accommodates the remaining pitch, training area, clubhouse, changing rooms and fitness suite. The club has sought for many years a suitable, affordable site in which to develop the club for the benefit of its members and wider community. Land at Rickarton, Redcloak and Cemetery Hill have been ruled out for a number of reasons including: requiring extensive costly groundworks in relation to a short lease, no direct access or simply outbid by a competitor.

### **The Benefits of Rugby as an Organised Sport**

I have 3 sons ranging in age from 10-15 whom have all played rugby at Mackie RFC since P2. The benefits of their participation in rugby are many:

- Personal development – they have matured into self-disciplined boys with a keen sense of teamwork, respect for others and an appreciation of sportsmanship
- The coaching team serve as positive role models and in turn my boys have naturally developed peer mentoring skills
- The club environment has offered a safe space for youth in which to promote healthy habits of exercise, mental health support, and drug awareness whilst allowing them to engage the 'safe risks' the sport of rugby offers.
- The wide catchment of the club also provided the best means of transition from Dunnottar School to Mackie Academy for my older two sons
- My eldest son recently gained an 'A' in his National 5 PE exam, using his rugby performance for the practical element of the assessment. He intends to continue with Higher PE next year, again with rugby as his main focus. Other club members have used rugby as part of their DoE Award.
- My eldest son has also been able to gain invaluable work experience through acting as a volunteer coach during rugby camps.
- Recent participation in the Boy's National Club Conference (the top league in youth club rugby) has developed their resilience and self-reliance through group coach travel to their matches.

- Their club involvement will benefit them in their university applications and will also assist in a smooth transition from school into university.

### **The Benefits of Proper Rugby Facilities**

Deeside RFC, Garioch RFC and Ellon RFC all enjoy the advantages of secure tenancy, clubhouses and well-maintained pitch facilities. Despite Mackie RFC's uncertain long-term position, the youth section in particular has performed well over the past few seasons. There are several benefits for Mackie RFC in developing a permanent rugby facility with amenities on site including:

- A clubhouse offering a means of delivering coaching in a classroom setting
- A secure location for storing equipment, accessible to the whole coaching team
- A purpose-built fitness suite to help with player strength and conditioning
- Changing rooms and accessible toilet facilities for both players and visitors
- Kitchen facilities to allow the club to host visiting teams. This is particularly important now that the U13s-U18s are playing in the Boy's National Club Conference, which, as the top league in youth club rugby involves playing teams from across Scotland. This year the competition includes: Perthshire RFC, Stirling County RFC, Boroughmuir RFC (Edinburgh), Highland RFC (Inverness), GHA RFC (Glasgow) and Ayr-Wellington RFC.
- Secure pitches laid to SRU competition standard, which are level, well-drained, free of rabbit burrowing and in particular, dog fouling. The following extracts from councils across the UK highlight the problem of dog walking on sports fields and children's play areas:

*“Dog fouling is a major concern to many people, not just because of the mess it causes, but because it can be a health risk. Dogs may deposit roundworm eggs (Toxocara canis) in their faeces, which become infectious after about three weeks, and can remain so for up to two years.*

*Anyone, but particularly children playing near to the ground, can run the risk of picking up and swallowing the eggs. The eggs then hatch in the intestine, burrow through the intestine wall into the blood stream and pass into the body.*

*Possible symptoms of toxocaral infection range from aches, dizziness and nausea to asthma and pneumonia, but as these symptoms can all be caused by other things, infections often go undiagnosed. In the UK there are around 100 cases of toxocariasis diagnosed each year.*

*In rare cases eye disease and loss of vision can be caused when the toxocara larva passes through the eye.”*

[www.derbyshire.gov.uk/environment/dog-fouling/healthrisks/health-risks-dog-fouling-dangers-and-solutions.aspx](http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/environment/dog-fouling/healthrisks/health-risks-dog-fouling-dangers-and-solutions.aspx)

*“Dog faeces can pose a significant health risk to humans, particularly young children as their immune systems are not fully developed. Children are also more likely to come into contact with soil or sand that contains dog faeces whilst playing in parks, gardens and playgrounds. All faeces contain bacteria that can cause stomach upsets, but the greatest risk is from toxocariasis.*

*Toxocariasis is particularly hazardous to small children as it can result in blindness.*

*Toxocara is the name given to a species of roundworm commonly found in dogs and cats. Virtually all puppies are born with Toxocara. Puppies and kittens can also be infected with Toxocara through their mother's milk or from environmental contamination. The type of toxocara found in dogs can endanger human health. The type of toxocara found in cats has only rarely been associated with cases of Toxocariasis (Toxocara infection).*

*Microscopic toxocara eggs are present in the faeces of infected animals. These eggs have thick, sticky shells which means that they can remain infective in the soil for two to four years after the faeces have disappeared. The sticky shell helps eggs to adhere to fingers or clothing.*

[www.ardsandnorthdown.gov.uk/resident/pets-pests-and-pollution/dog-control/toxocariasis](http://www.ardsandnorthdown.gov.uk/resident/pets-pests-and-pollution/dog-control/toxocariasis)

*Random soil sampling shows that the majority of the parks in the UK are contaminated with Toxocara eggs in various stages of development. Many infected soil samples are found in the vicinity of children's play areas, even though dogs are often banned from these areas.*

*Toxocara eggs are not infectious until they embryonate. This is usually at least 2 – 3 weeks after they have been deposited by a dog. A single dog mess can contain approximately 1 million microscopic eggs.*

[www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/sites/default/files/A%20guide%20to%20dog%20fouling%20and%20the%20law.pdf](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/sites/default/files/A%20guide%20to%20dog%20fouling%20and%20the%20law.pdf)

## **The Benefits of the Forest Park Location**

Whilst Mackie RFC currently delivers some of its sessions at Mackie Academy, the school site is likely to undergo considerable development over the next several years with a relocation of Dunnottar School and Nursery (in separate buildings) and the possibility of Carronhill School being co-located in a shared campus.

The Forest Park site has a number of benefits:

- Services are already in place/minimal connection distance – electricity, water and sewerage
  - Existing road access and car parking areas
  - Accessible by walking, bike and public transport
  - Well-lit and within 30mph limit - which is safer than current Redcloak location for youth attending training sessions
  - Prior use as a pitch by Mackie RFC with floodlights installed
  - Already designated a '**sports area**', rather than 'public park', 'play space' or 'schools/institution' in Aberdeenshire Council's Open Space Audit (updated in 2019)
- [www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/16736/stonehaven.pdf](http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/16736/stonehaven.pdf)

## **What Does Mackie RFC Offer?**

*For Mackie RFC members:*

- The club offers a wide range of rugby from nursery-U18, seniors, mammoths, ladies and touch. The club are striving to widen their offer to include disability rugby too.
- Mackie's 'Rugby Academy' offers a youth development programme (U15-U18) offering 3 mid-week training sessions, Saturday training and Sunday matches. The aim is to develop each player to reach their potential and includes fitness, speed and agility, strength conditioning, lifestyle, mindfulness and nutrition guidance in addition to rugby skills.
- Nurturing U18 talent - currently 10 players are progressing to the next attending Caledonia training camp.
- U13-U18 are currently competing in the 2021-22 Boy's National Club Conference (the top league in youth club rugby). Mackie are currently sitting in 4<sup>th</sup> out of 10 teams and will be competing against Boroughmuir RFC, Stirling County RFC, Ayr-

Wellington RFC, GHA RFC (Glasgow Hutchesons'-Aloysians RFC), Perthshire RFC and Highland RFC.

<https://fixtures.scottishrugby.org/schools-and-youth-clubs/2021-2022/2215/table>

*For the wider community:*

- Mackie RFC, through its Development Officer, offers primary schools specialist rugby taster sessions to enrich primary school PE lessons. These outreach sessions cover the catchment of Mackie, Mearns and Portlethen Academies and in 2021-22 the following schools will have received a term block of rugby:

Term 1: Fishermoss PS, Auchenblae PS, Bervie PS, Hillside PS

Term 2: Portlethen PS, Laurencekirk PS, Catterline PS, Kinneff PS, Arduthie PS

Term 3: Dunnottar S, Mill o' Forest PS, Newtonhill PS, Glenbervie PS, Fettercairn PS

- Local community assistance where required, the club have provided help and support for:

Harbour flood clean up, sandbag filling during flood, school & community BBQs, stall assembly and take down for Feein' Market, Harbour Festival, Open Air in the Square, and volunteers for the Summer Beer Happening.

### **Mitigation Against Potential Concerns & Impacts**

There are a number ways in which the proposal has addressed potential local concerns to the asset transfer:

- Hamish's playpark will be retained as a safe play area and is not included in the proposal.
- A walking path will be installed around the pitches and there is a large area suitable for dog walking between Riverside Drive and the Carron Water.
- Well-designed and installed modern floodlighting will minimise light spillage. Lower levels of lighting are required for training compared to levels required for competition games. Due to the distances travelled by visiting clubs, games take place during daylight hours at weekends.
- Public transport, walking and biking will be encouraged as a way of reducing traffic and potential parking issues. Forest Park is a safer, more accessible destination for youth players to walk and bike compared to Redcloak. Visiting youth teams from the National Club Conference will travel to games by coach and there is the potential for overspill parking in the Forest View Centre.
- The club are happy to work with the community and assist other clubs and group without facilities or land e.g. athletics club.
- In terms of noise concerns, the proposed area was previously used as a rugby pitch by the senior team.
- Community Engagement - As the first step in Community Engagement, an initial presentation about the asset transfer request was delivered at *Stonehaven & District Community Council's April 2021 meeting* [REDACTED].  
[www.community-council.org.uk/stonehaven/library.asp](http://www.community-council.org.uk/stonehaven/library.asp)

Archived: 20 October 2021 16:44:05

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Mon, 18 Oct 2021 10:20:08

To: Kincardine and Mearns

Subject: Support of Asset Transfer Request for Forest Park, Stonehaven

Sensitivity: Normal

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Dear Sir/Madam,

My name is [REDACTED] and my address is:

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

I am emailing to make a representation that I support the recent asset transfer request made by Mackie Rugby Football Club in respect of Forest Park, Stonehaven.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Archived: 20 October 2021 16:44:24

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Tue, 19 Oct 2021 10:33:18

To: Kincardine and Mearns

Subject: Mackie Rugby

Sensitivity: Normal

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Good Morning

I have recently heard about the needs of Mackie Rugby to find a new home because the lease is coming to an end at Redcloak, I believe they are trying to purchase land at Forest Park.

I don't live in Stonehaven but both of my kids (one boy and one girl) played with Mackie Rugby as they were growing up going through their school years and it was a great sport and club for them. I have spent many a (usually wet) day at Redcloak and Mackie Academy cheering them on and watching their excitement in playing as a team. I would urge you to approve the request and let Mackie Rugby continue on with the great work they provide in the community.

Best Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



Archived: 20 October 2021 16:44:46

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Tue, 19 Oct 2021 13:22:07

To: Kincardine and Mearns

Subject: FW: Mackie Rugby Club

Sensitivity: Normal

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**Subject:** Mackie Rugby Club

Hello

I am writing to you to ask for your support in Mackie Rugby Clubs application for Asset Transfer under the Community Empowerment Act to be able to use Forest Park as Mackie Rugby Clubs facilities.

The Rugby Club has been trying for years and years to secure land for development into a clubhouse and quality pitches but has never managed to secure anything either from private land owners, housing development land owners or council land. This has resulted in inadequate facilities and the many mini, micro, youth and senior teams being split between Mackie Academy playing fields and the current one pitch location at Redcloak which is too small and not fit for purpose.

Mackie Rugby Club has become a very successful club in recent years thanks to an extremely dedicated Management Team, coaches and volunteers. This has resulted in many players from all over Aberdeenshire joining Mackie so they can play in the top Scottish leagues.

There are approximately 400 local children that train and play regularly and the Rugby Club has roughly 1000 members. The club and local community desperately need and want to have great facilities for all to use, so the club, players and families can continue to thrive.

Please can you get behind this application and help in any way you can to ensure that Stonehaven's Mackie Rugby Club can provide the best facilities, opportunities and a real community hub to its growing rugby family.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 25 October 2021 12:20:10

**From:**

**Sent:** Wed, 20 Oct 2021 19:20:56

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Re: Mackie Rugby Football Club: Land of Forest Park, Stonehaven. - Support

**Importance:** Normal

---

Good Afternoon,

I write in support of the asset transfer of Forest Park to Mackie Rugby Football Club.

The park is currently underused at the best of times, other than the odd dog walker using the perimeter of the park.

The asset transfer will see the park come into use much more often, improve lighting and underfoot conditions for dog walkers in the area during evenings and winter months.

Grassroots sports is the backbone of British sporting excellence. Recent success across sporting events has been directly attributed to the work carried out by grassroots clubs, the majority of them volunteers, such as Mackie Rugby Football Club. The continuation of this support is vital to this continued success.

Clubs such as Mackie Rugby Football Club play a vital role in the upbringing of our children, teaching them vital skills to implement within and out with sport; throughout life, social interactions, studies and careers. We, as a community should be offering support to these clubs for the betterment of future generations.

Regards



**Archived:** 22 October 2021 14:28:29

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wed, 20 Oct 2021 10:26:04 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Support for Mackie RFC (Forest Park, Stonehaven) Asset Transfer Request

**Importance:** Normal

---

Good morning,

I am sending this email to show my support for Mackie RFCs Transfer Request of Forest Park, Stonehaven.

I have been involved with the Club for countless years, dating back to my youth. I am aware that their current venue will cease to exist come 2026 and they have been looking at various alternative locations. I have looked through a lot of the documentation relating to this Asset Transfer Request and can see that they have put a lot of thought and plans into it. I believe that the Club provides the Community of Stonehaven, and the wider area, a valuable service and provides a lot of benefits with regards to physical and mental health wellbeing.

In summary I am **FOR** this Asset Transfer Request. My name and address details can be found below, in my signature.

Kindest regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Kincardine & Mearns Area Manager  
Aberdeenshire Council  
Viewmount  
Arduthie Road  
STONEHAVEN  
AB39 2DQ

20.10.2021

Dear Sir or Madam

**Mackie Rugby Football Club & Land at Forest Park, Stonehaven**

I wish to convey my support for Mackie Rugby Football Club and its request for an asset transfer of the land at Forest Park, Stonehaven. Our son has been involved with the club for almost 10 years and I participated in rugby fit for woman over the last 2 years. I was particularly struck by the Clubs commitment to ensure ongoing fitness during the pandemic lockdowns, even going to far as to provide online fitness and conditioning sessions online. This was so important to me and my son, both physically and mentally, during what was a very difficult time for everyone. This to me demonstrates the commitment the club has to offer more than just rugby to the community of Stonehaven and surrounding area.

The club has recently lost one of two pitches and it's clear that the lease for the club will not be renewed in 2026. The club has been actively looking for a site in Stonehaven for some time without success.

I believe that it is in Aberdeenshire Council's interest to keep Mackie as a club in the heart of Stonehaven. The club's teams at secondary school age are now competing in the national league, having shown the Scottish Ruby Union over several years that the club deserves to be there on merit, despite the limited facilities Mackie have. Mackie is putting Stonehaven on Scotland's rugby map.

I would like to highlight the Council's Sport & Physical Activity Strategy 2018 – 2028 which has a number of points that are directly relevant to Mackie's request. Whilst Mackie's request satisfies all four of the outcomes, I feel Strategic Outcome 3 is the strongest.

**Strategic Outcome 3 - Stronger Communities**

*"We will support local community groups to grow and sustain their sport & physical activity provision"*

*"We will work with communities to support the development of sport & physical activity infrastructure, maximising access to additional resources"*

*"We will make use of our natural landscape and environment to enable people to be active"*

This could not define Mackie's request better – it is the council's own policy to work with local communities and a successful asset transfer request would achieve that.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 22 October 2021 14:35:46

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wed, 20 Oct 2021 20:24:47 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Mackie Rugby Asset Transfer

**Importance:** Normal

---

I am writing this email to give my full support of the proposed asset transfer of mill o forest park to Mackie RFC,

The club does wonders in the local community not just stonehaven, and it would be great to see the club have a permanent home!

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 22 October 2021 15:19:25

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wed, 20 Oct 2021 20:46:28

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Forest park land transfer

**Importance:** Normal

---

[REDACTED]

Hello,

With the recent event of the transfer of land I would like to voice me opinion of confidence in this transfer.

As a current 1st team senior player for the Mackie Rugby Club I believe this land would be a great asset to the club and teams involved. The more permanent and accessible playing area would great for players to train on and be able to have our own facilities which will be more certain in the team. These facilities in this location I believe would encourage players to start a new hobby and live a healthier lifestyle by involving themselves in more physical activity. The greater facilities would also be vital in retaining players at the club and within the team, this allows for a stronger community. Retaining players improve the level of which the team can play at also again allowing the team to perform better and therefore make more of a name for itself as well as Stonehaven at the same time.

I do hope that you can see this transfer as a positive transfer for both the ever growing rugby club but also the wider community and Stonehaven itself.

Kind Regards,

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 26 October 2021 17:14:52

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wed, 20 Oct 2021 09:43:07

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Asset Transfer of Forest Park

**Importance:** Normal

---

To Whom it May Concern,

I hope you are well.

I am writing to you in reference to the asset transfer request for Mackie Rugby Football Club for Forest Park in Stonehaven.

I am completely for the asset transfer request.

As a resident of Aberdeenshire, I find that the asset transfer would be a very positive change to the community for a variety different reasons; including reasons that will not only benefit the club and it's players but the residents of Stonehaven and surrounding areas/smaller communities that this will affect.

My niece is a student at Mill o' Forest Primary School and the rugby club have previously held social events at the park which created a fantastic social atmosphere and relationship between the club, the school and the community. Events like this have no guaranteed benefit to the club however, opens a great opportunity for youngsters that have never heard of rugby and gives knowledge to parents that maybe never thought of joining their children to rugby especially at a young age. I am an Early Years Practitioner and I feel that rugby, as I am sure you would agree, is an extremely beneficial sport to play as it not only promotes physical activity but also allows children (young teens and adult players as well) the opportunity to express/release their emotions in a healthy way. Although the team have a club currently that allows this, the move provides a larger area where the rugby club could enforce more changes and plans that could potential open up to the wider community such as yoga classes, gym classes or any other wellness or fitness groups. Mental health is a massive topic now and this transfer would provide Stonehaven and surrounding communities to work and pull together to create a wonderful atmosphere for all. Why fight something so positive when we could make rugby the heart of the community and create wonderful opportunities and social aspects to all.

There are many more reasons as to why the assist transfer would be beneficial to the club, Stonehaven and the other communities however, I am sure the club will make these clear themselves.

I am thankful for your time in reading and considering the points in my email.

Thank you.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

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-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: 20 October 2021 11:10  
To: Kincardine and Mearns <kincardineandmearns@aberdeenshire.gov.uk>  
Subject: Asset transfer of Forest Park.

Having been involved with Mackie Rugby Club for 20 years, as a parent of a club member and also as a teacher in a local school which benefits from coaching sessions from the Rugby Development Officer from the club, I believe Forest Park would make an ideal permanent home for the club. My son's involvement with the club started with his training sessions at Forest Park 20 years ago when the number of young players was a fraction of the membership numbers of today. Throughout these years, I have been involved in many events and activities which supported and benefited other local groups, and I have seen, first hand, the hours of commitment that a large number of volunteer coaches give willingly for so many youngsters in and around the Stonehaven area. I have followed with interest, the quest for a permanent home for the club and have some concerns that, if the club cannot secure land, hundreds of children will be left without the opportunity to access not only rugby, but other activities which, at the moment, make use of the facilities at the current home of the rugby club. Forest Park would provide an ideal home for the club as it is within walking distance of all areas of Stonehaven so that youngsters without transport can still attend training sessions and matches. I would like to say that I am in favour of the Asset Transfer of Forest Park to Mackie Rugby Club. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone



**Archived:** 26 October 2021 17:18:28

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wed, 20 Oct 2021 14:36:36 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Asset Transfer under the community empowerment act - Rugby Club

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear sirs,

As a local resident of Stonehaven, who grew up in Provost Stewart Place, no more than a few hundred yards from the park, and attended the brand new Mill O' Forest school as a part of the first primary one intake, I would like to offer my **support** to Mackie RFC in their bid to purchase and re-home to the site on Forest Drive.

I will declare an interest as I am a local business owner who has provided architectural support to the club over the years, and to many local community groups, including the provision of the 3G Pitches at Mineral Well. I also have 2 brothers who were members of the club and started their playing careers with the club. Both of which now play touch Rugby at an International level having recently competed in Portugal for the Scotland Men's over 45s. My brother in law is an active supporter of the club and committee member and one of my nephews has progressed through from the youth team to the current senior side.

The rugby club in Stonehaven was established during 1976 – just senior rugby at the time. During the teachers strikes in the early 1980's it was found that rugby – while previously played at Mackie Academy under the guidance of a Mr Roxborough during term time, became one of the casualties of the 'work to rule' policy adopted in schools. The school no longer offered rugby. This was a blow to the young rugby club as it effectively cut off the source of new blood into the game, putting the future of the club at great risk. Club president of the day Doug Bruce persuaded a local man and rugby supporter: Graeme Thomson to start a club driven junior or mini section. There is a bench in his memory outside the Marine Hotel in Stonehaven. This was 1986 and started with 5 children. 35 years later we have had thousands of children benefiting from the coaching, hopefully helping them become better people. At this time, Mackie rugby have around 400 kids under 18 playing and developing as individuals every year. The club is established now as the largest youth rugby club in the North East, and one of the largest in the whole country.

The rugby club do support the community, but largely just get on with the job quietly, without seeking any recognition or real support for what they do. This is a huge asset for the town, in my opinion. The benefits to both health and wellbeing brought about from sport and especially team sport, are widely recognised.

The clubs current home has been taken from them, this is not planned or desired, they have no choice due to their lease coming to an end and the owner selling the asset, and the other pitch at Redcloak which is also leased has been given notice and the lease runs out soon with no chance of it being renewed. The club have known this for some time and have been actively seeking a new site for more than 15 years. There are several reasons for not finding a site is the general location of the town with the hilly topography, and several bids by local developers and land owners, which were dependent on succeed in creating new housing or supermarket. The Club have had many offers of support, but all subject to caveats of succeeding with a development that was not in the Local Development Plan.

The Club also attempted to purchase land when it came up for sale – beside the cemetery. While they were aware of the need for an extension, they felt there was enough room there to do that and also create a couple of pitches. The Club was out-bid and the land was we believe sold to Aberdeenshire Council.

I would like to draw your attention to the Settlement Survey: Stonehaven

Overall, Stonehaven has about 40 per cent of its area available as public open space, due in large part to the presence of Dunnottar Woodland Park, Mineralwell Park and extensive playing fields at Mackie Academy. Amongst the larger towns of Aberdeenshire, Stonehaven stands out as having a well balanced range of open space types available to residents: woodland, coast, parks, field sports, tennis facilities, play areas and civic space. Key issues going forward are likely to be continued maintenance, improvements in a few named areas, and ensuring access to all groups – in particularly the elderly and less able – by ensuring ample seating provision throughout the town.

