

East Stand & Development Overview

## Introduction

Thank you for taking the time to read this overview and for your interest in Northampton Town Football Club.

As we make progress, we wanted to share some of the designs, new CGI images and benefits for the football club. We also have a set of guiding principles which we will follow. The Council also have their own considerations which are agreed by the club.

It cannot be underestimated the challenges that have come along with this opportunity, and we accept the process has taken longer than everyone, including us, would have anticipated, but in truth we feel this is not due to any one thing or any one person.

As guardians of the club, we have to take decisions that are in the short, medium and long-term interests of the club to ensure we protect the football club for future generations. We take that responsibility very seriously.

When you add up the problems with the leases that were inherited, the CVA process, the current ground conditions, the politics of what went on before our ownership, the police and council investigations regarding what went on before our ownership, the ownership itself of the stand, the change of local authority, and the COVID-19 pandemic to name a few things, hopefully fans can understand a little more.

However, that all being said, we are positive about the direction we are heading and felt confident enough that a few months ago we were able to commission these conceptual images to show both the council, supporters and stakeholders what we are trying to achieve with the East Stand.

In terms of the East Stand design, over time we have researched and discussed in detail the various options including changing the overall design, improving what is there or knocking the whole structure down but following this research, the decision was taken to enhance the existing structure rather than major changes to the footprint. These decisions were taken in consideration of both existing planning consents and return on investment for the football club.

This will be the first time in the club's history that pitch facing hospitality has been available to the commercial department and by adding boxes and hospitality areas in the stand this gives the club the ability to not only increase commercial revenue but also increase the value proposition for existing and new partners.

With the addition of the boxes and the increased hospitality areas this will also increase stadium capacity to slightly over 8,000, and while this is not a significant increase from the current capacity, the cost/return financial projections would not justify a major change to the structure at this time just to increase capacity. It was decided that any capacity increases would be more prudent at the North or South ends of the stadium and with this in mind we look forward to furthering discussion with The New Hotel End project being introduced by the fans.

It is well known we are also discussing a wider development opportunity with the new West Northamptonshire Council, formerly Northampton Borough Council, but we both have already agreed that the building of the East Stand will be completed before any other development takes place.

Because the football club now has 100% ownership of the company CDNL who control the leases to approximately 22 acres of land next to the club as shown on the included maps the benefit of the any agreement will go to the football club. The football club has never officially controlled this land previously and it was only when the current owner transferred the ownership of these leases to the football club that this became an asset.

As with any major development project or the building of any stand it is always a fluid position and as we go through the process there will be further consultation with fans and stakeholders about some more of the detail including things like naming some of the boxes and lounges with heroes of the past, what the concourse area should include, what the fan park could look like etc. and we very much look forward to those conversations.

There is a lot of people at the club that have worked very hard to get to this point and are really excited about the possibility of the East Stand and we all hope the fans like the look of what can be built.

# **Guiding Principles**

The football club's guiding principles for the East Stand and land development are;

- The East Stand needs to be developed to the best possible standard in a financially prudent way for the long-term benefit of the football club
- The East Stand needs to be completed before any development takes place
- Provide pitch facing hospitality options for the football club
- The preferred deal for the football club is an Option Agreement with WNC to enable the club to buy the freehold CDNL land with the option only being exercised when the East Stand is complete
- CDNL is a wholly owned subsidiary of the football club
- The East Stand will be built with funds from the football club (owners)
- Football club are asking for no funding from WNC
- Football club site to remain leasehold with WNC
- Football club will take on any development risk
- Any excess funds generated from the CDNL development land or any land surrounding the stadium site will be generated for the benefit of the football club

The Council's main considerations below have also been agreed by the football club;

- The East Stand is completed
- WNC receive best value for any land based on external independent professional advice
- All the plans being discussed with WNC are subject to final full council approval
- Any development plans for the site remain subject to planning permissions as appropriate
- That the Asset of Community Value has transferred to WNC from NBC

# Benefits to the football club

There are many benefits to NTFC including;

#### East Stand completion

Completion of the East Stand is the priority of any agreement and by using the ownership of the land leases this can hopefully be completed without adding further long-term debt to the football club.

