

**Councillor Alex Armstrong,**  
**Portfolio Holder for Sports, Leisure, Education and The Arts**  
**Full Council, 20 July 2021**

**1Life Leisure centres**

All 3 businesses are facing a difficult time with Covid restrictions reduced capacity, attendance and subscriptions. They have secured extra funding and ready to move from phase 3 to phase 4 and fully reopen on July 19<sup>th</sup>. They have also been praised along with UDC on the fantastic use of the centres for Covid vaccinations.

**Saffron Walden Museum** has partially reopened and has been awarded a National Heritage Fund to create a new strategy to become fully operational later this year.

**Walden Castle** was re-opened to the public on June 18<sup>th</sup> and thanks to joint funding from UDC and Historic England they are now planning to promote the Castle site for public and private events.

**Saffron Walden Football Club**

The changing rooms are installed at the Persimmon Homes site and this will enable the pitches to available for the new season.

The new all weather pitch at SWCH is rapidly nearing completion, the actual playing area is complete with the artificial surface laid. The perimeter fencing is complete as is the new Ecological pond. The installation of the floodlights and the car park area are the next items to be completed along with the 4 new Electric Vehicle charging points.

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