Also to:

Report to Kincardine and Mearns Area Committee – April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020. – Live Life Aberdeenshire Pitch and Open Space Strategy.

Outdoor Facilities Network Plan – Stonehaven – April 2020.

## Key local issues

- Mackie Rugby Club have raised concerns about future access to rugby facilities as their existing (privately owned) pitches are likely to be used for other purposes in the future.
- Officers have identified the following potential infrastructure improvements that could be undertaken which could further enhance capacity in Stonehaven
- Establish 2 grass pitches as £10,000 £10,000 Improves football capacity ‘competitive sports pitches’

What	Est Cost (Capital)	Est Cost (Revenue)	Impact
Continue to work with Mackie Rugby Club to ensure continued provision of at least two rugby pitches.	10,000 (Dev Obs)		Ensure that Rugby remains strong in Stonehaven and surrounding area.

It is clear the rugby club need support in finding a suitable site within the town surroundings, and they should be applauded for the work they do and the foresight to try and secure their future. If there are any other available and suitable pieces of land available I am sure they would be delighted to hear but to date there seems to be nothing forthcoming within the time schedule.

The park on Forest Drive is probably the most underused facility in the town, this has been evidenced by surveys carried out in the assessment phase of potential sites to be considered for the facility. Very rarely do you see anyone there apart from the occasional jogger or dog walker. As a resident of Stonehaven, I regularly walk past this area and even as a child who did play on the triple swing at the top of the park prior to the invention of play-station, this park has never been well used. Nearby there is the Hamish play park, which is to be retained and is well used by the local residents and community. We rarely noticed anyone using the park area. Indeed my own lasting memories of the greatest utilisation of this area is the fact that the Rugby Club used it as a training pitch and had lighting for this purpose, which I know the club have evidenced to the local authority.

I have really felt compelled to submit this representation of support is in part due to the campaign against the proposal. Only today I saw a post encouraging attendance at the park as reporters

had been asked to attend (for a staged event), in the post the group is openly seeking attendees to show the park in use, if this is not an admission and acceptance of non-use by the very group campaigning against the proposal, I don't know what is. Lets use our green space to the best that we can, this will guarantee it is a green space for sport going forward and the club presence will in essence provide additional community based facilities for the greater benefit of the wider community.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



Kincardine & Mearns Area Manager  
Aberdeenshire Council  
Viewmount  
Arduthie Road  
STONEHAVEN  
AB39 2DQ

20.10.2021

Dear Sir or Madam

**Mackie Rugby Football Club & Land at Forest Park, Stonehaven**

I wish to convey my support for Mackie Rugby Football Club and its request for an asset transfer of the land at Forest Park, Stonehaven.

The club has recently lost one of two pitches and it's clear that the lease for the club will not be renewed in 2026. The club has been actively looking for a site in Stonehaven for some time without success.

I believe that it is in Aberdeenshire Council's interest to keep Mackie as a club in the heart of Stonehaven. The club's teams at secondary school age are now competing in the national league, having shown the Scottish Rugby Union over several years that the club deserves to be there on merit, despite the limited facilities Mackie have. Mackie is putting Stonehaven on Scotland's rugby map.

I would like to highlight the Council's Sport & Physical Activity Strategy 2018 – 2028 which has a number of points that are directly relevant to Mackie's request. Whilst Mackie's request satisfies all four of the outcomes, I feel Strategic Outcome 3 is the strongest.

**Strategic Outcome 3 - Stronger Communities**

*"We will support local community groups to grow and sustain their sport & physical activity provision"*

*"We will work with communities to support the development of sport & physical activity infrastructure, maximising access to additional resources"*

*"We will make use of our natural landscape and environment to enable people to be active"*

This could not define Mackie's request better – it is the council's own policy to work with local communities and a successful asset transfer request would achieve that.

Yours faithfully



Archived: 22 October 2021 13:18:09  
From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Thu, 21 Oct 2021 09:45:41  
To: Kincardine and Mearns  
Subject: Fwd: Asset Transfer under the community empowerment act - Rugby Club  
Sensitivity: Normal

Dear sir / madam,

As a local resident who grew up in Provost Stewart Place and attended the brand new Mill O' Forest school when it opened **I would like to offer my support to Mackie RFC in their bid to purchase and re-home to the site on Forest Drive.** The club needs a home and it is vital to the future of the rugby club and to all of those players, young and old, who benefit immensely (both physically and mentally) from the coaching, support and general positive and welcoming environment that the club provides.

Although no longer an active member of Mackie Rugby Club I benefited by playing for the club from 1987 to 2003. When I moved abroad in 2003 rugby was the thing that integrated me into the communities I joined in both Singapore and the Netherlands and when I returned to Stonehaven 14 years later I came back playing touch rugby. I now represent Scotland at touch rugby in the mens over 45's category and my love of the sport dates back to my time playing rugby with Mackie all those years ago.

As a reminder of **the history and the work that has gone into making Mackie Rugby Club the huge success it is** here is a brief background: The rugby club in Stonehaven was established during 1976 – just senior rugby at the time. Later, during the teachers strikes in the early 1980's it was found that rugby – while previously played at Mackie Academy under the guidance of a Mr Roxborough, became one of the casualties of the 'work to rule' policy adopted in schools. The school therefore no longer offered rugby and **had it not been for Mackie Rugby club stepping in to start a junior and mini rugby section then thousands of Stonehaven and surrounding area children would have missed out on the opportunity to learn about teamwork, respect and inclusion as well as also missing out on the opportunity to get onto a path of a healthy, sporting lifestyle.** This was 1986 and started with 5 children. 35 years later the club have had thousands of children benefiting from the coaching and camaraderie and it has helped them become better people. **At this time, Mackie rugby have around 400 kids under 18 playing and developing as individuals every year. The club is established now as the largest youth rugby club in the North East, and one of the largest in the whole country.** The rugby club is a place where young men and women can have pride in their team, their club and their community. This is a huge asset for the town as those young men and women are doing something positive with their time both for themselves and for the town as a whole. **It would be a terrible shame and huge loss to the community if all this previous effort and progress was lost due to the lack of support for the clubs request to find a new home.**

Why are we here: As the years went by, the second pitch up at Redcloak has been sold by the owners and the other pitch lease runs out soon with no chance of it being renewed. The club have known this for some time and have been actively seeking a new site for more than 15 years. I have been told by my old school and rugby club friend that the main reason for not finding a site is the general location of the town with the hilly topography, and a continuous battle by local developers and land owners to succeed in creating new housing or supermarkets. The Club have had many offers of support, but all subject to caveats of succeeding with a development that was not in the Local Development Plan. The Club also put in a bid to purchase land when it came up for sale – beside the cemetery. While they were aware of the need for an extension, they felt there was enough room there to do that and also create a couple of pitches. The Club was out-bid and the land was sold to Aberdeenshire Council.

I would like to draw your attention to the Settlement Survey: Stonehaven

Overall, Stonehaven has about 40 per cent of its area available as public open space, due in large part to the presence of Dunnotar Woodland Park, Mineralwell Park and extensive playing fields at Mackie Academy. Amongst the larger towns of Aberdeenshire, Stonehaven stands out as having a well balanced range of open space types available to residents: woodland, coast, parks, field sports, tennis facilities, play areas and civic space. Key issues going forward are likely to be continued maintenance, improvements in a few named areas, and ensuring access to all groups – in particularly the elderly and less able – by ensuring ample seating provision throughout the town.

Also to:

Report to Kincardine and Mearns Area Committee – April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020. – Live Life Aberdeenshire Pitch and Open Space Strategy.

Outdoor Facilities Network Plan – Stonehaven – April 2020.

## Key local issues

- Mackie Rugby Club have raised concerns about future access to rugby facilities as their existing (privately owned) pitches are likely to be used for other purposes in the future.
- Officers have identified the following potential infrastructure improvements that could be undertaken which could further enhance capacity in Stonehaven
- Establish 2 grass pitches

What	Est	Est Cost (Revenue)	Impact
	Cost (Capital) 10,000 (Dev Obs)		
Continue to work with Mackie Rugby Club to ensure continued provision of at least two rugby pitches.			Ensure that Rugby remains strong in Stonehaven and surrounding area.

**It is clear the rugby club need support in finding a suitable site within the town surroundings, and they should be applauded for the work they do and the foresight to try and secure their future.** If there are any other available and suitable pieces of land available I am sure they would be delighted to hear but to date there seems to be nothing forthcoming within the time schedule. The park on Forest Drive is probably the most underused facility in the town, and probably Aberdeenshire. You very rarely see anyone there apart from the occasional jogger or dog walkers (I know as I live around the corner and often am the only person walking or running through the park, in fact, I just walked around there at 10:15 this morning and there was no one there – this is a warm, sunny morning in the School holidays and yet not a single adult or child was using the park). **Surely it could be put to better use, still remain a green space, and allow thousands more children to benefit from the Rugby Clubs investment, coaching, and encouragement to play a team sport that will help give future generations pride in the town while setting them on a path to healthy, active, sporting life.**

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 22 October 2021 13:18:31

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thu, 21 Oct 2021 10:29:27

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Asset Transfer Forest Park

**Sensitivity:** Normal

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As a resident of Stonehaven I fully support the asset transfer of Forest park to Mackie Rugby Football Club. The club is a great part of the community especially.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Archived: 22 October 2021 13:19:36  
From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Thu, 21 Oct 2021 16:42:43  
To: Kincardine and Mearns  
Subject: Asset Transfer - Mackie Rugby Football Club  
Sensitivity: Normal

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*I would like it noted that I fully support the Mackie FP Rugby club's application for the land at Forest Park.*

*The Rugby club has been in existence for decades and its facilities have been enjoyed by two generations of my family and hopefully will continue for the generations of children to come.*

*I believe that, at the Redcloak site, they are very cooperative about allowing other groups to use the site and I'm sure this would continue at any new location.*

*I also hear that they are keen to open the clubhouse resource to various community groups, such as, for example:  
Mother and Toddlers groups  
Sewing Bees  
Exercise classes etc. etc.,*

*I believe this would be a great asset to the club and the local community.*

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Archived: 22 October 2021 13:19:49  
From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Thu, 21 Oct 2021 18:54:38  
To: Kincardine and Mearns  
Subject: Mackie Rugby Club Asset Transfer  
Sensitivity: Normal

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[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to support Mackie Rugby Club's request for the asset transfer of the land at Forest Park, Stonehaven.

**Benefits of organised sports**

Organised sports (such as rugby) builds traits such as leadership, sportsmanship, respect and teamwork. For myself, rugby made the transition from primary to secondary so easy even though I came from a small school. This is because I have been part of Mackie rugby club since primary 2 and have made many new friends from different schools.

**Benefits of having a clubhouse and facilities**

Players are able to develop their strength and conditioning further due to having a gym for training available to U15's all the way to senior players. The clubhouse and changing rooms mean that the team is able to host rugby teams in the top league from across the country.

**Benefits of location**

It has a car park and it is very accessible due to a nearby train station and bus stops. It is an area ideal for players to walk or cycle to training without the need for cars. There is also electricity and water readily available nearby. The area is also designated as a sports area.

**How the club make a difference**

When I was in primary six my whole class were given the opportunity to play rugby and experience playing at the Redcloak pitches with other schools. If we are not able to get new grounds then no other pupils will be able to get the opportunity. In school rugby makes P.E. easier for National 5 as you can take rugby as one of your 2 sports. It can also make children more independent as players are travelling far distances on their own.

**What the club has done for me**

Thanks to the club I am able to have 2 sessions of skills and gym, 2 team training sessions and 1 school training to help me improve. During lockdown we were also provided with daily Zoom calls to keep up fitness & mental health.

Yours faithfully  
[REDACTED]



Archived: 22 October 2021 13:20:03

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Thu, 21 Oct 2021 18:59:14

To: Kincardine and Mearns

Subject: Letter of Support for Mackie RFC Asset Transfer Application

Sensitivity: Normal

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Dear Sir or Madam

I write in support of the asset transfer request made by Mackie Rugby Football Club relating to the land at Forest Park, Stonehaven.

This land is currently designated within the local plan as an area for recreational open space and further highlighted in Aberdeenshire Council's Settlement Summary as a "Sport Area"

<https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/14714/settlement-summary-kincardine-and-mearns.pdf> Unfortunately, due to the poor drainage and open access to dog walkers, this land is not currently suitable for its designated use.

I therefore support Mackie RFC's proposal to reinvigorate this area in line with its designated use through the creation of two competition pitches and a community rugby sports facility consisting of, club house, changing rooms, fitness suite, storage facilities and carpark. I believe that this will be a huge asset for the whole of Stonehaven and will increase the opportunity for sport on this land significantly. This location brings the additional benefit of being easily accessible within the town boundary allowing players and visitors to easily access the facility by walking, bike or public transport.

Mackie RFC offer a significant role in the local community and the wider Kincardine and Mearns area. Firstly, unlike many other sports, Mackie RFC welcome men, ladies, boys and girls of any ability to take part in club activities. Their philosophy is on developing the person, not just the player. Being able to play rugby is not a prerequisite to join in fitness and fun activities through the club. The club's offerings range through pre-school, micro, mini, youth, senior and mammoth age groups. Of particular note is the club's commitment to offering an outstanding package of training through its Rugby Academy. This provides personal development in a safe space for the most susceptible age group in our community. Suitable facilities are essential for this work to continue, and land ownership is crucial in providing access to the numerous funding options the club have explored. The Rugby Academy winter training currently takes place under temporary lighting on the leased land at Redcloak – Forest Park is not currently used for this due to the aforementioned drainage issues, and dog fouling.

I currently coach mini rugby to 14 children within the P4 age group at the club - should this proposal not be accepted, their playing and personal development will be hugely affected as they progress to youth rugby. Furthermore, I have 3 children of my own who have all benefitted immeasurably from the current facilities at Redcloak - not just as players, but as individuals: health, fitness, teamwork and respect have been ingrained throughout their involvement with the club.

As well as the rugby focused activities, Mackie RFC contribute to the local community in many ways; sharing current resources across multiple organisations, willing free labour supply from festivals to floods, fund raising, food bank shops and school sport sessions. This is all funded predominantly from the club's own pocket.

Finally, I believe that the proposal put forward by the club mitigates the impact on local residents, notwithstanding the current designated usage of this area:

- Normal training is out with regular school times limiting any increase in current traffic levels
- The car park is retained, with adequate car parking along Forest Drive and overflow parking available at Forest View
- A perimeter path is retained for dog walking
- Mini Hampden / Dunnottar Woodland Park both remain available locally for residents
- Modern floodlight design gives less light pollution than the existing floodlights
- Toilet and changing facilities are included in the proposal
- Schools and local clubs will be welcomed to share the facilities
- Critically, the "play park" is not affected by this proposal

The proposal for Scottish Rugby Union competition approved facilities should make the whole community proud, as well as facilitating the current success of the club against the top teams in the country. I look forward to the success of this application and the safeguarding of Stonehaven as a "Rugby Town".

Yours faithfully



Archived: 22 October 2021 13:20:32

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Thu, 21 Oct 2021 19:18:25

To: Kincardine and Mearns

Subject: Mackie Rugby Club Land Asset Transfer Request

Sensitivity: Normal

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Dear Sir/Madam

I write in support of Mackie Rugby Club land asset transfer request.

The rugby club is now one of the biggest clubs in Scotland and there are over hundreds of players that need pitches to play on. The rugby club benefits the players in many ways such as: teamwork, communication, leadership, sportsmanship and more. It gives them useful skills for later on and helps them transition easier into secondary school when they know more people from other schools. It is a great way of socialising and making new friends, and will give youth something to do and keeps them out of trouble. It will improve your mental health and help develop good habits of timekeeping and being prepared.

The rugby club allows players to gain experience at coaching and teaching younger ones. It helped me pass my Nat 5 PE because I was allowed to use rugby as a performance sport. The clubhouse is very important because we need to host the visiting teams that will come from all over the country as part of the Youth National Club Conference. It holds the gym that players will use weekly to improve strength. The clubhouse can also be used as a classroom for players and is a safe space for players so it is vital to still have one.

Rugby is very important as players will have training multiple times a week. Rugby camps will happen every holiday for all ages of kids. The pitches at Mill O' Forest would be better than at Redcloak because it is easier to travel to and there is plenty of room for them to play in. I have been playing rugby since p2 so having permanent grounds is very important to continue playing in the future.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 26 October 2021 17:38:23

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Fri, 22 Oct 2021 09:49:00

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Re: Mackie Rugby Football Club Asset Transfer of Forest Drive Park - Pro

**Importance:** Normal

---

Good Afternoon,

My name is [REDACTED] Ex resident of Forest Park and Ex captain of Mackie Rugby Club.

I am Pro the Asset transfer of the Park at Forest Drive.

Having looked at the plans and discussing a number of questions regarding certain points (eg. parking, lighting, aesthetics and accessibility i am satisfied that the club has put forward a viable plan.

The plot is in a great location to allow safe and easy access for the hundreds of players and volunteers that make up the club.

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 26 October 2021 17:42:07

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Fri, 22 Oct 2021 11:04:27

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Mackie Rugby Club assets transfer - SUPPORT FOR

**Importance:** Normal

---

Good afternoon

I am writing to you to show my support for Mackie Rugby Club and the asset transfer of Forest Park, Stonehaven

Having been a member of the rugby club for over 18 years I am fully aware of the problems and issues regarding our home ground and the disappointments in the search for suitable land.

As a family we have gained so much from the club and all it has to offer.

Having been involved over the years from primary 2 age right through to the over 35's sections has brought so much to my family.

Apart from the health benefits of playing sport, there is also mental health benefits, the friendships, the community and the support during the covid lockdowns

The club regularly lend support to various events in Stonehaven from the Feein Market, Harbour festival, Christmas light switch on, beer festival and during terrible times of flooding.

During lockdowns the coaches, who obviously volunteer their time, held zoom fitness sessions. These were a great source of comfort during an awful time for everyone in the community

With regards to the ground needing to be danced off is for the safety of all users within the club. If it was to open for all to use dog walkers and local cats would have access and the club disgustingly need to remove feces however they contain Toxocara eggs which remain infective within soil for up to 4 years! These can cause vision loss, eye inflammation and damage to the retina.

My contact details can be found below.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 26 October 2021 17:45:16

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Fri, 22 Oct 2021 16:18:58 +0000ARC

**To:** [Kincardine and Mearns](#)

**Subject:** RE: Proposed Rugby Development at Forrest Park Stonehaven

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear Sirs

I write in support of the above project

I was a founder member of the club and still have active involvement

I also sit on the main board of Scottish rugby at Murrayfield

The club has grown enormously since its inception and have actually outgrown their existing facilities and now they are to be withdrawn. It will take at least three years for the land to be prepared so time is of the essence.

We now boast on of the largest youth and junior sections in the country and its achievements are well known. Our youth section has been promoted to the top league in Scotland and is performing well

A new development is vital if the club is to exist in the longer term and I must ask that Stonehaven gives their support to this plan

I am available for further discussions should you wish

Best regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 26 October 2021 17:51:04

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Sat, 23 Oct 2021 12:10:46

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Asset Transfer under the community empowerment act - Rugby Club

**Importance:** Normal

---

Sis/Madam,

I would like to register my full support for the proposed asset transfer to Mackie Rugby Club.

I have seen the plans and they look great.

Securing this land is vital to the future of the club in securing a permanent home.

The club provides a tremendous amount of support and benefit to the community, through their youth rugby setup.

Currently several hundred children benefit from the work that the volunteer coaches of the club do.

The sport, and the club, provide invaluable physical and mental wellbeing benefits to all those children involved in the club.

Relocating here will allow the club to continue to provide this service to the community. Those who participate will be more much included to walk or cycle to training or games at Forest Park so traffic and its associated parking would be greatly reduced.

I understand there is a campaign against the proposal and efforts have been made to falsely portray the extent of which the ground is utilised as part of that campaign. There is always resistance to any progress mostly fueled by NIMBY attitudes.

The ground is, in reality, actually massively under utilised, the proposal will mean that the land will remain a green space but it will become a great asset to Stonehaven that will benefit thousands of Stonehaven children for decades to come.

Best Regards,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
24/10/2021

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing in support of Mackie Academy Former Pupils Rugby Football Club and their request for an asset transfer for land at Forest Park, Stonehaven. My son has been part of the club for 11 years and has played an integral role in his development. Not only coaching him in rugby but also how to become a good team player both on and off the field. He did play football for a spell also and the core values that are expected within the rugby club are not seen within the realms of football. During the pandemic the club ensured that the boys mental health was maintained by ensuring regular online coaching sessions were offered.

The club started ladies rugby to ensure that they were catering to all within the community. I did attend this and again, throughout lockdown they ensured that online coaching/training took place via zoom meetings. At a time when seeing people was non existent, this was a good way to interact with others that were not part of the immediate household.

Due to the recent sale of a pitch that the club used they are now down to one pitch. The lease on this pitch is not set to renewed when up in the next 5 years. I believe that various options have been considered by the club but nothing that offers a permanent solution.

The club is making a name for itself. They are now competing within the national league, having got there with the support and dedication to all coaches and those involved within the club. This despite having limited access to facilities. The town should be proud how well Mackie is doing within rugby. Had it not been for the pandemic one of the teams was set to play a final at Murrayfield! A great achievement to the boys and coaches of that team.

Within the councils Sport and Physical Strategy 2018-2028 there are numerous points that are relevant to Mackies request of the community asset transfer. Although Mackies request meets all four of the outcomes, I feel that Outcome 3 is the strongest.

Strategic Outcome 3 – Stronger Communities:

*'We will support local community groups to grow and sustain their support and physical activity provision'*

*'We will work with communities to support the development of sport and physical activity infrastructure, maximising access to additional resources'*

*'We will make use of our natural landscape and environment to enable people to be active'.*

This highlights that it is within the councils own policy to work with local communities to ensure that the growth of groups that provide physical activity. Allowing for the asset transfer to go ahead would make this achievable. Having adequate facilities for the club would not only benefit those directly involved but also have a positive impact within the wider community.

Yours Faithfully





[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
24/10/2021

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing in support of Mackie Academy Former Pupils Rugby Football Club and their request for an asset transfer for land at Forest Park, Stonehaven. I have been part of the club for 11 years and it has played an integral role in my development. Not only coaching me in rugby but also how to become a good team player both on and off the field. I played football for a spell but felt that the core values that are expected within the rugby club were not seen within football. During the pandemic the club ensured that our mental health was maintained by ensuring regular online coaching sessions were offered.

Due to the recent sale of a pitch that the club used they are now down to one pitch. The lease on this pitch is not set to be renewed when up in the next 5 years. I believe that various options have been considered by the club but nothing that offers a permanent solution.

The club is making a name for itself. We are now competing within the national league, having got there with the support and dedication to all coaches and those involved within the club. This despite having limited access to facilities. The town should be proud how well Mackie is doing within rugby. Had it not been for the pandemic our teams were due to play a final at Murrayfield! A great achievement to us and coaches.

Within the councils Sport and Physical Strategy 2018-2028 there are numerous points that are relevant to Mackies request of the community asset transfer. Although Mackies request meets all four of the outcomes, I feel that Outcome 3 is the strongest.

