

NOMINATIONS

# House of Commons to hear of football club's role in society



The prostate cancer campaign was one of the trust's big successes.

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Burton Albion will be recognised in Parliament for their outstanding community work over the past year.

The club has been named as the Midlands Checktrade Community Club of the Year as part of the 2017 English Football League (EFL) awards - beating off competition from around the region.

Following the outstanding efforts of Burton Albion Community Trust, the club will be joined alongside five other regional winners at the House of Commons.

Burton Albion will then be put forward alongside the five other regional winners for the overall Checktrade Community Club Year of the Award.

The trust was commended for introducing prostate checks for fans in conjunction with Prostate Cancer UK and Burton's Queen's Hospital, which ultimately led to 11 of the 130 fans tested being

referred to hospital, diagnosed with prostate cancer and receiving treatment.

Andy Taylor, Burton Albion Community Trust chief executive, said: "It has been another exceptional year for the trust not only delivering ground-breaking projects such as our prostate cancer screening programme with Queen's Hospital but also opening the 3G pitch at the Pirelli Stadium which will be a fantastic community asset."

"The award is recognition for all the hard work and passion shown by everyone connected with the trust who are committed to making a difference in the community we serve."

The new £1 million 3G pitch was officially opened by England manager Gareth Southgate and will provide opportunities for the entire community, young and old.

Burton Albion chairman Ben Robinson, said: "The football club is fully committed to supporting the community trust and we are all extremely proud of the work it does."

"I am delighted that work

has been recognised by this award and that the powerful brand of Burton Albion Football Club is being used to do so much brilliant work in the community."

John Jackson, chairman of the community trust, said: "This award would not have been possible without the tireless work of the incredible management and staff at the trust and the unflinching support of our partners, sponsors and stakeholders."

"We also have the full backing of the football club and it's the unique nature of Burton Albion that makes it possible."

Shaun Harvey, EFL chief executive, said: "The announcement of the regional award winners, provides a fitting tribute to the work that takes place to transform local communities through the power of football."

"All clubs, not just the winners, work tirelessly to connect with local supporters and I am delighted to see such innovative and effective ideas recognised in this way."

The six regional winners were selected by an independ-

ent judging panel including The Times' chief football writer, Henry Winter; football policy advisor at the Department for Culture, Media and Sport, Sam Haylen, director of CSR at The PFA, John Hudson and Sport England's strategic lead for relationships, Greg Clements.

The club will be presented with their award on Monday, March 6 in Parliament, with EFL Chief Executive Shaun Harvey, Communities Minister Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth and event sponsor Andrew Griffiths MP all confirmed to speak at the event.

The overall national winner will be announced on Sunday, April 9.

EFL Trust director of operations, Mike Evans, praised the fantastic work completed by all six clubs via the work of their community trusts.

He said: "All of our club trusts should be rightly proud of their efforts, and for the six selected clubs it's a tremendous honour to be recognised by Parliament and to be showcased in the House of Commons."



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CRIME

## Assault lands man with court costs

A 38-year-old man has been ordered to pay compensation after he admitted assault.

Sherne Gordon, of Ash Street, Burton, appeared at Southern Derbyshire Magistrates' Court recently.

He admitted assaulting a woman in Burton on October 9, having previously denied the offence.

Gordon has been made the subject of a 20-week prison sentence suspended for 18 months because the offence involved a serious assault on the victim with punches, causing injuries and Gordon has a previous record for violence.

He was also made the subject of a 12-week curfew, and ordered to carry out 200 hours unpaid work, and was made the subject of a restraining order not to contact the victim and ordered to pay £200 compensation and £300 court costs.

LOCAL PRODUCE

# Relaunch for food accreditation brand

Food businesses across East Staffordshire are being urged to gain the Taste of Staffordshire accreditation.

Destination Staffordshire has joined forces with NFU Mutual's Stone Agency to encourage firms to gain the accreditation, demonstrating their commitment to using local produce, and the highest standards of customer service and food and drink quality.

The relaunch of the brand will be at a free industry event to be held at the National Brewery Centre, in Burton, from noon to 5pm on Friday, March 24.

There are 45 businesses dis-

playing the award including Brown and Green at The Trentham Estate, The Swan Hotel in Stafford, Denstone Hall Farm Shop and Café near Uttoxeter, Springslade Lodge in Cannock Chase and Pom's Kitchen and Deli, in Lichfield.

Graeme Whitehead, Destination Staffordshire visitor economy manager, said: "The food and drink sector has a significant role to play in Staffordshire tourism, contributing £612 million to the local economy in 2015."

"Our partnership with NFU Mutual's Stone Agency will help to further develop the county's food and drink offering."



The relaunch will be held at the National Brewery Centre.

Any Staffordshire food and drink business with a five-star food hygiene rating through Rate My Place or equivalent can apply for the Taste of Staffordshire accreditation.

Priced at £180, it includes a 'mystery diner' visit by a qualified inspector to assess eligibility, an open trading platform with other accredited members, and access to events featuring speakers from organisations like the Food and Drink Federation.

Further details on Taste of Staffordshire and how to apply are available at [http://www.enjoystaffordshire.com/trade/taste\\_accreditation.aspx](http://www.enjoystaffordshire.com/trade/taste_accreditation.aspx)



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