

## RURAL/URBAN CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT GRANTS APPLICATION FOR 7TH FEBRUARY 2018 EXECUTIVE :

**Applicant :** Kenilworth Squash Club

**Description of scheme:** The squash section of Kenilworth Tennis, Squash & Croquet Club was built and decorated in the 1980's, the facilities and decoration at the core of the club have remained largely untouched since then and as a result are no longer fit for purpose; the heater/boiler system for the courts is starting to fail and is largely inefficient, there are various wires that seemingly lead to nowhere attached to the wall (remnants of various upgrades throughout the years), the décor is dark, tired and uninviting. Long standing members don't tend to notice these items/issues any more; the club's membership currently remains stable due to the significant amount of work they put into the local community and the welcoming atmosphere, however, if the afore mentioned issues are not addressed, this could potentially lead to a decrease in membership and participation with people favouring other sports and/or clubs. To address these issues, the proposed works include:

- Redecorate the top level throughout – includes replastering/painting/decorating, suspended ceiling, new lighting, tidying electrics, removal of "bleachers" that are no longer used, move staircase to more appropriate location
- Re-carpet throughout
- Install ambi-rads on two squash courts and remove the failing boiler
- Replace squash lighting on three courts with LED lighting
- Fit a glass-back to squash court 1
- Glass doors on two courts to replace broken doors

**Evidence of need:** The need for the project has been established through consultation with the club membership through questionnaires, surveys and focus groups; this identified a number of places for improvement throughout the club and developed a full club-wide plan. The works presented in this application will address a number of the key issues identified for the squash club. The need is also visually obvious with the dark, tired and uninviting décor and there are various wires that seemingly lead to nowhere attached to the wall, remnants of various upgrades throughout the years. The glass-back on court 1 has been a consistent request from members as other local clubs (e.g. Leamington, Fitness First, Hinckley) have similar facilities; this will provide additional viewing for coaching, tournaments and Premier Squash League matches. The boiler replacement programme, the replacement of two glass doors and lighting are maintenance issues; the boiler is an urgent requirement, the existing doors are broken and the LED lighting will help drive down costs of running the squash section.

**3 years accounts received?** Kenilworth Tennis, Squash & Croquet Club Ltd 2014 to 2016 accounts have been received along with bank statements covering the period 9th August to 8th November 2017. The squash section now also have their own bank account, a statement has been received covering the period 1st October to 29th December 2017 (there has only been two transactions and has a small balance of £1,050)

<b>Financial Performance; minus figure = deficit</b>	<b>Year ended 30/09/16</b>	<b>Year ended 30/09/15</b>	<b>Year ended 30/09/14</b>
	£37,265	£36,940	£30,434

<b>Available Funds ( cash and reserves )</b>	<b>Year ended 30/09/16</b>	<b>Year ended 30/09/15</b>	<b>Year ended 30/09/14</b>
	£91,958	£83,465	£56,890

**Details of membership, fees etc:** It is a member's based club; people can join the squash section either as a squash member or have a combined membership with the tennis club also based at KTSCC.  
Squash Annual Fee: Single £260, Off-peak £169, Single 18-24 £169, Student £65, Junior <13 £42, Family £546. Combined Squash & Tennis Annual Fee: Single £343, Off-peak £223, Single 18-24 £223, Student £86, Junior <13 £55, Family £719.

**Details of usage:** The club has six squash courts that are used by members and local community groups/schools; during peak times (5.30pm-9.00pm weekdays) frequently all courts are in use. The squash section currently has 356 members of which 98 are juniors. The courts are used for both squash and racketball. Aside from members organising games among themselves there are: 30 internal leagues (150 players), beginner's courses are run three times a year to encourage new members to join and learn a new sport (12-30 attendees over the year; approximately 60% retention rate that become new members), adult gradings are run once a year (4 grades and 16 players in each grade – 64 participants), junior tournaments that are open to anyone to participate in (the major junior tournament has 8 grades where each grade can take up to 16 players) and the club also run a Warwickshire Junior tournament (8 grades which is typically around 50 participants). The local area is a hotbed for graduates where this age range is often a drop off in sports participation, with a successful grant from CSW last year the club ran the "JLR Squash Girls Can" campaign aimed at increasing participation in 18-24yr old women which was attended by 24 employees; the club intend to extend this model to other major firms within the Warwickshire region such as National Grid and Tata. The club has a newly formed "Premier Squash League" team, the professional players engage with juniors on squash courts and adult players in the bar; there are 5 home matches from October through to March. The club is open to anyone to come and watch, either a reasonably priced ticket or for free in the bar; the club can hold 120 spectators around the courts (which have sold out on the last two home matches) and around 30-50 people in the bar.

The junior section is thriving with over 75 children attending group sessions over each weekend which are also open to non-members too, using events such as "bring a friend" to further boost numbers. The club run a programme with two local schools, St Nicholas and St Augustines; St Nicholas is a long-standing relationship where 350 pupils experience squash over a year, St Augustines is a relatively new relationship, where in this academic year the club plan to run sessions for a total of 40 students. There is also a direct affiliation with Kenilworth School, providing courts free of charge for all of their home matches. The club recently won an award from England Squash to create a primary schools session, this means that all primary schools in Kenilworth will be able to attend two sessions for free; this will surpass another 200 children.