Strategic Outcome 3 – Stronger Communities:

*'We will support local community groups to grow and sustain their support and physical activity provision'*

*'We will work with communities to support the development of sport and physical activity infrastructure, maximising access to additional resources'*

*'We will make use of our natural landscape and environment to enable people to be active'.*

This highlights that it is within the councils own policy to work with local communities to ensure that the growth of groups that provide physical activity. Allowing for the asset transfer to go ahead would make this achievable. Having adequate facilities for the club would not only benefit those directly involved but also have a positive impact within the wider community.

Yours Faithfully

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the sender.

**Archived:** 27 October 2021 11:40:19

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Mon, 25 Oct 2021 11:12:41 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Proposed Rugby Development at Forrest Park Stonehaven

**Importance:** Normal

---

Good Afternoon,

I am writing to you in support of Mackie RFC and the above referenced project.

Rugby in the Aberdeenshire area is continuously growing and Mackie RFC have been a big part of this in both the Junior / Youth Sections and the Adult game.

Mackie's large youth team not only help develop people in their immediate area but also has a positive effect on other clubs within Aberdeenshire and surrounding councils. Mackie have been known for hosting festivals and also attending festivals which help to add to the experience and development of all who attend.

I have come up through rugby starting at mini level and progressed to secondary, senior and now sit on the committee of another rugby team and I can still remember the experience from attending festivals at Mackie RFC (and other clubs) and feel these had a hugely positive effect on me and my progression.

I have also played against the senior side who have been welcoming, competitive and always displayed a huge amount of sportmanship throughout the games.

I feel that supporting Mackie RFC in sourcing a new home is incredibly important for not only Stonehaven but for the overall area and ask that any possible support is given to them.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you require any further information.

Thanks

Best Regards

[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: 25 October 2021 14:26  
To: Kincardine and Mearns <[kincardineandmearns@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:kincardineandmearns@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)>  
Subject: Rugby

---

To whom it may concern,

We have been following the progress of it [REDACTED], since he was a young boy. It is obvious that ruby is an extremely important part of his life and that of numerous others like him.

To help this club become competitive and to reach their potential, we strongly support their request to purchase the area of Forest Park. It is our understanding that other clubs have their own land.

It is also obvious that residents concerns are being addressed.

So I've ended the email with

Therefore, we are respectfully asking that you revisit the situation and consider their request.

Thank You,  
[REDACTED]

---

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 25 October 2021 16:16

To: Kincardine and Mearns <kincardineandmearns@aberdeenshire.gov.uk>

Subject: Land at forest park Stonehaven asset transfer

Good afternoon

I am mailing to show my full support of the asset transfer to mackie rugby club for the land at forest park Stonehaven

The club does so much for Stonehaven's club members and the community and to have purpose built facilities and ground will only help the club and give the community another facility to help health and well being.

The club is open to anyone, any level of skill as someone who took up rugby in my late 30s it has done so much for me mentally and physically over the last few years.. the youth system is excellent and Caters for all ages male and female.

This club is a asset to Stonehaven and needs the councils full support.

Thanks for your time

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 27 October 2021 11:56:47

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Mon, 25 Oct 2021 15:39:16

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Mackie Rugby Football Club - Forest Park, Stonehaven

**Importance:** Normal

---

Sir / Madam,

I am e-mailing in representation to inform you of my **support** of Mackie Rugby Football Clubs purchase of land at Forest Park, Stonehaven.

Mackie Rugby Football Club provide a wonderful rugby outlet for hundreds of young players, a senior side & a veterans side - the sport of rugby being known to provide lifelong lessons, friendships & memories which many of us take into our adult lives away from rugby.

The clubs current facilities are woefully inadequate given the number of members & the level at which the club competes - with the youth sides currently competing at a national level - but also under threat with the current lease ending in 2026 which puts the club & all its current members at risk of losing the sport of rugby within Stonehaven.

The club provides many external benefits to the local community with regular support of charity events & engaging with local schools to promote not only the club but the sport of rugby to the wider community.

Please feel free to contact me via this e-mail should further discussion / information be required.

**Regards**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 27 October 2021 12:00:15

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Mon, 25 Oct 2021 15:42:44

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Forest Park Asset Transfer

**Importance:** Normal

---

Good afternoon,

I am writing to you in support of the proposed asset transfer of Forest Park Stonehaven to Mackie Rugby Club.

I am in support of this as the rugby club have provided me with not only regular exercise but a sense of community and a safe place to discuss subjects such as mental health, topics which men struggle to speak about.

Not only would the transfer be a benefit for Mackie, it would also provided a clean, safe environment for visiting teams as opposed to run down facilities as we have currently.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 27 October 2021 12:03:23

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Mon, 25 Oct 2021 15:58:40

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Rugby pitch Stonehaven

**Importance:** Normal

---

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

I support Mackie rugby club and they should be allowed to purchase the ground. They get a lot of young kids to play and help out the community a lot. I think it would benefit a lot of people.

Thanks [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



**Archived:** 27 October 2021 12:04:51

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Mon, 25 Oct 2021 18:51:06

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Re: Proposed development at Forrest park rugby pitches

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear Sir/Madam, I wish to express my support for Mackie RFC and their search for rugby pitches.

As a former junior and senior rugby coach, referee and past president of Banff rugby club I have visited Mackie on various levels of rugby participation.

If Mackie were to fold this would be an enormous loss to the community that it has supported for many years.

I hope this meets with your kind consideration.

Yours in Rugby,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 25 October 2021 17:04

To: Kincardine and Mearns <kincardineandmearns@aberdeenshire.gov.uk>

Subject: Forrest Park Asset Transfer

Good afternoon,

I would like to offer my representation in favour of the proposed purchase of the land in Forrest Park by Mackie Rugby Football Club.

I moved to Aberdeen in 2014 from Fife, and purchased my own home in Aberdeenshire in 2019. During my time in the area I have met and befriended many individuals that have benefited from Mackie RFC. Understanding how big a part of Stonehaven that the rugby club is- and the volume of people that are connected to the club- I was shocked to learn that their time at Redcloak playing fields was numbered and the future of the club was threatened.

To then hear of the proposed plans to purchase and develop land at Forrest Park, I could not have been more encouraged. Having visited the park many times it is clear that the land would be perfect for a rugby club, and it would be fantastic to see the location see an increase in reliable, constructive footfall throughout the year.

I understand that some have reservations about the proposed plans, but for how much I see the location being used throughout a week I do not think Stonehaven as a whole would suffer from this change at all. Any activities that I notice within the park are not exclusive to the park, and I am happy to also know there are many areas in Stonehaven where such activities could continue.

For Mackie RFC to have a secure future in a purpose built facility, I can only imagine the benefits to the town of Stonehaven. To me, these plans provide a "win-win" for all, where many more youngsters will be able to enter and continue with Mackie RFC's excellent youth programme, and play rugby into their twilight years with the MAMMOTHs team that the club supports. All while other individuals (that perhaps do not enjoy the sport) are free to pursue their own activities in any of the many green spaces we are lucky to enjoy in Stonehaven.

I very much hope to see the plans go ahead and look forward to Stonehaven proudly owning one of the best amateur rugby facilities in the country.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 27 October 2021 12:08:29

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Mon, 25 Oct 2021 20:23:11

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Importance:** Normal

---

Good evening,

Im [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] and I'm writing to you tonight to show my support for the Mackie Rugby Club transfer to the Mill o Forest playing fields.

Living in [REDACTED], I have been a supporter of the club for years and just recently joined the club this year. It is a great club that cares and does a lot for the community. I'm very proud to say that I'm part of the Mackie Rugby Club family.

The transfer from Redcloak to Mill o Forest is greatly needed for the club. As you know the lease is up soon and the club is looking for a new home and looking to improve facilities. I think the Mill o Forest area is ideal for the rugby club.

I understand the points put forward for not wanting the rugby club to move to the area but I would like you to think about the values and standards that the game of rugby upholds compared to other sports. There is great respect in the game of rugby for players and officials and this respect is seen off the pitch as well by the individuals. The players conduct themselves professionally and properly. It is a sport for everyone. All shapes and sizes. It's entertaining and thrilling. It is a very social sport where people come together to simply enjoy the game. This is the values and standards the Mackie Rugby Club has and will bring to the Mill o Forest playing fields. I don't think it will be an area for anti social behaviour. I think it will be the exact opposite. It will be an area where children can learn to play rugby and support the local team.

Joining the club this year has had a massive positive effect on me. It has improved my mental health greatly. Especially after the couple of years we all have had to go through. Getting regular exercise. Meeting new people. Developing new skills. Expanding my comfort zone. All these reasons and more is why I would like the rugby club to remain a club and not fall to nothing because we could not secure a piece of land to play a fantastic sport and a great game.

Thank you very much for your time taken to read my email.

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 27 October 2021 12:17:16

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Mon, 25 Oct 2021 21:14:06 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Asset Transfer - Forest Park Stonehaven

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear Sir/ Madam,

I am writing in support of Mackie RFC for the asset transfer of Forest park to the Club.

I have been a member and player of this club for 15 years, starting off playing at school. Redcloak has always been our home.

Due to the current crisis the club faces, they need a new permanent home to build a high class facility in order to help the next generation of boys and girls.

The new grounds are essential to me personally as my main method for exercising and is an outlet for me from the stresses of day to day life. I know this is the same for other players within the 1XV.

Kind Regards,

Dean Gerrard  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 27 October 2021 12:19:02

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Tue, 26 Oct 2021 10:34:15 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Asset Transfer - Forest Park Stonehaven

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear sir/madam

I am writing in support of the proposal for the asset transfer for Mackie Rugby Club

I feel this would be of great benefit to the community of Stonehaven with the building of this facility at Forest Park especially for the future generation coming up

As I live quite near to the Park and walk past it often, I can say that it is not used to its full potential, with few people using the grounds. Therefore, the use of this area will be an excellent centre for the Rugby Club

kind regards

Ruth Craigmyle

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 27 October 2021 14:25:36

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wed, 27 Oct 2021 12:08:30

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Mackie Rugby Football Club's request to buy Forest Park, Stonehaven

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear Sirs

I support Mackie Rugby Football Club's request to buy the land of Forest Park, Stonehaven, to construct two pitches, a training area, clubhouse changing rooms, storage and fitness suite.

The club are a very important aspect to the Stonehaven, and wider, community. They have teams accommodating every age from Primary One and up. The teams at every age enjoy healthy numbers of players. The main aim for the club is not major playing success, although this is obviously a goal. Instead, it is for every one of its members to enjoy themselves and feel included. It does not matter to the club how good a player you are, you are always guaranteed to get playing time and be included in every training drill. The club gives people the opportunity to socialize, keep fit, and to have fun.

Yours faithfully,

Keith Murray

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 27 October 2021 13:36  
**To:** Kincardine and Mearns <kincardineandmearns@aberdeenshire.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** Mackie Rugby Football Club positive representation

Dear Aberdeenshire council,

My name is [REDACTED] and my current address is [REDACTED].  
I hereby would like to express a positive representation to the plans of the asset transfer and ultimately request to purchase the land at Forest park to create a purpose built facility for Rugby.

I have been very fortunate in a way to have travelled with my family in the last 10 years and lived in several different countries where Rugby was popular enough to have a club.  
3 years ago my work gave me the great opportunity to transfer to Aberdeen and fell in love with Stonehaven. I was delighted to hear there was an active Rugby club where my son [REDACTED] could join.  
Because of the travelling it is always challenging to fit in for children in a new place but Rugby made this for my son very easy.

My daughter [REDACTED] has now also recently joined the Rugby club and is proud to provide the much needed girls inclusion and can already sense her confidence has grown since.

For myself, I have been a Rugby coach for my son in P4 and P5 and this year had to let him go in P6 to a different coach for his development. I have decided to remain a coach for new P4's and am very happy to be part of the kids having a great start to the weekend on Saturday mornings.

Seeing both my children enjoying the Rugby and everything around it makes it clear to me this proposal is created for kids development and for the community as a whole.

Thank you.

Best regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 28 October 2021 12:37:38

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thu, 28 Oct 2021 09:53:29

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Asset Transfer Request (ATR) - Mackie Academy FP RFC

**Importance:** Normal

---

I would like to place on record my support for this ATR.

Given that the town of Stonehaven is currently growing exponentially, the same must hold true for the facilities afforded to the youth of Stonehaven.

For far too long the rugby club has been neglected with regard to investment and support, yet it has struggled on, thanks to the dedication of certain individuals.

It is well known that their existing lease at Redcloak pitches will not be extended (principally due to current housing developments nearby) and that should this ATR fail then they will be left homeless with no place left to play. From there it is but a short walk to oblivion.

This will leave the many hundreds of young people who enjoy the sport with no provision for rugby and a once proud club will disappear from trace.

We cannot allow this to happen; so I wish to register my support for the proposal in the strongest terms possible.

If you require any additional information then please contact me directly.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



**Archived:** 28 October 2021 16:55:07

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thu, 28 Oct 2021 13:43:26

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Re: Asset Transfer - Forest Park Stonehaven

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear Sir,

I would like to write in support of the asset transfer of Forest Park, Stonehaven to Mackie Rugby Football Club. My Nephew [REDACTED] plays for the club, they are a dedicated team, training regularly and attending matches in the local area. I have seen how much he enjoys playing for the team, that he has made new friends and has improved his health and fitness. I believe that this transfer would be a great asset to the community giving young people a chance to become part of something that not only benefits them, but their parents and carers and the wider community.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 28 October 2021 16:59:23  
**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thu, 28 Oct 2021 13:43:59  
**To:** Kincardine and Mearns  
**Subject:** Re: Forest Park Asset Transfer  
**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear Sir,

I would like to write in support of the asset transfer of Forest Park, Stonehaven to Mackie Rugby Football Club.

My Nephew [REDACTED] plays for the club, they, training regularly and attending matches in the local area, being a member has given him a chance to become a team player, make new friends and has improve his health and fitness.

I believe that this transfer would be a great asset to the community giving young people a chance to use there time in a productive way and become productive members of the local community.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 29 October 2021 14:21:21

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thu, 28 Oct 2021 15:32:15 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Mackie Rugby Club

**Importance:** Normal

---

Good afternoon,

This email is just with regards to Forrest Park in Stonehaven. And for me I'm in favour of Mackie Rugby Club getting the facilities at Forrest park, I'm 34 in a month or so time and I believe that as time has gone on Mackie has grown and grown to be one of the biggest sports clubs in Stonehaven. To have these facilities installed at Forrest park would not only benefit the rugby club but there is surely other clubs that could also use them just like the facility down at minerawell.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 29 October 2021 14:22:22  
**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Fri, 29 Oct 2021 07:15:45 +0000ARC  
**To:** Kincardine and Mearns  
**Subject:** Asset Transfer Land at Forest Park  
**Importance:** Normal

---

To whom it may concern,

I wish to support the Asset Transfer of the land at Forest Park to Mackie Rugby Club. It is important for the club to have a home particularly as they provide another form of sport to all, both boys and girls of all ages. It is important to have a local pitch and facilities within Stonehaven.

Both our boys play and we travel from Bervie for training and games. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 29 October 2021 16:01:32

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Fri, 29 Oct 2021 14:53:47

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** Re: Mackie Rugby Club Support (Stonehaven)

**Importance:** Normal

---

Hi There,

Having lived in Stonehaven for over 20yrs [REDACTED] - 5min walk from these parks) and also having gone to Mill o' Forest as a kid - I know for a fact those playing fields are very rarely used by kids for "Cross Country Running" and find this protest insulting and beyond ridiculous to oppose a perfectly reasonable proposal from Mackie Rugby Club.

- 1) There are numerous parks around the town (Mineral Well) and Woods for Cross Country Running (which we used to do as kids down through Dunnotar Woods rather than run in the fields directly beside the school).
- 2) There is enough grass land at Mill o' Forest park for kids to run around both playing fields there which were used for Fun Days, football training and PE! (they are not training for the olympics!! They are children and there is loads of room as is)
- 3) Regularly driving past these fields they are often empty and a waste of green space, it could benefit massively from having something such as a Rugby Club installed to bring a bit more life and soul back to the place as well as helping locals get more involved in the community.

I cannot be more FOR the Rugby Club getting proper facilities that they have done without for years when there is a perfectly good, barely used, space lying there.

The Protests are laughable.

Thanks  
[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 01 November 2021 11:47:59

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Sat, 30 Oct 2021 14:25:02

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Rugby ground proposal

**Importance:** Normal

---

I support the proposal to change the use of Forest Park to Mackie Rugby Club.

My son is in [REDACTED] Rugby Club and it has helped my son no end by building his confidence and his sportsmanship. And the coaches have taught [REDACTED] great manners in sport. Losing the club will be a terrible shame.

Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 01 November 2021 11:49:58

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Sat, 30 Oct 2021 18:46:09

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Fw: Mackie RFC/Forest Park

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear Sir/Madam

I write to you in support of Mackie RFC's bid to acquire permanent grounds, particularly the bid they have put forward for Forest Park, Stonehaven.

It is so sad that after all the years Mackie RFC have been settled at Redcloak their lease will not be renewed. There have been fabulous improvements carried out at Redcloak which are welcoming to visiting teams. I have travelled with one team to away games and can truly say that it is a treat for some visiting teams to come to play Mackie RFC. They have their own changing rooms, shower and toilets. Then of course they are all welcome into the Club House for a hot cuppy, soup or a pie.

Over the years I have watched this club develop their skills and develop into a whole community club. The training programme they deliver weekly is impressive, covering age groups from the very young, school age, and for those now too old to be in school.

The commitment from players, staff and the SRU is dedicated. The current grounds are used almost every day for skills training, fitness, and of course games.

The rugby family consist of people not only from Stonehaven but also from further afield, as far as ability to travel allows. I know in one team/age group players come from Laurencekirk and Aberdeen to training twice weekly and play a scheduled game almost every weekend - other weekends they are travelling to an away game.

I for one, am proud of Mackie RFC, what they have already achieved in terms of their current grounds and their commitment to the SRU and the local(ish) community and schools.

If Mackie RFCs bid for Forest Park is unsuccessful the local communities and council should step up with a feasible alternative. It would be heartbreaking to lose such a worthy club due to lack of ground they can facilitate freely.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 01 November 2021 12:04:56

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Mon, 1 Nov 2021

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Mackie Rugby Club

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear Sir/Madam,

I have been a part of Mackie RFC for the last 20 years and it that time I have seen the club grow enormously. The proposed site at Forest Park is an ideal home for the club to grow even further and set down some permanent roots within the community.

In my playing time at the club before every session the coaches and adult helpers would have to line up and inspect the grass for dogs mess and needles to ensure that the ground was safe to play on. Unfortunately this is down to irresponsible people using the grounds. I once witnessed one dog owner allowing their dog to mess, when being asked why they weren't picking it up the owner decided to swear profusely at the coach and walk off and leave the mess. Therefore I feel that the proposed fencing around the park is justified.

The rugby club are hoping to let other groups in Stonehaven use their proposed facilities. This benefits not just the hundreds of members of the rugby club but other groups from around Stonehaven.

I really am for the proposed site and would love to see Mackie have a home to put down roots for future generations to enjoy.

Kindest Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



**Archived:** 01 November 2021 12:06:39

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thu, 28 Oct 2021 12:56:33

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Forest Park

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear Sir,

I would like to write in support of the asset transfer of Forest Park, Stonehaven to Mackie Rugby Football Club.

My cousin plays for the club, he really likes the training and matches and we have watched him play in 2 matches matches. He loves playing for the team and has made some new friends and has gotten fitter and healthier.

I think that this transfer would benefit the community by giving young people somewhere to go and learn to work together as a team which would be good for the Stonehaven community.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 01 November 2021 12:08:09

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thu, 28 Oct 2021 12:52:56

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Asset transfer Forest Park

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear Sir,

I would like to write in support of the asset transfer of Forest Park, Stonehaven to Mackie Rugby Football Club.

My cousin plays for the club, training regularly in the evenings and at the weekend and attending matches. He loves playing for the team and has made quite a few new friends and has improved his health and fitness and confidence.

I think that this transfer would be a benefit the community by giving young people a constructive way to spend their time while building team spirit and fitness which would also benefit the wider community.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 04 November 2021 17:42:52

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thu, 4 Nov 2021 15:15:10

**To:** [Kincardine and Mearns](#)

**Subject:** Re: Forest Park Stonehaven

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please take this email as a message of support for the asset transfer of Forest Park, Stonehaven to Mackie Rugby Club.

I know of no other organisation in the local area that provides so many opportunities for inclusion and wellbeing across such a wide age range. It is absolutely imperative that an organisation such as this is supported and nurtured in every possible way to ensure it is as successful as possible. As a community we have a responsibility to support this asset transfer request.

Currently the area around Forest Park is severely lacking in any real amenities and to have a modern, high standard of sports facility in the area would be a real coup. As a regular user of the playpark adjacent to the asset transfer area I can only think how wonderful it would be to see a group using the grossly under utilised space that currently exists there. At this moment in time the only people I have seen using it are dog walkers and even they are few and far between.

I'm aware that a minority of people are stirring up quite a bit of resistance to the proposal which is hugely disappointing to see. As you will be aware it seems to be led by the usual social media "warriors" who are offended at everything. Suddenly a boggy piece of grass in Stonehaven is as busy as Hyde Park in London. I trust you will be aware of the true utilisation of the aforementioned piece of ground.

I truly hope common sense prevails and this application is approved. If not I do feel that an equivalent area should be offered at the earliest opportunity.

Yours Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 16 November 2021 14:01:32

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thu, 4 Nov 2021 22:27:23

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Mackie Rugby Club, Forest Park asset transfer

**Importance:** Normal

---

I would like to offer my support and agreement of the transfer of the park at Mill O' Forest to Mackie RFC.

This would provide an ideal location for the Club, good use of an under used space and easily accessible.

The Club is such a valuable asset to the town, providing fitness, training and rugby for all ages and supporting other local groups/clubs. Thousands have enjoyed the benefits of being involved in the Club since 1976 and a permanent site would secure the future for them and players in the future.

Your sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 16 November 2021 14:02:52

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Fri, 5 Nov 2021 07:54:58 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Asset Transfer - Mackie Rugby Club letter of support

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to you in regard of the asset transfer of Forest Park to Mackie Rugby Club as I wish to offer my support of this action.

I understand that the lease of the current rugby pitches will soon come to an end and so the club will be seeking a new home. This move will be great for the future generations of rugby players within the Stonehaven and Kincardineshire area and provide them a safe space to learn their sport, improve their health and build a better community spirit.

Please take this email as supporting the Asset Transfer.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 16 November 2021 14:04:12

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Fri, 5 Nov 2021 08:52:16 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Representation for Asset transfer request: Mackie Rugby/Forrest park Stonehaven

**Importance:** Normal

---

Name: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

As a parent of a child who has benefited from the fantastic Mackie Rugby club I am writing to share my hope that this asset transfer can go ahead. With over 300 children benefiting from this clubs activities every week I feel the move to Forrest Park area would be a huge benefit to the club, and more importantly to the town.

