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Dear Editor,

Your newspaper today carried two articles about sports grounds in the town and the use of Council Tax money to support them. This Society does not object to this use of local resources (though council staff being made redundant may have their own views). We do believe, however, that the people of Rotherham are entitled to know what is happening.

When the idea of a new stadium for football was first mooted, we were told that the Council and the football club could not do business with the owners of Millmoor and that the price of £3.6 million for the sale of the ground was too high. Now the Council is buying Millmoor, leasing it to the rugby club and lending Rotherham United £5 million for the new stadium. Also, the title of 'Community Stadium' is being dropped as it will be for the sole use of the football club. Nobody seems willing to explain how this has come about or whether there are other forces at work.

Additionally, Millmoor was partially redeveloped at the time the football club left, using money from 'The Football Trust'; will the Council have to repay the £1 million if rugby is played there? Can they afford it, when reports suggest that Yorkshire Forward want the £1 million returning which was used to buy the Lloyds Bank building?

Yours faithfully

Secretary