Sports Facilities for a Small Town: A Case Study of Haslemere. Surrey

For a town of around 17,000 people Haslemere is today extremely well provided with sports facilities. It has however not always been so fortunate. The development of these facilities has been an interesting if at times a confusing and complicated tale of progression over the past 30 years involving a range of organisations.

Haslemere Town Council had been an enthusiastic provider of traditional sports facilities in the post war period. There had been from early days an attractive sports ground in the centre of Haslemere providing cricket, football and tennis facilities with a modest changing pavilion.

In 1956 the County Council provided a new Secondary School on the western outskirts of the town at Woolmer Hill, some 2 miles from the Town Centre. The Woolmer Hill School had adequate provision of playing fields on site.

At about the same time the Town Council provided another playing field at Woolmer Hill, alongside the school, containing excellent pitches for cricket, rugby,