

= York Community Stadium =

The York Community Stadium is a proposed multi @-@ purpose stadium in Huntington , York , England . It will be owned by City of York Council , and be shared by York City Football Club and York City Knights Rugby League Football Club . The projected capacity of the all @-@ seater stadium is 8 @, @ 005 .

The move to a new stadium was necessitated by the terms of the loan York City secured from the Football Stadia Improvement Fund to purchase their Bootham Crescent ground . Planning permission for the current design , put forward by Greenwich Leisure Ltd , was granted in March 2015 . Construction is expected to begin in the summer of 2016 , for completion in early 2018 . In addition to the stadium , the site will house a leisure complex and a community hub .

= = Background = =

York City F.C. ceased ownership of their Bootham Crescent ground in the summer of 1999 , after the club 's real property assets were transferred to a holding company called Bootham Crescent Holdings . The club secured a £ 2 million loan from the Football Stadia Improvement Fund (FSIF) to buy the ground in February 2004 . The terms of this loan required the club to identify a site for a new stadium by 2007 , and have detailed planning permission by 2009 , to avoid financial penalties . Once plans for a new stadium were in place , the loan would turn into a grant to assist in funding the relocation .

As part of the loan agreement , Persimmon have first refusal on purchasing Bootham Crescent once York City leave , for 10 % lower than its market value . Persimmon still intend to build 93 homes on the site , and the proceeds of the sale would go towards building the new stadium . In March 2008 , York City 's managing director Jason McGill cited " the annual cost of £ 60 @, @ 000 for the maintenance and upkeep of a 1932 stadium with few commercial and income @-@ generating opportunities " as the reason for the continued need to move to a new stadium .

= = Planning history = =

York City had identified a preferred site for a new stadium by April 2007 , but were unable to disclose the location due to confidentiality clauses . Despite the club failing to formally identify a site by the end of 2007 , financial penalties were not incurred , as the FSIF were satisfied with the progress made . However , McGill said plans with the preferred site had stalled by March 2008 . City of York Council announced its commitment to building a community stadium in May 2008 , which would be used by York City and the city 's rugby league club , York City Knights RLFC .

A project board was established in January 2009 , with the objective of ensuring the stadium be built by 2012 . City councillors approved the outline business case for the stadium in June 2009 , meaning officials could start searching for sites . Four sites were put forward to the council in June 2010 , and York City favoured the option of building a 6 @, @ 000 all @-@ seater stadium at Monks Cross in Huntington , to the north of York , on the site of Huntington Stadium , which would be ready by 2014 at the earliest . Mark Stead of The Press noted the advantages of this site , including the potential for land value to include , the opportunity to build health and fitness facilities and commercial interest , and the disadvantages , including a scheduled ancient monument being located on adjacent land and traffic concerns . In July 2010 , this location was chosen by the council executive as their preferred option .

Developers Oakgate (Monks Cross) Ltd submitted a planning application for a community stadium , for use by York City and York City Knights , and a retail park in September 2011 . The council granted planning permission for the development in May 2012 , with the stadium expected to be ready during the 2014 ? 15 season . Gavin Aitchison of The Press commented that " one of York ? s biggest planning controversies in years finally came to a head " after the planning committee meeting that lasted over eight hours . Critics argued the development would damage the city centre economy , with a report by Deloitte saying the development would cost the city centre £ 50 million a

year . In November 2012 , construction was delayed until June 2014 , for a completion date of July 2015 . A delay to the construction of the shopping park in June 2013 , caused by the discovery of protected great crested newts at the site , meant the stadium completion date was moved to January 2016 .

In August 2014 , Greenwich Leisure Ltd (GLL) were named as the council 's preferred bidder to deliver an 8 @, @ 000 all @-@ seater stadium , to be shared by York City and York City Knights , and a leisure complex and a community hub . Construction was due to start during spring 2015 , for a completion date of July 2016 . York City were given responsibility for operating and managing the stadium on an initial 13 @-@ year contract . A planning application for the GLL plan was submitted to the council in December 2014 , which was passed in March 2015 . The cost of the stadium and leisure complex , including a replacement athletics track at another site , stood at £ 37 million .

In July 2015 , construction was delayed as contracts were still being finalised , and the completion date was moved to during the 2016 ? 17 season . Construction was delayed again a month later , with work to begin in February or March 2016 , for completion in April or May 2017 . With construction costs increasing due to more detailed design work , construction inflation and delays , the council pledged an additional £ 7 @. @ 2 million in March 2016 , raising the total cost of the project to £ 44 @. @ 2 million . Construction was delayed to the summer of 2016 , for completion in early 2018 .

= = Structure and facilities = =

The stadium is projected to have an all @-@ seated capacity of 8 @, @ 005 . It will comprise four stands ; the East Stand (Main Stand) , the West Stand , the North Stand and the South Stand . The three @-@ floored East Stand is to accommodate hospitality guests , players , officials and the media , and will be connected to the adjacent retail and community facilities . The stands will stretch the length of the playing field , and each corner will host stadium facilities , including matchday emergency services , stewarding , groundsman accommodation , plant space and a fan zone . The seats will be coloured red , white and blue , a combination of the colours of both teams .

The pitch will use reinforced natural grass , with provision to counter frost . The dimensions for football matches will be 105 by 68 metres (115 by 74 yd) , with 3 @-@ metre @-@ wide run @-@ offs on the sides and 6.5- metre @-@ wide run @-@ offs behind the goals , which will meet FIFA recommendations . The dimensions for rugby league matches will be 100 by 68 metres (109 by 74 yd) , with 6 @-@ metre in @-@ goal areas , and 3 @-@ metre @-@ wide run @-@ offs on the sides and after the dead ball lines .

Adjoining the stadium will be the leisure complex , which will include a 25 @-@ metre , six @-@ lane swimming pool , a sports hall for netball , badminton and basketball , a gym with dance and spinning studios , an adventure sports zone and three 3G five @-@ a @-@ side pitches . A community hub will house health and well @-@ being services for York residents and visitors , including clinical services , an independent living assessment centre and a library .

= = Transport = =

Regular bus services will serve the stadium from the city centre , and additional services to other areas will be considered if there is sufficient demand . A review of the park and ride operating times will take place , with an extension to the service to be sought . On matchdays , 400 car parking places and 355 cycle parking places will be available at the stadium . A cycle route exists between the site and the city centre .