

Press Release

Thursday 16 December 2010

Rainford Rangers get early Christmas present from Football Foundation

Footballers in Rainford, Merseyside, were celebrating today following a £16,885 grant awarded by the Football Foundation, the country's largest sports charity.

The funding boost will allow Rainford Rangers Football Club to establish a new 'home'. The project consists of converting nine acres of agricultural land into a state-of-the-art football facility, creating three full-size junior pitches and two mini-soccer pitches in a safe and central location.

Graham Fenney, Chairman at Rainford Rangers, said: **"We sincerely thank the Football Foundation for their generous grant and acknowledge the contribution from Sport England, the Rainford Ward Committee and our sponsors for making our vision become reality."**

"The new facility will provide a central venue for hosting a variety of football related projects and FA programmes. Currently we are only able to cater for boys' teams in the age range 7 to 14."

"We want to increase the participation to include an Under-6 Academy, and extend the age range to Under-18. In addition to expanding the range of boys' teams we are also going to establish girls' football in our community."

The Football Foundation is funded by the Premier League, The FA, and the Government via Sport England. Launched in July 2000, the Foundation celebrates its tenth anniversary this year and has so far supported around 8,000 community sports projects worth £945m.

Paul Thorogood, Chief Executive of the Football Foundation, said: **"We warmly congratulate Rainford Rangers and the Liverpool County FA for their hard work and dedication in securing this award."**

"This new project in Rainford is but one example of thousands across the country that the Football Foundation is supporting with money provided by our funding partners – the Premier League, The FA and Government. Across the North West of England alone we have funded 1,052 projects worth £145m."

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