Kind Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

---

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: 04 November 2021 22:52  
To: Kincardine and Mearns <kincardineandmearns@aberdeenshire.gov.uk>  
Subject: Asset Transfer - Land at Forest Park, Stonehaven

Dear sirs

Please accept this email as my full support of the above with Mackie RFC. The facilities and training are second to none. Inclusive, affordable attainable sport is an essential requirement for our young people.

Aberdeenshire council are at the fore front of change with multiple funds and sports grants being made available; to ensure a local, established and well respected club is supported by the council sends a key message to the public and society on where Aberdeenshire Residents want to see funding and support.

I hope all remain safe and well throughout this pandemic and beyond. Take care, thank you, [REDACTED]

Kind Regards  
[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 16 November 2021 14:13:21

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thu, 4 Nov 2021 20:25:54 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Asset Transfer - Forrest Park Stonehaven - Support

**Importance:** Normal

---

I write you with regards to the application from Mackie Rugby Football Club for the asset transfer of Forrest Park in Stonehaven to give my support to the application to proceed.

Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



**Archived:** 16 November 2021 14:14:48

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Fri, 5 Nov 2021 09:48:43 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Land at forest Park Stonehaven

**Importance:** Normal

---

Good afternoon

I am mailing to show my full support of the asset transfer to mackie rugby club for the land at forest park Stonehaven

The club does so much for Stonehaven's club members and the community and to have purpose built facilities and ground will only help the club and give the community another facility to help health and well being.

The club is open to all sexes and ages. the youth system is excellent and Caters for all ages male and female.

This club is a asset to Stonehaven and needs the councils full support. In a time where clubs, health , team work and belonging have never been more important.

Thanks for your time

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 16 November 2021 14:16:51  
**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Fri, 5 Nov 2021 11:11:48 +0000ARC  
**To:** Kincardine and Mearns  
**Subject:** Asset transfer of forest park  
**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear sirs

I support the asset transfer of forest park

Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 16 November 2021 14:17:49

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Fri, 5 Nov 2021 11:54:16

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Mackie Rugby Club / Mill o Forest

**Importance:** Normal

---

Good morning Sir or Madam,

**Ref : Mackie Rugby Football Club / Mill of Forest.**

Mackie Rugby club is an all inclusive rugby club providing sporting, social and physical health services to the town and surrounding areas. Established nearly 50 years ago by a group of Mackie Academy Pupils the club has cemented itself within the town of Stonehaven. The club provides the game of rugby to all ages and abilities. The club currently offers rugby from P2 right up to our senior section the Mammoths. This means we are providing rugby from ages 5 right through to our current oldest player who is 62 years old. Our current 1st XV play regularly in the Caledonian league against local opposition and regularly travel to Ross Sutherland, Caithness and Inverness to play Highland. Our Youth section currently play in the Lancer Shogun League having won our local section 4 years out of 5, they are now playing in the highest group country wide playing teams as far away as Ayr, Glasgow, Stirling and Perth. Our mini's section is one of the strongest in Scotland with great numbers at all age groups. The mammoths play regularly against veterans opposition such as Brechin, Elgin Panmure and Ellon.

The club has a very strong presence in the community regularly supporting the fee' in market, the harbour festival and work in tandem with the Lions Club. Last year during lock-down the club donated to local food banks. The club has recently changed to a charity allowing it access and back up from all the major sporting bodies in regards to this proposed asset transfer.

Currently, the club is housed on pitches at Redcloak, on the slug road. The club has been based at Redcloak since its inception on leased land. Historically the club had two pitches at Redcloak, known as the 1st and 2nd's pitches. Around 5 years ago the lease ran out on the 2nd's pitch and the club removed the rugby posts and the land was returned to its owner. The current lease on the 1st pitch is due to lapse within the next 4 years or so, as the owners now want the land for other use, the club will find itself homeless.

The club has spent many years looking to secure land to call home. Land within Stonehaven and the surrounding area is very difficult to secure, especially to purchase and own. The club has bid on land within the area of Stonehaven but have been unsuccessful. The club tried to secure land behind the graveyard in Stonehaven, land that would have been ideal but were out bid by the council. This land currently sits unused.

The club has a history with Mill o Forest having used the park for years as a training venue and for playing the occasional games. Only within the last 6-8 years ago where the rugby posts were removed. The club was also instrumental in installing the floodlights at Mill o Forest. This green space (that's very rarely used) would be the ideal location for the rugby club. It would allow a safe and secure area for the club to continue the great work providing sporting facilities for the club. The area would allow the club to have 2 full sized pitches alongside a club house and gym facilities. It would also allow a suitable amount of parking within the plans.

Stonehaven as a town has a large percentage of green space available compared to local towns such as Inverurie, Ellon etc. Having large amounts of green space being used by the other sports in Stonehaven such as football and cricket it is only fair that the planned change of ownership of Mill o Forest to Mackie Rugby Club is approved by the council.

Over many years the club has provided a safe and secure area for the youth of Stonehaven to pursue sporting endeavours. As a community, sporting pursuits should be encouraged to all age groups and abilities, the benefits of rugby not only keeps you physically fit but provides fun, friendship and fraternity, all which help tackle the problems with mental health, a topic that is high on everyone's agenda. Moving to Mill o Forest will allow the club to have ownership of land that will allow this good work it has done for the community to continue.

On a personal note, my family is heavily involved within the club and have made many friends over the years since moving to the area around 20 years ago. The health benefits of being involved within the club benefited my family greatly. My eldest son is currently the vice captain of the 1st XV having progressed through the club since the age of 6. Being involved within the club has been incredibly beneficial to him, allowing him to develop social skills and make friends that will see him through for years to come, My youngest

currently stars for the U15's and I currently coach our senior section. My wife currently helps with the social side of the senior section.

Mill o Forest is criminally underused by the community. Driving past and walking past on a daily basis, it is very rare to see anyone use that space. It would be the ideal place for the rugby club to purchase and use.

I wholehearted support the purchase and asset transfer of Mill o Forest to Mackie Rugby Club. My address is [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Kind regards  
[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 16 November 2021 14:20:25  
**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Fri, 5 Nov 2021 11:29:02  
**To:** Kincardine and Mearns  
**Subject:** Forest Drive Park Asset Transfer  
**Importance:** Normal

---

Good Morning,

I am writing in support of the asset transfer of this green space to Mackie Rugby Football Club.

As a long term resident of Stonehaven the rugby club has always been a part of my life with my dad, siblings and my partner playing for various teams and age stages. For the club, one of the biggest on Scotland, to have to disband if they do not find suitable land would be a tragedy for the Stonehaven community as they do so much.

I am soon to be a resident of [REDACTED] and I wouldn't be remotely effected by the lack of this green space with plenty of other green space available behind the Scout Hut and the woods nearby. These are two spaces I intend on walking our dog who I would never choose to walk in Forest Drive Park as it is too close and open to the road so I do not see it as a safe public space as it currently stands.

The plans proposed cover many of the issues raised by the public such as infrastructure for parking, traffic management, allowance of school access and other local clubs to use the land so overall it will not benefit just the Rugby Club and it's members.

To sum up - I am in full support of this asset transfer to the Rugby Club as I see it as a relatively unused green space and feel it would be far better utilised if this were to go ahead. The Rugby Club are a huge asset to the local Community with members for as young as 4 years old all the way up to 70+ years! The rugby club deserves a central location in the town!

Please record this as an official representation for the Asset Transfer to go ahead in favour of Mackie Rugby Club.

Please Save Our Rugby Club

Kind Regards  
[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 16 November 2021 14:22:49

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Fri, 5 Nov 2021 13:03:17

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Mackie Rugby Football Club

**Importance:** Normal

---

Good afternoon

Regarding the proposal of the club to buy the land at Forest Park I think it is a wonderful idea.

Our son has played for the team in the First XV and our family are all proud of our local club and want to see it go from strength to strength. Although Redcloak has served them well the need for expansion is vital and Forest Park is an ideal site, it was their training ground for a good few years as you will no doubt be aware of.

Acquiring this land and expanding it to Club level would be a real boost for Mackie RFC AND the town as supporters come to support their teams and perhaps spend some time in the town, therefore I do think the proposal should be given permission for it has been a long time coming giving Mackie suitable and valuable facilities.

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 16 November 2021 14:24:10

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Fri, 5 Nov 2021 02:52:51

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Rugby pitches

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear Sirs

I write to advise you of my support to the Rugby club in Stonehaven, where both my boys, [REDACTED] are members.

The club is in need of pitches and will not be able to function without outdoor space in Stonehaven.

I request the club be granted the Forest park pitch as without it, the members will have to travel further afield to obtain training. My boys can travel independently to their training sessions at the moment, however if outside of Stonehaven they would require transport.

If Rugby club has to source a pitch outside of Stonehaven, I am not sure if the youth will continue to be part of the club ! Both my boys train 3 days each, a week for Rugby. That I can say, goes for most members.

Sports is such a crucial part in the development of youth today, and the benefit extends to the whole community.

Young people availing the facilities of the Rugby club are less likely to cause trouble on the streets of Stonehaven. During school holidays , the youth have the opportunity to be productive with their time as the club conducts holiday camps! Again, keeping the young people busy.

The club is a positive influence on the youth of Stonehaven run wholly by volunteers and it will be unfortunate to lose out on a strong resource as this, should they not find suitable grounds to play on. Hence I request, Aberdeenshire council to grant the Forest park grounds to the Mackie Rugby Football Club.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 16 November 2021 14:25:48

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Fri, 5 Nov 2021 09:44:53 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Asset transfer request - Forest Park, Stonehaven

**Importance:** Normal

---

To Kincardine & Mearns Area Manager

Dear Sir / Madam

The purpose of this email is to voice my support for the above transfer request made by Mackie Rugby Football Club.

I have seen the positive benefit this club provides to a broad spectrum of the community, from early Primary age children, youth level through to Ladies, older players and also those that represent the local area playing the 1<sup>st</sup> XV in the North Region League. There are few sports clubs that can boast that wide range of participation.

I have witnessed the improvement in communication, teamworking and understanding of the benefits of "lifelong" fitness in both my daughter and son which has allowed them to excel in other sports to University first team level in other sports, all as a direct result of the time they spent at Mackie. Creating the opportunity to mix with other players, to learn the discipline and respect for fellow players, coaches and officials I think is vital to improving our local community and wider society.

As a previous corporate sponsor, I always felt that Mackie, whilst having success at travelling tournaments, was always disadvantaged as they had no permanent home with only temporary facilities for visiting teams and their supporters. Having the opportunity to build a clubhouse would provide opportunities for much needed revenue generation and provide warm refuge from the often bracing Northerly winds!

Success with this application would provide Mackie the springboard they need to continue the great work already undertaken by the volunteer coaching staff and committee, be just reward for the contribution the club has made to the local community to date and create a solid foundation for the future.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]



**Archived:** 16 November 2021 14:27:26

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Fri, 5 Nov 2021 14:04:08

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Forest park, asset transfer

**Importance:** Normal

---

Hello

I wish to register my support for Mackie Rugby Clubs asset transfer/purchase of Forest park.

As a member of the club who has been involved for nearly 20 years, having begun in early primary school and remain to this day, I believe that it is of paramount importance that the rugby club be aided in the acquisition of land. With Forest Park being the only option available, especially with the Clubs closing window due to loss of the current playing area.

As a member of the Stonehaven community, who has been with the Club throughout their youth, it has provided me with so much. From friendship, fun and Community to the physical and mental well-being that is so important for today's youth.

I am just one person who has gained so much from the Clubs presence. With hundreds or thousands of members past and present who benefit from over 100,000 hours offered to the community between both players and coaches alone - every season. It is so important that those of the future have the opportunity to gain from this too.

In my opinion Forest Park would provide a brilliant permanent home for the club. Providing the two pitches and all facilities that they will ever need. On top of this - it's a space with very limited use and certainly under utilised due do it's wet and boggy nature. The ground would be improved and could benefit other community groups and local schools with fit for purpose grass area and fitness suites, as well as indoor spaces, which Stonehaven has a need for more of.

Regards

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 16 November 2021 14:29:06

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Fri, 5 Nov 2021 14:24:05

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** Proposed Rugby Development at Forrest Park Stonehaven

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear Sirs

I write in support of the above project.

I was a founder-player in the club, and have taken a close interest in the Club, as a player and as an office holder initially, and as a non-player since, and in its burgeoning reputation for excellence.

The club has grown enormously since its inception and have actually outgrown their existing facilities and now they are to be withdrawn. It will take at least three years for the land to be prepared so time is of the essence.

The Club boasts on of the largest youth and junior sections in the country and its achievements are well known. Our youth section has been promoted to the top league in Scotland and is performing well. It's inclusivity welcomes all players, male and female, and at all levels, and all ages, making it an invaluable community resource for now and the future.

A new development is vital if the club is to exist in the longer term and I must ask that Stonehaven gives their support to this plan.

Yours

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 16 November 2021 14:30:55

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Fri, 5 Nov 2021 14:50:35

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Mackie Rugby Football Club - support for purchasing Forest Park

**Importance:** Normal

---

To whom it may concern, I've been associated with the rugby club for over 8 years now, with both my sons playing there, [REDACTED]. I also play veterans rugby at times. I was administrator for the minis section for 3 years during this time. I have nothing but amazing things to say about how the club provides hundreds of children with a sporting outlet creating respect, fulfilment and a lot of fun. We are an incredibly successful club in the North Caledonia area given our size and recently it has become very apparent that our current grounds at Redcloak just aren't doing the kids and young men and women any justice.

Forest Road park would offer an incredible opportunity to many more kids to start their rugby life. I wholeheartedly support the applications and look forward to being a part of it in the future.

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 16 November 2021 14:32:30

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Fri, 5 Nov 2021 14:39:54

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Proposed Rugby Development at Forrest Park

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear Sirs

I write in support of the above project

I was a founder member of the club and although I now live elsewhere I keep a close and keen interest in the club and all it stands for. From its inception the club has been close to the community, and equally the community have supported the club. The junior and youth sections are well known throughout the country with the youth section promoted to the top league in Scotland and is doing well

We started on pitches at the school, graduated to Red Cloak, and I see this as the next natural step, if the club is to blossom, or even exist in the long term with the facilities being withdrawn and the land preparation taking at least three years to prepare time is of the essence.

This is such a wonderful facility and must be encouraged and supported by Stonehaven.

Best regards

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 16 November 2021 14:34:01

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Fri, 5 Nov 2021 14:59:29 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Support for Mackie rugby club pitches

**Importance:** Normal

---

Hi,

I would like to express my support for the rugby club pitches at Stonehaven forest park.

Whilst I no longer live in the area, growing up the Redcloak facilities were a vital part of my extra circular activity and it would be a loss should there no longer be any rugby club facilities in Stonehaven.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

05/11/2021

Sir / Madam

With regards to the asset transfer request made by Mackie Rugby Football club and the land of Forest park, Stonehaven. I'd like to put forward my representation in support of the transfer.

Its undoubtedly been a difficult 2 years or so for all communities in Stonehaven and the North East. Residents of all ages suffering the long- and short-term effects of the COVID outbreak, and still feeling the effects despite communities opening up. Suffice to say that everyone has developed their own coping mechanisms to overcome the stress, effects on mental welfare.

My coping mechanism before and after the pandemic (like many), has been rugby.. playing, training and being within the community of friends at the Mackie Rugby Football club. The club really has been a lifeline for me and others these past months, been a source of comfort when I'm down and an outlet to keep fit with friends of all ages. Frequently you'll see the fresh faces of all ages at the club, young, old, fit and not so fit.

The proposal I think is well thought out, but I understand it will be a difficult one for all concerned. However, I firmly believe that approval of the transfer will have far a reaching and a long-lasting positive effect for the local community and its members. A legacy that will be a proud one for generations to come.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 16 November 2021 14:38:03

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Fri, 5 Nov 2021 19:25:13

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Proposed Asset Transfer of land of Forest Park, Stonehaven

**Importance:** Normal

---

Aberdeenshire Councillors

I would like to register my support for the Asset Transfer of Land at Forest Park to Mackie Academy FORMER PUPILS RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB.

I have played rugby since I was in Primary 2, with Mackie FP's, [REDACTED]. I have enjoyed learning lots of skills in a fun setting and making many friends from other schools and towns. We have been helped by a great team of coaches - many who played rugby when they were younger..

I would like to continue playing in Stonehaven along with my friends but the shortage of land poses a real problem for us to do this, as the Club will soon reach the end of it's lease at our present pitches. Our Club continues to go from strength to strength - having just been promoted to the top level of age group Rugby in Scotland. As a Club we have shown ourselves to be a match for these Clubs who have far greater facilities and resources.

I really hope that Aberdeenshire Council see the positive benefits to the community of Stonehaven in granting this Asset Transfer.

Thank you

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 16 November 2021 14:40:06

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Sat, 6 Nov 2021 12:21:39

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Asset transfer of Forest Park to Mackie rugby club

**Importance:** Normal

---

Please note that I fully support the request of Mackie Rugby club with reference to the transfer of assets at Forest Park, Stonehaven.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



**Archived:** 16 November 2021 14:46:58

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Sat, 6 Nov 2021 12:24:15

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Mackie Rugby club ref: Forest Park, Stonehaven

**Importance:** Normal

---

Please accept this email as my representation to support Mackie Rugby Club in their request with regards to the asset transfer of the land at Forest Park, Stonehaven'

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 16 November 2021 14:48:34

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Sat, 6 Nov 2021 16:16:27

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Mackie Rugby Football Club

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear Sir,

I fully support the plan to transfer or sell the land at Forest Park, Stonehaven to Mackie Rugby Football Club to enable them to construct pitches, training areas, clubhouse, a fitness suite etc.

I have watched the training that is presently held at Mackie Academy for the children and have been extremely impressed with the skills taught, the pleasure every child gets from learning these skills and the enthusiasm shown by the coaches. More and better facilities would encourage more people to play or learn to play rugby and allow for a continuity from the very earliest age to those involved in inter-club competition as well as for those who just enjoy watching the sport or want to keep fit. It would encourage whole families to get involved, girls, boys, mums, dads even grandparents might find a training session that would suit.

There are so many benefits from a dedicated Club with the above proposed facilities the options are endless and I believe it would be a great asset to the community and an excellent use of the land available.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 16 November 2021 14:51:15

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Sat, 6 Nov 2021 16:55:41

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Support of Mackie Rugby Club Securing Forest Park

**Importance:** Normal

---

Hi

In relation to the title of this email and recent opposition to Mackie a rugby club purchasing the ground at forest park I want to show my support for the rugby club and the benefit it is bringing to the community at Stonehaven.

I fully support the plan to transfer the asset / sell the asset to Mackie rugby football club. This will be an excellent use of the land and I fully support the club in its efforts to secure a permanent home at this site.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 16 November 2021 14:52:46

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Sat, 6 Nov 2021 18:33:04 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Asset Transfer Request Application by Mackie RFC

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear Sirs,

I would like to notify you of my support in the application for the Asset Transfer Request Application by Mackie RFC.

The Mackie rugby club has for many years supported the Kincardineshire community in providing excellent rugby coaching for 1,000's of kids and the community should now support the Mackie rugby club.

It is amazing the amount of free time the Mackie rugby club committee and coaches dedicate to the Kincardineshire kids and these kids need up to date facilities to flourish.

Please support the club by approving this application.

Regards,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 16 November 2021 14:54:39

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Sun, 7 Nov 2021 07:47:36 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Mackie Rugby Club - Asset Transfer

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to add my support to Mackie Rugby Club's request relating to the land of Forest Park, Stonehaven.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 16 November 2021 14:55:30

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Sun, 7 Nov 2021 11:59:43

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Forest Park Support for Mackie Rugby Football Club

**Importance:** Normal

---

Hello,

I wish to state my support for the plan to transfer the asset/sell the asset to Mackie Rugby Football club. This would be an excellent use of the land and I fully support the club in its efforts to secure a permanent home at this site.

I would like to add that we were cold called at the door to sign a petition against the use of the site and my wife felt under pressure to sign in order to get the people to leave our door step. We would like to withdraw that signature from the petition and wonder why such tactics are being employed by those against this option.

Regards

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 16 November 2021 14:57:04

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Sun, 7 Nov 2021 16:51:06

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Mackie rugby club

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear sir/ madam

Mackie rugby club has been an asset to the Stonehaven community for decades, and at this moment in time, to think that the club could end up with potentially with nowhere to play within the town is ridiculous. I fully back the club and all its members in sourcing the land at Forest Park, and I'm certain it will be an asset for the Stonehaven community and the upcoming generations of rugby players.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 16 November 2021 14:58:37

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Sun, 7 Nov 2021 17:16:32 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Mackie Rugby club

**Importance:** Normal

---

To whom it may concern,

I would like to voice my support for the asset transfer request made by Mackie Rugby Football club.

The club is vital for the community and it is imperative that the team has a base to play within Stonehaven.

The club promote healthy lifestyles and exercise whilst developing youngsters skills and talents within the sport of rugby. Many years work and passion have gone into making the club a success and it is vital this can continue with the town.

I feel the benefits of having such a club in the town outweigh any negatives which may be raised.

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



**Archived:** 16 November 2021 15:00:32

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Mon, 8 Nov 2021 09:56:45

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Asset Transfer for Mackie Rugby Club pitches

**Importance:** Normal

---

Good morning

I am writing to consider supporting the Mackie Rugby Club's request for an asset transfer of Forest Park for the purpose of hosting the Club's activities.

Rugby is an incredibly inclusive sport which instils character and attitudes which reflect respect, fair play, hard work, team work, leadership and an awareness of the social compact and culture, which we all hope to aspire to. Since I have taken my two young sons down to Mackie Academy and Redcloak Fields, I have been impressed by the friendliness, positive attitude, professional level of coaching and desire to include everyone, from young 4 yr olds up to the senior Mammoths, which is pleasing to see and be part of, as it is not always the case at various other sport communities.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 16 November 2021 15:03:07

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Sat, 6 Nov 2021 14:22:13

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Mackie Rugby Club

**Importance:** Normal

---

To Whom it may concern

I am emailing you to show my total support for the Mackie Rugby Clubs asset transfer request to Forest Park from Mackie Clubhouse.

It is a fantastic opportunity looking towards not only the future of the club, but a permanent facility which will be available for a variety of activities across all ages.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 16 November 2021 15:17:32

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Mon, 8 Nov 2021 14:27:12

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Proposed site move for Mackie Rugby Club

**Importance:** Normal

---

Good Afternoon To Whom it Concerns

I support the proposed move for the Mackie Rugby Club to forest park; I believe this would provide better facilities for the local club who provide coaching for all ranges of children and adults and support the community and local area across several areas.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** 08 November 2021 14:41

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns <[kincardineandmearns@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:kincardineandmearns@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)>

**Subject:** Rugby Club - Mill o Forest Park

Hello

My son has attended the Rugby club for many years, and particularly during covid, this was an essential part of his life, and the community aspect around this. Given that they are using multi services across a huge age range, it really is essentially that they are given an opportunity to house everything centrally and build on this further. Its quite rare to have such a local community these days, and would like this to continue with the rugby club.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

---

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 09:16:58

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Fri, 5 Nov 2021 19:17:22

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Rugby club transfer of assets - SUPPORTING

**Importance:** Normal

---

To whom it concerns,

I am in support of the transfer of assets for the rugby club.