#### • Income generated for the club from the East Stand

There will be additional income generated on matchdays and non-matchdays from the new hospitality areas and boxes.

#### Pitch facing hospitality

Pitch facing hospitality not only brings increased revenue but also greater prestige, exposure and value for possible partners. Having pitch facing hospitality can also increase non-matchday revenues as many companies see a benefit to meetings and events with the pitch as a backdrop.

## • Disabled viewing platform

The football club will consult further with disabled and wheelchair supporters and Level Playing Field in the final design process but access for disabled and wheelchair supporters to the hospitality and disabled platform areas to replace the disabled platform lost from the previous East Stand is a priority.

## • New parking situated on site

A completed East Stand will provide additional parking behind the East Stand; plus the football club plans a review of all the parking on site to enable better design and management across the whole site.

### Potential new partners

Once the possible warehouse development on the enabling development land is complete there will be new large companies moving in which will offer potential new commercial partners for the club.

#### Community use of East Stand

The new facilities will be available for use by both Northampton Town FC Community Trust and the club's education department. This will provide meeting rooms for community groups, space for programmes aimed at health and wellbeing and teaching space. It will allow us to increase our engagement with schools offering an alternative learning environment and positive experiences for local youngsters. There will also be improved activities and facilities for families on matchdays as well as additional hospitality at the community pitch activities that take place each summer including local cup finals.

#### Improved financial stability for the football club

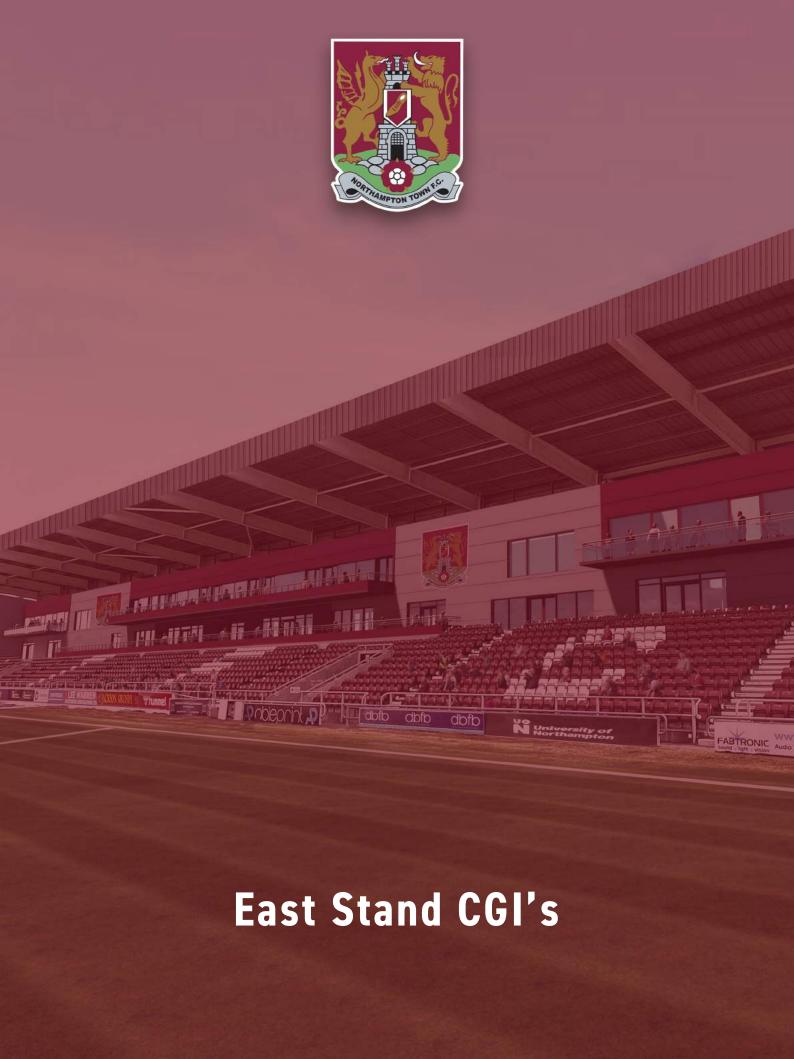
Increased revenue will always add stability to a football club and provide better financial protections for longer term success.

