



# BE PART OF A BETTER WAY FOR FOOTBALL



**FC UNITED OF MANCHESTER** - COMMUNITY SHARE ISSUE



# THIS IS A LANDMARK OPPORTUNITY TO INVEST IN A CLUB BRINGING FOOTBALL BACK TO THE HEART OF ITS COMMUNITIES.



## Join FCUM in Making a Difference

FC United of Manchester is a democratic, member owned football club which is building a stadium and community facility in the heart of Newton Heath, Manchester.

The development will cost around £3.5m and we are aiming to raise £1.5m of this through an issue of Community Shares in the club, a way of raising capital that protects our democratic ownership structure.

We are asking for support from existing members and others of you who share our vision and belief that a football club set up by supporters, owned and run by supporters and committed to wider community development can be both socially successful and financially sustainable.

Joining us in this will help to create a legacy in Manchester for future generations and help re-shape how football more broadly is organised and financed.

## What's the Offer?

- The Community Shares we are issuing are Capital Funding Shares issued by the Board as permitted by our constitution. You must read the Offer Document for full details and see our website for our Rules.
- The value of the shares is £1.
- The shares can only be bought and held by members of FC United who are 16 years of age or over, or who are a corporate body or firm.
- Shares are not transferable, you cannot sell them and no voting rights are attached to them.
- The minimum purchase of shares is £200 and the maximum is £20,000. (If you cannot afford £200 or wish to invest more, please contact us.)
- Unless extended by the Board, this offer is open from 21st September 2010 to 30th November 2010.

## What Do I Get?

- You will be making an investment into a scheme that seeks to make a real social difference – in football and in the Newton Heath area.
- You can withdraw your shares, but there is a moratorium for three years on any withdrawals and after that all withdrawals are subject to conditions, with a limit of 10% in any one year – details are given in the Offer Document.
- We hope that from the third anniversary of FC United taking occupancy of the completed stadium, we will be able to pay interest not exceeding 2% per annum above clearing bank base rate. This is also subject to conditions set out in the Offer Document. Our first obligation is to the sustainability of the club and delivery of community benefit.
- We are hopeful that the scheme will qualify for the HMRC Enterprise Investment Scheme. This will mean that investors can claim a percentage of what they invest from their tax liability. We will provide further details on the website and this is subject to personal circumstances.

## What are Community Shares?

Community Shares are shares issued for a community purpose. The concept has been developed through a joint initiative of the Development Trusts Association and Co-operatives UK with support from the Department for Communities and Local Government and the Cabinet Office. Your rights if you buy Community Shares in FC United are those set out in the Offer Document.



**For more details see:**

[www.fc-utd.co.uk/communityshares](http://www.fc-utd.co.uk/communityshares)  
[www.communityshares.org](http://www.communityshares.org)



# A Home for FC United and Facilities for Newton Heath

FC United has been 'homeless' since its formation in 2005, but has nevertheless achieved a great deal. We have over 2000 members, have achieved three promotions and have developed an acclaimed community scheme.

We now have ambitious plans to build a new home, in Newton Heath, birthplace of Manchester United.

With our own ground and community facilities we believe that we can achieve much more. We can create sustainability and fulfil our ambitions as a beacon of a better way for football, delivering genuine community development in one of the most deprived areas in the UK.

The plans for our new home will include:

- A 5,000 capacity football stadium
- New and regenerated community sports facilities including a 3G artificial turf pitch and a renovated sports hall
- A club house with multi-functional spaces for use by local communities, fans, young people and other local groups.

Andy Walsh, FC United general manager, said: "FC United has achieved a great deal in the five years since its foundation, despite not having a permanent home. With our own ground and community facilities we can achieve much more, making the club sustainable and fulfilling our ambition to become a beacon showing a better way for football.

**"Through the Community Share Issue we can make that happen. At a time when many clubs are in debt or in the hands of major investors, we aim to demonstrate that there is a real alternative. We want to change the way football is run and financed by putting supporters and communities at the heart of the game."**



## How to Apply

To be part of this exciting scheme you must first read the Offer Document which is available from [www.fc-utd.co.uk/communityshares](http://www.fc-utd.co.uk/communityshares).

Alternatively contact the club for a copy of the Offer Document at:

FC United of Manchester,  
Hope Mills, 113 Pollard Street,  
Manchester M4 7JA  
Tel: 0161 273 8950  
Email: [office@fc-utd.co.uk](mailto:office@fc-utd.co.uk)

## FC United - Who Are We?

FC United of Manchester is a community football club owned and democratically run by its 2,000-plus members. Its corporate structure is a Community Benefit Society and membership is open to all, with everyone an equal co-owner, holding one voting share in the club.

FC United seeks to change the way that football is owned and run, putting supporters at the heart of everything. It aims to show, by example, how this can work in practice by creating a sustainable, successful, fan-owned, democratic football club that creates real and lasting benefits to its members and local communities.

The club has had many accolades and won the Co-ops UK Community Excellence Award in 2009.

The development of the Ten Acres Lane community football and sports ground, which we are now asking you to support, is a vital element in our journey.

For further information about the club, please go to:  
[www.fc-utd.co.uk](http://www.fc-utd.co.uk)

