

MSP Graham Simpson hails work of volunteers striving to take over Hamilton pitches

MSP for Central Scotland Graham Simpson visited Eddlewood Football Club to support club plans to launch a community asset transfer of two grass football pitches and pavilion.



A [Lanarkshire](#) MSP has hailed the hard work of football volunteers striving to take over a local facility. MSP for Central Scotland Graham Simpson visited Eddlewood Football Club in [Hamilton](#) last weekend to support club plans to launch a community asset transfer of two grass football pitches and a pavilion used by the club.

These plans made by the club are to assist the improvement of facilities for the benefit of the whole community.

Eddlewood aims to take community ownership of the grass pitches by making one into an astroturf pitch in addition to undertaking significant improvements to the pavilion and club house.

Graham met with Gerry McGhie and other club volunteers to hear their plans and to view the current facilities. Whilst attending Graham was also able to sample the strength of the local community.

Graham said: "Community asset transfers of this nature can be positive in allowing local organisations to take ownership of facilities for the benefit of their community at a time when local councils are stretched for resources.

"In the Eddlewood area there has already been a very successful asset transfer of a facility taken on by the local gymnastic club.

"The committee at the football club have also had a great drive and ambition to do the same, so I really support them in their bid.

"The turnout from local people for today's excellent event demonstrates the great work that the club does to bring the community together to support each other.

"I was delighted to speak to Gerry and other club volunteers who share a great passion for the club and community."