My 3 children all attend rugby.

My oldest [REDACTED] plays for the under 14s and have moved into the national league this season. They have won every match bar one and this is due to the dedication, hard work by coaches and children.

I find it disappointing they do not have their own grounds and constantly try to find a place to call home. They have worked hard to gain their status and continue to commit themselves to the children and train them to be the best they can be.

I SUPPORT the transfer of assets to the rugby club.

Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 09:28:52

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Mon, 8 Nov 2021 15:58:29 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Asset Transfer Request by Mackie Rugby Football Club relating to land at Forest Park, Stonehaven.

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear Sir/Madam

I write in support of this request . Having read the proposal , I believe MRFC have taken great care to consider the needs of others currently using Forest Park . There is no doubt that a new facility is required and I understand that all other options have been exhausted.

My children and grandchildren have benefited from being involved in Rugby both at Mackie and in other Clubs.

Rugby Clubs are inclusive, anyone can play no matter what age or ability. They develop teamwork, respect for others, companionship and friendships that last for years.

In a time where we are becoming more aware of mental health issues, it has been shown that physical activity, a sense of purpose and camaraderie help reduce stress, improve self confidence and self discipline. These skills are transferrable to other areas of life too.

It is my belief that this site is currently underused and underdeveloped and,

while I understand the concerns of people living closer to Forest Park, I believe the number of people in the community who would benefit from this proposal is greater.

Consideration should be given to that fact that this proposal is not made by a profit making organisation, such a housing developers or retail developers, but by a charitable organisation who wish to develop the site for the wider community.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 08 November 2021 17:56  
**To:** Kincardine and Mearns <kincardineandmearns@aberdeenshire.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** Proposed Asset Transfer - Forest Park, Stonehaven

Dear Sir/Madam,

I write with regard to the proposed asset transfer of Forest Park, Stonehaven to Mackie Rugby.

I understand there are concerns from some within the community regarding this proposal, however I believe there is significant merit in the plan which outweighs these concerns.

Mackie Rugby have been advised they will no longer be able to use their current facility in the medium to long term and have for some time been trying to secure land to develop their own facilities. Unfortunately scarcity of land and high demand has put some, potentially promising options beyond reach. The club needs to make progress urgently or there is a real danger of this fantastic community club being lost. The impact of that would be felt throughout Stonehaven and beyond particularly by the many children who are part of Mackie Rugby.

My belief is that Forest Park has for some time been an underused area, indeed the last significant and regular use was by the rugby club for training purposes. The proposal ensures the 'Hamish' playpark is retained and provides for a footpath around the perimeter, ensuring walkers still have access.

This proposal is not a perfect solution, however years of searching has shown that perfect is not there in terms of such a development and I urge the council to progress this asset transfer.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 09:41:08

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Sat, 6 Nov 2021 21:29:42

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Mackie Rugby Club

**Importance:** Normal

---

I for one, am in full support of Mackie Rugby Club taking over the land at Forest Park, I feel the club, which has a long established history

to its name deserves to have a place it can call home and as far as I'm led to believe, everything will be done to a high standard and with rugby becoming even more popular and attracting more kids to the game, it can only be a good thing for rugby and foremost, Stonehaven.

I have lived in that area for many years now and apart from the kiddies park, nothing ever happens on the park its self apart from people walking their dogs around the perimeter path which was only recently installed, I could understand why people would go against the proposals if it was a beautiful landscaped area but that, it is not. I can only wish the Mackie Rugby Club all the best on their endeavours.

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]



-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 08 November 2021 18:21

To: Kincardine and Mearns <kincardineandmearns@aberdeenshire.gov.uk>

Subject: Forest Park

Dear Sir/Madam,

I write to support Forest Park, Stonehaven being transferred to Mackie rugby club. The club is an incredible asset to Stonehaven, providing facilities, coaching and support to all ages.

My family have been involved with the club for many years, playing, joining the ladies fitness and with refereeing. The club has tried to secure land over the years to be able to continue their great work but have so far been unable to.

While Forest Park is not idea it will benefit so many people while still allowing children to use the play park and dog walkers to walk around the proposed pitches.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 08 November 2021 18:37

To: Kincardine and Mearns <kincardineandmearns@aberdeenshire.gov.uk>

Subject: In support of transfer of assets to rugby club

To whom it may concern,

I am in support of the transfer of assets of the rugby club.

I play for the U14s squad at Mackie and this season we have moved to the national league. Having grounds of our own to call home would be a valuable asset not just for training and conditioning training but somewhere we as a club can be proud to host and entertaining other clubs across the league.

I have passionately played rugby since primary 2, learning the skills I require from the amazing team of coaches on offer at Mackie and forming lasting friendships.

Mackie rugby club are always there for me as a player. I write in support of the transfer.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 08 November 2021 19:09

To: Kincardine and Mearns <kincardineandmearns@aberdeenshire.gov.uk>

Subject: Transfer of assets to Mack or rugby

To whom it may concern,

I am in support of the transfer of assets to mackie rugby club. I play for the P7s and enjoy regular attendance at rugby camp.

I have made some amazing friendships and I love learning new skills and techniques along the way.

The coaches are dedicated, passionate and most of all make the game fun. I would love for us to have our own space and training grounds. I am for the transfer of assets to the rugby club.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 09:56:36

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Mon, 8 Nov 2021 20:04:24

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Support of mackie rugby club

**Importance:** Normal

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[REDACTED]

As a young couple in Stonehaven I am in support of the rugby club moving to Forrest park as I feel it's important for the town to have as many competitive clubs/recreational activities with impressive facilities to attract people to the town to help boost things like house prices, quality of schools and trade for local businesses.

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 09:57:59

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Mon, 8 Nov 2021 20:06:46 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Forrest park

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear Sir/Madam,

I write to support Forest Park, Stonehaven being transferred to Mackie rugby club. The club is an incredible asset to Stonehaven, providing facilities, coaching and support to all ages.

My family have been involved with the club for many years, playing, joining the ladies fitness and with refereeing. The club has tried to secure land over the years to be able to continue their great work but have so far been unable to.

While Forest Park is not ideal it will benefit so many people while still allowing children to use the play park and dog walkers to walk around the proposed pitches.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 10:35:20

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Mon, 8 Nov 2021 20:31:01 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Forest Park

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear Sir/Madam,

I write to support Forest Park, Stonehaven being transferred to Mackie Rugby Club. The club is an unbelievable asset to Stonehaven, providing support, coaching and facilities to all ages.

Myself and my family have been involved with the club for many years, playing, refereeing and supporting. Over the years the club has tried to secure land but nothing seems to have come from this. The club provides an amazing space for young people and adults to socialise and develop not only their rugby skills but respect for their community and what it can provide.

Forest Park may not be the ideal solution but it will benefit so many people while still allowing children to use the play park and dog walkers to use the proposed path round the facility.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 10:36:18

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Mon, 8 Nov 2021 21:58:49

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Asset Transfer - Forest Park

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to express my support for the proposed community asset transfer of Forest Park to Mackie Rugby Club. Over a number of years, I experienced first-hand the great work that is done by the club. I believe that moving their home to Forest Park will give the club the best chance of continuing to do this work, to the benefit of the entire Stonehaven community, for many years to come.

I joined the rugby club when I was eight years old and credit the positive environment it provided for much of my development through primary and secondary school age. I understand the club still has one of the largest youth sections in the country with hundreds of children training and playing in a safe and structured environment every week. It would be a great loss to these children if this environment no longer existed when the club loses use of its current home a couple of years from now. Furthermore, moving club activities to the slightly more central location will surely encourage more people in the local community and the Forest Park area in particular to take up organised sport: something I think everyone agrees would be a positive.

I was captain of the club from 2015 -2017 and in that time I saw what a big part of the Stonehaven community the rugby club was. It was incredibly rewarding to be part of the club's contribution to annual events like the Feein Market, the Harbour Festival, and the Folk Festival. In this period, I also saw the value that club social events have for the numerous bars and restaurants in Stonehaven. If the rugby club continues to work with other stakeholders in Stonhaven, the way it has up to this point, then the town will be far richer for it.

Finally, over the last year I have been made aware of the contribution the club makes to local schools. My [REDACTED] is a teacher at [REDACTED] School and has waxed lyrical about the rugby sessions that the club's development officer has put on for the children in [REDACTED] class. I don't believe there is another rugby club that will provide such productive sessions to the schools in Stonhaven and the surrounding area.

The people of Stonehaven will only continue to see these benefits if there is a strong and stable rugby club, and that requires the more permanent home that Forest Park would provide.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 10:42:08

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Mon, 8 Nov 2021 18:01:01

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** MRFC Asset Transfer Request (Public Opinion)

**Importance:** Normal

---

Hello,

As a mother of a young rugby talent, I am writing to express my support for the MRFC Asset Transfer Request for the grounds at Forest Park. I hope this important community move comes to fruition for the benefit of all children of Stonehaven.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



**Archived:** 18 November 2021 10:43:37

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Mon, 8 Nov 2021 17:42:09

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** MRFC Asset Transfer Request

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing in support of the asset transfer request made by Mackie Rugby Football Club for the land at Forest Park, Stonehaven.

As a child I used to train at this location with the rugby club and loved every minute of it. The ground will need some work as it was always completely saturated and would soon turn to a mud bath, and in those days there was a pitch and rugby posts, so there is some history to the asset transfer request.

Now as an adult, with children of my own, my son has been a member of the mini and junior sections of the club, he has benefited greatly, making friendships and developing teamwork, his confidence and character.

It also led me into coaching and refereeing because the club really does rely on the community giving up their evenings and weekends to work with and develop each one of their players. As Stonehaven has grown over the years, so has the club and the youth section must now be one of the largest in the north east. I have travelled to numerous other clubs, both with the juniors and as a Mackie Mammoth, the over 35's section of the club. Most other clubs have good facilities to offer their visitors and it is about time that Mackie and the kids also had those facilities.

I understand some people are not happy about the proposed location, but for years, children have had to make their way over the bypass, walking on the Slug Road to get to the playing fields, Forest Park would be a much safer, accessible place for the kids to play.

I can see that there may be a concern over the flood lights for local residents but maybe it is possible for the floodlights to face the railway track so that they are not shining directly into properties.

I hope that the asset transfer goes ahead so that Stonehaven and Mackie can nurture more professional players like [REDACTED], into the Scotland National Team for years to come.

Best Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 10:46:36

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Tue, 9 Nov 2021 12:28:20

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Community Asset Transfer of Forest Park

**Importance:** Normal

---

Good Morning

I am writing to advise that I fully support the application of the Community Asset transfer of the Park on Forest Road, Stonehaven to the Mackie Rugby Club.

I do not know a considerable amount about rugby and have no allegiance or connections with the Club.

I do understand the benefits of sport on both physical and mental wellbeing and believe that the transfer of the park to the Rugby Club would be beneficial to a larger amount of the community than the park is currently utilised by. From the local newspaper, school news and social media it is obvious that the teams are playing competitively against clubs who are much better served in terms of facilities. Despite having poor facilities the Club continues to be successful.

The Club has an active profile and is active in the Community. Having a permanent home would allow them to develop their ground and players at both participation and performance levels of rugby. I regularly walk past Mackie Academy when training is on for the Mackie Minis, this includes boys and girls being encouraged in teamwork, collaboration and of course physical exercise. Without a permanent home a club cannot future plan, apply for funds, train officials or enter competition with the insecurity of having no ground to play on. The option would be to fold the Club if no permanent solution could be found and the impact on those involved in the club and the sport would be wholly detrimental. Currently it is a predominantly male driven sport and the impact on young males mental health is huge.

The transfer of the Park to the Club would be a huge benefit to the area and potentially impact on the ability for the club and players to develop. It could be an asset for generations to come.

It has been made clear that the play park is not included in this transfer which is a relief as the play park is well used locally. However the green field is not well utilised other than a dog exercise area. I walk past the park regularly with my dogs and on the whole it is not a well utilised public space. The parking area is also often filled with vans and caravans so any improvement in the parking space would be welcomed.

I hope the Club is rewarded for being proactive and progressive in the drive to find a new home. They should be commended for investigating and applying for Community Asset transfer instead of expecting others to find a solution for them. As a member of the local community I would certainly be happy to volunteer my time to help the club in any way I could.

Yours Sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 10:49:32

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Tue, 9 Nov 2021 13:06:43 +

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Mackie RFC Asset transfer request for Forest Park Stonehaven

**Importance:** Normal

---

Asset Transfer under the Community Empowerment Act  
Notice of Asset Transfer Request

Good afternoon, I would like to support Mackie RFC's request for the transfer of Forest Park.

The Rugby club benefits huge numbers of its members from pre school to senior citizens providing physical activity and social connections. As a community based club there are already affiliations with many other organisations, who would also benefit from the the improved facilities the club will provide, and the club could build new links with other groups.

The club has a national leading youth development system that can not be allowed to disappear if the club is unable to find alternate facilities to Redcloak.

There is an opportunity for the club to be a focal hub for the whole community of Stonehaven in the future.

Regards

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
24/10/2021

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing in support of Mackie Academy Former Pupils Rugby Football Club and their request for an asset transfer for land at Forest Park, Stonehaven.

My son has been part of the club since the age of six and it has played a very important role in his development. Not only coaching him in rugby but also how to become a better, more mature and respectful young adult both on and off the field. During the various lockdowns the club went out of its' way to ensure that the teams mental health was safeguarded by ensuring regular online coaching sessions and maintaining regular contact.

The club are and have always been keen to involve as large a part of the community as possible and provides a welcoming atmosphere where people of all ages can meet up. This coming together in my opinion helps strengthen ties within the community through supporting and playing for the various teams. Rugby truly is a sport that offers something for everyone!

Due to the recent sale of a pitch that the club used they are now down to one pitch. The lease on this pitch is not set to renewed when it expires in the next 5 years and without a "home" the rugby club would effectively cease to exist. I believe that various options have been considered by the club but nothing that offers a permanent solution for this important community resource has been found to date.

The club has recently been promoted and are now competing within the national league, having got there with the support and dedication of the coaches and those involved with the behind the scenes running of the club. This has all been achieved despite having limited

access to facilities and is an example of the dedication shown by so many people who have been determined to make the club a success. Had it not been for the pandemic the under 16's team was set to play a final at Murrayfield! The great work done in reaching the later stages of competitions such as these is being noticed at a national level and Mackie FP RFC is recognised as a real success capable of punching well above its weight – something that everyone in Stonehaven has a right to be proud of!

Within the councils Sport and Physical Strategy 2018-2028 there are numerous points that are relevant to Mackies request of the community asset transfer. Although Mackies request meets all four of the outcomes, I feel that Outcome 3 is the strongest.

Strategic Outcome 3 – Stronger Communities:

*'We will support local community groups to grow and sustain their support and physical activity provision'*

*'We will work with communities to support the development of sport and physical activity infrastructure, maximising access to additional resources'*

*'We will make use of our natural landscape and environment to enable people to be active'.*

This highlights that it is within the councils own policy to work with local communities to ensure that the growth of groups that provide physical activity. Allowing for the asset transfer to go ahead would make this achievable. Having adequate facilities for the club would not only benefit those directly involved but also have a positive impact within the wider community.

Yours Faithfully



**Archived:** 18 November 2021 10:55:37

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Tue, 9 Nov 2021 16:37:47

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Mackie RFC moving to forrest park, Stonehaven

**Importance:** Normal

---

Hello

I hope you are well, I wanted to send this email to provide my vote for the move of Mackie rugby club to forest park Stonehaven.

I believe the rugby club should move to the park as if not it might not have anywhere to go and will leave a lot of kids, parents and players stuck with nowhere to play the sport and for a lot of people the club provides a sense of community.

speaking from my experience with the club it has definitely provided me with a community that i am able to be a part off, I have been part of the club since i was in primary 4 [REDACTED] when i joined with my friends from primary school and met other people my age who i grew up with and became great friends through playing rugby. I currently play for the first team and still play with a lot of those people from my childhood and have made new friends of all ages and from all parts of Scotland. Even to this day a lot of my friends play the sport with the club and those who have moved team or have given up the sport can still talk and laugh about the games we played and the memories we made from the fun and travel as a team.

The club is a large part of my family as my brother and dad play and my mum is also involved in the club and it takes up a large part of our lives and weekends and would be a real shame considering the closest other rugby club in the area is either in Banchory or Aberdeen and for the children who cycle to training, like i did as a child, and for those who cannot drive will be left to find something else to keep them busy and to focus a there energy and time towards.

I believe Forrest park is the ideal location for the club as it is in a central location in the town, this is perfect for the children walking or cycling to rugby as they will not have to cross any dangerous roads to get there. It is also in the perfect location to allow teams or people to get the train to the town who don't live nearby and also provides plenty parking for the players and teams on training or game days.

Thank you very much for considering the move,

kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 10:58:16

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Tue, 9 Nov 2021 17:32:59

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Asset Transfer - Land at Forest Park, Stonehaven

**Importance:** Normal

---

To whomever this may concern:

I am writing in **support** of the proposal by Mackie Rugby Football Club to take ownership of the land at Forest Park in Stonehaven as an Asset Transfer from Aberdeenshire Council and wish this representation to be formally recorded and the information considered as part of the decision to be made on the proposal.

My son is currently part of the Mackie Rugby Mini [REDACTED] age group, and I have therefore been fortunate enough to experience the positive effect that the club has on the youngsters of Stonehaven and the surrounding area. I also have a number of friends who have been involved with Mackie Rugby over the years and am fully aware of their struggles in trying to secure a permanent home for the Club for the past 15 or so years.

The Rugby Club places the development of junior players as a core value and in order to maintain this development, it is essential that the Club has a safe and suitable Playing Facility. The Club is proposing to take an area of land within Stonehaven which is currently used predominantly for dog walking, and invest in the area to create a fantastic facility for the community and future rugby stars of tomorrow. The Club have exhausted all options in their search for suitable facilities to maintain their status. It would be disastrous for a town such as Stonehaven to lose the Rugby Club and all the tremendous work it does to promote and develop sport for the youngsters growing up in the area. The area of ground being proposed would be ideal for the Rugby Club in terms of topography, location and size. Being located within the town would be much safer for the youngsters to walk to for training and matches, while also allowing the adult team to grow their support base as the pitches are more accessible on foot for local supporters.

This development would be great for Stonehaven and would show the Council to be forward-thinking and supportive of local Community Sports Clubs. My [REDACTED] son, along with many other youngsters from Stonehaven and the surrounding area would be devastated if the Rugby Club was to cease operating due to its inability to source a suitable home.

Please accept this email of **support** for the Mackie Rugby Football Club proposal.

Regards  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 11:02:03

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Tue, 9 Nov 2021 16:39:18 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** Mackie Rugby Club - Forest Park plans

**Importance:** Normal

---

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my full support for the relocation of Mackie Rugby Club to the forest Park area in Stonehaven.

Although I see the irony in getting rid of an existing public space to utilise for the rugby club, having lived in Stonehaven for 12 years I can honestly say I have not seen the park being used much aside from dog walkers (of which I am one, and do use that space) and touch rugby in evenings (which is also Mackie Rugby Club).

The park is used most often as a shortcut to get between the Mill o Forest school and Nursery, to the Hamish playpark. Poor drainage has meant that the grass is often saturated and therefore not ideal for any other activities. From experience as my son attended mill o Forest school, the school sports days are held on the grass at the school, not in this park. The primary schools Cross country club run across the park but then around it for distance and this would not be precluded.

In my experience of living nearby and passing the park regularly I can say confidently that using the majority of it for the rugby club will make little difference to residents and their current usage.

As most people agree, it would be fantastic to have a purpose built rugby facility which didn't use an existing park, but as that seems to have been ruled out then this is the best compromise in my opinion. The benefit that the rugby club to the community as a whole, and not just to the 100's of youngsters who are members is huge. Stonehaven has a well established football team for all ages, as well as tennis, basketball, and cricket. These sports clubs all have dedicated space allocated to them, and in the case of football there are multiple pitches that can be used. The rugby club are limited to only being able to use Mackie academy school grounds, or the current rugby pitch at Redcloak. As both of these options are now at high risk of being removed it is important that the council fight on behalf of the club to keep it going. An additional benefit of having the pitches and clubhouse is the opportunity for other organisations to make use of the space too. Stonehaven is lacking in council owned indoor facilities for sports and fitness activities so another option is a great thing for the town.

I fully support the proposal to use the Forest Park space for Mackie RFC.

Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



**Archived:** 18 November 2021 11:04:50

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Tue, 9 Nov 2021 22:21:02 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Asset Transfer Forest Park

**Importance:** Normal

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To who it may concern

I support the transfer from forest park to Mackie rugby club.

The club is in great need of land. Especially with limited time remaining on their current lease. I also believe that Forest park is the perfect location as it is fairly central in Stonehaven. This would allow many people to walk instead of using a car. Therefore reducing pollution and increasing safety. From my experience, the park is rarely used and would benefit from the ground work that the Club would preform. The ground at the moment is wet and muddy, making it near enough inoperative in winter time.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 11:06:20

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wed, 10 Nov 2021 10:40:03 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Mackie Rugby

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear sir / madam,

I am writing to you to put in my support for the transfer of forest park Stonehaven to be given for the mackie rugby team. My son has been playing since spring this year and is very excited and happy to be part of the group. I hope it is able to continue as it's a great form of exercise and discipline for all the children.

[REDACTED]

Kind regards

Sent from my iPhone

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 11:07:29

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wed, 10 Nov 2021 10:44:35 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Asset transfer Forest Park land

**Importance:** Normal

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I am writing in support of the asset transfer of land at Forest Park to Mackie Rugby football Club. I am 63 years old and one of the oldest club members still playing. Mackie RUF is a tremendous asset to Stonehaven and because of the loss of one pitch and the impending restrictions on the lease of the remaining pitch is now facing an existential threat. With players ranging from my age to, I believe our youngest is player is 3 and from both sexes the club is one of the most inclusive and popular sport clubs in the area. Losing a social asset as good as this for want of a home would be real detriment to the town.

Over many years the club has put in a tremendous effort to try and secure land for a permanent base which would be an enabling factor in securing grants and the further development of the club. Despite these efforts, the club has been thwarted on many occasions and now faces a very real prospect of being homeless. The land at Forest Park probably represents the last opportunity available to the club to secure land in the area. Forest Park also represents a location that will enable the club to integrate with the community more fully, providing much needed function facilities that will be shared with the whole community.

I understand that residents may feel some loss of amenity, but the development of this space in this way will be a positive addition to the whole town including the local residents

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 11:09:02

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Mon, 8 Nov 2021 20:42:46

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Forest Park

**Importance:** Normal

---

Hi,

I would like to support Mackie Rugby Football Club's endeavour in the asset transfer of Forest Park. I feel the club provides a vital roll for both adults and children in the Stonehaven catchment area.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 11:10:13

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wed, 10 Nov 2021 11:10:09

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Asset transfer support

**Importance:** Normal

---

Hello,

I am writing in support of the Asset Transfer for Mackie Rugby Club for the site at Mill O Forest. It is beyond belief that a well established club that supports hundreds of children and adults of all age groups is in this position with other clubs such as football, cricket and tennis being so well catered for with dedicated grounds in the area.

