

Facilities case study

Project: Esprit Gymnastics Club
Type: Asset transfer
Cost: £300,000



Esprit Gymnastics Club based in a large town in Wiltshire were formed in 2002 and for eight years operated out of a number of leisure centres. The club had grown to 400 members and desperately wanted to increase capacity and retain its' members. The club decided it was time to start planning for a dedicated facility project.

Project overview

After three years of project planning, a possible asset transfer of a school site arose. The school had gained funding for a new site with the aim for it's existing site to be transferred to community use. The site was much larger than the club had wanted to take on initially but with the support of key stakeholders they pushed forward.

The Project

The club had already formed close links with the local authority when the opportunity of the asset transfer arose. A stipulation of the agreement was for the site to have a multi-sport offer to the local community. The club made links with a local dance school and martial arts club. The hire to these partners meant the financial projections were positive and negotiations for a 25-year lease with a 25-year automatic renewal commenced. Successful applications to British Gymnastics facility fund and Sport England Inspired Facilities were submitted, change of use was granted and the club became a CASC. Works started in December 2009, the site opened in January 2010 and finishing touches were complete by November 2010.

Impact

- Growth in membership from 400 in 2010 to 1100 in 2016.
- An increase in delivery including 26 recreational gymnastics, 30 rhythmic and 20 pre-school.
- Huge push in workforce development including twenty five new Level 1 coaches, ten Level 3 and two Level 3.
- 3 disability modules accessed to support inclusive delivery.
- 30 volunteers and leaders recruited and retained
- Opportunities to perform at Gymfusion and EuroGym.
- Increase in performance level all the way up to Commonwealth Games.
- Increase in daytime use and hire for coach education courses.

Project cost

Club funds £150,000. British Gymnastics facility fund £100,000. Sport England £50,000.

Facility improvements £71,000 – including pit work

Utilities installation £40,000

Equipment £70,000

Professional and legal fees £12,000

Office and Audi Visual £10,000

Miscellaneous and working capital £97,000

Running costs

Expenditure	£/month
Lease	£4,500
Staffing	£30,000
Utilities	£3,500
Equipment	£1000

Insurance	£250
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The future

The club want to introduce more disciplines into their programme in order to provide more opportunities to more people. The are considering making the old sports hall water tight for years to come and also an extension

Top tips

- Know your members, many will have invaluable skills and experience to add to the project before, during and on completion.
- Have a detailed business plan ready for key stakeholders to understand.
- Know your community, your project needs to meet their needs.
- Appoint professionals who have the drive to see the project through to completion.

Do you require support with a facility project?

Contact us at: participation@british-gymnastics.org