

Your Ref 1075

Falaise Bowling Association Ltd  
Falaise Road Hastings East Sussex TN34 1EU



Lynette Duncan – Programme Officer  
c/o Hastings Borough Council  
Aquila House, Breed's Place  
Hastings East Sussex TN34 3UY

9<sup>th</sup>. January 2013

Dear Lynette  
HB C Strategic Plan 2011 – 2028

Please receive our submissions for the inspectors' considerations.

We trust these are in order and are what the Inspector expects.

Yours sincerely

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of Dennis C Moon.

Dennis C Moon

HASTINGS BOROUGH COUNCIL  
10 JAN 2013

**Falaise Bowling Association Ltd.  
Documents for Planning Applications – Funding Applications  
And Other Functions**

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Falaise Bowling Association Ltd  
Falaise Road Hastings East Sussex TN34 1EU



Submission to Secretary of State's Inspector  
Hastings Strategic Plan 2011 - 2028

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The Attached documents have been produced to assist the Inspector in his deliberations

1. Is an unexhausted profile of Falaise Bowling Association Ltd. This sets out the associations needs for upgrade Indoor Bowling Facilities and the work of the association with the disabled, disadvantaged, Youth of the Town and charitable causes.
2. Demonstrates the well organised game within the Town, Sussex and at National Level. We also believe it demonstrates the lack of acceptable facilities taken as necessary in most other Towns.
3. Shows a typical Indoor Bowling surface, it shows the split in bowling rinks which is a further retrograde set up.
4. Shows the Western end of the building housing rinks 4 – 6. It also shows the 1<sup>st</sup>. floor level.
5. Demonstrates the up stairs to Locker Rooms, cloak rooms and function area
6. Shows the limited viewing space at rinks 1 – 3.
7. Shows the limited space for entertaining and after match meals
8. Shows the extreme limited space for a bar and lounge. Up to 98 people have to cram into this limited space at change over periods.

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**Falaise Bowling Association Ltd**  
**Indoor Bowls Centre**  
**Falaise Road, Hastings, East Sussex TN34 1EU**



**Profile of Falaise Bowling Association Ltd – For Funding / Other Purposes**

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**The Bowling Centre – Building and its' uses**

The building was built pre-war days as an exhibition centre and facility, during the war it housed numerous Canadian and American Forces using three tier bunk bedding. After the war the building was used for a number of different functions including Area and National Dog shows, the Post Office hired it during Christmas periods as a parcel depot, at one time it operated as a Shooting Club.

Part of the improvements the Falaise Bowling Association Ltd. made was the creation of a first floor extension in the centre of the building to accommodate catering and social activities

During the 1960's the owners, Hastings Borough Council created an indoor bowls facility until around 1970 when the Council requested the outdoor bowls clubs to undertake the management of the property, when completed about 1975 a new indoor and outdoor club were created, the outdoor club being based on the now two disused greens and Falaise Bowling Association was born.

During the 1990's the outdoor bowling ceased through lack of support, bowlers remaining loyal to their traditional outdoor clubs, since this time the facility has become the Falaise Bowling Association Ltd operating daily from May till September (Summer period) on two days per week. From October till April the club operates daily (Monday to Saturday) from 9.00 am till 9.30 pm. The Club is fully integrated with playing disabled, male, female members at all levels except where there are County / National competitions for both sexes.

The needs to improve the facilities at Falaise Indoor Bowls Centre are many and include a massive need for all facilities to be at ground floor level, locker rooms, and catering, social activities, currently all these are at first floor level. We need fixed access onto the carpet area for wheelchair bowlers and sloped access into the club.

Currently the kitchen area is too small as is the lounge and smaller catering / bar area. There is little to no viewing areas and the playing area is split into two, which loses the necessary atmosphere for internal league, inter club, county, club and national competitions.

Staffing of the club is kept to a minimum for financial reasons members performing most functions on a daily basis. One part time centre manager is the only paid person, reception, collecting fees, running leagues and all other functions are carried out by unpaid members except the catering / bar facilities and Cleaning, these two are franchised out.

The Company pays for training of seven First Aiders who control the first aid post and equipment.

(2)

Coaching is carried out by six "Bowls England" certified Bowls coaches who are security cleared.

A Directors board of six with a male and female committee manage the Company and its' activities

Hastings Borough Council has within its' Local Plan 2004 – 2011 to replace the current situation with a new facility on the current site, after discussions with them we are informed There is no money available to carry out these works.

In 2005 Falaise Bowling Association Ltd. were requested to participate in the Horntye Trust proposals which included a new Indoor Bowls facility, after many meetings and good will from Falaise including a substantial contribution to costs of planning etc. the Horntye Trust Management withdrew from the proposals.

Leaving Falaise Bowling Association Ltd. in a most unenviable situation, causing the Company to seek alternative funding to improve the current building which is the reason for the current Falaise Bowling Associations' applications for funding.

The Company suffered a severe financial shock in 2011 when HBC the land owners increased our rent by 25% to £19K P.A. After a Freedom of Information Act Enquiry the Company has learned that HBC is charging the many retired and ageing members along with all other members over twice the rent they charge the next highest Council Owned Sports Venue and that is a commercial undertaking.

The enquiry revealed other commercial companies being charged no rent at all for substantial premises. This situation is being pursued with the Council Estates Department by the Company.

Without this exorbitant rent the Company would still be operating on a slight profit basis.