Regards [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 11:11:57

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wed, 10 Nov 2021 11:23:02

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Positive representation: asset transfer land at Forest Park, Stonehaven

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear Sir/Madam,

I'm writing to express my support for the prospective asset transfer of the land at Forest Park, Stonehaven to Mackie RFC. I believe that this move will be of enormous benefit to the local community both in the short term and for years to come.

Mackie RFC has such a positive impact on the lives of our young people. Not only does it provide opportunities for our young people to take part in healthy physical activity but it provides the best level of coaching to our youth from early childhood right through to adulthood, giving our local youth the chance to achieve excellence in such a skillful game.

Not only this, the teamwork, camaraderie, sportsmanship and the general positive attitudes that are embodied in the club have such a positive influence on our young people. My family is relatively new to the area and my two sons were welcomed into the club having had no previous experience of rugby. Since then they have trained regularly, played matches all over Scotland and made new friends, become fitter and healthier and have grown in self confidence. There are hundreds of boys and girls of different ages sharing in these same benefits at Mackie RFC.

Given the enormous positive impact that Mackie RFC has on our community, I feel it is our responsibility, as a community, to support them to exist and thrive. The asset transfer at Forest Park, Stonehaven will allow the club to have a permanent home to develop our young people and serve our community for years to come. I feel that by supporting this, we are not supporting the cause of a rugby club but the cause of our young people and our community at large.

My details are as follows:

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Thank you very much for taking my views into consideration.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 11:14:08

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Tue, 9 Nov 2021 17:42:21 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Asset transfer - forest Park stonehaven

**Importance:** Normal

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Hello,

I am I favour of the asset transfer with the mackie rugby club. I have lived by this area the majority of my life in [REDACTED].

The ground barely gets used, I think the most it has been used was when the rugby was there when I was young.

This area would work so well for both the adults and the kids since it's close to civilisation.

I have been a part of the rugby club for over a year now and they definitely need a secure area like this for the kids to come and play.

Having an area like this so local will do well to keep kids interested as well.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 11:15:55

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Tue, 9 Nov 2021 18:57:16

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Support for Rugby Club

**Importance:** Normal

---

**To Whom it May Concern,**

I would like to offer my support for the community assets transfer for the Ruby Club in Stonehaven at Forrest Park. I appreciate there is a lot of passion for local residents in regards to the current park. However Stonehaven has many alternative options for parks, beaches, woodlands. The Rugby Club does not have any other viable options left. The Rugby Club only has an overused single pitch and an insecure one year lease. The benefit of the club, to the youth of Stonehaven in particular, for wellbeing and providing opportunities for young people is immeasurable. Sometimes we have to make sacrifices as a community. It is part of what being a community is about.

If the council decides not to go ahead with the community transfer then my hope is that there will be another alternative provided.

**Kind Regards,**

[REDACTED]



Archived: 18 November 2021 11:17:27

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Wed, 10 Nov 2021 11:37:45

To: Kincardine and Mearns

Subject: Mackie RFC Asset Transfer

Importance: Normal

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Dear sirs,

I write in support of the planned asset transfer of land at Forest Park in Stonehaven to Mackie RFC.

My son is currently a team member with the U13s and has enjoyed being part of Mackie RFC since he was in Primary 2. He is the 2nd generation of family members to be a player with the team, following in his father's footsteps. For each of them, and us as a family, the rugby club has been a source of fun, friendship and community. My involvement with rugby clubs since I was a teenager has taught me that it is a sport where the whole family can feel welcome and included. My husband has made life long friends through Mackie RFC and my son will no doubt do the same. We live outside of Stonehaven and my son went to a fairly small country school yet the friendships he made through his involvement in the rugby club meant he joined Mackie Academy with the reassurance that he had friends there already who provided a **support network**. There are several children at the Academy who have also had this experience. Without the rugby club, this would not have existed.

Rugby is a community-building sport and Mackie RFC would therefore be well placed within the Stonehaven community. Everyone is welcome to join, the more the merrier (quite literally sometimes) and the **inclusivity of the club** is easily visible to even the most infrequent of visitors. The club has training sessions twice weekly for most school age groups with the addition of a fitness academy once a week. The **health and wellbeing benefits** of the club being based within the town of Stonehaven would make the training and facilities more accessible for those who attend and hopefully encourage others to participate too. The land at Forest Park will be walking/cycling distance for many of the children in the town - and the adults. From a **safety perspective**, children being able to walk along lit streets, on pavements and within a close proximity to home is an added bonus of the location.

I am aware that the club has made several endeavours to purchase land following the news that the current location will cease to be available to them at the end of the current lease. The club is run by volunteers, is not a bank rolled organisation and simply does not have the funds to compete with the businesses and organisations that have paid substantially more for local land than the club can afford. The prospect of losing a club that has been a mainstay for many of the Stonehaven community for generations is sad to contemplate and I sincerely hope that the asset transfer goes ahead and Stonehaven can continue to enjoy the commitment that Mackie RFC has towards the local community and all those who live in it.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 11:19:24

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wed, 10 Nov 2021 12:10:06 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Mackie RFC Land transfer to Forest Park proposal

**Importance:** Normal

---

To Whom it may concern,

This correspondence is in support of Mackie RFC land transfer at Forest Park.

I was an active member of the club for about 14 years during my son's progression from mini micros to U18s.

The club is, in my opinion, a massive contributor to Stonehaven community and its continued healthy numbers of young people playing for the club demonstrates the part it plays.

The club has enjoyed various levels of success but through my time supporting the club the facilities were always short term and temporary.

I know the club has actively pursued other options for retaining a home but has never been successful due to commercial competition or lack of foresight by competing associations / organisations.

Now the club is effectively getting thrown from its base the Forest Park alternative is a good solution. The number of people who will benefit from the rugby park and shared facilities will outweigh the unfortunate loss to local dog walkers and ad-hoc users.

Hence I fully support this proposal.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 11:20:36

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Tue, 9 Nov 2021 17:14:32

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Re: Mackie Rugby Club - Forest Park

**Importance:** Normal

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**Subject: Mackie Rugby Club - Forest Park**

Good afternoon,

I'm writing to voice my support for the relocation of Mackie Rugby Club to the Forest Park area within Stonehaven.

Our son plays for the Mackie U14 team, and has benefitted from the support of the club since [REDACTED] 2014, when he was 6 years old. When he found it difficult to settle in to a new life in a new town with new people around him, the rugby club provided a safe and fun community where our son was encouraged to be part of a team with good values. This has worked wonders for him over the years, and even now, some seven years on, the club is providing vital coaching and support to a teenager that struggles to accept it elsewhere.

Mackie Rugby Club is a very community focused organisation, and our son has really benefitted from the support and friendships made through the club. He is certainly not alone in this regard. The club is very well run despite the lack of resources, and is achieving a huge amount. Our son's team is competing with those at the very top level in Scotland; clubs with permanent homes, expensive clubhouses and training facilities... and little old Mackie RFC are up there with them.

While there is a level of community reluctance for the club to relocate to Forest Park, I hope that agreement can be reached for this to happen. The location is far safer for children and teenagers to travel to than other possibilities (including the current location, which involves them walking or cycling on a main road without full pathways). A permanent home for Mackie RFC in the heart of Stonehaven, and close to the train station would be a real benefit to a club that has a solid foundation and a very strong membership.

Sadly, from my time in Stonehaven, Forest Park is vastly underused. It's not even suitable for walking the dog for 8 months a year due to a lack of sufficient drainage. There most certainly is not regular use for picnics and kite flying - let alone regular sports; as some of the leaflets and social media posts would suggest. There seems to be resistance for resistance sake, rather than the park being utilised. Some of the arguments against just seem to be more focused on avoiding change, rather than considering that it may be a positive thing.

My fear is that the closed-minded resistance to change may lead to the rugby club not being relocated to Forest Park, and then the park just continues to be a dead space 99% of the time, as it currently is. With the exhaustive work that the Mackie Rugby Club have put in to try to find a permanent home, if this application is rejected, then I fear for the impact on a club that provides a massive benefit to the community. Relocating far outside the Stonehaven area, or simply ceasing to be would be unthinkable when there is a simple and very positive solution presented.

In my opinion, rejecting the proposal under largely inaccurate claims of the level of community use of the park would be a terrible mistake, when Mackie RFC would bring a very positive use of the area to the community.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 11:24:55

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wed, 10 Nov 2021 12:13:10

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Asset Transfer - Forest Park

**Importance:** Normal

---

Hello,

I would like to send in a message support for the asset transfer of forest park to MARFC.

I played for Mackie throughout my childhood and again in recent years, it would be a crying shame if Stonehaven lost such a huge club.

The club supports so many families in helping their children learn and grow, on and off the pitch and we would hate to lose it.

Sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 11:27:42

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wed, 10 Nov 2021 12:27:59 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** "Asset Transfer - Forest Park"

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to you in regard to the application from Mackie RFC to build new sporting facilities at Forest Park in Stonehaven.

As a former member of the club I would urge you support this application.

The club brings together people from all ages and backgrounds and offers a sense of community along with the benefits of physical exercise and teamwork.

With over 400 youth members I feel it is imperative that this opportunity is realised and implemented for the current and future generations to enjoy.

If the pandemic has taught us anything it would be that physical exercise and social interaction are key for mental health and this development supports both those exceptionally well.

Forest park has a history with the rugby club and i have spent many a muddy night training under the spotlights and have made some life long friends and have some of my happiest memories being part of the club. I feel the space would be a fantastic asset for Stonehaven, Mackie RFC and other local clubs and urge this application to be granted.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 11:28:51

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wed, 10 Nov 2021 12:28:53 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Asset transfer - Forest Park

**Importance:** Normal

---

Hi,

I believe the forest park should be handed over to rugby park so it may be used by them which will benefit the local community. My grandfather, father, brother, friends and there sons have all been apart of the Mackie rugby club. I have never seen the park used in my 30 years apart from the occasional dog walker, which wouldn't be affected by the take over. The anti asset transfer movement is confusing to me as the people trying to block the move have no interest in the park, and if the transfer is blocked they will most likely never step foot in or mention the park again.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 11:30:03

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wed, 10 Nov 2021 12:29:07 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Asset transfer-forest Park

**Importance:** Normal

---

Hello,

I would like to send in a message support for the asset transfer of forest park to MARFC.

I played for Mackie throughout my childhood and again in recent years, it would be a crying shame if Stonehaven lost such a huge club.

The club supports so many families in helping their children learn and grow, on and off the pitch and we would hate to lose it.

Sincerely

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 11:30:58

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wed, 10 Nov 2021 12:36:53

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Asset Transfer - Forest Park

**Importance:** Normal

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Good Afternoon,

I write to you in support of the Mackie Rugby Club application for asset transfer of Forest Park.

The rugby club is an essential part of the fabric of the Stonehaven community and have demonstrated their commitment to the town through their volunteering and supportive activities - marshalling at bonfire nights, manning the bar during the folk festival and supporting the Lions with fee-in market stall erection to name a few.

As stewards of the facilities at Redcloak the club have demonstrated over the years their commitment to enhance the facilities for the benefit of the local community and I am sure they would show, as they have in the past, that continued commitment to the forest park facility.

As I am sure you are aware leisure facility within the town is at a premium and I believe this proposal maximises the use of existing facility provision without unreasonable impact to the neighbourhood.

Yours

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



**Archived:** 18 November 2021 11:33:09

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wed, 10 Nov 2021 12:44:36

**To:** [diane.henderson@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:diane.henderson@aberdeenshire.gov.uk).

**Cc:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** park

**Importance:** Normal

---

[REDACTED]  
Good afternoon i stay at [REDACTED] and agree with the rugby club to use the park

Regards

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 11:35:36

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wed, 10 Nov 2021 12:57:38 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Asset transfer - Forest Park

**Importance:** Normal

---

Good afternoon,

I believe the land at forest park should be handed over to the rugby club. The alternative looks to be the non-existence of the Mackie rugby club, which I'm sure we can all agree is not an option.

Currently the land is rarely used, you could quite easily survey this over a period of time to prove this point. Other than the occasional dog walker, on the whole, this green area remains unoccupied for the majority of the year.

We need to have out of school sports clubs to allow future generations the chance to flourish and socialise through competitive sport. This training allows young children/adults to develop skills they might not get from school and help with not only their physical health but mental health as well.

Stonehaven has managed to transform the all weather pitches, which has allowed the stonehaven football teams to enhance their product. This move will allow Mackie rugby to do the exact same thing, that the pro's will far outweigh the cons.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 11:36:48

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wed, 10 Nov 2021 13:10:47

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns; [REDACTED]

**Subject:** Asset Transfer - Forest Park

**Importance:** Normal

---

Hello,

My name is [REDACTED] a member of the Mackie Academy Rugby Club. I would like to show support for the club to be moved to the Forest Park area.

Kind Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

-

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
09/11/21

Asset Transfer – Land at Forest Park, Stonehaven

To the Kincardine and Mearns Area Manager

I am writing to you in **support** of the proposed transfer of land at Forest Park to Mackie Rugby Football Club as an asset transfer from Aberdeenshire Council and wish this representation to be formally recorded, and the information considered as part of the report to be prepared for the Kincardineshire and Mearns Area Committee advising on the acceptance or rejection of the proposal.

I have lived in Stonehaven for nearly 20 years and throughout this time have been aware of the work and efforts done to enable rugby development in Stonehaven and the surrounding area. Both my sons joined the rugby club at a very young age and one of them still plays for rugby with the club. This has been one of the most rewarding and beneficial activities we have done as a family in our town and I am determined to maintain and support this club and it's future.

I have reviewed the submissions made by the club and understand the extremely difficult position it is in in relation to facilities in our town and there is no other suitable or reasonable alternative that can provide the area, infrastructure and benefits that the Forest Park locations does.

This club needs every support possible in order to survive and continue to provide health, wellbeing, personal, family and youth development in our area. The facilities in Mineralwell Park are first class and enable football for a huge number of people. Our town needs similar support and provision for rugby and we should do everything to facilitate and support the Club's substantial efforts.

I understand that every effort has been and will continue to be made to minimise the impact to the surrounding area, housing and families, but this can be done whilst still providing the 1<sup>st</sup> class facilities that will enable our town to provide top drawer sporting activities, along with all the health and wellbeing benefits, associated with it.

I cannot stress how much this club has meant to my family and our children and without a new facility in our town, this would be a huge loss to Stonehaven, which we will never be able to replace.

Please, consider the huge benefits in relation to the smaller losses to the community, who, in essence use the park and it's space far less than any sporting facility would. We need to add value and worth to our town and this new proposal will add huge value and benefits that far outweighs the downside of transferring the purpose of the land.

I support this transfer fully and request every consideration be made to the transfer to Mackie Rugby Football club.

Your faithfully,

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 11:40:17

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wed, 10 Nov 2021 13:58:33 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Asset Transfer - Forest Park

**Importance:** Normal

---

Good Afternoon,

I am emailing in response to the recent publication released surrounding the asset transfer of forest park to Mackie Academy Former Pupils Rugby Football Club. I believe that the work that this rugby club has done for the community over the decades is absolutely outstanding. I myself, including my sister and my father have all at one time been heavily involved within the rugby club, it gave my sister and I a welcoming group of individuals who took their time to help, train and guide us into the people we are today. It's a place for many adults and children to meet new friends and make special memories. The club also brings in welcomed tourism to the town, the league in which Mackie Rugby play in means that teams from all over the country visit our town and use our facilities such as hotels, restaurants, bars, ice cream shops - pumping crucial money back into our community.

This rugby club also proudly represents many high-level rugby players who have gone on to do some incredible work worldwide. Some players who grew up playing for the team from 4 years old have gone to play semi-professional and sometimes at professional levels in countries such as Italy and New Zealand. My sister even represented the Scottish women rugby team, hailing her success to the work done by the club.

As a child right up to the age of 18 we used to regularly train at the Forest Park grounds and this was never ever seen as a problem, to be completely honest without coming across to pedantic, many of those evenings meant boys, girls and coaches turning up early to remove dog faeces from the grass prior to training. So, I find it incredibly hard to believe that many of those who comment on using the park for their children have ever really ventured into the area where the Mackie RFC are planning on utilising.

To conclude it is in the best interest of this council to allow the planning for Mackie to RFC to obtain these grounds so that they can continue the great work they do for the community, this is a proud club known throughout Aberdeenshire and beyond and it would be absolutely heart-breaking to see something that has been built for years by proud Stonehaven residents, voluntarily all off their own backs with very limited support, to have to disband over the fact that the local council will not allow them an area to train and play.

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 11:42:04

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wed, 10 Nov 2021 14:10:42

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Asset Transfer - Forest Park

**Importance:** Normal

---

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this email in full support of the quick asset transfer for the Mackie Rugby Club to ensure that future generations will have access to a much used local resource that I myself benefited greatly from. I fondly remember the post game walks I would take from Redcloak across the bridge after a long and hard rugby match and remember the resolve and determination that I would feel to continue to get better and work harder for my team and teammates. The thought of the current and future generations of Mackie and Stonehaven youth not having this opportunity as an outlet and a vessel to keep them on the straight and narrow is a considerable worry. I have friends that I gained over 20 years ago that are still a large part of my life now through Rugby. Mackie Rugby Club was a right of passage for me and many friends and acted as an anchor in the turbulent and chaotic times that were my teenage years and I want to ensure I play a part in raising my voice so that my friends and their children can utilize the club. In my time training with the Mackie Rugby Club, we utilized the Forest Park space with no issues whatsoever and brought people to a place that was primarily abused by underage kids getting up to no good.

Let this be a positive change in the community. This is an issue so close to my heart that I write to you from [REDACTED]. I no longer live in Stonehaven, but have many, many friends and family that do and that's why I write so that I can preserve that opportunity for more to come.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 11:49:40

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wed, 10 Nov 2021 12:15:23

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Mackie Rugby Club community asset transfer

**Importance:** Normal

---

Good afternoon,

I was recently brought up to speed on the ongoing application for community asset transfer pertaining to Mackie Academy Former Pupils Rugby Football Club and the transfer of training ground from Redcloak to Forest Park. I understand the Redcloak land owner will not be extending the lease to use the facilities.

I am writing to express my **strong support for this asset transfer**. As a former player at the club (from the age of 5-20) I can personally speak to the positive impact the club had on my life and that of many other children and young adults. The club has experienced an enormous amount of success since the early days and is widely regarded as the most successful youth club in the north or Scotland. If the club were to end up without a fixed training ground, it would impact the lives of so many young children and adults. In fact, I can think of no better use for the Forest Park ground and fondly remember training there as a young boy - the council would be doing the right thing, and the best thing for constituents, by facilitating the transfer. The rugby club has been an important part of our Stonehaven community for many years and adds an enormous amount of value to children's lives and the town every year.

I hope the council will do the right thing by the young children/adults playing at the club and grant the transfer. I urge you to go and watch a youth game, so you can see the value brought to our community.

Many thanks,

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 11:52:05

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thu, 11 Nov 2021 10:43:55

**To:** Diane Henderson

**Subject:** Fwd:

**Importance:** Normal

---

To whome it may concern,

Ref: Letter of support for notice of asset transfer request Forest Park, Stonehaven.

Mackie RFC have sought grounds for their club in Stonehaven for many years now in order to provide their growing player base a facility to train and host rugby matches.

Mackie RFC is the most successful youth club in the North of Scotland and requires facilities in order to continue to provide the community with an outstanding club. Some youth players have progressed to national representative level with some looking to make careers in rugby.

Mackie RFC also has an extremely well established senior rugby section including a women's squad.

The club provides a vital facility for not just Stonehaven based players but also the wider community as well.

It is vital the club is provided the support it so badly needs in order to continue to make a colossal contribution to the community.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



**Archived:** 18 November 2021 11:54:29

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Tue, 9 Nov 2021 18:03:58 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Rugby Club - Mill o' Forest Park

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear Sir/Madam

I would like to add my commentary on the relocation of the Mackie Rugby Club to Mill o' Forest Park.

Personally, I see this is move as a fantastic investment to retain much needed sports and social club activities within the area. The club contributes a lot to the local community, and offers opportunities to children and adults alike to be part of something.

Let's face it, the space is underused. It's a very large open green area, currently occupied by sparse dog walkers on an infrequent basis. There are plenty of other areas nearby; Witches, Dunnottar Woods etc. that provide ample space for dog walking. The crux of the argument opposing the development seems to centre around consultation of local community (that's what's happening now), and the loss of green space, Stonehaven has ample green space with easy accessibility.

We need to focus on what this development brings.

- Retention of a much needed successful club in the local area;
- Opportunity for child sport development;
- Potential sharing of the facilities with other clubs, affording them improved facilities to develop talent;
- Access. Let's not force developments out of town they cannot be safely accessed by children without an adult.
- Community.

I'm confident there are more benefits than this, further supporting the necessity to ensure this development goes ahead.

Regards

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 11:55:55

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wed, 10 Nov 2021 19:02:03

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** ASSET TRANSFER - FOREST PARK

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear Sirs,

I refer to the above request for asset transfer to Mackie RFC at Forest Park Stonehaven, in lieu of the pending termination of the lease of their current facilities at Redcloak.

Having been a former player at the club in the late 1980s/early 1990s and subsequently a coach, later senior coach, with their Minis Section from 1995 to 2007; I would like to remind the council of the legacy that Mackie Rugby club has given to the youth of Stonehaven and the surrounding areas. In this case I would like to emphasise on the work done with the primary school children through Mackie Minis

Over the years the Minis section has grown from a handful of enthusiastic children to hundreds in any given week, making the Minis Section and also the Youth Section one of the most successful for Scottish Rugby. In the period when I worked with the boys and girls, we enthusiastically encouraged many skills including teamwork and respect - something which continues to this day

Now retired from the local rugby scene I can reflect on the successes that the Rugby Club have brought to sport and representation within the local community and further afield (the catchment area for the club ranges from as far north as Portlethen and south to Laurencekirk and Inverbervie).

The success of the club for a place like Stonehaven has been enormous. Regularly invitations for the boys and girls from Stonehaven to play throughout Scotland have become a regular event, including recently at Glasgow Rugby's facility at Scotstoun. Several players (both boys and girls) have gone on to represent Scotland at age range rugby from under 16 to under 21 level; some have later played for other clubs at Murrayfield in the national club finals; whilst others have gone on to play and coach rugby throughout the world.

However, it is the legacy to the ordinary families in Stonehaven and the surrounding area that has been the most prevalent for the Minis Section of the rugby club. The activities have brought together thousands of boys and girls over the years - many of whom are now grown up with families of their own, with the club offering their on-going ethos of fun filled activity and mini rugby. Fourteen years later I am still regularly stopped by both parents and former children (now adults) who enthuse over their time associated with Mackie Minis.

