

ASHFORD CRICKET CLUB & ASHFORD HOCKEY CLUB
BALL LANE GROUND, KENNINGTON, ASHFORD, KENT TN24 4EB

23 June 2007

Dear Member

Ball Lane Ground

Since the government's announcement many months ago that Ashford had been chosen to be the centre of major expansion, there has been great interest in the development possibilities of sites on the edge of the town. Our grounds at Ball Lane have a number of disadvantages – difficult access, (particularly since the Council closed the bottom of Ball Lane), proximity to neighbours causing friction and lack of space for significant expansion as Ashford grows in the decades ahead.

Recognizing the possibility of a move to a new site, the Trustees of both clubs have for many months been talking together, as plainly any move must involve both clubs.

We have also been in negotiation with both Ashford Borough Council and DTZ, top London land agents. We have reached the stage where we have jointly instructed DTZ to proceed with their Marketing Strategy. They will shortly send out a document that will invite developers to come up with schemes that will relocate us to bigger and better newly built facilities. We will then, without commitment, consider such offers as we receive.

Inevitably there are costs in exploring such matters and we are very sensitive to the fact that these must be kept to a minimum.

Most importantly, we will not commit either club to any move without full details being made known and an Extraordinary General Meeting being called, with every member's vote being taken into account.

Whilst it is too early yet to say that any move will happen, much spadework has already been put in and our investigations will continue. If a move does happen it will be to completed facilities and thus carefully timed, as neither club's playing programme can be interrupted.

With Ashford's inevitable growth in mind we believe we have the opportunity to create sporting facilities that will be the envy of all in the years to come.

Yours sincerely

Paul Koronka, Chairman ACC

Ian Thomas, Chairman AHC

Tim Fagg, Trustee ACC

Geoffrey Playford, Trustee AHC