<b>Details of Organisations equalities policies:</b>	<p>The club has a formal equality policy, the following are highlights from this policy:</p> <p>b) Our commitment is to eliminate discrimination by reason of gender, sexual orientation, race, nationality, ethnic origin, religion or belief, ability or disability and to encourage equal opportunities.</p> <p>d) KLTSC, in all its activities, will not discriminate or in any way treat anyone less favourably, on grounds of gender, sexual orientation, race, nationality, ethnic origin, religion or belief, ability or disability. The KLTSC will ensure that it treats its employees, members, non-members and visiting clubs and teams fairly and with respect and will ensure that all members of the community have access to and have opportunities to take part in, and enjoy, its programmes of activities, competitions and events.</p> <p>e) KLTSC will not tolerate harassment, bullying, abuse or victimization of an individual (which the KLTSC regards as forms of discrimination). This includes sexual or racially based harassment or other discriminatory behaviour, whether physical or verbal. KLTSC will work to ensure that such behaviour is met with appropriate action in whatever context it occurs.</p> <p>h) KLTSC is committed to a policy of equal treatment of all members and employees and requires all members and employees to abide by and adhere to these policies and the requirements of the relevant equalities legislation, including the Race Relations Act 1976, Sex Discrimination Act 1975, Disability Discrimination Act 1995, Age Discrimination Act 2006 as well as any amendments to these acts and any new legislation.</p>	
<b>3 quotes provided:</b>	Yes, 3 written quotes have been provided for all aspects of the work (18 quotes in total)	
<b>Which of the Council's Corporate Priorities are met?</b>	<b>Evidence</b>	
<b>Reduce anti-social behaviour</b>	<p>Currently the squash club has 356 members of which 98 are juniors. The courts are used for both squash and racket ball; there are internal leagues, junior and adult group sessions, internal and external tournaments and world class squash to spectate. Anti-social behaviour typically arises due to a lack of activities to participate in; completing the project works will create a squash club that people actively want to go to and play, keeping from any other activities, additionally the project will increase spectator viewing capacity for matches. Also sport is not only key to physical fitness, but mental well-being too. An improved mental state will similar lead to a reduction in these behaviours. This all helps to reduce anti-social behaviour.</p>	
<b>Reducing obesity, particularly in children</b>	<p>Currently the squash club has 356 members of which 98 are juniors. The courts are used for both squash and racket ball; there are internal leagues, junior group sessions, grading's and tournaments. As a sports club it's inevitable that the project will contribute to reducing obesity; if the club convince more people to play, they will be fitter, stronger and lose weight. The full potential of this can only be achieved with modern looking facilities in an environment that people want to play in; the project will deliver this. The club already reach 390 school children and could potentially see another 200 from primary schools over the coming year; if the children enjoy the sport, they will potentially try to convince their parents to sign them up to the club. If the works are not carried out and the club continues to look run-down the parents response could be a no. Also when children engage in sport, their parents often do too. This all helps to reduce obesity, particularly in children.</p>	
<b>Increase opportunities for everyone to enjoy and participate in sports, arts and cultural activities</b>	<p>To create new opportunities for engagement with squash, the club need help to create an increased demand via a new, fresh look to the club facilities which will help to spark interest with local groups; this includes local graduate-hiring firms (e.g. National grid), schools (expanding the primary school network), and other local businesses. The project will deliver a glass-back to court 1 which will provide an additional viewing area and increase opportunity for people to enjoy watching sport, in particular for the Premier Squash League matches.</p>	
<b>Engaging and strengthening communities</b>	<p>The squash club is an integral part of the Kenilworth community, strengthening ties through healthy competition and creating the social atmosphere for it to thrive and develop new relationships. To maintain this, the club need to improve their current facilities to make it a place where even more people actively choose to socialise. Increasing the viewing area of court 1 with a glass-back will enable greater engagement and community spirit, allowing more people to come and support their teams. The club is also run by a wide range of volunteers from across the community, runs a programme for two local schools and has a direct affiliation with Kenilworth School; this all helps to engage and strengthen the community.</p>	
<b>Targetting disadvantage in rural / urban areas:</b>	<p>Participation in sport should have no barrier due to social class, financially or any other reason; the club's outreach programme with schools is particularly extensive which they hope to continue to increase, this is run free of charge for the children so there is no expectation of pay-to-play.</p>	
<b>Total cost of scheme (excluding VAT)</b>	38,056	VAT will be paid by the club part of which will then be reclaimed from HMRC
<b>Funded by:</b>	<b>Status</b>	
<b>Organisations Own Funds</b>	£18,628	
<b>Kenilworth Town Council</b>	£400	Requested; waiting for a decision
<b>Total RUCIS</b>	<b>£19,028</b>	
<b>equates to</b>	<b>50.0%</b>	