My concern is that if there is nowhere for Mackie Rugby Club to set down roots within Stonehaven when the lease is terminated at Redcloak, then there is a danger that Mackie Rugby Club will ultimately cease to exist. Resultantly any legacy and benefit which has been given to all these boys and girls within the community will be lost - particularly in an era when the encouragement of sport is advocated with both local and national initiatives

There have been a lot of relatively one sided comments in the local press over this request for an asset transfer of Forest Park to Mackie Rugby Club. In each case the good work of the rugby club is never doubted; however the reality that it could all come to an end is not taken into account. I therefore request that the council consider granting the application of the asset transfer and allow the good work of Mackie Rugby Club within the community to continue

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 11:59:46

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wed, 10 Nov 2021 20:19:30 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Fwd: Mackie Rugby Club Asset Transfer

**Importance:** Normal

---

To Whom it may concern

Please accept this email as my complete support for the Mackie Rugby Clubs asset transfer request to Forest Park from Mackie Clubhouse.

It is a fantastic opportunity looking towards not only the future of the club, but a permanent facility which will be available for a variety of activities across all ages.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 12:01:06

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thu, 11 Nov 2021 07:39:42

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Mackie Rugby Club Asset Transfer

**Importance:** Normal

---

FAO - Area Manager,

I would like to notify you of my support in the application for the Asset Transfer Request Application by Mackie RFC.

The Mackie rugby club has for many years supported the Kincardineshire community in providing excellent rugby coaching for 1,000's of kids and the community should now support the Mackie rugby club.

It is amazing the amount of free time the Mackie rugby club committee and coaches dedicate to the Kincardineshire kids and these kids need up to date facilities to flourish.

Please support the club by approving this application.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 12:02:24

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thu, 11 Nov 2021 09:20:04

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Asset Transfer-Mackie Rugby Football Club

**Importance:** Normal

---

As a local resident, who originally lived in Forest Park from 1977-1991 I am writing to support Mackie RFC in their bid to purchase and re-home to the site on Forest Drive. I believe that this would be a great asset to the Club and the Local Community.

The rugby club in Stonehaven was established in 1976 and at the time of the teachers strikes in the early 1980's it was found that rugby became one of the casualties of the 'work to rule' policy adopted in schools. Since the Mackie Clubs inception thousands of children have benefitted from the coaching helping them develop life time skills. The club is now established as the largest youth rugby club in the North East, and one of the largest in the whole of Scotland. This is a huge asset for the town.

The park on Forest Drive is and has been an area that is hardly used apart from the occasional jogger and dog walker since it was built. The drainage of the Park has been an issue since it's inception and will cost a huge amount of money to sort it out.

For the Local residents and others who do not live in the immediate area who are objecting to this development by their appeal through "Social Media" for people to turn up with picnics, games etc for a Press Visit by the Evening Express shows a desperation and how little the Park is actually used on a regular basis.

Aberdeenshire Council needs to show real leadership in this issue and help fund and support facilities that will benefit all sports in this area. The Rugby Club have shown what can be achieved by the hard work of the volunteers, coaches, parents and the youths of the area who have helped develop the Mackie Rugby Club to be one of the largest in Scotland for young players. To allow this to fail through the lack of playing and training facilities would be a disgrace.

Stonehaven District within Aberdeenshire Council already suffers from some of the worst educational facilities in the Council area and without the "friends" who look after the swimming pool, the Horizon group, Rotary Club, Men's Shed and others who have cleaned up and developed the Town Centre, Beachfront, Harbour and other areas this would be a very run down place if they had relied only on Aberdeenshire Council. I believe that it is time for the Council to stand up and help to deliver proper sports facilities that will benefit the whole town.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 12:04:32

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wed, 10 Nov 2021 18:16:22 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Asset Transfer - Forest Park

**Importance:** Normal

---

Hi There,

I am emailing you to usher you to support the movement of Mackie Rugby Club.

This is a club I spent a lot of years with and took an incredible amount of value and enjoyment from playing there. The youth system in place is vital for the area and community. Rugby is a sport that is starting to gain more popularity in Scotland, and it is important that clubs like this continue to grow and support the areas in which it resides.

I think you must take into consideration the impact a club like this has on the community and people which reside in it. I trust you guys will make the correct decision in transferring over the club. And in doing so continue to contribute to the sport which has starting to grab the nations attention.

Kind Regards,

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 12:05:43

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thu, 11 Nov 2021 14:46:51 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Mackie RFC Asset Transfer Request

**Importance:** Normal

---

Hi there,

I am writing to give my support for the proposed development at Forest Park, Stonehaven. I have played rugby for 20 years now and travelled to many different clubs around the country where similar developments are found in close proximity to housing developments. The provision of fantastic facilities, coaching and community engagement has led to locals embracing these rugby clubs, creating a relationship beneficial to both parties, Glasgow Hutchesons' Aloysians RFC are a fantastic example of this.

Having kept a close eye on the objections towards the development, I can't help but feel there is an element of "not in my back yard" selfishness to many of the complaints, especially with the headline statement of "save our park". For me, the park is there for the whole of the community to use not just those living adjacent to it. If the land could be re-purposed to benefit not just a growing club with several hundred members, but other organisations and the community as a whole, it would be a fantastic asset for Stonehaven.

As a sport rugby has been overlooked for many years but over the last decade its popularity has seen a meteoric rise and throughout that period Mackie RFC have been at the forefront of developing the sport in the North East. Most of the playable surfaces within the town are used by other sports such as football and cricket which is fantastic, but this has left the rugby club with very few options for training facilities or developing the club to match the quality of its training infrastructure and status within the youth game.

With players ranging from 3-63 the club has created an open-door community within the community and its continual growth shows the importance of the club to those living in the area. Forest Park is a fantastic location for the club, which was shown during the many years it was used by them, with children will be able to walk safely there, players are able to commute via train and also the feeling of it being part of the town itself. Having lived in Stonehaven for most of my life, I know how infrequently the large grass area park does get used by people for sports or activities. I can't see many people being hindered in their daily routine at all if the proposed walking path around the facilities is made and the playpark is left, as it can be busy during the summer months.

Warm Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



Kincardine & Mearns Area Manager  
Aberdeenshire Council  
Viewmount  
Arduthie Road  
Stonehaven  
AB39 2DQ

**Mackie Rugby Football Club Asset Transfer Request of Forest Park - Representation**

Dear Sir/Madam

This letter is in support of the asset transfer request of land in Forest Park in Stonehaven to Mackie Rugby Football club.

I think it is critical that the club have land made available to continue to operate after 2026 when their current facility will no longer be available.

I believe that a rugby club is an integral part of the community which offers training and development for all age groups in a safe environment providing health benefits, both physical and mental.

In a town where the available options to house the club are limited, I think the location requested is ideal, with good safe links for kids to travel safely to and from the club.

Yours Faithfully

A large black rectangular redaction mark covering the signature area.

A smaller black rectangular redaction mark covering the name of the signatory.



Archived: 18 November 2021 12:09:37

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Thu, 11 Nov 2021 10:34:23 +0000ARC

To: Kincardine and Mearns

Subject: Support For Proposed Asset Transfer - Forest Park, Stonehaven

Importance: High

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Good morning,

I am writing to you in support of the proposed Asset Transfer of land at Forest Park Stonehaven to Mackie Rugby Football Club. As a resident of Stonehaven for many years I have seen the hugely positive impact that this club has had on the entire community and in particular promoting health and wellbeing in children, not just from Stonehaven but across Aberdeenshire. My 2 children have been a part of the rugby community since they were 5 years old and it has not only ensured that they have good physical fitness but improved their mental health and also taught them how to respect other people. A club such as this that impacts so many children and adults should be given every bit of support we can to ensure they can keep doing such good work.

The situation as it stands now with regards to future training facilities, if not resolved, could result in the club having to close down and this would be absolutely devastating. I have bulleted a number of areas that I believe should be taken into consideration:

- Mackie RFC has just been promoted in the SRU league which shows just how much all the hard work of the players and coaches (at both youth and adult level) has paid off. We need to ensure that our facilities keep up with this growth so that we can continue to support potential future players (in particular given some of our youth players are being selected for the National youth team).
- I live close to the park in question and regularly walk my dog along the path next to the pavement. In all this time I have never seen anyone actually playing in the field area itself. Occasionally I may see the odd dog owner walking across it or on the same path as myself. The independent survey undertaken noted it had been used by 21 persons (not even different people) in a 2 week period. If the Asset Transfer goes ahead this will ensure the park is used by hundreds of people on a weekly basis (mostly children). I have noted that there are often families using the playpark but this is not going to be affected by the proposal, and in fact perhaps there is an opportunity as part of the proposal for it to get a refresh as a goodwill gesture.
- The club has attempted to purchase other areas of land within the Stonehaven area but is constantly being outbid by developers, so there are no alternative options at this time.
- I notice that there is a petition in place for people protesting the Asset Transfer, but given that I have never seen anyone use the playing field (as backed up by the independent survey) I would question how many people on the petition have actually set foot in the park! I understand they went door to door asking residents to sign it without actually confirming if it was a space they use.
- I note there were concerns about the floodlighting disturbing residents, however this is only going to be used during the darker winter months and rugby training does not take place late at night.
- The benefit that this club brings to hundreds of children across Aberdeenshire surely outweighs the protests of a few individuals who have many alternative walking routes....Mineralwell Park, Dunnottar Woods, Carronhill, etc.
- The SRU put in place a Development Officer, [REDACTED], who is doing an amazing job at promoting the use of rugby in primary and secondary schools for both physical and mental wellbeing from Portlethen down to Laurencekirk. If the club has to fold because it has nowhere to train, this appointment will be lost and all the great work that is being done will be gone.
- If this does not go ahead and no other alternative land can be found (to please the minority of residents who occasionally walk across the playing field from time to time), where are our children to go? Who will tell them that they can't play rugby anymore?

In summary, for this Asset Transfer not to go ahead would be an absolute travesty! We should be supporting clubs such to become bigger and better, throwing our weight behind them so as to positively impact as many lives as possible instead of impeding them so the sake of a few individuals who don't like change. We have an opportunity to create a lasting legacy in our town that could continue for decades to come.

Kind regards,  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



**Archived:** 18 November 2021 12:12:07

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thu, 11 Nov 2021 15:39:33 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Proposed Rugby Development at Forrest Park Stonehaven

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear Sir / Madam,

I hope you are well.

As a former player of Mackie Rugby Club and the son of one of the founding members I wanted to email in my support of this proposed development. The rugby club has had a hugely positive impact on my own life and many of my friends who grew up in Stonehaven and surrounding areas. Securing a central location for the club is vital to its future and the Forrest Park location would be ideal.

I would very much urge you to consider the proposal and hopefully it will be approved.

Many thanks,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 12:13:41

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thu, 11 Nov 2021 16:50:59

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Mackie Rugby Football Club Proposed Purchase of Forest Park Stonehaven

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear Kincardine & Mearns Area Manager,

I write to you to register my wholehearted support of Mackie Rugby Football Club's proposed purchase of Forest Park, Stonehaven.

Having coached youth mini rugby at Aberdeen Grammar FP's for seven years leading up until the March 2020 COVID-19 lockdown, I am now a Community Rugby Referee registered at the Scottish Rugby Union and linked with Mackie RUFC, Robert Gordon's College and the Aberdeen Referees Society. As such I have experienced first hand the many positive benefits that Rugby Union can bring to girls and boys and the wider community, which includes:

- Exercise & activity
- A nurturing team environment and a sense of belonging
- Improved personal skill development, self esteem & self acceptance, and with that self confidence
- Respect for the referee, team members & opposition players and the games laws

It should also be noted that Mackie RUFC has progressed significantly within the national rugby leagues and certainly between U13 to U18 age grade levels now competes at one of the highest levels compared with any other school or club in our region. The club should rightly be celebrated as a true Aberdeenshire success story.

In my view, approving the proposed purchase of Forest Park, Stonehaven and therefore allowing the club to develop its training and playing facilities will add significant benefit to Stonehaven and our region.

Yours,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 12:16:01

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thu, 11 Nov 2021 17:12:19 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Asset transfer - Forest Park

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to write to you and express my support for the transfer of Forest Park to my club Mackie RFC. The club was a huge part of my childhood, my first memories of Mackie RFC were running around Forest park in blizzard like conditions at the age of 5. Then getting 50p for the tuck shop at the end of training. I have been a club member for 22 [REDACTED] years and I believe having a stable rugby club in Stonehaven was hugely beneficial to me personally and allowed me to progress my rugby career and I ending up representing Mackie RFC at Scotland U18s level. This something I am very proud of and it wouldn't have been possible without a solid club like mackie RFC. The grassroots rugby at Mackie is huge and having a place to call home I believe is vital to the success of the club and the positive impact it has on the wider community.

The club supported my thought my education, childhood, adolescence and allowed me to make friendships that will last a lifetime. I think Mackie RFC it a special club that is part of Stonehaven and should we loose that and the solid foundation it needs it would be hugely detrimental to the Stonehaven community as a whole.

Kind regards,  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 12:17:16

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thu, 11 Nov 2021 18:13:12

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Mackie academy rugby development at forest park

**Importance:** Normal

---

Good evening,

I'd like to publicly add my support to the development of Forrest park in to a home ground for Mackie rugby club.

As a former player at the club, I can only see this as a huge step in the right direction for the club to have state of the art facilities, allowing the club to grow and more importantly retain players. One of the reasons I left the club was due to the poor clubhouse facilities which were of a significantly lower standard to all other local clubs.

The club would benefit from being closer to town too, a lot of the younger members who are unable to drive would have to walk or cycle out to red cloak which is inherently dangerous.

It would be great to see the rugby club on the receiving end of some good fortune after having given so much to the community through their charitable endeavours.

Best regards,

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 12:18:32

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thu, 11 Nov 2021 18:33:06 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Mackie rugby

**Importance:** Normal

---

Hi all

I am emailing to express my support for Mackie Rugby to have the asset transfer for Forest Park, Stonehaven.

My children love rugby, my son and both my daughters love coming to Mackie rugby.

My daughters come to training on a Monday, and the improvement in them from the coaching is excellent. They both feel part of a squad and we as a family feel so included by the club.

It would be fabulous for Mackie to have a home of their own, with appropriate facilities - to encourage and promote the game, girls in the game and physical fitness and the great benefits all this brings to mental health. Especially in the recovery post pandemic.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 12:19:31  
**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thu, 11 Nov 2021 18:56:42  
**To:** Kincardine and Mearns  
**Subject:** Support for asset transfer request  
**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear Sir/Madam,

I hereby notify my support for the request by Mackie Rugby Football Club for an asset transfer of land at Forest Park, Stonehaven under the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015.

My reasons for supporting this are that Mackie Rugby is an inclusive community club which offers rugby coaching and development for children from three upwards teaching them important lifelong skills covering Stonehaven and the wider Kincardine and Mearns area. Along with this, it has an unrivalled coaching network of parents and volunteers. Mackie Rugby has one of the biggest children's sections in Scotland providing positive health benefits in addition to sporting opportunities. It also supports local events held to ensure that the wider community benefits from its member's efforts.

In order for this to continue, it is essential for Mackie Rugby Football Club to find a new facility to replace the current one which they are losing. Without it, the local community would lose one of its major sporting and community contributor's.

Yours

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 12:20:58

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thu, 11 Nov 2021 19:37:09

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Asset Transfer of Forest Park

**Importance:** Normal

---

Sir/Madam

I would like to first of all register my interest in this application as my Son plays Rugby for Mackie at U18 level. He has played Rugby at Mackie since he was eleven. This has given him nothing but pleasure, happiness and a friendship group that will probably stay with him for a lifetime. He has travelled all over Scotland representing Mackie, Stonehaven and the North of Scotland playing rugby at a level that other clubs praise, admire and comment on. He has been involved in representative Rugby at regional level which has broadened his horizons and friendship group. He is fit , strong and athletic and hopes to go to University to study Sports science with his goal to use this degree to work in Rugby as a career.

Regarding the application I think that the current location that Mackie have was ideal but recently this has been compromised due to the owners closing off the use of one pitch when this land should have been kept as a sport only facility.

The option for the new facility at the park will be a superb centre which will be used by the entire community for the benefit of many and the continued progress of the club which can only bring praise and enhance the reputation of Stonehaven.

I hope that you will vote for the application to develop the sporting facility and make the club a bigger part of the community and also allow them to continue mentoring thousands of kids to be better and healthy young adults which will make everyone proud of the Stonehaven and the club.

Your support in this will be greatly appreciated.

Regards

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



**Archived:** 18 November 2021 12:22:38

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Sun, 24 Oct 2021 12:59:36 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Asset transfer at Forest Park to Mackie RFC

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear Sir/Madam

I refer to the proposed Asset Transfer and have studied the proposal and site plans .

Inevitably there will be much debate over the pros and cons of such a development from supporters and dissenters .

It is a huge site and I think over the years has been an under-utilised area in a very central flat part of the town . The Rugby club has utilised it in the past as a training facility and some games as well .

The Club has provided a great family and social resource over the years to many individuals of all ages. The Mini Rugby set up is one of the biggest in the country and the envy of many other areas . The proposal would seem to fit with the continuing development ethos of the Club by providing even better facilities and help in the provision of a Hub for the Rugby Community and beyond, in a central location. In return, the Health and Well-being of many people in the town will continue to prosper with the improvement of this facility .

I fully respect the concerns of the local residents in the immediate vicinity, as some will have lived there for many years with an open outlook over the park . The facility proposed will , I imagine , be used mainly at weekends and a couple of evenings a week for training during the season. I would hope there would be a sensitive outcome re the proposed fence design.

Having considered the proposal of the transfer from a number of angles , on balance I would support it, having seen the Club's proposal and business plan.

In addition , I have equally tried to consider all views as I know them at present .

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]

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This email is intended for the named recipient only. If you have received it by mistake, please (i) contact the sender by email reply; (ii) delete the email from your system; . and (iii) do not copy the email or disclose its contents to anyone.

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**Archived:** 18 November 2021 12:25:17

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thu, 11 Nov 2021 22:23:57

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Mackie rugby club CAT

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dears Sirs,

I wish to voice support for the recent CAT application by Mackie Rugby Club for land at Forest Park.

The provision of such sporting facilities will benefit not only the sporting population but also other groups able to use the club house facilities.

The central location will allow better access for the users and through more sustainable methods of transport. Such a central location should make the club and the use of th facilities for others more visible and engage more people.

I am glad to see that the club have made specific mention of making the facilities open to other clubs and users and this should be encouraged.

Regards

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 12:26:32  
**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Fri, 12 Nov 2021 07:00:47  
**To:** Kincardine and Mearns  
**Subject:** Mackie Rugby Club asset transfer  
**Importance:** Normal

---

For the attention of the Kincardine and Mearns Area Manager

I am writing to inform you that I support the asset transfer request of land at Forest Park in Stonehaven to Mackie Rugby Football Club.

As the parent of 2 members of the Mackie 'minis' it is important that Mackie secure their own land to allow the club to continue to provide rugby training facilities for up and coming players. As administrator for the P5 & P7 teams, I volunteer a lot of my free time to coordinate training and matches. The new training facilities will provide a safe area for the kids to play/train. I also spend a considerable amount of time clearing the current playing area at Mackie Academy of rubbish and dog mess. Something which won't be necessary in a fenced pitches.

[REDACTED]

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 12:28:17

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Fri, 12 Nov 2021 07:10:17

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Mackie Rugby Football Club and Asset Transfer of land at Forest Park, Stonehaven

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear Sir/Madam,

As both a parent of two children that are presently being coached by the club, and as a parent that gives up several hours of their time to both help with the administration and coaching of kids at Mackie, I fully endorse this asset transfer to Mackie Rugby Football Club on the following points

1. This will give children of all ages a safe area to practice rugby, without the weekly check to ensure that no dog walkers haven't cleared up behind their dog
2. A secure area to store and maintain the sports equipment that goes with the sport
3. An area where additional sports such as athletics can use when rugby is not ongoing
4. An area which is reasonably central to many residents in Stonehaven and to those, like myself that travel to allow my kids to participate in a sport that they enjoy
5. An area that many local kids will find it is safe to get to, within the town limits

There are many more benefits that I could go on to list, but I think that this is great for the community both centrally and outwith Stonehaven. Not all children fit the football mould and this encourages kids to try and find a sport which helps to develop themselves, keeps them fit and builds teamwork.

As someone who for the last four years has coached at the P4 & P5 level, I have had several kids that have tried other sports, but may not have found them to be as encompassing as they have found Mackie. Rugby encourages kids at all abilities to join in - nothing better than watching these kids smile at the end of a session and come back the following week or the notes from the parents thanking the coaches for getting their kids involved where they have may not found their place in other sports.

Thanks and regards,

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 12:29:52

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Fri, 12 Nov 2021 07:22:40

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** A note of support for Mackie Rugby Club Asset transfer

**Importance:** Normal

---

To Whom It May Concern,

I am contacting you to lodge a note of support for the above noted asset transfer for Mackie RFPC. The reason why I want to support this is because all 3 of my children [REDACTED] have been members of the club since they were 5 years old.

It is an exemplary club which boasts a devoted team of coaches who give up their (free) time and knowledge throughout the year to introduce the game of rugby to the children in this community. Yes, they have taught them the basics of the game but what they do is so much more than that.

What I particularly like about the club is that there is strong focus on bringing individuals on. It encourages good sportsmanship/sportswomanship. I noted the latter option because my daughter also plays and like my boys, she has a talent for the game. Rugby has also taught my children the importance of team work with a strong emphasis on physical and emotional health. I believe that teaching them these things from an early age is paramount.

The next component for me is that being part of the club has encouraged my children to keep physically active. It gives them a focus in their week to blow off the cobwebs and I know that this also has a positive impact on not just their physical needs but their mental health as well. It offers a safe space.

In conclusion, my children love coming to train and play for their club. It would be such a pity for my younger children to lose out on this opportunity in the future. I therefore hope that the council make the right decision, not just for me or for my children but for the wider community overall.

Thank you for your time.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 12:31:17

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Fri, 12 Nov 2021 08:16:08

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Asset transfer representation re Mackie Academy rugby club and Forest Park Stonehaven

**Importance:** Normal

---

To whom it may concern,  
I am writing to express my support of the above.

The club members, coaches and parents work tirelessly to enable a safe, supportive environment for our children to learn how to play rugby. But it is much more than learning a sport. They learn about teamwork, discipline, respecting authority, health and fitness, commitment. The list is endless.

My son has played rugby at Mackie since he was 6 years old. He now plays for the under 18s team. All of the teams are progressing well in their age groups, including the under 18s who are now playing in the league of the top 5 under 18 schoolboy clubs in Scotland. It is time that the community supported the club to enable them to have training and playing facilities to match their achievements. This will enable the club to continue to grow in size and status and enhance further, the reputation of Stonehaven.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 12:32:33

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Fri, 12 Nov 2021 08:52:04 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Asset transfer - forest park

**Importance:** Normal

---

Hello,

I would like to send in a message support for the asset transfer of forest park to MARFC.

As a family, we grew up around the rugby club with my brothers playing and my dad helping to teach. The club supports so many families in helping their children learn and grow, on and off the pitch as well as working with community organisations and it would be awful to lose it.

Sincerely

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 12:33:26

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Fri, 12 Nov 2021 09:44:55

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Asset Transfer - Forest Park

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear Sir/ Madam

I am emailing with regards to the asset transfer of Forest Park to Mackie Academy Former Pupils Rugby Football Club. As a former member for several years I believe it is in the best interest of the community to follow through with MAFPRFC's proposed plans for Forest Park. Being part of the club from a young age it helped to build me into the man I am today and the thought of the club not being able to do the same for the youth of today is such a sad thought.