#### Potential Fan Zone

Space for a Fan Zone project has been earmarked behind the new East Stand and further consultation would be planned to decide on the best usage. More discussions are also planned with the New Hotel End project to ensure that the potential Fan Zone areas behind the East and North End complement each other.

#### Increased asset base for football club

CDNL and the development land have never been formally owned by the football club previously and only became an asset of the football club when transferred to the club current owners. As CDNL is now owned by the football club then any land acquisition and/or development gain will be an asset of the football club.





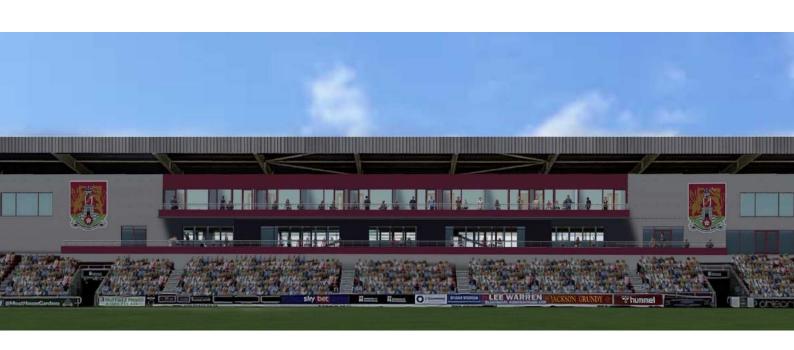
Front Image - Angled View



Rear Image - Angled View



Front Image

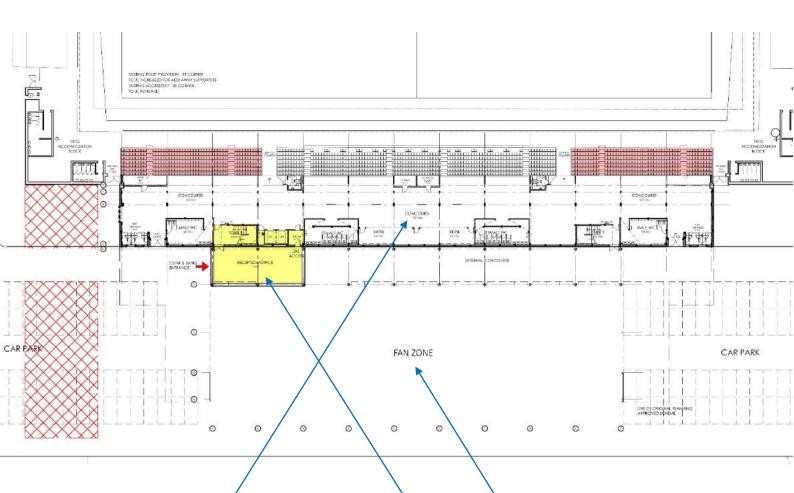


Front Image - Zoomed View



## **GROUND FLOOR LEVEL**

# Concourse Area, Parking & Fan Zone

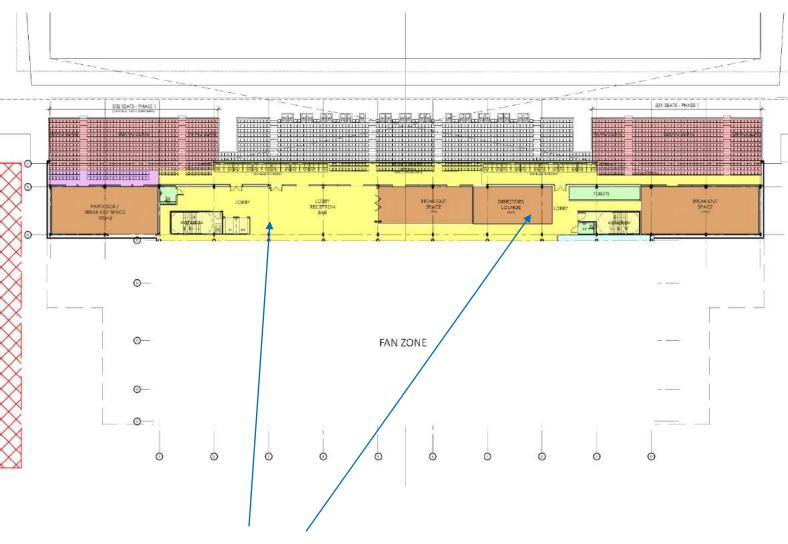


- Main concourse area to incorporate new food and beverage offerings.
- New reception and entrance to lifts for upper floor hospitality and disabled platforms.