### **Policy**

The Club is open to all members of the public on a membership basis, its' membership ages range from 10 years old to those approaching 100. An extremely active large youth section has unequalled success in the development of young bowlers both male and female, many of the youngsters play for Sussex County and the National under 25 team. During the summer of 2012 one ex youngster, now 22 years old, became a National champion with two others winning the National Triples Title. Saturday mornings is the main youth section time although some do play in internal leagues etc. during the weekday.

The club encourages the disabled to play bowls on a limited scale; part of our need to improve the facilities is because we are unable to provide the disabled with the type of facility they require.

Mencap are regular players of bowls at Falaise on a weekly basis, as are the Visually Handicapped Bowls Club.

The Club entertains the Active Hastings organisation on a weekly basis, this connection has provided a further ten new members to Falaise Bowling Association Ltd. during 2011 / 2012 Like the Outdoor Bowling clubs of Hastings, the Company attracts many visitors to the town with their families playing bowls

(3)

The Company is very proud to be able to say we start the youngsters as early as 6 years old, we are particularly proud of one "Ex Youth" who commenced Bowling with Falaise when he was 8 years old at 22 in 2012 he won the "MEN'S" open All England Outdoor Triples title with two others. He also represents his Country, England at International level.

**At the other end of the scale we help maintain the elderly bowlers to continue living independently well into their 90's, both Men and Women**

**We have attached an abundant amount of documents demonstrating the charitable work the club performs; unfortunately we are restricted in what we can achieve through the lack of acceptable facilities.**

**W long for the day we can field a team of Wheelchair Bowlers planning the more physically able, as indeed already happens with the visually handicapped.**

#### **Charitable Activity**

The company and its' members support a number of charities annually, RNLI, Local Hospice, Air Ambulance, Poppy Appeal, Mc Millan Nurses and many others.

During 2001 a survey undertaken by Mr D C Moon demonstrated the Bowling community of Hastings including Falaise Bowling Association Ltd. provided over £200 K for charitable purposes during the previous 25 years including a new swimming pool for a disadvantaged school.

## Appendix 1

The sport of Bowls is well organised throughout the Country at Local, County and National levels.

Sussex County Indoor Bowls Association to which Falaise is also affiliated produces its' own programme as per attached documents demonstrate.

It is customary for the County President to pick a team from other clubs and play a match at each Local Club venue yearly.

Such occurred at Falaise on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup>. October 2012, after such matches and all inter club matches a two course meal is arranged, it disturbed not only myself and other Directors but all 48 Bowlers playing when our County President announced from his Wheel Chair on the carpet that owing to the stairs he regretted he was unable to join us for the meal owing to the stairs.

I have attached copies from our County handbook for this year, the front and rear covers and the section detailing each Sussex Club.

Please note there are seventeen Indoor Sussex Clubs, just three are not suitable for Wheelchair users but there are explanations for two.

At Gulliver's in Bexhill it is only a very old building soon to be replaced with just two playing Rinks. There is however a further modern excellent Indoor Facility at Egerton Park.

King Alfred in Brighton is one of five Indoor Bowls Facilities and is part of a general sports complex set up in the under ground Car Park (Not very popular)

This leaves Falaise which is why we believe we must have improved facilities urgently such as every where else in Sussex boasts.

We trust this helps explain the dilemma Falaise faces and why our numbers have dropped in the main. We further trust it assists HBC in their deliberations over the Section 106 Funds available from the Horntye Development.

Dennis Moon – Director  
Falaise Bowling Association



Sussex County

Indoor

Bowls Association

takes this opportunity

to express their gratitude

to every

Bowler

County Officer

Club Official

&

Supporter

who helped the Association

playing or otherwise

throughout last season

&

we look forward to

working with you again during

2012-13



SUSSEX COUNTY  
INDOOR  
BOWLS ASSOCIATION  
[www.sciba.net](http://www.sciba.net)

S.C.I.B.A.  
A MEMBER OF E.I.B.A LTD



COUNTY YEARBOOK

SEASON

2012 - 2013

[www.sciba.net](http://www.sciba.net)



SCIBA MEMBER CLUBS 2012/13

Wheelchair Access

Not suitable for wheelchair access/play

ADUR IBC

Address: Recreation Ground, Old Barn Way, Southwick, West Sussex BN42 4NT

(334)

ARUN DISTRICT IBC

Address: Nyewood Lane, Bognor Regis, West Sussex, PO21 2TT

(336)

BRIGHTON & HOVE MASONIC FELLOWSHIP IBC

Address: Host Club: Denton Island IBC, Newhaven, BN9 9BA

(18)

DENTON ISLAND IBC

Address: Denton Island IBC, Newhaven, BN9 9BA

(212)

EASTBOURNE & DISTRICT IBC

Address: *Wheelchair access to green via stairs*  
5, Hampden Park Drive, Hampden Park, Eastbourne, East Sussex, BN22 9QR

(362)

EGERTON PARK IBC

Address: Egerton Road, Bexhill on Sea, East Sussex, TN39 3HL

(460)

FALaise IBC

Address: Falaise Road, Haslings, East Sussex, TN34 1EU

(269)

GRATTONS IBC

Address: Grattons Drive, Pound Hill, Crawley, West Sussex RH10 3AG

(278)

GULLIVERS IBC

Address: Knole Road, Bexhill on Sea, East Sussex, TN40 1LJ

(63)

HORSHAM & DISTRICT IBC

Address: Wickhurst Lane, Broadbridge Heath, West Sussex, RH12 3YS

(236)

KING ALFRED IBC

Address: King Alfred Leisure Centre, The Kingsway, Hove, BN3 2WW

(76)

LANGNEY SPORTS IBC

Address: Priory Lane, Eastbourne, BN23 7QH

(204)



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4



5



6



7



8