The club has previously used Forest Park where I used to train as a young boy and has never caused any damage or vandalism.

Having watched the video made by the residents of Forest Park I believe it has misled due to the fact that the "Hamish" play park will still be able to be accessed by the public and not "fenced off" as it was depicted.

For the argument of the kids and families not having a place to play may I remind everyone of the following gov scot link which goes into detail about using school playgrounds such as Mill O' Forest and Carronhill out of hours.

<https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/advice-and-guidance/2016/02/play-strategy-play-out-hours/documents/play-out-hours-toolkit-use-school-grounds-playing-out-teaching-hours/play-out-hours-toolkit-use-school-grounds-playing-out-teaching-hours/govscot%3Adocument/00493571.pdf>

I hope an agreement can be made in the asset transfer of Forest Park so that in the future my children can have the opportunity I had when I was their age.

Best Regards

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



**Archived:** 18 November 2021 12:42:03

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Fri, 12 Nov 2021 10:46:47 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Mackie Rugby Club Asset Transfer Application

**Importance:** Normal

---

To whom it may concern.

I would like to express my heartfelt support to the application for Mackie rugby club to have a new home at its proposed Forest Park site. I have seen first hand as a parent of a child who attends the club the huge impact joining the club has had on him and his confidence as a young player, it has helped him feel included, a sense of community involvement and passion to be part of a team. The club has been instrumental in providing positive and inclusive reinforcement for all who wish to join of all ages and abilities and also in terms of the work that they have done for the non playing community and I believe it is essential that they have a viable home going forward. The club itself have not been as fortunate as clubs in other sports who have a permanent home in Stonehaven and feel it is right and just that the club have the same opportunity to do this. I feel it would be a very heavy blow to the club and a loss to the town if the application were to be rejected as I feel there is no viable alternative. Please do not take this message of support as that of vested interests. Although I do have a young child who is learning to play at the club I have tried to remain as impartial as possible and have seen the argument on both sides as I am a resident of [REDACTED] myself. Despite what has been often said on social media I know that there are strong feelings in favour of the development from local residents, not only against it as has been suggested. I strongly believe this is the best way forward for the club and hope it can be a big positive for both the club and the local community as a whole.

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 12:44:26

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thu, 11 Nov 2021 18:54:16

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Support of the rugby club

**Importance:** Normal

---

I support the rugby club because I feel like since I've joined the club I've been able to improve my rugby skills.

Kind regards,  
[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 12:45:33

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thu, 11 Nov 2021 20:28:55

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Mackie rugby

**Importance:** Normal

---

Mackie Rugby Football Club

I am writing to voice my support in relation to Mackie Rugby Football Club purchasing the land at Forest Park, Stonehaven.

The purchase of this land will offer this well established club much improved facilities for children and adults alike. An improved clubhouse offers both home and visiting supporters a better experience providing some much needed shelter.

I hope the club is granted permission to move and continue providing facilities for Stonehaven and surrounding areas.

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 12:46:52

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Fri, 12 Nov 2021 11:48:06 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Mackie Rugby Club - Asset Transfer Application

**Importance:** Normal

---

To whom it may concern,

I wish to voice support for the application by Mackie Rugby Club regarding the asset transfer to Forest Park in Stonehaven.

I have two children who attend the training provided by Mackie Rugby Club on a weekly basis. My older son also attends games at weekends, both home and away.

The provision provided by the club is not matched elsewhere in the area and provides sports training and social activities my children would not otherwise be able to take part in.

Due to living in a rural village such as [REDACTED], which has no sports or recreation clubs of a similar nature, we feel it is important for our children to belong to such a club and they enjoy the experience very much. If they were unable to attend such training and social activities, or be required to travel further out of area, it would have a detrimental effect on their development, wellbeing and inclusion.

Yours Faithfully,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 15:30:02

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Fri, 12 Nov 2021 11:53:14 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Mackie Rugby Club - Asset transfer request

**Importance:** Normal

---

I would like to put forward my full support for the plan to transfer/ sell the asset of the Mill o Forest Park to Mackie Rugby Football Club. This would be an excellent use of the land and I support the club in trying to find a more permanent home from this site. The club do great work within schools and the local community, I think we should welcome their move.

As someone who lives locally and has a child at Mill o Forest school I pass the park regularly and have observed the following.

- The grass section is barely used as the land has drainage problems.
- The school does not use the land.
- Anyone passing the park to school uses the paths and does not use the grass section.
- The times the club would be using the grounds are very unlikely to clash with school drop off times so any argument of affecting school parking is gone
- The play park is used regularly and the club have confirmed this would stay, this is by far the most used part of the park

I feel some residents have exaggerated their use of this space and are more concerned with their house prices falling.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 15:35:04

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Fri, 12 Nov 2021 13:22:00 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Support for Mackie RFC (Forest Park, Stonehaven) Asset Transfer Request

**Importance:** Normal

---

Good afternoon,

I am sending this email to show my support for Mackie RFCs Transfer Request of Forest Park in Stonehaven.

My Family and I have been involved with the Club for many years. I am aware that the Rugby Club has been looking at various alternative locations for a new home due to various issues and concerns with their current location. I believe that the Club is a valuable benefit to the Stonehaven Community, and the wider area, for their services regarding physical and mental health wellbeing.

The land at Forest Park would be a suitable location as the land is not used a great deal and the Club has used it in the past, so it would make sense to allow them use of it for their new Venue. I would also much prefer to see it used for the Community Club, rather than running the risk of it being sold to a housing developer.

In summary I am **FOR** this Asset Transfer Request. My name and address details can be found below, in my signature.

Kindest regards,

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 15:36:21

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Fri, 12 Nov 2021 11:39:45

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Asset Transfer Mackie Academy RFC

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear Kincardine & Mearns Area Manager,

I am writing to add my support for the asset transfer request made by Mackie Academy Rugby Football Club to Forest Park, Stonehaven.

I have played senior rugby for the club for 15 years, this year being my 16th coming out of retirement due to the pandemic. I started playing for the club back in 2002 at the age of 17. My dad being a regular playing member got me interested in the sport. To this day my Dad at the age of 61 is now involved with the Mammoths (Middle aged men mainly over the hill), which is part of the club for the more senior individuals. My son has now started with the minis section at the age of 3. So we are 3 generations rugby family.

I trained for at least 10 years at Forest Park and can tell you when the weather was bad my mother wasn't happy due to being covered from head to toe in thick mud (clothes would need double washing). If it had rained for long periods of time we would have to dodge massive puddles. Other times we would have to call the training off due to the training area being unsuitable to train on, but it was the only flood lit area that the club had access to so had to make do. Even the park now when it has been raining is a nightmare to walk through.

When I moved to Aberdeen for university I still travelled through to train at Forest park twice a week via the train and having the train station so close to the training grounds was a massive bonus for myself and allowed me to continue supporting a club I loved playing for. This is why I think Forest Park is the ideal situation, due to the proximity of the train station.

I've also lived in Stonehaven for approx 22 years of my life, I know the town like the back of my hand, I'm also a resident of [REDACTED] and regularly take walks with my young children past Forest park or to the small childrens play park at Forest Park, and I can honestly tell you that the massive area of Forest Park is never used bar a few dog walkers (I've certainly never seen a kite being flown..). While I understand that the Kinneff tug-of-war team (me and my dad both used to compete for them) use a small area, I'm sure there will still be a small area there after the development is established. They used to train where the allotments are now next to Baird Park, but that's the great thing about Stonehaven it has an abundance of parks and green space to use.

The rugby clubs proposed development would be a great asset for not only Stonehaven as a whole, but also for the top end of stonehaven as they have no access to a gym or any other sports facilities. The improvement to the Park grounds too is a massive plus. The club does so much for Stonhaven and could do so much more if they had a solid base to work from. I dread to think what will happen in a couple of years when the lease for their current pitch is up and they have no where secured. Can Stonehaven really afford to lose such a well established club that does so much for the community?

Thanks for reading,

Kind Regards,

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 15:38:49

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Fri, 12 Nov 2021 14:00:17 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** Support for asset transfer request Mackie Rugby Football Club

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear Sir/Madam,

My husband and I support the asset transfer request for the purchase of facilities at Forest Park by Mackie Rugby Football Club. All three of our children [REDACTED] benefit significantly from their involvement in the Mackie rugby club which benefits their fitness and mental wellbeing as well as developing their team working skills. We hope to be part of a club with secure and high quality facilities well into the future. We believe this asset transfer request would effectively secure that. The club has an excellent regional and nation reputation, helping to put the North East of Scotland on the map from a sporting point of view.

I'd be grateful if our support would be taken into account when the proposal is examined.

We would be very happy to be involved in further discussion as relevant.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

---

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**Archived:** 18 November 2021 15:40:37

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Fri, 12 Nov 2021 13:48:41 +0000ARC

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Asset Transfer - Forest Park

**Importance:** Normal

---

**Dear Sir / Madam,**

I played for Mackie rugby club from the ages of 7 to 17, around 2001 - 2011. For the entire time, a team of volunteers provided myself and hundreds of other children with the chance to exercise, have fun and be part of a group 2 or 3 times a week.

All of this was achieved with very minimal resources. The volunteers persevered nonetheless with community days, food stalls, day tournaments and charity fundraising events. Members of MAFPRFC also frequent community events in Stonehaven town square.

It is essential to the young people of Stonehaven that things like this stay open and available. Think of the impact that the skatepark at SLC has had; it is often seen overflowing with kids out enjoying themselves.

Taking away the rugby club would be devastating to the development and enjoyment of a vast number of young people growing up in Stonehaven.

I am therefore writing this email to you to express my enormous support for the Asset Transfer to go ahead for Forest Park. Please don't let Mackie go without a pitch.

The effect that the rugby club has had and will continue to have on so many people will be enormous.

All that is required is somewhere to play and train.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 15:43:31  
**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Fri, 12 Nov 2021 14:16:02  
**To:** Kincardine and Mearns  
**Subject:** Mill of Forest Park-Asset Transfer  
**Importance:** Normal

---

FAO Kincardine and Mearns Area Manager

Dear Sir, we write in support of the proposed transfer of Mill of Forest park to Mackie Academy FPRFC. The club has provided excellent sporting facilities for both males and females for years and thoroughly deserves this chance to flourish in a new home. It will also allow other clubs to flourish in a town which is poorly served in terms of sporting facilities, the wholly inadequate leisure centre being a case in point. Whilst we appreciate that there are dissenting voices in the community, Mill of Forest park is an excellent venue for the club as it will allow kids(and parents) the chance to safely walk or cycle there which they couldn't do at their current home and will reduce car usage in the town. We have regularly passed the park in the 30 years we have resided in Stonehaven and can honestly say we have hardly ever seen kids playing in it despite what local residents may have you believe. Whilst it is reasonably busy with dog walkers, folk can walk dogs anywhere in the town however scores of kids playing rugby, hockey etc cannot and it is worth remembering that it isn't that long ago that the people were campaigning for sports/recreational facilities for children in Stonehaven (the PARCS group). Hopefully our councillors will see passed the self serving complaints of local residents and allow hundreds of local kids enjoy a safe, easily accessible sports facility for years to come.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Archived: 18 November 2021 15:45:02

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Fri, 12 Nov 2021 14:26:11

To: Kincardine and Mearns

Subject: mackie rugby asset transfer

Importance: Normal

---

From [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**I fully support the proposed asset transfer as**

**1- the future of the club is at stake and I note the comments about alternative site but**

**1.1 – there are no other sites**

**1.2 any other council site - can the council identify any sites they own other than forest park the club can build a permanent home on because if they refuse this, they are going to have to find facilities or risk club folding.**

**1.3 The current LDP is at examinations so it's not possible to allocate a site so you have to wait for next LDP which is years away and no suitable land been identified anywhere else with a willing landowner in current LDP so very little chance of site being delivered.**

**2- The club are representing the whole of Stonehaven , Kincardine and Mearns and albeit they have worked hard to keep delivering rugby are down to one pitch and a couple of old portacabin. We have clubs coming from all over Scotland and that's all they get to see of the area so it's a poor representation of the area.**

**I have watched with pride the way our youth have travelled all over Scotland to represent the area ,winning new friends and impressing with way they represent the club and area so its time the area supported them.**

**3- the impact the club has in delivering a huge amount of rugby for everyone in kincardine & mearns is amazing from tots , to all the schools , mins, youth seniors, girls with all the community and health benefits , that entails which far outweighs keeping the park for the existing use.**

**4 there are no valid alternative proposal for the site**

**The only alternative proposal which is being pushed hard by the "save the park group " is the status quo which will retain the park for a large amount of residents who have failed to demonstrate they use it and quantity of the benefits of the existing use.**

**5 legacy**

**I have been involved with club for 20 years and my son played for them for last 7 years from p4 to current under 15's, so we are 2<sup>nd</sup> generation to be involved which is common across club with 3<sup>rd</sup> and generations and which could all be lost and you can't build that legacy back up from scratch.**

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** 11 November 2021 23:41

**To:** kincardineandmearns@aberdeenshire.gov.uk; Cllr Wendy Agnew <cllr.w.agnew@aberdeenshire.gov.uk>; Cllr Sarah Dickinson <cllr.s.dickinson@aberdeenshire.gov.uk>; Cllr Dennis Robertson <cllr.d.robertson@aberdeenshire.gov.uk>; Cllr Sandy Wallace <cllr.s.wallace@aberdeenshire.gov.uk>; Cllr George W. Carr <george.carr@aberdeenshire.gov.uk>; Cllr William Howatson <cllr.w.howatson@aberdeenshire.gov.uk>; Cllr Jeff Hutchison <cllr.j.hutchison@aberdeenshire.gov.uk>

**Subject:** Forest Drive Park

Good Evening

As a resident of [REDACTED], I fully support Mackie Rugby Club in their bid to purchase the park. As my property backs directly on to the park, I recognise that it is not currently well used at all, despite what the recent publicity drive might try and have you believe. Along with other residents, I do sometimes walk around the outskirts of the park for exercise but my understanding from looking at the plans for the rugby, is there would still be paths in place to allow this to continue.

I'm aware that some people are worried they'll have nowhere close to exercise their dogs, however I would point out there is ample green space to exercise dogs on the opposite side of the road. I'm also convinced that dogs should not be allowed to run free and defecate on areas supposedly set aside for outdoor sport. I'm sure there used to be signs to this effect around the park when we first moved in more than 24 years ago, and that the council's animal welfare officer has received many complaints over the years about dog fouling in the park.

I can remember when the rugby club used to use the park before for matches and for training, and use the floodlights occasionally at night, and not once did the lights ever prevent my children from sleeping, and neither did the lights at the Hamish playpark even though these were much closer to our properties on [REDACTED].

The rugby club currently has very nearly 400 children playing and/or training with them every week making it by far the largest youth sports club in Stonehaven, not to mention the provision for men and women of all ages and abilities to be and stay active. A sports facility with changing rooms and clubhouse at this end of the town could provide a tremendous alternative space for other clubs and groups to use at a time when it's proving harder and harder to book space either at the leisure centre, Mineralwell or the pavilion.

It is my understanding the rugby club has tried over many years to find an alternative home both through the council and as part of ongoing developments being granted around Stonehaven and have been thwarted for various reasons every time. It seems to me the rugby club should be applauded for their efforts and encouraged in their plans for the future and unless the council has an alternative option available should proceed with the asset transfer request.

Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 15:54:44

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Fri, 12 Nov 2021 14:45:09

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Mackie RFC - Community Asset Transfer

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dea all,

Please take this as my support for the completion of the asset transfer in relation to the land of Forest Park, Stonehaven, in favour of Mackie RFC. The work that the club does for the community is invaluable, with one of the largest membership in Scotland providing mental and physical wellbeing opportunities to hundreds of children in the region.

The club has also made it very clear that the facilities will continue to be available to the groups currently using it (school for sports day, local athletics club that are now using Redcloak, etc) so it is incorrect to state that the land will be lost to the community.

I fully support this transfer.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 15:56:21

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Fri, 12 Nov 2021 15:33:54

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Support of sale

**Importance:** Normal

---

My name is [REDACTED]

I fully support The plan to transfer the asset to Mackie rugby football club this would be an excellent use of the land and I fully support the club in its efforts to secure a permanent home at this site,

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 15:58:18

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Fri, 12 Nov 2021 17:05:38

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Proposed Asset Transfer of land at Foresnt Park

**Importance:** Normal

---

Councillors,

I wish to register my support for the Proposed Asset Transfer of Land at Forest Park Stonehaven to Mackie Academy FP Rugby Club.

The Rugby Club finds itself in the increasingly difficult position if approaching the end of its lease at its current location and limited suitable sites locally. The Club has been proactive in addressing this predicament with the assistance of Aberdeenshire Council Officers to identify suitable sites.

The land at Forest Park (Glenforest Park), which I note in the Settlement Summary - Open Space Audit is designated as SPORTS AREA, is one of the very few areas of suitable size in or around Stonehaven.

MAFPFC were offered the site for pitches back in the 1980's but were unable to proceed with the development after the SRU, their main financiers, discovered that the ground had been used effectively as a landfill site for building waste from the nearby building sites, namely Forest View Centre; Mill o' Forest Primary School Carronhill Special School and Forest Park and resulted in a totally inadequate depth of topsoil for sporting activity. I believe the Rugby Club has addressed this in their current plans.

I work at a site adjacent to the proposed development, in fact, my department windows directly overlook the ground. This has enabled me to conduct a personal survey of use of the area. I have been conducting my survey since early September when I was invited to view the Rugby Club's plans.

I have been thoroughly surprised by how little the area is, in actual fact, utilised -- I can be present on weekdays from 09.00 hrs to 14.45 hrs and have kept track of the number of dog walkers (and dogs), people actually using the grassed areas and the numbers using the trim track around the perimeter of the field.

The most dog walkers in a single day has been 19 (23 dogs) most days there are around 12 - 14 owners exercising their pets. There are merely a handful of people who use the trim track (the School Crossing Patrol person most days - as a shortcut to his designated crossing, a handful of parents collecting their children from nursery and a few "grandparents walking their grandchildren" to or from the play park. Other than dog walkers there have only been a total of 4 people use the grassed area on all of the days I have compiled my survey. Since the beginning of November there has been a minimal increase in the numbers using the land - 2 new joggers, a cyclist using the trim track and a couple of people using the track as a shortcut to Forest Park.

This information proves to me that the Asset Transfer to the Rugby Club makes absolute sense - their subsequent development will enable hundreds of people to utilise the site while also enhancing sporting facilities in Stonehaven.

I view the Proposed Asset Transfer a "win win" situation for all and implore the Councillors to proceed.

Thank you

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 16:00:51

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Fri, 12 Nov 2021 19:46:44

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Mackie RFC application

**Importance:** Normal

---

Good evening,

I would like to add my family's voice to support the application of Mackie RFC to purchase the Forest Park, Stonehaven grounds.

My children have both been members of the rugby club, particularly with no rugby club in our town of [REDACTED]. Mackie's club brings us into Stonehaven often 4 days a week, with us spending money in the town on most of those days.

The new proposed facilities look amazing and will benefit the whole local community - not just members of the club.

The name of Mackie RFC is becoming very well know and respected throughout Scotland thanks to the hard work of the coaches and players and having had games in the past month with players coming from all over Scotland to play against Mackie, these new facilities will help make Stonehaven a place that clubs will look forward to visiting and build on this strong reputation.

Coming from a town with no rugby facilities but more football facilities than it needs, it is vitally important that Stonehaven and all the communities surrounding it, have first class rugby training and playing grounds.

We sincerely hope you approve Mackie's application, particularly with their future uncertain without these new facilities.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone



**Archived:** 18 November 2021 16:02:21

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Fri, 12 Nov 2021 23:09:57

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Mackie RFC - Forest Park Consultation

**Importance:** Normal

---

Good Evening,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

I fully support the plan to transfer/sell the asset to Mackie Rugby Football club. This would be an excellent use of the land and I fully support the club and their efforts to secure a permanent home.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 16:04:02

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Sat, 13 Nov 2021 12:23:32

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Asset Transfer - Forest park

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear Aberdeenshire Council,

I have been informed only very recently that Mackie FP's are having to move completely from their long term home and Redcloak – there should have been much greater publicity regarding this issue!

I believe Forest Park has been identified as a good new location. I am completely in favour of moving to Forest Park should all the correct consultations and due process be carried out.

Mackie FP's have been a great sporting outlet for many in the Stonehaven area with at times seems like hundreds of juniors of all ages taking part and progressing to senior teams, and also to international status at some level. It is almost inconceivable that Mackie FP's would not have a good and easily accessible location to play and foster youth sporting development and improvement of the senior teams.

Mackie FP's have provided a huge source of enjoyment to many in Stonehaven and encouraged the fitness and health of many participants over the years and I look forward to supporting and encouraging Mackie FP's in the future at a new home, hopefully at Forest Park.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Archived:** 18 November 2021 16:06:37

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Sun, 14 Nov 2021 10:08:57

**To:** Kincardine and Mearns

**Subject:** Support of asset transfer to Mackie Rugby Football Club

**Importance:** Normal

---

Dear sir/madam,

I am writing in support of the asset transfer request from Mackie Rugby Football Club relating to Forest Park, Stonehaven.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 11 November 2021 14:00  
**To:** [Kincardine and Mearns <kincardineandmearns@aberdeenshire.gov.uk>](mailto:kincardineandmearns@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)  
**Subject:** Forest Park Mackie FPRFC

Dear Sir

I would like to voice my support for the proposed asset transfer of Forest Park to Mackie FP Rugby Club.

The club is a fantastic resource for the local community. A place to meet, play sport and develop life long friendships.

As foster carers for Aberdeenshire council for the past 12yrs, we have sent numerous kids down to the club over the years for fitness, fun and friendships. Now that our own boys are playing rugby, we currently have four kids playing for the club. Our own two plus two foster kids - one boy, one girl.

The club needs a permanent home and I'm confident that there a significant number of committed and enthusiastic people who will make this happen at Forest Park.

There are coaches at Mackie on a Saturday morning who've been there every cold, windy training session for 25yrs - giving their time for free. We should honour people like that and help one of the most successful clubs in Scotland find a proper home.

Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 11 November 2021 13:52

To: [Kincardine and Mearns](mailto:kincardineandmearns@aberdeenshire.gov.uk) <kincardineandmearns@aberdeenshire.gov.uk>

Subject: Forest park

Dear councillors ,

I'm writing in support of Mackie FC moving to forest park . I understand that the lease of training ground & facilities at Redcloak will not be extended. Also that the training pitches used at Mackie Academy are under review so may not be available for the club to use . So in order to not lose the second largest club in Scotland we must find new ground asap . I understand that Mackie FC have had a 15 year search for new property & have now a plan for proper up to date facility at Forest Park , keeping this club in the community it has always belonged to . We live in [REDACTED] and my son has been a member of the club for a couple of years . But if we lose this club then not only Stonehaven misses out but all the surrounding areas will too . I believe the park is barely used but could be developed into an amazing new facility which will benefit far more people than it would to leave it as an unused area .

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]