- Space for new potential 'Fan Zone' area.

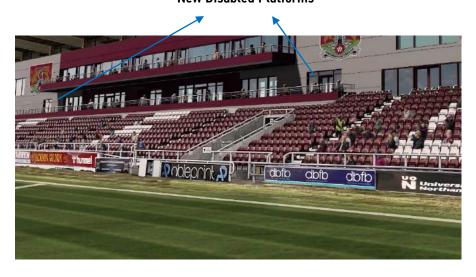


## 1st FLOOR LEVEL

# Hospitality Areas, Directors Box & Disabled Platform



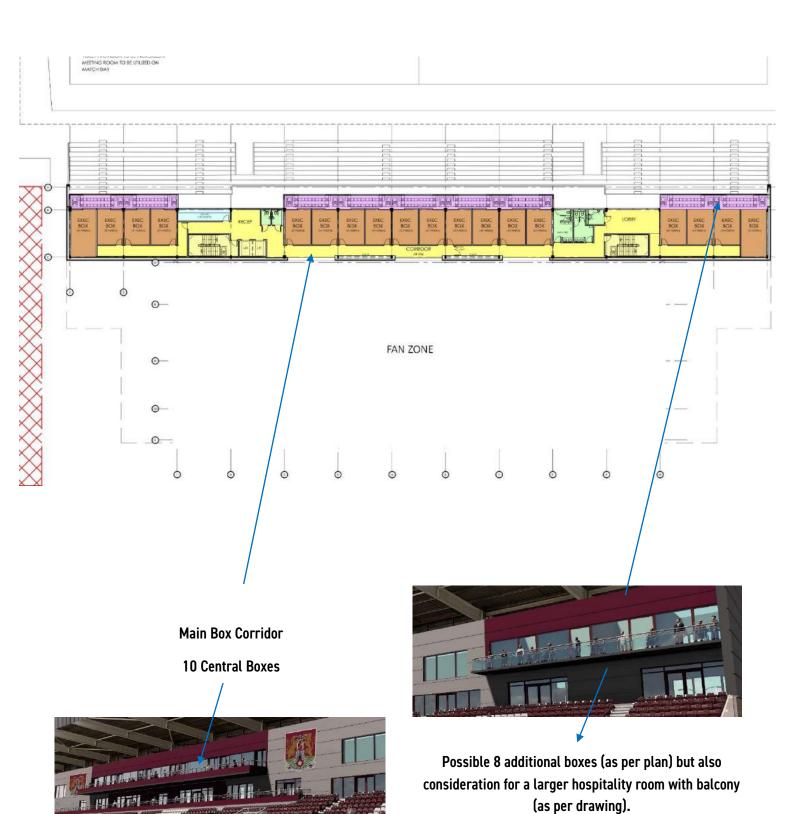
**New Disabled Platforms** 



- New disabled platforms with lift access.
- Boardroom and additional hospitality areas.
- Potential new fan bars or pubs and/or lounges.
- New non-matchday hospitality areas and opportunities

# 2nd FLOOR LEVEL

## **Box Corridor**







Aerial photograph of land that the football club controls via NTFC and CDNL with approximate area showing land to be used for development and land that will remain NTFC. Also shows land still available for expansion of the stadium as required.

Please note – all lines drawn are approximate, final boundaries and areas will be defined upon the competition of discussions.



Map showing stadium site, development area and Recycling Centre. Recycling Centre is currently situated on land controlled by NTFC via CDNL and forms part of the discussion with WNC, however there are no current plans to move site.

