

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

“Campaigners Celebrate as Turn Moss Plans Withdrawn”

Plans to develop on Green Belt land at Turn Moss fields in Stretford have been shelved. On his first day in office, head of Trafford Labour and new leader of Trafford Council Andrew Western announced via Twitter that the planning application had been formally withdrawn. With the balance of power shifting away from the Conservatives after Local Election losses, it leaves Labour as the largest party. The plans would have allowed a new training complex to be built on the protected land; a joint bid by the previous Tory majority Council, Gary Neville and Salford City FC.

“A community-led consultation is key to deciding how Turn Moss can be improved” says Andrew Western: “We will work with the community to improve Turn Moss for future generations.”

Chair of Friends of Turn Moss, Simon Howarth, sums up the mood: “We are over the moon and look forward to a bright future for Turn Moss. We are happy to help improve the fields for all users, we need a proper, open discussion to find out what people's priorities are, things that will be of real benefit to all. Thank you to everyone who helped make our campaign a success. So many objections and votes; it shows that if a community unites, you can make a difference!”

Friends of Turn Moss committee member, Nixon Tod, said “We are absolutely delighted to hear Councillor Western’s statement. Public anger at the Council’s plans for Turn Moss, other Green Belt sites and UA92, played a significant role in the Trafford election results. We believe it’s the correct decision to withdraw the flawed plans. The drainage strategy would have been a disaster for the grassroots teams, it’s a real victory for local people. There is

funding out there to improve Turn Moss for everyone, better facilities for the footballers is a priority, it needs to stay Green Belt and free for all to use.”

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