



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, TUESDAY 5TH JUNE 2018

THE VILLAGE ENCLOSURE AT ROYAL ASCOT GOES GREEN

Ascot Racecourse is delighted to announce that from Royal Ascot 2018 the Village Enclosure will work exclusively with plant-based compostable foodservice packaging.

All cups and food containers will be biodegradable and will be turned into soil that will be used across the Ascot Estate. The introduction of disposable products in the Village Enclosure demonstrates the racecourse's commitment to identify and implement environmentally-friendly operations where possible, whilst continuing to develop and enhance the experience of racegoers.

All the bars and food concessionaires throughout the Enclosure, which hosts 6,000 people per day over the course of three days in June, will only be using compostable products. Working with a company called Vegware on the products, Ascot's waste company Veolia will take the waste away to their specialist processing plant. The waste will be turned into compost and returned 10 weeks later to Ascot for the gardeners to use around the 179-acre racecourse.

In addition, rainwater from the roof of the Grandstand has been collected in the reservoirs found in the middle of the Heath, where the Village Enclosure is situated, since 2005 when the new Grandstand was built. This rain water is used to water the grounds and track year-round which sees the Ascot Grounds Team grow and plant more than 13,000 flowers and plants especially for Royal Ascot each year.

Juliet Slot, Chief Commercial Officer, Ascot Racecourse, says, "When we introduced the Village Enclosure in 2017 – the first new enclosure to the Royal Meeting in over a century – we were focused on providing customers with more contemporary option following extensive research and feedback. Placed in a prime position on the inside of the track, The Village Enclosure is a self-contained area separate from the rest of the event. This means we can ensure all food and drink is served in containers that are fully compostable. Being able to then use this waste as compost brings the process full circle."

Royal Ascot takes place from Tuesday 29th June to Saturday 23rd June with the Village Enclosure open Thursday to Saturday offering post-racing entertainment from DJs and live music acts 6-9pm.

Tickets start from £67 for Village Enclosure admission with other Enclosure options available. For further information visit www.ascot.co.uk/royalascot or call 0344 346 3000.

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