

Plans to demolish Goodison Park after Everton move to Bramley Moore Dock set for vote

Proposals to knock down Everton's Goodison Park and how the Premier League club's historic home will look once they move to Bramley Moore Dock are to be debated next month.

Liverpool Council's planning committee will vote for a second time in May with the Toffees on track to leave the ground in time for the start of the 2024/25 season.

Their new 52,000 stadium on the banks of the River Mersey is currently under construction.

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A report to Liverpool Council's planning committee has detailed how the club plans, referred to as the Goodison Park Legacy Project, will transform the 3.39-hectare site into a mixed-use development, including housing, commercial space, community/retail uses and open space.

The application is going before the committee for a second time having been submitted last February with plans to construct the new ground at Bramley Moore, the Local Democracy Reporting Service said.



An aerial artist's illustration of the proposed new Everton Football Club stadium at Bramley Moore Dock

(Image: Virtual-Planit/Everton FC via Getty Images)

Legal agreements agreed as part of the application have not been completed and due to the time period that has elapsed since the original report was written, the application needs to be reconsidered having regard to any changed circumstances, particularly in relation to national and local planning policy.

The scheme, if approved again, could go on to home 173 residential properties of affordable value, a care home, office space and flexible space for a mix of retail, financial and professional services, as well as restaurants and cafes, drinking establishments and hot food takeaways.

According to the report, it is proposed that the existing entrance gates in the south west of the site, including commemorative/ memorial plaques dedicated to former fans on the site boundary walls either side of the entrance gates, and

the Ralph 'Dixie' Dean statue currently present at the site will be retained at the site.

It added: "The proposed redevelopment of Goodison Park cannot begin until the existing stadium has been demolished, which will follow the completion of the proposed new stadium at Bramley Moore Dock.

"To reflect this timescale, the club is seeking a longer implementation period for planning permission at Goodison Park, relating to both the timescales for submission of reserved matters and subsequent start on site.

"The proposed development at Goodison Park is likely to be phased, with reserved matters submissions being made separately for individual blocks or groups of blocks as they are progressed."

It is expected that work to knock down the ground, known by fans as the Grand Old Lady, will begin in the third quarter of 2024, with a completion date in 2028.

A total of 11 letters have been received in relation to the plans, including one calling for a statue of boxer Tony Bellew, "to celebrate his achievements and as a reminder of the virtues of boxing and its benefits to working class communities."

The plans will be discussed on Tuesday May 3.

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